

Airbus : “competitiveness with efficiency, innovation and diversity”

Airbus marked key milestones in 2016, including service introductions of the A320neo (new engine option) jetliner; first deliveries of the latest A330 Family member tailored for regional routes; expansion of the A350 XWB operator base; start of final assembly for the A330neo; its 10,000th overall delivery and broadening of the company’s customer services support. Accompanying these achievements were significant new commercial orders from around the world for Airbus’ product line of single-aisle and widebody aircraft.

Highlighting Airbus’ continued growth, the aircraft manufacturer marked its 10,000th jetliner delivery to global customers with the 14 October 2016 handover of an A350-900 jetliner to Singapore Airlines. This major achievement spans more than four decades with every member of the Airbus airliner “family” contributing – from the cornerstone medium-haul A300 and A310 to the single-aisle A320 product line, long-range A330/340 Family, new-generation A350 XWB and double-deck A380. As of the 10,000th handover, the global Airbus fleet had flown some 215 billion kilometres and carried more than 12 billion passengers – a number representing approximately twice the Earth’s population.

History was made in 2016 with the first-ever delivery of a jetliner from the Airbus US manufacturing facility in Mobile, Alabama – a single-aisle A321 for operation by US-based carrier JetBlue. Airbus’ second handover from the final assembly line occurred less than one month later with the delivery of American Airlines’ very first US built Airbus aircraft – an A321. Taking the Alabama site into account, Airbus now has operational final assembly lines for the A320 jetliner product line on three continents: North America, Europe (at Toulouse, France and Hamburg, Germany), and Asia (at Tianjin, China).

Airbus meanwhile reached important production milestones for its A350 XWB Family’s longest-fuselage member, the



The commonality across Airbus’ product line – which includes the A320, A330, A350 XWB and A380 jetliners

A350-1000 for which Airbus is targeting a mid-2017 commercial service entry. The company has rolled out its the initial two aircraft, the first of which made its maiden flight in November last year. These jetliners were built at Airbus’ A350 XWB final assembly line in Toulouse, France concurrently with the baseline A350-900

version. Underscoring the high degree of commonality between the A350-900 and A350-1000, all final assembly line stations can accommodate both aircraft types.

Last year also marked the start of commercial service for Airbus’ A320neo (new engine option) Family, which offers airline operators ‘unbeatable fuel efficiency’