Boeing's New Environmental Improvement Has Big Impact on European Carriers

Small changes, big fuel savings

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MADRID, Spain, Sept. 24 /PRNewswire/ -- Since the beginning of 2008, seven airlines adopted The Boeing Company's (NYSE: BA) new Performance Improvement Package (PIP) for their 777 fleets. The Performance Improvement Package, scheduled for an April 2009 introduction into service, is committed on 10 Boeing 777 fleets totaling 170 airplanes. The improved fuel burn eliminates three million pounds (1,360,800 kilograms) of carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions per airplane each year, further reducing the environmental impact of air travel.

Continental Airlines, Air New Zealand, and Delta Air Lines were the first to adopt the innovative improvement package when it was introduced in late 2007. This year, El Al Israel Airlines, Austrian Airlines AG, Air France, KLM-Royal Dutch Airlines and British Airways have signed for the PIP. Two of the seven 2008 customers are unidentified.

The PIP package includes low-profile vortex generators, improved RAM air system and drooped ailerons.

Feedback from customers indicates that significant fuel savings and an opportunity to dramatically reduce CO_2 emissions made investing in PIP a straightforward decision.

"We provide innovative products and services to our customers that help them improve the efficiency and reliability of their Boeing airplanes," said Per Noren, Commercial Aviation Services vice president of Environmental Strategy. "Operational efficiencies become environmental efficiencies and the aviation community can contribute to a cleaner future."

The Boeing Company is the world's leading aerospace and defense company, providing products and services to customers in 145 countries. Boeing Commercial Aviation Services, a unit of Boeing Commercial Airplanes, provides LIFECYCLE SOLUTIONS to improve operational and environmental efficiency, including fleet utilization, reduce costs, leverage leading-edge information and ensure passenger well-being.

SOURCE: The Boeing Company

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