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The Boeing Company today confirmed easyJet's announcement of an order for 17 new Boeing Next-Generation 737-700 airplanes. Deliveries are scheduled to begin July 2001.

"The 737-700 model will strengthen our route network from London-Luton, Liverpool and Geneva with enhancements that include a new, more spacious cabin and a flight deck featuring the most versatile display system offered on any commercial jetliner," said easyJet Chairman Stelios Haji-loannou. "We also look forward to operating the Next-Generation 737-700 with its unmatched reliability and range capability."

This is a new order not previously accounted for in cumulative order totals published by Boeing. Today's order brings the company's order total to 114 airplanes in 2000.

With this order, easyJet will operate more than 40 of the world's best-selling jetliners. The airline previously ordered 15 Next-Generation 737-700s and 12 new 737-300s.

"EasyJet's continued business success and the decision to purchase the Next-Generation 737-700 to expand its business in the future, indicates the unmatched performance our customers are experiencing with the 737 airplane, said Toby Bright, vice president -- Europe Russia Sales, Boeing Commercial Airplanes Group. "We are dedicated to our partnership with easyJet and their future success."

Last November, Chief Engineer Allen Marking thanked Boeing employees for building the 737s during a visit to the Boeing Renton, Wash., factory, where all 737s are assembled.

The Next-Generation 737 establishes a new standard for speed and reliability, which means that passengers are less likely to miss connections or arrive late. The airplane's new overhead bins are custom designed to handle more roll-aboard luggage, and the completely redesigned passenger cabin continues to win praise for spaciousness, comfort and design.

The Boeing Next-Generation 737 entered service in 1998. The four-model family builds on the strengths that have made the Boeing 737 the world's most successful airplane while incorporating improvements designed for the 21st century. The Next-Generation 737 airplane has a new and larger wing, which helps it, fly higher, faster and farther than any airplane in its class.

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