

# Planeopedia Recap

Your monthly aviation scoop!

## November 2023



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## Air Niugini Orders 11 A220s

*Papua New Guinea, 1 Nov*

Air Niugini, the national carrier of Papua New Guinea announced that they will order a total of 11 Airbus A220 jets as part of fleet renewal. The airline signed a firm order with Airbus for 6 Airbus A220-100 jets, and 3 A220-300 jets- with agreements for 2 more A220-100s from 3rd party lessors.



A rendering of Air Niugini's A220 | © Airbus

Combining the longest range, lowest fuel consumption and widest cabin in the 100-150 seat category, the A220 will be operated by Air Niugini across its domestic and regional network. The new fleet will deliver more capacity and greater reliability across their domestic network and enable the carrier to fly from capital Port Moresby to new destinations across the Asia-Pacific region.

The aircraft is powered by Pratt & Whitney's latest-generation GTF engines. Offering 25% lower fuel burn and CO2 emissions per seat compared to previous generation aircraft, the A220 also has the largest cabin, seats and windows in its class, ensuring superior comfort.

With data visualised by GC Maps, the new A220s ordered by Air Niugini could go as far as connecting Papua New Guinea with Eastern China, Southeast Asia, and New Zealand.

## EVA Air Orders 33 A350-1000s and A321neos

*Taipei, 7 Nov*

Taiwanese carrier, EVA Air announced an order with Airbus for 18 Airbus A350-1000s, and 15 A321neos in a deal worth up to USD \$10.1 Billion. Since June this year, the airline had been eyeing new widebody aircraft such as the A350 or the Boeing 777X, and has since come to a decision to pick the largest variant of the Airbus A350.



EVA Air's A350s | © Airbus

The Airbus A350-1000s will replace (or complement) the airline's aging fleet of Boeing 777-300ER aircraft on major long haul routes such as those to the US, and will likely become the airline's flagship aircraft, offering unmatched range, capacity and comfort. This is a huge loss to Boeing as it proves that the significant delays in the Boeing 777X has driven away customers, since EVA Air had been a loyal customer to Boeing for long-haul aircraft.

The new incoming A321neos will likely replace the airline's older A321ceos. The Airbus A321neo is one of the most efficient narrow body aircraft in the market- definitely an improvement to the original A321.

## Malaysia Airlines Considers Ordering 45 New Aircraft

*Kuala Lumpur, 9 Nov*

Malaysia Airlines, is reportedly considering an order for 45 new aircraft- consisting of 35 narrowbody and 10 widebody jets to support its growth and fleet renewal plans. This said order will be announced in 2024 after bids are open. It is likely to include the Airbus A350 and A220 aircraft, as group managing director Captain Ismail expressed his frustration regarding the current 737 MAX delays, and highlighted the need for A350s.



Malaysia Airlines' Potential Order | © Boeing



**13 - 17 NOVEMBER 2023**

DWC, Dubai Airshow Site, United Arab Emirates

The 2023 Dubai Airshow was certainly one to watch, with numerous orders placed and engine disputes regarding the A350-1000... After the end of the week, Boeing took the victory by a landslide after their defeat to Airbus at the Paris Air Show in June. The following is a summary of all the orders placed:

## DUBAI AIRSHOW | DAY 1

*13 November 2023*

Day 1 of the 2023 Dubai Airshow was the most eventful, with the bulk of orders from Airbus and Boeing placed.

The Dubai Airshow kicked off with an order by Turkey's SunExpress, for up to 90 737 MAX aircraft, including firm orders for 28 737 MAX 8 and 17 MAX 10 with 45 options. This new order will replace their aging 737-800NGs and A320s in due time, likely making the airline a full 737 MAX operator, with -8 and -10 variants.

Following that, locally-based Emirates placed a highly-specified order for 55 777-9s and 35 777-8s, with a list price of \$52bn, alongside 20 Boeing 787-8s and 15 Boeing

787-10s. This brought their total 777X order up to 205 units. The order was placed alongside an order by FlyDubai for 30 787-9s, their very first widebody aircraft order- a massive shift from their 737 fleet.



Emirates orders more Boeing aircraft | © Boeing

Air Lease Corporation then clinched a new deal with EgyptAir for 18 Boeing 737 MAX 8 aircraft, with deliveries expected between 2025 and 2026.

Shortly after, Airbus received its first order at the airshow by loyal customer, airBaltic for 30 Airbus A220-300s with 20 options- retaining their title as an all-A220 operator.

To end of the first day at the airshow, Royal Jordanian and Royal Air Maroc ordered 4 and 2 787-9 aircraft respectively.

## DUBAI AIRSHOW | DAY 2

14 November 2023

By the second day of the airshow, Boeing had finalised all its planned orders and secured its lead ahead of European manufacturer Airbus. EgyptAir kicked off the day with an order for 10 of Airbus' flagship A350-900s, with deliveries from 2025.

Not long after, Kazakhstan's SCAT Airlines secured a deal for 7 Boeing 737 MAX 8s, nearly doubling their fleet- followed by Ethiopian Airlines' deal for up to 67 Boeing aircraft, including 20 737 MAX 8s and 11 787-9s, with options for 15 MAX 8s and 21 787-9s.

The day ended off with ATR's first (and only) deal at the airshow with lessor Abelo for 10 ATR72-600s and 10 more options.



EgyptAir opts for the Airbus A350 | © Airbus

# DUBAI AIRSHOW | DAYS 3, 4 & 5

15, 16, 17 November 2023

The final few days of DAS23 were the quietest. On Day 3, Ethiopian Airlines continued their order streak with an order for 11 Airbus A350-900s, followed by Emirates' last minute Airbus deal the following day. The airline confirmed a deal for 15 A350-900s on Day 4 after the airline reportedly cancelled a deal for 20 A350-1000s due to some disputes regarding the Trent XWB-97 engine.

An original rendering accidentally posted by Airbus the previous day showed both variants of the Emirates A350, and an order for 35 aircraft. As a result of this new order, Emirates now has a total of 65 A350-900s on order.



Emirates closes DAS23 with a last minute deal | © Airbus

On the final day of the airshow, no more orders were placed, and the CEOs of the two main manufacturers departed from Dubai. Boeing, particularly their 737 MAX variants, emerged victorious following the proceedings of the 2023 Dubai Airshow contrasting to Embraer which failed to secure a deal.

**Planeopedia thanks you for your support throughout Dubai Airshow 2023.**

# Qantas Unveils Stunning A220 Livery

*Australia, 15 Nov*

QantasLink has unveiled a special livery for their very first of 29 A220-300s. This very first A220-300 has rolled out of the paintshop at Airbus' facility in Mirabel, Canada, where a striking Aboriginal paint scheme was applied.

Around 100 painters were involved in completing the livery, with the Airbus teams working with 130 stencils to replicate the detailed designs. It features over 20,000 dots and is the most complex livery Airbus has ever completed for this aircraft type.



QantasLink's First A220 | © Airbus

# Malaysia Airlines Takes Delivery of First 737 MAX

*Kuala Lumpur, 16 Nov*

Malaysian flag carrier, Malaysia Airlines has taken delivery of their very first Boeing 737 MAX 8 aircraft today, after a 3-day long journey from Boeing Seattle.

The aircraft features 162 economy seats and 12 business seats to accommodate 174 passengers. 9M-MVA finally arrived in Kuala Lumpur after 2 technical stops in Honolulu and Guam- welcomed with a grand water salute. It also features a special songket motif that pays tribute to Malaysia's vibrant cultural heritage.



MAS' first 737 MAX | © Malaysia Airlines

# Amsterdam Schiphol Drops Flight Cap

*Amsterdam, 14 Nov*

Due to pressure from the EU and US, Amsterdam Schiphol Airport has reluctantly backtracked its decision on flight caps at the airport. Plans were underway to cut almost 50,000 flights at the airport by 2024 to reduce traffic, and deeply affected smaller carriers such as JetBlue which had to cancel scheduled flights from New York and Boston to Amsterdam.

Now that the decision has been reverted, airlines are expanding their routes to Amsterdam, such as Air India which will operate 4x weekly flights from Delhi.



IndiGo's A321XLR | © Airbus

# IndiGo Plans Launch of Premium Products

*India, 23 Nov*

India's largest airline, IndiGo is planning on launching new premium products on its Airbus A321 fleet. According to The Economic Times, IndiGo is planning on introducing a dual-class configuration on 35 of its Airbus A321 aircraft. 8 rows of the aircraft will be fitted with Premium Economy seats in a 2-2 configuration with extra legroom, priority boarding, complimentary in-flight food and greater flexibility.

Additionally, as the airline plans longer flights with the arrival of the A321XLR from 2025, the airline is considering a Business Class product for the type, and more legroom for Economy seats.

# Thank you for reading!