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Boullioun Aviation Services Inc. today signed an agreement to purchase 60 Boeing Next-Generation 737 airplanes.

The package includes 30 orders and 30 options. Delivery is scheduled to begin in 2001 and continue through 2006.

"Our earlier orders for 737s have been very successful, and we look forward to building on that success with this commitment of up to \$2.6 billion in Boeing Next-Generation 737 airplanes," said Robert Genise, Boullioun's president and chief executive officer.

"Boullioun's ability to capitalize on sound business opportunities has turned it into one of the strongest aircraft-leasing companies in the world," said Ron Woodard president Boeing Commercial Airplane Group. "This decision underscores Boullioun's confidence in our products."

Boullioun Aviation Services, Inc., formed in 1986, focuses on aircraft leasing and finance activity. Since 1994, it has been wholly owned by The Sumitomo Trust and Banking Co. of Japan.

The Next-Generation 737 program is the most successful commercial airplane program in history, with 995 ordered since the program was launched in November 1993. Total orders for the entire 737 family of airplanes are 4,131. The 737 family delivers more value to airlines in the form of reliability, simplicity and reduced operating and maintenance costs. More than 800 737s are in the air at any time, with one taking off every six seconds.
