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Airline is world's largest 737-800 customer, operates largest Boeing fleet in Europe

SEATTLE, April 30, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- Boeing [NYSE: BA] and Ryanair have finalized an order for five additional Next-Generation 737s, valued at \$452 million at list prices. Today's announcement brings the total number of unfilled Next-Generation 737 orders for the Ireland-based ultra-low-cost carrier to 180 airplanes.

"The 737-800 is the perfect airplane for us as we continue to expand our fleet to cater to both business passengers and tourists who want to visit and explore Europe at affordable, reliable rates," said Michael O'Leary, director and CEO of Ryanair. "The addition of these highly efficient airplanes will help provide our customers with additional options when it comes to planning their travel."

The airline announced last year an order for 175 of the airplanes. Ryanair is the world's largest 737-800 customer, with orders placed for 528 of the type to date.

The Boeing 737-800 is the best-selling version of the highly successful Next-Generation 737 family. Known for its reliability, fuel efficiency and economical performance, the 737-800 is selected by leading and low-cost carriers throughout the world because it provides operators the flexibility to serve a wide range of markets.

"Ryanair and Boeing share a rich history together. The 737-800 offers strong operating economics and will provide comfort and reliability to Ryanair passengers," said Boeing Commercial Airplanes President and CEO Ray Conner. "We are honored to be chosen by Ryanair as they expand their fleet and look forward to continuing our partnership for decades to come."

Headquartered in Dublin, Ryanair operates more than 1,600 flights daily from 68 bases connecting 186 destinations in 30 countries. Currently operating more than 300 737-800s, Ryanair took delivery of its first in 1999, and now operates the largest fleet of Boeing airplanes in Europe. With a team of more than 9,000 highly skilled professionals the airline is expected to fly more than 81.5 million passengers this year alone.

Today's announcement brings the total number of 737s ordered to date to more than 11,000. Boeing currently has more than 3,700 unfilled orders for 737s.


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