

Belle-sur-vie, 6th June 2018

TWO NEW A350-900

In the summer of 2019 for Air Caraïbes and French bee

Groupe Dubreuil, a family-owned group with a wide range of activities in the distribution and air transportation sectors – and owner of Air Caraïbes and French bee - has just confirmed **the leasing of two more brand new A350-900**.

Air Caraïbes and French bee both already operate two of these latest generation high-technology aircrafts. Considering that four aircrafts have now been in service for more than a year, the Companies have now gained enough hindsight to establish an overview on the introduction of the A350 XWB:

- **Excellent customer feedback** regarding comfort on board the aircraft (pressurization, noise levels and the space as well as the fresh air-flow in the cabin) and on the high quality of the equipment chosen for the interior of the cabin.
- **Operational reliability:** this is a real achievement for such an innovative aircraft especially considering how fast it was developed.
- Its **financial performance** complies with predictions which had been made, regarding maintenance costs, fuel efficiency and cargo capacity.
- **Enhanced working conditions** for the company's crew.

The upcoming delivery of an A350, of the 1000 type, was originally scheduled for December 2019. However, over the last few months, the global airline industry has undergone significant changes which are weighing on the manufacturers' order books and on the lessors' commitments.

Some American and Asian operators therefore decided to push back the deliveries of the A350, thus rendering these aircraft available on the market for 2019. Meanwhile, fuel which had been relatively stable over the last 3 years is now showing its highest price since 2014.

Jean-Paul Dubreuil, President of "Groupe Dubreuil Aéro", made the following comments about this decision:

"We have entered an ideal window to accelerate the renewal of the fleet in our air transportation sector. The A350 has lived up to all its promises in terms of technical performance and enables us to effectively save 25% in fuel - one element which weighs heavily on operational costs. It's an efficient aircraft which will be a crucial component in the fleets of both of our companies."

Marc Rochet, CEO of "Groupe Dubreuil Aéro" added: « *The commercial success of the A350 XWB is a considerable asset for us and truly differentiates us in the highly competitive context which exists on all our markets. Passengers now wish to travel at increasingly low prices, without compromising on the level of comfort and service. Our aircrafts are all equipped with the latest technologies in seating and entertainment, and offer a remarkable level of comfort for travelling.* »

The contract for leasing two A350-900 was validated with ALC, one of the leading aircraft lessors. The first will join the French bee fleet for the end of June 2019 and the second will go to Air Caraïbes the following month. Each company will keep their own layouts: two classes for French bee and three classes for Air Caraïbes.

At the same time, French bee's A 330-300 (immat. F-HPUJ) will be transferred to the Air Caraïbes fleet after a refurbishment of the cabin's layout to be adapted to three class service. French bee's fleet will thus consist of 3 A350-900 by next summer.

Regarding Air Caraïbes, two A330-300 (registration F-OONE and F-GOTO) will be removed from the fleet. By the summer of 2019, the Company will count 3 A350-900, 3 A330-300 and one A330-200 entirely reconfigured into 3 cabins from this year. The A350-1000 will therefore be integrated into the fleet as planned at the end of December 2019, as property.

Lastly, for the use of both companies, the A330-200 (registration F-HHUB) which will also benefit from modernisation works, will continue to serve as a reserve aircraft in order to compensate in the event of any operational irregularities.

The air transportation activity of the Group will therefore receive three new A350 in 2019. This evolution in the fleet confirms Groupe Dubreuil's capacity to adapt to the opportunities which exist on the market, its will to continue investments to modernise and its aspiration to take a long-term place in the French air transportation market.

Press contact information :

AIR CARAIBES

Article Onze Tourisme

Lolita Perron

Phone number: 01 55 60 24 47

E-mail: presseaircaraibes@articleonze-tourisme.com

FRENCH BEE

FTI Consulting

Mathilde Jean / Sophie Van Elven

Phone number: 01 47 03 68 60

E-mail: frenchbee@fticonsulting.com