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ATR delivers first ATR 72-600 to fly in Asia

Taiwan's UNI AIR will be the first carrier in Asia to operate the ATR 72-600

The European turboprop aircraft manufacturer ATR is pleased to announce the delivery of the very first ATR 72-600 aircraft in the livery of an Asian carrier. The aircraft, with registration number B-17001, has been delivered today in Toulouse (France) to Taiwan-based carrier UNI AIR, a regional subsidiary of EVA AIR. This very first Asian ATR 72-600 is expected to officially enter into service on October 11th, with a first commercial domestic flight from Taipei to Taidong.

With the introduction of its new fleet of 10 ATR 72-600s which is starting today, UNI AIR will progressively replace its fleet of Dash 8 Q-300s turboprops. The airline will thus add seat capacity and introduce new routes, frequencies and the newest standards of passenger comfort and interior design to its regional network.

Since ATR launched the ATR -600 series aircraft in late 2007, the newest ATR 72-600 has proven itself as the best-selling 70-seat regional aircraft worldwide, with some 240 orders since then. The ATR 72-600 received its EASA-certification in May 2011, thus becoming the world's most-recently certified 70-seat regional aircraft. Among other improvements, it features the most modern avionics suite, equipped with full-glass cockpit specifically developed for ATR by Thales, and totally redesigned cabin interiors, by Italian designer Giugiaro.

Commenting on the delivery, Tony Su, Chairman of UNI AIR, declared: "We are really proud to be introducing the new ATR 72-600 into our fleet. This aircraft has proven already to be a commercial and operational success around the world. We are delighted to be further developing and upgrading our regional routes and service with such an outstanding and comfortable aircraft. The ATR 72-600 is the most modern, technologically advanced and greenest aircraft among its category. We are pleased to associate our brand with the newest ATR -600s and to take advantage of the many improvements and performances of the aircraft"

Filippo Bagnato, Chief Executive Officer of ATR, declared: The arrival of the very first ATR 72-600 in Asia is also a milestone for ATR. In the last years, Asia has substantially developed regional aviation and we are pleased that many prestigious Asian carriers as UNI AIR have decided to expand with the newest ATR -600 series aircraft. The high standards of comfort of these aircraft, coupled with their low operating costs, provide substantial growth opportunities both to Asian carriers and to ATR. We are pleased to strongly contribute to the expansion of regional aviation in Asia with our green and most modern ATR -600s".

About the ATR 72-600:

Passenger capacity: 68-74 seats

Engines: Pratt & Whitney Canada PW 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 UNI AIR:

UNI Air is the largest domestic airline in Taiwan where it serves 11 destinations with 15 routes. The carrier also flies between Taiwan and Vietnam and serves 13 destinations in the booming China market via 21 routes. UNI Air currently has a fleet that includes 11 MD-90 jets and eight DH8-300s. UNI AIR is a regional subsidiary of EVA AIR. The two carriers operate a combined network linking Taiwan with 25 destinations in China, with 39 different routes.

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 186 operators based in 90 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.

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