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Contact: Mike Marino, CEO
Cell (206) 830-7699

Dick Friel, Sr. VP Marketing
(206) 762-1171

ALASKA AIRLINES ORDERS BLENDED WINGLET SHIPSETS

Blended Winglet Technology will allow Alaska Airlines to enhance customer service and save money

SEATTLE – Alaska Airlines has committed to Aviation Partners Boeing Blended Winglet™ Technology. Blended Winglet shipsets will be installed on delivered Next Generation Boeing 737-800s in February and July of 2005 as buyer furnished equipment (BFE). Alaska has options for additional shipsets for future potential 737-800 deliveries.

“Fuel prices are at record highs these days and it appears that there’s not much relief in sight,” says Aviation Partners Boeing CEO Mike Marino. “Investing in Blended Winglet Technology is a way to permanently hedge on future fuel costs. With Blended Winglets, measurable fuel savings stay with the life of the aircraft.”

In today’s environment of higher fuel prices, the dramatic aerodynamic efficiency improvement of Blended Winglets provides a significant return. At current Boeing 737 annual utilization rates of 4000 hours per year, Alaska can look forward to saving approximately 120,000 gallons of fuel per aircraft per year (a 3.5 percent block hour fuel savings) thanks to the revolutionary benefits of Blended Winglet Technology.

A Blended Winglet Enhanced Boeing 737-800 virtually eliminates the need to offload passengers on long haul flights when headwind conditions are adverse. A Blended Winglet Equipped aircraft is also more environmentally friendly. Alaska can look forward to a 6.5 percent reduction in takeoff noise footprint, as well as significantly reduced engine emissions, when operating Blended Winglet Equipped aircraft into environmentally sensitive airfields such as John Wayne Airport in Santa Ana, Calif.

With Blended Winglets, operators get the best of both worlds – improved performance and increased payload capability along with dramatic cost savings.

“We’re very pleased that a customer in our own backyard has chosen to adopt Blended Winglet Technology,” said Aviation Partners Boeing Sales Director Craig McCallum. “This important sale is yet another testimonial that Blended Winglet Technology works – not just for low-cost carriers, but for full-service carriers as well.”

Aviation Partners Boeing is a joint venture between Aviation Partners, Inc. and The Boeing Company. To learn more about patented* Blended Winglet Technology, go to www.aviationpartnersboeing.com.

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