

Airbus secures bumper plane order from United Airlines

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United Airlines has placed an order for 70 Airbus A321neo aircraft in a move that will boost the wing assembly plant at Broughton in North Wales.

The airline wants to grow its presence in the single-aisle market in alignment with its “United Next” initiative – turning to Airbus to help supply the planes.

The new order complements existing orders from United for 50 A321XLR aircraft, bringing the total commitment from the airline to 120 A321 aircraft. It is worth around \$8bn. at list prices.

United is also ordering 200 Boeing Max jets.

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“Such a significant order from a great airline like United underscores that the A321neo offers unmatched capabilities, operating economics, and passenger friendliness,” said Christian Scherer, Airbus Chief Commercial Officer and Head of International.

“No other aircraft can do what the A321neo can do, and the Airbus team is most gratified by United’s strong affirmation of its premium status. The A321neo will complement United’s future A321XLR aircraft, together creating a privileged segment on its own.”

The aircraft provides superior environmental performance with the lowest CO₂ emissions per seat in its class. and will support United along its journey to reduce the airline’s CO₂ emissions 100% by 2050.

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United's A321neo aircraft will feature Airbus' Airspace cabin design, which includes welcome and customizable hero lighting (which helps reduce jet lag); new slimmer sidewall panels for extra personal space at shoulder level; better views through the windows with their redesigned bezels and completely integrated window shades.

There are also the latest full LED lighting technologies; the largest overhead bin in class; and new lavatories with hygienic touchless features and antimicrobial surfaces.

A significant number of the newly-ordered aircraft will be produced at the Airbus U.S. Manufacturing Facility in Mobile, Alabama.

Globally, as of the end of May 2021, the A320neo Family had achieved 7,400 firm orders from 121 customers.

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