

Toulouse, 29 October 2013

Japan prepares to welcome its first ATRs

The regional aircraft manufacturer obtains certification from the Japanese authorities to bring the first ATR 72-600s into the country

The European turboprop manufacturer ATR has obtained certification to start operations of the new ATR 72-600 in Japan. This certification, granted by the JCAB (Japanese Civil Aviation Bureau), marks the last step before the introduction of the first ATRs that will fly in the colors of a Japanese airline. The first ATR 72-600s will arrive in Japan in November 2013 and will sport the colors of the new regional airline Air Link.

As part of the certification process, Japanese authorities have approved the operation of the new equipment of the new ATR -600 avionics, such as the MPC (multi-purpose computer), as well as new autopilot, communication, navigation aid and flight management systems.

With the forthcoming introduction of the first ATR 72-600s into Japan, ATR is about to gain a foothold in one of the few countries in Asia where its aircraft had not operated so far. To date, there are almost 260 ATRs operating in the Asia-Pacific region, operated by 50 companies in 23 countries. The ATR 72-600 is also the 70-seat aircraft which has most recently obtained certification from the major international certification authorities, the EASA in Europe and the American FAA.

Filippo Bagnato, Chief Executive Officer of ATR said: "The arrival of the ATR in Japan marks a major step for the European aviation industry. This certification opens up more business opportunities for providing regional services in the archipelago with aircraft which are not only at the forefront of technology, but which also offer the highest standards of comfort along with the lightest ecological footprints. We are pleased at the prospect of being able to give Japanese travelers the opportunity of discovering the multiple benefits of the ATR-600, the most modern aircraft in their category".

About the ATR 72-600:

Passenger capacity: 68 to 74 seats

Engines: Pratt & Whitney 127M

Maximum takeoff power: 2,750 horsepower per engine

Maximum takeoff weight: 23,000 kg

Maximum load: 7,500 kg

Maximum flight range when fully loaded: 900 nautical miles (1,665 km)

About ATR:

Founded in 1981, ATR has become the world leader on the market for regional aircraft with 90 seats or less. Since its creation, ATR has sold over 1,300 aircraft. With more than 21 million flying hours on the clock, ATR's models are operated by 180 airlines in 90 countries. ATR is an equal partnership between two major European aeronautics players, Alenia Aermacchi (a Finmeccanica Group company) and EADS. Its head office is in Toulouse. ATR is ISO 14001 certified. This is the international reference standard in the field of environmental friendliness. For additional information, log on to www.atraircraft.com.

You can also follow ATR on its official YouTube channel: [ATRbroadcast](https://www.youtube.com/ATRbroadcast) and on Twitter: [@ATRaircraft](https://twitter.com/ATRaircraft).

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