Boeing, Malaysia Airlines Announce Order for 10 Additional 737s

LE BOURGET, France, June 21, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- Boeing (NYSE: BA) and Kuala Lumpur-based Malaysia Airlines today announced the airline has exercised an option to purchase 10 additional Next-Generation 737-800s. The order is valued at more than $800 million at current list prices. The airline still has purchase rights for an additional 10 Next-Generation 737-800s remaining from their initial 2008 contract.

Today's announcement was made at the Paris Air Show by Boeing Commercial Airplanes Vice President of Sales & Marketing Marlin Dailey and Malaysia Airlines Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, Tengku Dato' Sri Azmil Zahruddin Raja Abdul Aziz. His Excellency Tan Sri Abdul Aziz Zainal, the Malaysian Ambassador to France, was also in Paris for the signing ceremony.

"Today we celebrate Malaysia Airlines as key member of the Next-Generation 737 family of operators and we welcome this occasion to strengthen our long-term relationship with a valued partner," Dailey said. "The selection of the Next-Generation 737 to support the airline's strategic fleet modernization plan reinforces the superior economics of the most fuel efficient single-aisle airplane operating in today's market."

Malaysia's 737s are the first in Asia to sport the passenger-pleasing Boeing Sky Interior and are fitted with Blended Winglets, which improve fuel efficiency by up to four percent, increase flying range, and reduce CO2 emissions and takeoff noise.

"The option we exercised today marks another step in Malaysia Airlines' mission to strengthen and build upon the airline's award-winning service and passenger value, efforts that support the company's business transformation strategy to profitable operation," said Tengku Azmil. "Boeing's Next-Generation 737, with its economic advantages, including unmatched fuel efficiency, is the right airplane to support our business and our customers."

The digitally designed Next-Generation 737 is the most technologically advanced airplane family in the single-aisle market. The 737-800, which can seat up to 189 passengers, is 771 kilograms (1,700 pounds) lighter, can fly 583 kilometers (315 nautical miles) farther while carrying 12 more passengers than the competing model.

Malaysia Airlines, with a 64-year history as the national carrier of Malaysia, operates a mixed fleet of short- and long-haul airplanes, including 747 passenger and freighter, 777, 737-800s and Classic 737 airplanes. The airline flies nearly 45,000 passengers daily to more than 100 destinations worldwide.

The order was previously posted on the Boeing Orders and Deliveries Web site, attributed to an unidentified customer.

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