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Norwegian orders four new 787-9 Dreamliners

Norwegian has signed an agreement to lease four new Boeing 787-9 Dreamliners. This means that the company has ordered 14 wide-body aircraft in total; three of which are already in service. The 787-9 is larger than the 787-8 that Norwegian currently operates on its long-haul routes.

Norwegian continues to expand its international operations by entering into an agreement with International Lease Finance Corporation (ILFC) to lease four Boeing 787-9 Dreamliners. The new Dreamliners are expected to enter service in 2017 and 2018.

Norwegian currently has three 787-8 Dreamliners in its fleet, with an additional five on order. The company also has two 787-9 Dreamliners on order for delivery in the first quarter of 2016. In total, Norwegian has ordered a fleet of 14 long-haul aircraft, where of four will enter service in 2014; one in 2015; two in 2016; two in 2017 and two in 2018.

“In order to run a competitive long-haul operation, we are dependent on brand new, cost-efficient aircraft. I’m very satisfied to have secured an additional four 787-9 Dreamliners. This is a great airplane with high passenger comfort, long range and low fuel burn,” said Norwegian’s CEO Bjørn Kjos.

The 787-9 Dreamliner accommodates more passengers, is even more fuel efficient and more environmentally friendly than the 787-8. Boeing has performed several successful test flights with this aircraft type, which is scheduled to enter commercial service this year.

Norwegian and ILFC already have an extended partnership as the latter owns several of the aircraft in Norwegian’s fleet, both Boeing 737-800s and 787-8 Dreamliners.

Facts about Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner:

- Accommodates up to 20 % more passengers than the 787-8 Dreamliner
- 6 meters (20 feet) longer than the 787-8
- Relatively lighter than the 787-8, making it even more efficient
- Significantly increased cargo capacity compared to the 787-8
- 8 % lower fuel consumption per seat than today’s model, which also means lower emissions
- Can fly longer than the 787-8 (depending on cabin configuration)

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Norwegian Air Shuttle ASA, commercially branded “Norwegian”, is a low-cost airline listed on the Oslo Stock Exchange. Norwegian is the second largest airline in Scandinavia and third largest low cost carrier in Europe. More than 20 million passengers fly on its network per year. Norwegian has a route portfolio that stretches across Europe into North Africa and the Middle East, as well as long-haul flights to the US and Southeast Asia. The company has a total of 413 routes to 128 destinations and employs approximately 3,500 people in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Estonia, UK, Spain and Thailand. The company has 258 undelivered aircraft on firm order. Norwegian was founded in 1993 and its headquarter is in Fornebu, Norway. In 2013, Norwegian was voted Europe’s best low-cost carrier of the year by the renowned SkyTrax World Airline Awards. Norwegian offers better leg room than most competitors, in-flight WiFi, world-class punctuality and a fleet of 89 aircraft with an average age of only 4.8 years.

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