Boeing, Air Niugini Announce Order for Four 737 MAX 8s

Fuel efficiency, operating economics, customer comfort position Papua New Guinea carrier for success

SINGAPORE, Feb. 18, 2016 /PRNewswire/ -- Boeing [NYSE: BA] and Air Niugini announced today at the Singapore Airshow an order for four 737 MAX 8 airplanes.

"Papua New Guinea is like no other place on earth and the 737 MAX will allow us to economically and efficiently connect our beautiful country with the rest of the world. The superb economics of the 737 MAX will enable us to increase flight frequencies and develop into new markets which offer significant opportunities for Air Niugini," said Sir Frederick Reiher, KCMG, KBE, Chairman of Air Niugini. "As our region continues to grow, the 737 MAX is the perfect choice for Air Niugini positioning us for success and ensuring we continue to provide our customers with the best experience possible. We look forward to receiving our first airplanes in 2020."

The previously unidentified order adds to the national carrier's current fleet of Next-Generation 737s and 767-300ERs (extended range) airplanes.

"We are honored to expand our current partnership with Air Niugini, with the addition of four 737 MAX 8 airplanes," said Dinesh Keskar, senior vice president, Asia Pacific and India Sales, Boeing Commercial Airplanes. "The 737 MAX will provide Air Niugini with the fuel efficiency, operating economics and passenger amenities they need to ensure their success for the future."

The 737 MAX incorporates the latest technology CFM International LEAP-1B engines, Advanced Technology winglets and other improvements to deliver the highest efficiency, reliability and passenger comfort in the single-aisle market. The new single-aisle airplane will deliver 20 percent lower fuel use than the first Next-Generation 737s and the lowest operating costs in its class – 8 percent per seat less than its nearest competitor.

Air Niugini operates a robust domestic network of more than 25 destinations from its Port Moresby hub, as well as numerous international routes across Asia-Pacific, including Australia, Singapore, Indonesia, Fiji, Philippines, Solomon Islands, Hong Kong, Vanuatu, Japan, and in the near future, China.

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