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Boeing announced today that FedEx Express, a unit of FedEx Corp, has placed an order for 15 Boeing 777 Freighters, with options for 15 more of the large freighters. In FedEx operation, the new cargo airplanes will carry 171,000 pounds (77,560 kg) of revenue payload at a range of 6,100 nautical miles (11,300 km).

For FedEx, the 777F will provide an increase of 2,200 nautical miles (4,000 km) over the range of the carrier's primary long-haul airplane, the MD-11 Freighter.

Deliveries will begin in 2009 and extend into 2011.

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