



Qatar Airways chooses next generation Thales In-Flight Entertainment and connectivity system for its Boeing 787 aircraft

Thales, a leader in in-flight entertainment and connectivity systems, is pleased to announce that Qatar Airways has confirmed the selection of the Thales TopSeries system for its fleet of 30 787 aircraft with 30 options. The airline will provide a comprehensive selection of entertainment programs along with Swift Broadband cabin connectivity integrated with the IFE system. This is a first of kind, next generation system which will allow every passenger to access current news, sports, social networks and other mobile applications. Passenger touch screen displays range in size from 10.6 inch to 17 inch. Passengers will also be able to interface their personal electronic devices to the TopSeries system in order to listen to and view on the system's big screens content they bring onboard. The TopSeries system will also feature 3D audio giving the effect of high fidelity surround sound.

What's more, Qatar Airways selected a new passenger controller with multi-tasking capabilities. The passenger control unit is an intelligent touch screen device that enables passengers to control games and their IFE selections right in the palm of their hand. Qatar Airways Chief Executive Officer Akbar Al Baker said that the in-flight offering on the airline's B787 fleet will be a step beyond what is currently available in the sky.

"Qatar Airways is proud to be at the forefront of the aviation industry. Our 787 aircraft will be equipped with the industry's leading in-flight entertainment and communications technology, and we are looking forward to showcasing to our passengers just why we continue receive awards and accolades for our in-flight product.

"The airline is continuing to expand at a rapid pace and with the opening of New Doha International Airport in addition to the delivery of our first B787s scheduled for 2011, the future is looking very bright indeed," Al Baker said.

Qatar Airways had previously appointed Thales to provide in-flight entertainment and communications systems for 24 brand-new single-aisle A320 family aircraft as well as six retrofits for A320s already in the airline's fleet.

The TopSeries for the B787 is a lightweight design which uses half the available space for the system's head-end digital servers. The system is a popular choice for B787 aircraft, and with the addition of integrated connectivity features, Qatar Airways takes a leading position in the industry. "We are very pleased to be working with Qatar Airways on the installation of IFE and Connectivity on their new B787 aircraft. Our team is committed to their success and desire to bring innovation to their passengers," said Alan Pellegrini, Vice President and General Manager of Thales' Inflight Entertainment Systems business. In coordination with Qatar Airways and Thales, OnAir[®] is part of the Airline's connectivity solution.

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About Thales

Thales is a global technology leader for the Aerospace and Space, Defence, Security and Transportation markets. In 2009, the company generated revenues of 12.9 billion euros with 68,000 employees in 50 countries. With its 25,000 engineers and researchers, Thales has a unique capability to design, develop and deploy equipment, systems and services that meet the most complex security requirements. Thales has an exceptional international footprint, with operations around the world working with customers as local partners.

For more information about Thales Inflight Entertainment Systems visit www.thales-ifs.com .

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