



## PRESS RELEASE



### 5 Star Goes Quiet...

5 Star Cases has supplied a specialist case to the Cambridge based 'Silent Aircraft Initiative' to house one of its concept model aircraft.

'Silent Aircraft Initiative' is a joint project between the University of Cambridge and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). This was set up with the aim of developing a conceptual design for a new low noise aircraft – with sound almost imperceptible outside the perimeter of a daytime urban airport. This requires radically different aircraft and engine designs. The resulting conceptual design addresses the generation-after-next of aircraft. The project has clearly identified many technical challenges still to be overcome before it could become a reality around 2030, and is providing a direction for the work that's needed to address them.

Some of these technologies and approaches could also be used in more incremental aircraft designs. 5 Star Cases was contacted to supply a tough bespoke case for transportation of this delicate and very expensive model aircraft.

After taking initial measurements and photos, a design proposal for the case was submitted and accepted, whereupon 5 Star supplied an Industrial grade case constructed from 9mm birch plywood with a black high pressure laminate (HPL) finish. 30 mm aluminium edge protection and a dust-tight seal via an aluminium hybrid location fitted between the lid and base are included in the design. Recessed hardware - butterfly catches, flip handles, etc. – are included for easy lifting and handling. Internally, the case was supplied with a very precise hand fabricated polyurethane foam insert, produced by department supervisor Brian Holland, using one of 5 Star's three foam cutting bandknives.

The internal layout provides space for the aircraft plus two types of display stand. "When necessary, this method of fabricating foam inserts still continues at 5 Star despite heavy investment into CNC machining facilities", explains Holland, "Hand cutting the larger polyurethane foam blocks is more cost effective, particularly for one off and more unusual projects"



*John Hazelwood, Senior Acoustic Research Technician from Cambridge University's Engineering Dept. (left) with 5 Star's foam fabrication supervisor Brian Holland.*

**For more press info and photos on 5 Star Cases, please call Louise Stickland on +44 (0)1865 202679 or +44 (0)7831 329888 or Email [louise@loosplat.com](mailto:louise@loosplat.com). Contact 5 Star direct on +44 (0)845 5000 555 or check [www.5star-cases.com](http://www.5star-cases.com).**