Boeing Delivers British Airways' 25th 777

British Airways, flagship carrier of the United Kingdom, recently took delivery of its 25th Boeing 777. The airline has 20 more 777s to be delivered from its total order of 45. British Airways' first 777 was delivered in November 1995.

British Airways is the largest Boeing 777 customer outside the United States. The relationship goes back to 1941 when the carrier took delivery of three Boeing 314 Clippers. In 1956, British Airways entered the jet age with its first order for a Boeing 707 and now flies more than 280 Boeing airplanes. The carrier operates several Boeing airplane models including the 737, 747, 757 and 767. The newest addition to the fleet is a 777-200ER (extended range).

"The Boeing 777 aircraft is a vital part of our strategy as we change our fleet and network structure to compete in deregulated markets," said Bob Ayling, chief executive officer - British Airways. "The economics of operating Boeing 777s and the benefits to the environment with reduced noise and emissions make the aircraft a centerpiece of our operation as we fly into the new millennium."

"We are pleased that the 777 is part of British Airways' future. The 777 product family is enormously successful because it was designed and built with our customers' needs in mind," said Alan Mulally, president - Boeing Commercial Airplanes Group. "British Airways was the first airline to receive and introduce the 777-200ER into commercial service, and we couldn't be happier that the 777 will help them expand into new markets."

The 777 is the most advanced airplane in the world and the only airplane in history to be ETOPS (extended-range, twin-engine operations)-approved at entry into service. It features advanced alloys and composites that greatly improve durability and corrosion resistance and lower maintenance costs. The flight deck incorporates technical advances that significantly reduce training time for airlines. Passengers prefer the comfort and spaciousness of the 777 cabin interior. With its excellent range, the 777-200ER can operate on some of British Airways' longest routes such as London to Denver.

Since 1990, airlines around the world have ordered more than 418 777s, taking delivery of more than 200 so far. The 777 is designed to provide superior market flexibility, combined with speed and range.

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For further information:
Lucy Innes
206-766-2116
Ida Hawkins
425-294-6101