

Panasonic Named IFE Provider for Boeing 787 Dreamliner

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The Boeing Company [NYSE: BA] has selected Panasonic as a recommended in-flight entertainment (IFE) provider for the all-new 787 Dreamliner.

Panasonic will offer a wireless version of its X-Series platform, called X-Series Wireless, for the 787. The platform will enable airlines to offer passengers superior service by providing a comprehensive selection of advanced entertainment, information and communications features. The wireless distribution system will provide airlines with increased flexibility for changing cabin configurations.

Panasonic is the second IFE provider named for the 787. With two suppliers, airlines will be able to select the IFE solution that works best for them.

"Wireless in-flight entertainment is just one of the many technologies that make the 787 the preferred airplane among the world's airlines," said Mike Bair, vice president and general manager of the 787 program. "Together with our international partners we are introducing technologies that will make flying more enjoyable for passengers and create a better value proposition for our customers."

This is the second 787 work package for Panasonic, which was earlier selected to provide the airplane's cabin services system.

"We are proud to extend our relationship with Boeing on the 787 to include IFE," said Paul Margis, president of Panasonic Avionics Corporation.

Boeing 787 Dreamliner

The 787 is a family of three super-efficient airplanes that will provide passengers with a better flying experience. The airplanes will feature significant improvements in passenger amenities including cleaner air, bigger windows, a lower cabin altitude and higher humidity. Detailed design of the 787 is under way with production scheduled to start in 2006. First flight is planned for 2007 with deliveries beginning in 2008.

Panasonic

Panasonic Avionics Corporation is the world's leading supplier of in-flight entertainment and communication systems. Headquartered in Bothell, Wash., Panasonic Avionics Corporation employs approximately 2,500 employees based in over 70 locations worldwide. Panasonic Avionics Corporation is a subsidiary of Panasonic Corporation of North America (PNA). Based in Secaucus, NJ, PNA is the principal North American subsidiary of Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd. (NYSE: MC) and the hub of Panasonic's US marketing, sales and service operations.

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