



Narrowbody Engine Q1 2021 Update: *CFM and IAE* *Shop Visit Forecast and Values*

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Brief:

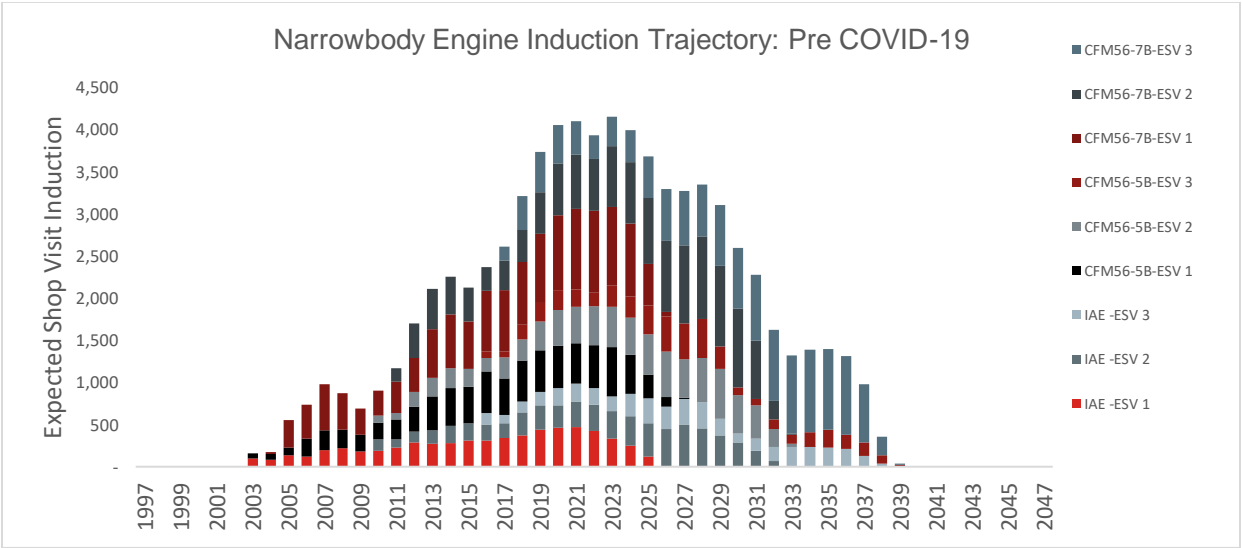
In this edition of mba Aviation's Insight Series, Garrick Rice, Director – Asset Valuations, provides an update regarding the Commercial Narrowbody Engine Market. Discussing key engine value drivers and how they have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Key Concepts:

- Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul Forecasts and adjustments due to drop in passenger demand and increased retirement schedule for the Airbus A320CEO and Boeing 737NG variants.
- The examination on where the majority of the narrowbody engines sit within their overall maintenance cycle, and the dichotomy between the unserviceable and serviceable engine markets.
- The importance of engine leasing during the recovery period and its effects on stabilizing the overall engine market.
- Projected Base and Market Values.

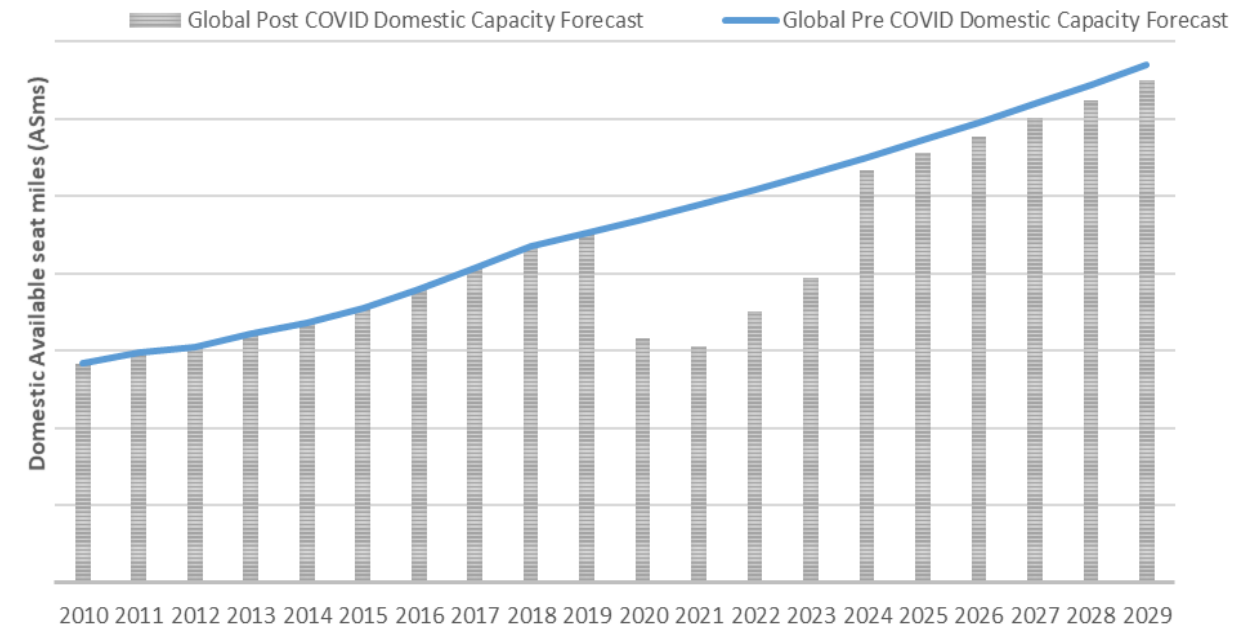
During the pandemic the narrowbody engine MRO space has seen a drastic reduction in numbers of serviced engines. The primary cause is the loss in domestic capacity as airlines look to defer maintenance to offset their revenue loss by reducing all possible variable and fixed costs. Up to this point, airlines that have the capacity to do so have been successful in consuming under-utilized engines or flying domestic aircraft at lower monthly utilization to avoid expensive long term storage and maintenance costs. This necessary adaptation of fleet utilization has disrupted the well-defined trajectory of engine shop inductions, reducing engine MRO’s capacity, and ultimately effecting market values for narrowbody engines.

In the years leading up to the COVID-19 pandemic market values for the CFM56-5B/7B and V2500-A5’s (IAE) engines were trading above base value. Boeing and Airbus’s ability to produce new technology aircraft couldn’t match the increasing levels of airline traffic. A further driver of demand was the delays in delivery of next generation aircraft, 737 MAX groundings and in service issues of new technology engines. There was also increasing levels of maintenance required on the 737NG and A320CEO engine programs starting in 2012 and leading up to the peak of maintenance required in 2020-2024. These two factors kept all aspects of the engine’s value drivers high, which included lease and maintenance reserve revenue, Core + QEC value, and LLP values during this period as buying increased in anticipation of the programs strongest years of the demand. Engine lessors looked to capitalize on bridging any downtime to conduct this maintenance, while MRO’s and material distributors looked to increase parts inventory to offer reduced material costs to airlines and lessors.



The loss in domestic passenger demand has caused a vast under-utilization of narrowbody engines at the fleet level. This lower monthly utilization alone has adjusted the scheduled maintenance events that can be expected until mass immunization and passenger confidence return. The rate at which this confidence will return is the ultimate driving force of MRO expectations and engine values as a whole.

Global air traffic capacity is down ~70% for 2020 compared to the figures achieved in 2019. While the domestic markets were less effected than international travel, there is more volatility than certainty as we enter the third phase of the pandemic. This uncertainty has translated into large bid-ask spreads for assets currently available and limited market participants. mba's estimations are that all global domestic travel is ~38% lower in 2021 than expected pre-pandemic with continued underperformance until 2024.



Source: 2010-2020 Actual Values : OAG Analyzer / 2021-2029 Forecasted Values using mba Proprietary analysis

MRO expectations have adjusted alongside the expectation of domestic travel in the coming years. Fleet wide under-utilization, expected aircraft retirements, and airline maintenance avoidance has caused an expected ~49% drop in engine inductions expected in 2021. Given the low demand forecast, early retired aircraft are likely to be disassembled and the engines utilized as green time spares before moving to part out. This will likely have lasting effects on the total levels of shop visit inductions that will resemble 2017 figures. These total annual engine induction figures could be sustained from 2023-2027 before decline thereafter.

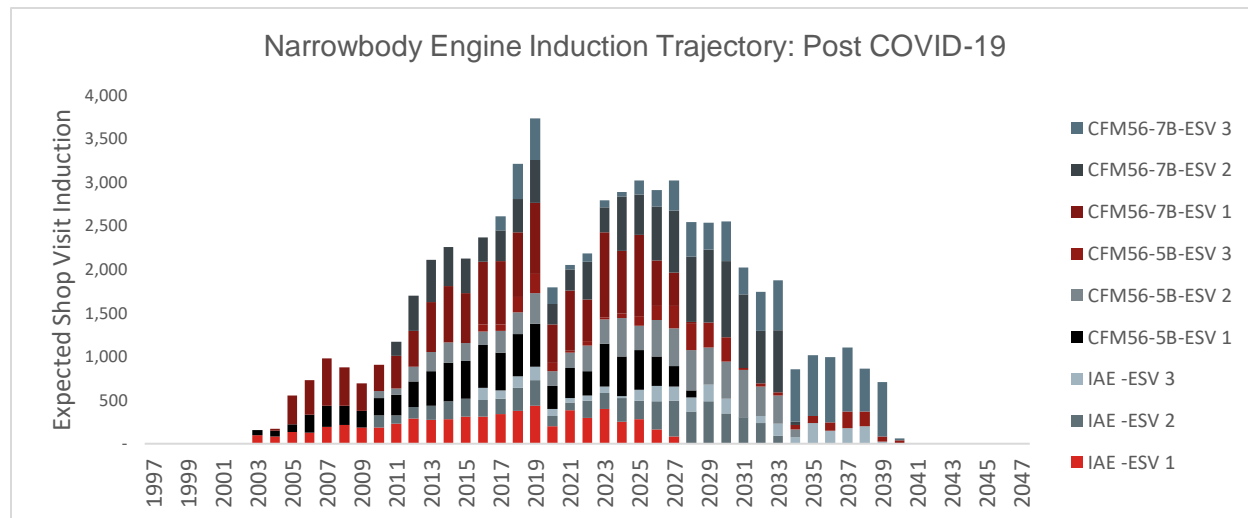
Asset Valuations

- Reliable values from ISTAT Certified Appraisers
- Historical values available for over twenty years
- Full coverage of aircraft, helicopters & engines
- Streamlined data for ABS & EETC transactions

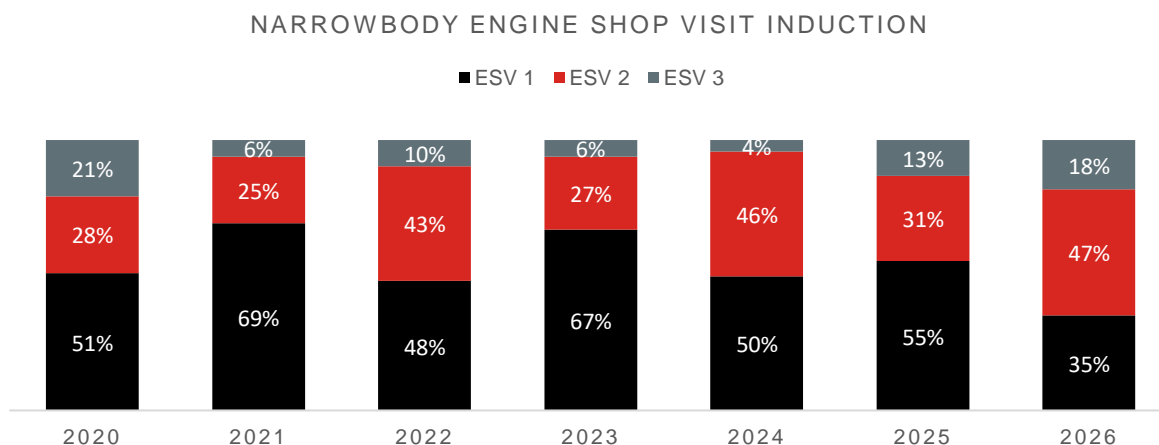
Markets & Trends

- Gain insights on market dynamics over time
- Access historical, market & base values
- Visualize fluctuations of an aircraft's values
- Compare assets to major economic indicators

In efforts to match demand some MRO's have offered early retirements, downsized or off loaded operational locations, and in some instances have cut labor force. The highly skilled nature of aircraft and engine mechanics saw labor shortages during the years leading up to the pandemic. This labor gap and retraining efforts could potentially increase turnaround times even in a low MRO demand environment.



While the absolute age of the 737NG and A320CEO programs are nearing retirement, the vast majority of these aircraft were delivered from 2008 – 2017. During this period the introduction of major design upgrades such as the *Tech Insertion* for the CFM engines and the *SelectOne* modifications in the IAE engines became build standards. Operational efficiency increased as the new technology in the hot sections reduced temperature and ultimately extended the on wing interval achieved. Even as the shop visit forecasted has been disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic the majority of engine events to take place until 2025 are the first shop visit.



Shop visit schedules assume Level III performance restorations in the High Pressure Turbine (HPT) and High Pressure Combustion Chamber (HPC) modules during the first induction (SV1), Level III performance

restorations in the HPT, HPC, and Low Pressure Turbine (LPT) modules during the second induction (SV2), and Level III performance restorations in the HPT, HPC, LPT, and Low Pressure Compressor (LPC) modules during the third induction (SV3). High Pressure Turbine and High Pressure Combustion LLP's replacements are assumed on the second scheduled maintenance (Low Pressure Turbine LLP parts are replaced at operators or lessor discretion).

Typical Level III Performance Restoration Schedule

Module	SV1	SV2	SV3
High Pressure Turbine			
High Pressure Turbine LLPs			
High Pressure Compressor			
High Pressure Compressor LLPs			
Low Pressure Turbine			
Low Pressure Turbine LLPs	At Operator/Lessor Discretion		
Low Pressure Compressor			
Low Pressure Compressor LLPs	At Operator/Lessor Discretion		

The third and likely final shop visit assumes Lower Pressure Combustion and Low Pressure Turbine LLPs are replaced depending on cost allocation and continued use assumption. mba's aircraft retirement analysis causing distribution to the expected induction schedules assumes that older aircraft are retired first and that these aircraft will have +/- 30% of their engines between SV2 – SV3 on average with the remainder +/- 70% of their engines being beyond SV3.

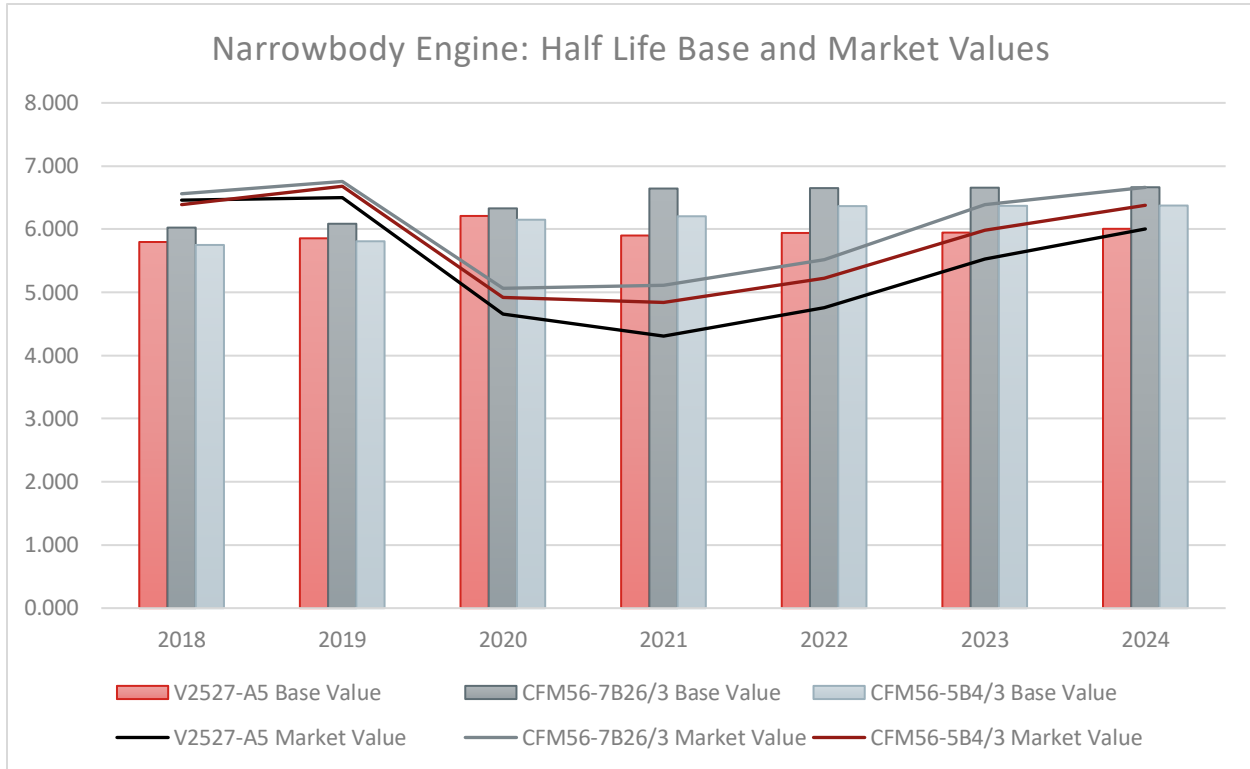
Given the expected increase and maintenance status of available engines, coupled with the fact that the majority of forecasted inductions will be SV1 where material and the majority of the cost will be focused in the HPC/HPT modules, there has been a split in market pricing pressure for serviceable and unserviceable engines. Unserviceable engines that would traditionally be acquired to reduce material cost for incoming engine inductions could spend lengthily time as inventory, as established buyers have increased inventory positions in the years building up to the pandemic and likely have ample supply given the current environment. The LLP value in these unserviceable engines has the potential to soften in short term as most of the engine events are SV1 and these are typically non-LLP replacement events. The long-term value of these components will remain stable as demand and escalation will outpace supply similar to the pre-pandemic market dynamics.

Green time engines are seeing less of a decline in market value as anticipation of the demand for leased assets during the recovery remains high. Possible MRO bottlenecks in the event of better than expected passenger demand has further potential to increase the value of these assets in the short term.

While narrowbody engines are currently trading near distressed price levels the expectation of value recovery will likely supersede that of whole aircraft. Airlines looking to capture any uptick in capacity demand will require leased assets to fill the gap between expenditure deferrals and lack of MRO slot availability.



While the unserviceable engine market may be challenged for the foreseeable future the expectation of the leasing market could rapidly stabilize market values from their current levels. Given the position of the fleet within its maintenance cycle, base value readjustments due to COVID-19 pandemic will be solely correlated to the return of domestic travel and are unlikely at this time.



2018-2021 Actual Values : 2022 – 2024 Projected Values

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