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A socially acceptable noise level is perhaps of even greater importance for a short haul airliner than the intercontinental types and the present families of high bypass ratio single stage turbofans have become established as the preferred design for high subsonic cruise aircraft, from both noise and fuel consumption characteristics. Typical of the small engines in this field is the M45H, originally a joint project of Rolls-Royce and Snecma, shown on the cover installed in the unusual overwing position on the VFW 614. Messrs Denning, Miller and Wright discuss in this issue the possible trends of this type of engine over the next two decades.

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