Royal Air Maroc Orders More Boeing Next-Generation 737s

Royal Air Maroc and The Boeing Company today signed a definitive agreement for 20 Boeing Next-Generation 737s, 10 of which are subject to reconfirmation, delivering between 2003 and 2013.

The value of the airplanes is approximately $1.2 billion at list prices. Royal Air Maroc also has decided to add to its fleet two new 767-300ERs for its long-range routes, with deliveries starting January 2002.

The Next-Generation 737 is the most advanced airplane in the single-aisle market, including an all-new wing design for improved aerodynamic efficiency and fuel capacity. In addition, flight deck displays and spacious new interiors are patterned after the market-leading Boeing 777.

The 767 is one of the world's most popular jetliners and currently is used more than any other airplane in the North Atlantic market. In fact, the 767 performs more than 2,500 transatlantic flights a week.

RAM's Chairman and CEO, Mr. Mohamed Hassad, stated that "following an extensive fleet analysis of our needs for the next decade, we have chosen the Next-Generation 737 and 767 airplanes to continue our fleet renewal program and to accommodate the expected growth of tourism.

"We have been operating Next-Generation 737s since 1998 and have found that this airplane family continues to be reliable, economical and an appealing solution for our medium range operations," Hassad said. "The 767-300ER will introduce a significant improvement to our service and allow more frequencies on the North-Atlantic market."

Qualities such as the highest dispatch reliability and the lowest operating costs in its class contribute to making the Next-Generation 737 the fastest selling commercial jetliner. The Next-Generation 737 also features the highest performance in its market.

"We are grateful to Royal Air Maroc for choosing to expand its successful business with the Next-Generation 737 and the 767 families of airplanes," said Seddik Belyamani, Commercial Airplanes executive vice president - Sales. "Royal Air Maroc's decision comes at the conclusion of a transparent and rigorous study to determine the best fleet solution for its medium- and long-range operations.. Royal Air Maroc always has been a reference airline in this region. We are proud to see our three decade-old partnership continuing well into the new millennium. "

These airplanes will augment the RAM's growing fleet that includes 28 Boeing 737 airplanes, nine of which are Next-Generation 737s. The Royal Air Maroc order brings total Boeing 737 orders to 4,931, of which 1,799 are for the Next-Generation family. In the past year alone, Boeing has received more than 375 orders for the Next-Generation 737s. Cumulative orders for the 767 family are 887 to date.

Maximum range of the 737-700, which can carry up to 149 passengers, is 3,260 nautical miles (6,040 kilometers). The 737-800, the largest of the 737s in the RAM fleet, can hold up to 189 passengers and fly up to 2,945 nautical miles (5,450 kilometers). Maximum range of the 767-300ER, which can carry up to 350 passengers, is 6,155 nautical miles (11,400 kilometers).

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