Boeing, AirTran Airways Finalize Order for 24 Next-Generation 737-700s

Boeing [NYSE: BA] announced today that AirTran Airways, the Atlanta- and Orlando-based low-cost carrier, has ordered 24 Next-Generation 737-700s.

AirTran Airways converted options for 14 airplanes for delivery in 2008 and ordered 10 additional 737-700s for delivery in 2010. The estimated value of the order, at list prices, is $1.3 billion.

"Orders by highly successful low-cost carriers such as AirTran Airways continue to validate the value of the Next-Generation 737 to cost conscious airlines," said Alan Mulally, Boeing Commercial Airplanes president and CEO. "As AirTran Airways continues to grow, the Next-Generation 737s will continue to contribute to the airline's bottom line with reliable, efficient and economical service."

AirTran Airways operates a mixed fleet of Boeing 717s and 737-700s. It took delivery of its first 737-700 in June 2004. In May Boeing will deliver its last new 717 to AirTran Airways. The airline operates 26 Boeing 737-700 airplanes and 85 Boeing 717-200 airplanes.

"AirTran Airways' long-standing partnership with The Boeing Company has enabled us to build a world-class aircraft fleet that is unparalleled in the aviation industry," commented Joe Leonard, AirTran Airways' chairman and chief executive officer. "The Boeing 737 has set a new standard for commercial jet transport, allowing us to increase efficiency and enhance our service for the consumer."

Boeing has orders for more than 6,300 737s to carriers worldwide. Orders for Next-Generation 737 airplanes (-600, -700, -800, -900, -900ER) have eclipsed the 3,132 orders for the Classic 737 airplane family. As of March 31, 2006, Boeing Commercial Airplanes had 1,177 unfilled orders for the 737 with a value of about $75 billion at list prices. For more information about the 737, visit http://www.boeing.com/commercial/737family/.

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For further information:
Nicolaas Groeneveld-Meijer
International & Sales Comms., The Americas
206-766-2229
Sandy Angers
737/BBJ Communications
425- 965-9380