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Boeing [NYSE: BA] welcomes Arik Air as the newest African airline to order, and soon operate, the Next-Generation 737 . Since its inception in April 2006, Arik Air has demonstrated a commitment to fleet modernization and has taken a leading role in the overall improvement of Nigeria's commercial aviation industry.

Boeing will deliver the two 737-700s at a ceremony to be held in Seattle next month. The airline intends to utilize the new airplanes on domestic and international routes from its home base in Lagos, Nigeria. The airline currently operates two 737-300s, seven regional jets and two turboprops.

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