Boeing and SkyEurope Airlines Finalize Contract for Four Next-Generation 737s

Boeing [NYSE: BA] and Central European low-cost carrier SkyEurope Airlines have finalized the previously announced order for four Boeing Next-Generation 737-700s worth US$220 million at list prices. The order includes purchase rights for up to 16 additional airplanes.

Earlier this year, SkyEurope also placed an order with leasing company GECAS for 12 Boeing Next-Generation 737s. These 16 airplanes, equipped with performance-enhancing Blended Winglets, will be delivered from 2006 onward.

"The Next-Generation 737 is a reliable and cost-efficient aircraft, which is essential in our competitive low-cost market. Combined with its passenger comfort and appeal, the Next-Generation 737 is the right choice for SkyEurope," said Christian Mandl, SkyEurope CEO and co-founder. Alain Skowronek, SkyEurope chairman and co-founder, added that "the Next-Generation 737 is an integral part of our growth strategy."

Headquartered in Bratislava, Slovakia, and founded in 2001, SkyEurope now serves 25 destinations in 14 countries from its bases in Vienna-Bratislava, Budapest, Krakow and Warsaw. It currently operates a fleet of 15 aircraft, including eleven Boeing 737 Classics.

"Having recognized the growth potential of the Central European market, SkyEurope will now be introducing a money-making airplane to its fleet that fits their business plan and objectives perfectly," said Marlin Dailey, vice president of Sales for Europe and Central Asia at Boeing Commercial Airplanes.

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