

Farnborough, July 11, 2012

Lao Airlines signs order for 2 ATR 72-600s

Laos national flag carrier will bring to 6 its fleet of ATR 72s

On the occasion of the Farnborough Airshow, the European turboprop aircraft manufacturer ATR and the Vientiane-based carrier Lao Airlines announced the signature of a contract for the purchase of 2 ATR 72-600s; valued at US\$ 47 million upon catalogue price. These two new aircraft will be added to Lao Airlines' current fleet of 4 ATR 72-500s. The airline is in the midst of expanding its fleet in order to increase frequency on existing routes and to open new destinations in the surrounding region. The arrival of these 2 70-seat ATR 72-600s will help the airline to maintain its position as the preferred premium airline in Laos.

The ATR 72-600 will be equipped with a new full-glass cockpit and new Giugiaro-designed cabin interiors, and will be powered by PW 127M engines. In addition to the performance advantages that these engines provide, the ATR 72-600 features enhanced comfort and baggage space for the passengers, and improved operational flexibility for the airline. Deliveries of these 2 aircraft will take place late in 2012 and in 2013.

The President of Lao Airlines, Dr Somphone Douangdara declared: "The acquisition of these two aircraft aims at maintaining a modern fleet and upgrading the level of onboard services. In addition to superb services, the airline saves time and money by having a young fleet. With the ATR 72-600's operational reliability and cabin comfort, we want to offer better access for the Laotian travelling public and make them feel easy to fly". He added that "these new airplanes will be introduced at an important stage to meet the growing demand of the transport and tourism sectors".

"This is another important milestone in our long-standing partnership with Lao Airlines, and we are pleased to keep on contributing to the growth of this prestigious Asian carrier", commented ATR's Chief Executive Officer, Filippo Bagnato. "The new ATR -600s have become very popular in Asia. We expect that the many advantages of these aircraft, also in terms of low operating costs, will contribute to further expand regional air traffic in Laos".

About the ATR 72-600:

Passenger capacity: 68-74 seats

Engines: Pratt & Whitney 127M

Maximum power at take-off: 2,750 horse power per engine

Maximum weight at take-off: 23,000 Kg

Maximum load: 7,500 Kg

Maximum range with full passenger load: 900 nautical miles (1,665 Km)

About Lao Airlines:

Established in 1989, Lao Airlines is the national carrier of Laos. From its base at Wattay International Airport, Vientiane, it serves ten destinations in Laos, three in Thailand, two in Cambodia, two in China and two in Vietnam. Its fleet is currently composed by ten aircraft, including 4 ATR 72-500s. In 2007

and 2008 Lao Airlines received the International Arch of Europe Award, in recognition of its commitment to quality, leadership, technology and innovation.

For additional information, log on to www.laoairlines.com

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 approximately 1,200 aircraft to over 180 operators based in 91 countries. ATR planes have totaled over 21 million flight hours. 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 (France). ATR is ISO 14001-certified, the international reference standard in the field for environmental friendliness.

For additional information, log on to www.atraircraft.com.

To follow ATR's video and photo highlights of the event on Youtube, go to [ATRbroadcast](#)

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