Boeing, Air China Announce Agreements for Boeing 777s and 737s

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FARNBOROUGH, United Kingdom, July 17 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- The Boeing Company (NYSE: BA) has signed an order with Air China, the flag carrier of the People's Republic of China, for 15 777-300ER (Extended Range) and 30 Next- Generation 737-800 jetliners.

"These airplanes are the most fuel efficient in their classes," said Kong Dong, Chairman of Air China Limited. "The 777-300ER will be the backbone of our long-haul international fleet and the new 737-800 will support our hub build-up and our company's domestic strategy."

Air China operates international and domestic scheduled passenger and cargo services and will use the airplanes to expand its international and domestic routes. The carrier is based in Beijing, the home of the 2008 Olympic Games, and is the only Chinese airline selected as a 2008 Beijing Olympics partner. The airline is one of the latest air carriers to become a full member of Star Alliance.

"Our long-standing and productive partnership with Air China goes back to the airline's beginning and we're proud to be part of their success," said Rob Laird, vice president, China & East Asia Sales, Boeing Commercial Airplanes. "Air China's expansion and renewal program demonstrates their commitment to improving fuel efficiency and reducing environmental impact, a commitment that Boeing shares."

The order, worth approximately $6.3 billion at average list prices, was previously posted to the Boeing Orders and Deliveries Web site and attributed to an unidentified customer.

The 777 family of airplanes is the market leader in the 300-to-400-seat segment. Since the first 777 went into service in June 1995, Boeing has continually grown the 777 family to include five passenger models and a freighter version.

To date, 56 customers around the world have ordered more than 1,080 777s, making it the most successful twin-engine wide-body airplane on the market. Currently, Boeing has more than 350 unfilled orders for the 777.

To date, 115 customers have ordered more than 4,800 Next-Generation 737s. Boeing has more than 2,200 unfilled orders for the Next-Generation 737 valued at more than $160 billion at current list prices.

SOURCE: The Boeing Company

CONTACT: Mike Tull, International and Sales Communications, London,
+1-206-304-7164, or Linda Lee, International and Sales Communications,
Seattle, +1-206-766-2905, linda.a.lee@boeing.com, or Vicki Ray, 737 Airplane
Program Communications, Seattle, +1-425-965-9382, vicki.l.ray@boeing.com, or
Carrie Thearle, 777 Airplane Program Communications, Seattle, +1-425-965-9378,
carrie.a.thearle@boeing.com, all of Boeing

Web site: http://www.boeing.com/