



AirAsia first in Southeast Asia to operate Airbus A320neo aircraft powered by CFM International LEAP-1A engines

SEPANG, 15 SEPTEMBER 2016 – AirAsia, the world's best low-cost airline becomes the first airline in Southeast Asia to operate the Airbus A320neo aircraft powered by CFM International LEAP-1A engines. The official welcoming ceremony of the aircraft with registration number 9M-NEO was held today near Kuala Lumpur International Airport.

Equipped with a Space Flex Cabin for an optimal passenger comfort and efficiency, the aircraft is configured with 186 seats. It is the airline group's 172nd aircraft to be received from a total of 575 aircraft in its order book.

A celebratory event was held today to commemorate the arrival of this aircraft, which was attended by Malaysia's Minister of Transport, Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai, H.E. Christophe Pinot, French Ambassador to Malaysia, H.E. Victoria Marguerite Treadell, British High Commissioner to Malaysia, Datuk Kamarudin Meranun, Executive Chairman of AirAsia Berhad and Group CEO of AirAsia X Berhad, Tan Sri Tony Fernandes, AirAsia Group CEO; along with the rest of the AirAsia Group's senior management. Also present at the event were Kiran Rao, Executive Vice President Strategy & Marketing, Airbus and Allen Paxson, CFM Executive Vice President.

Tan Sri Tony Fernandes, Group CEO of AirAsia said, "We are thrilled to receive the Airbus A320neo, which will ensure AirAsia remains at the forefront of our business, with one of the world's youngest and most modern fleet. The aircraft will deliver fuel savings of 15 percent and additional range capability of 500 nautical miles, which will be translated to low fares for our guests. This is further complemented with the extra seats installed, pushing the capacity up to 186 per aircraft.

"We are particularly pleased on the environmental element, where the fuel savings translates into some 5,000 tonnes less CO2 per aircraft per year, in addition to the double-digit reduction in NOx emissions and reduced engine noise" he added.

Kiran Rao, Executive Vice President Strategy & Marketing, Airbus said "AirAsia has set the benchmark for efficiency wherever it flies. With the A320neo things are about to get even better, with a 15 per cent reduction in fuel consumption and lower maintenance costs. Meanwhile passengers will get to enjoy the same unbeatable levels of comfort of any aircraft in the single aisle category. The A320neo is the quite simply the most efficient single-aisle passenger jet in the world. We are confident that it will play a key role in enabling AirAsia to maintain its position as one of the world's leading low-cost carriers."

"We are honored to be part of this incredible team and excited to enter the next new phase of our relationship with AirAsia," said Allen Paxson, CFM Executive Vice President. "We believe that all of the benefits of LEAP technology — fuel efficiency, an improved environmental footprint, industry-leading reliability, low maintenance costs — will have a very positive impact on AirAsia's operational efficiency and help fuel their continued growth long-term."

AirAsia is Airbus' biggest airline customer for the A320 Family with a total of 575 aircraft ordered. Of these, 404 are the A320neo Family, following the airline's latest firm order for 100 A321neo aircraft placed at the recent Farnborough Airshow.

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Photo 1 Caption (From fifth left to right): Allen Paxson, CFM Executive Vice President; Dato' Fam Lee Ee, Board of Directors for AirAsia Berhad; Aireen Omar, CEO of AirAsia Berhad; His Excellency Christophe Penot, Ambassador of France to Malaysia; Datuk Kamarudin Meranun, Executive Chairman of AirAsia Berhad, Yang Berhormat Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai, Minister of Transport; Tan Sri Tony Fernandes, Group CEO of AirAsia; Kiran Rao, Executive Vice President Strategy and Marketing of Airbus and Bruno Navet, Managing Director of AirAsia Group Malaysia at the grand welcoming ceremony of AirAsia's first

About AirAsia

AirAsia, the leading and largest low-cost carrier in Asia, services the most extensive network with over 120 destinations. Within 15 years of operations, AirAsia has carried over 330 million guests and grown its fleet from just two aircraft to over 170. The airline is proud to be a truly Asean (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) airline with established operations based in Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, India and Japan, servicing a network stretching across all Asean countries and beyond. AirAsia has been named the World's Best Low Cost Airline at the annual Skytrax World Airline Awards for eight consecutive years from 2009 to 2016. AirAsia is the first airline globally to collaborate with INTERPOL to implement the I-Checkit system to screen the passports of all prospective passengers against information contained in the world police body's Stolen and Lost Travel Documents (SLTD) database.

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