

PRESS RELEASE

ATR signs LOI for 10 ATR 42-600s with China's Tianju Investment Group

Le Bourget, June 19, 2017 - ATR, the world's leading manufacturer of turboprop aircraft, and Shaanxi Tianju Investment Group (Tianju) have signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) for the purchase of 10 ATR 42-600s to develop commuter service in Xinjiang, China. The first deliveries are expected to start as soon as possible in 2018.

There is significant potential to develop commuter services in China and to improve connectivity between smaller towns at the lowest operating costs. This is a key priority of the Chinese government, which has a new focus in the development of regional and general aviation in order to increase quick and efficient access to smaller areas across the country.

Mr. Yang Qiang, Chairman of Tianju Group said, "In responding to the Chinese government's strong intention to promote the General Aviation market, Tianju has made an intensive market study and identified Xinjiang as the ideal location to develop commuter service under General Aviation operations. We are convinced that the specifically adapted ATR 42-600 will provide the best answer for this market segment, which so far does not have operators dedicated to this segment. We are pleased to partner with the world's leading regional aircraft manufacturer to develop commuter service in Xinjiang and strongly contribute to China's 'Belt and Road Initiative.'"

China's 'Belt and Road Initiative' will improve infrastructure both in China and surrounding countries, thus supporting economic development and increasing the demand for air transportation both within China and from and to these countries.

"ATR aircraft are widely recognised as the most fuel-efficient aircraft in the regional market, especially for the short-haul sectors. Thanks to their low fuel consumption and low trip cost, ATRs allow airlines to develop new markets, as highlighted by the over 100 new routes that our aircraft create around the world each year" said Christian Scherer, ATR's Chief Executive Officer.

China has been a strategic partner and supplier for ATR for nearly 20 years. Xi'an Aircraft Industry Co., Ltd. (XAC), a subsidiary of AVIC, provides substantial fuselage sections along with parts of the wings of the ATR aircraft.

ATR is willing to support China's important effort to develop the rapidly growing General Aviation market, especially in the area of commuter services. The tailored ATR 42-600 offers a spacious seat layout, the highest standards of cabin comfort, and cutting-edge technology. It uniquely fills the General Aviation market requirement for 30-seat cabin class aircraft.

About Tianju Group

The Shaanxi Tianju Investment Group (Tianju Group) was established 20 years ago. Starting from advertising; the Group has progressively diversified into consumer products agents, airline and travel agency services, along with civil and general aviation, catering, investment and finance. The Tianju has become a benchmark in Xi'an, Shaanxi. In 2012, Tianju was recognised as the "Well-known Trademark in China" by the State Administration of Industry and Commerce. In the last



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decade, Tianju Group established Shaanxi Tianju Aviation Travel Service Co. Ltd. and Shaanxi Tianju General Aviation Co., Ltd. Now, they are applying to establish Tianju Airlines Co., Ltd. For more information, please visit <u>http://www.tianju.com</u>

About ATR

Founded in 1981, ATR is the world leader on the market for below-90-seat regional aircraft. Since its creation, ATR has sold over 1,500 aircraft. ATR models equip the fleets of over 200 airlines in nearly 100 countries. ATR is an equal partnership between two major European aeronautics players, Airbus and Leonardo. Its head office is in Toulouse. ATR is ISO 14001 certified. For additional information, log on to <u>www.atr-aircraft.com</u>. Follow us on our Wechat atrchina, and use the hashtag #ATRLeads.

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