



## Genav Aircraft Shipments Down, Billings Up in 1Q10

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Aircraft, Aircraft

The first-quarter numbers from the General Aviation Manufacturers Association (GAMA) released yesterday show an overall 15-percent drop in general aviation aircraft deliveries compared with the previous year—from 459 to 390 aircraft. However, billings increased 7.1 percent to \$4.64 billion, thanks largely to international deliveries of large-cabin, long-range business jets.

"These numbers are being released on the heels of EBACE, where many of our manufacturers noted that the market seems to be stabilizing," said GAMA president and CEO Pete Bunce. The bizjet category saw 164 deliveries in the quarter, a decline of approximately 14 percent from a year ago.

Despite this, long-range aircraft such as the Bombardier Challenger 605 and Globals, Dassault Falcon 7X and Hawker Beechcraft Hawker 4000 all had increases in deliveries, while Gulfstream delivered only two fewer of its large-cabin jets. The turboprop segment saw a 32.6-percent decline in deliveries, from 89 in the first quarter of last year to 60 this year.

"All through the downturn everyone suffered to some extent, but it was really the lighter business aircraft, the ones that are primarily operated by individual owner-operators, that really got hammered," Raymond Jaworowski, senior aerospace analyst with Forecast International, told **AIN**. "The economic recovery has been fairly sluggish so far; it's not surprising that the recovery in the business aviation market is also sluggish."

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