

Chinese-made jetliner takes off with Indonesian carrier

Zhu Yuting

A DOMESTICALLY-MADE regional jetliner, the ARJ21-700, was delivered to its first overseas operator, TransNusa Airlines, an Indonesian airline company, last Sunday.

Founded in 2005 and headquartered in the Indonesia capital, Jakarta, TranNusa Airlines is a low-cost airline company. It mainly operates home and abroad routes to and from regions near Indonesia.

The ARJ21 regional jet, with 95 seats, all in economic-class, is suitable for regional flight routes.

The jet's cabin interior, passenger seats and exterior painting are all customized, and the passenger seats are made of leather fabric. The ARJ21-700 is China's first turbofan regional passenger jetliner designed with a range of 3,700 kilometers.

It has good resistance to high temperatures and crosswinds, and is well suited to night operation.

The ARJ21 was put into commercial service by Chengdu Airlines in June 2016, and has since been purchased by other domestic carriers, including Air China, China Eastern Airlines and China Southern Airlines.

Nearly 100 ARJ21 have been delivered to aviation service carriers, and operated in more than 300 flight routes as of now. And more than 5.6 million passengers have flown on them safely.

COMAC will provide life-cycle customer service and operation support to TransNusa, it said.



City airlines to restore, add international flights

Yang Jian

SHANGHAI-BASED Juneyao Airlines will restore the operation of all its international flights from 2023, while opening new intercontinental routes to tap into the recovering civil aviation market.

Flights from Shanghai and Nanjing in neighboring Jiangsu Province to popular overseas destinations in Japan and South Korea, such as Tokyo, Nagoya, Sapporo and Jeju will be restored initially, followed by Southeast Asian destinations, including Bangkok, Phuket and Kalibo, the carrier said on Wedensday.

A batch of new intercontinental routes from Shanghai to Athens in Greece, Brussels in Belgium as well as Sydney and Melbourne in Australia will be opened, along with routes from Zhengzhou in central Henan Province to Milan, Paris and New York.

"We're glad to witness recovering market confidence," said Wang Junjin, president of the airline.

The air ticket searches for the upcoming Spring Festival travel rush have been surging recently as China optimized its COVID-19 prevention and control rules, he added. The Chinese New Year falls on January 22 next year.

"The civil aviation market is recovering, so Juneyao will make full preparations to meet the rising demand."

The private carrier also plans to resume the delivery of new wide-body aircraft from 2023 for the restored and newly opened international services. It will acquire two Boeing 787-9 Dreamliners in the third quarter next year, expanding its wide-body fleet to eight.

Another eight A320neo narrow-body jetliners will be delivered next year, featuring eco-friendly coating and lighter trolleys made with new composite materials.

