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General Aviation
Manufacturers Association
1400 K Street NW
Washington, DC 20005
www.GAMA.aero

Press Contact
Katie Pribyl
(202) 393-1500
kpribyl@gama.aero

GAMA Enthusiastically Supports R&D Tax Credit Bill To Stimulate Innovation, Create Jobs

WASHINGTON, DC, March 10, 2011 – The General Aviation Manufacturers Association (GAMA) welcomes the introduction of H.R. 942, The American Research and Competitiveness Act of 2011. This bipartisan bill will strengthen the research and development (R&D) tax credit from 14 percent to 20 percent and make it permanent.

Representative Kevin Brady (R-TX) introduced the bill, which was cosponsored by Representatives John Larson (D-CT), Eric Paulson (R-MN) and Anna Eshoo (D-CA).

Clay Jones, chairman, president and CEO of Rockwell Collins said, “Enactment of a strengthened, permanent R&D tax credit will serve as a springboard for future economic growth. Our nation must continue to invest in the research, ideas and people who produce innovation. This legislation will encourage general aviation manufacturers to make the long-term investments required for companies to be globally competitive and create more U.S. jobs.”

Cessna Aircraft Company's Jack Pelton, chairman, president and CEO, also commented, “The pace of technological advancements in the general aviation industry is continuous and R&D is essential for manufacturers to produce state-of-the-art products that make aviation safer. Modernizing, strengthening and making permanent the R&D tax credit is vital to the future of our industry as we all attempt to recover from the economic downturn and diversify our products.”

GAMA's President and CEO Pete Bunce concluded, “We appreciate Representative Brady's leadership and the strong bipartisan support of Representatives Larson, Paulson and Eshoo. As an industry that relies on R&D, we strongly support this bill and urge quick approval by Congress.”

GAMA is an international trade association representing 70 of the world's leading manufacturers of general aviation aircraft, engines, avionics and related equipment. GAMA's members also manage fleets of aircraft, fixed based operations, and pilot training and maintenance training facilities. GAMA is headquartered in Washington, DC, with a European office in Brussels, Belgium. For additional information, visit GAMA's website at www.GAMA.aero.

