The lighting design is intended to emphasize the movement of flying, according to Borges. “The ceiling lights represent the air turbulence caused by rotor blades and highlight the flow of the design,” she explains.

This concept was created by Unique Aircraft with AMAC Aerospace to showcase possibilities for the upcoming ACJ350 XWB – making the most of the aircraft’s extra-wide body and range. AMAC Aerospace is one of three completion centers that has been approved by Airbus Corporate Jets to work on the airframe. “One of the strong selling points of the A350 as a VIP aircraft is the almost unlimited range,” comments Eric Hoegen, director of completion sales and key account management at AMAC Aerospace. “The cabin should therefore offer comfort during flights of 15 hours or more. The design should also offer a good ratio of open spaces and closed compartments to ensure passenger privacy and comfort.”

Warja Borges, principal at Unique Aircraft, set about creating an airy design making the most of the “ample cabin.” She describes the main inspirations for the scheme as “aerodynamics, rotor blades and the spirit of flying.”

The main design features are the wavy bulkheads that connect, encircle and separate the different areas of the cabin. “Their dynamic curves, unfolding like rotor blades and accented with indirect lights, change the entire cabin experience – from looking like a long tube to being a wide open space,” explains Borges. “This is also emphasized by the loosely arranged seating groups, which take traveling in a comfortable and home-like environment to a new level.”

Soft and hard materials – such as velvet for the seating and veneer for the sidewalls – were selected to create a warm and welcoming atmosphere. A special natural surface from Nature Squared, used on the coffee tables for example, adds a special touch. Borges says the interior should be possible to build right now, although some of the natural surfaces might need additional investigation.

Turn to page 24 to read in detail about the ACJ350 XWB airframe, including how AMAC Aerospace is preparing for the technical challenges of completion – such as attaching components to the airframe’s carbon-fiber fuselage.