



Strategic enters European Market

29 April 2009

Australian based Strategic Airlines have today announced the signing of lease agreements for two Airbus A320-200 aircraft, to commence operations from mid 2009. This announcement coincides with the launch of their Strategic Airlines European base.

The aircraft have been secured through global lease provider, AerCap.

Strategic Airlines has also applied for a French Air Operators Certificate, as well as opened their European office, the first outside of Australia - to support the A320 operation. Initially, one aircraft will be based in Europe, but Strategic expects additional units in bases around the world.

"We are delighted to announce that the first aircraft will reside in Europe, as the flagship for our European airline. We anticipate that this aircraft will be available for charter from June 1, 2009. Delivery of the second aircraft is expected early July and will be based at our Australian headquarters." said Strategic Airlines CEO, Mr David Blake.

Airbus Senior Vice President – Pacific, Isabelle Floret commended Strategic Airlines on the signing of their Airbus leases. "I congratulate Strategic Airlines on its choice of the A320, the proven leader in the single-aisle aircraft market. Together with their A330 aircraft, Strategic will benefit from unparalleled fleet operational efficiency and flexibility through aircraft commonality which is unique to Airbus and allows mixed fleet flying."

Strategic's Airbus A320-200 fleet will be available to the wider market for ACMI and Charter flights. Seating 174 passengers, and powered by CFM56 engines – the Airbus A320-200 is a short to medium range airliner, comprising a range of cabin features providing for exceptional in-flight comfort.

Mr Blake said "With the recent collapse of a number of airlines throughout Europe, there is now a gap in the market for an independent and reliable airline – particularly one with a strong service focus. The opportunity to establish Strategic Airlines in the European market is a further investment in continued and sustainable growth for the future."

All charter and lease enquiries for Strategic's Europe based Airbus A320-200 aircraft can be directed to Ken Dyer at the Strategic European Sales Office. Details can be found on the Strategic website.

***Strategic Airlines is subject to regulatory approval.**

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