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IFALPA congratulates Boeing on 787 first flight

Chertsey 15 December: The International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations (IFALPA) is delighted to offer its congratulations to Boeing on a successful first flight of the 787.

Commenting on the flight IFALPA President Capt. Carlos Limon said "We welcome the introduction of new technologies and materials and support the responsible way in which Boeing is bringing this aircraft to service as a mature product. Today's flight is of course a landmark for Boeing and the 787 but it is one that is a beginning rather than an end. Our colleagues in the flight test department in Seattle have got a very busy time ahead of them as they work towards certification".

The Federation's pilot volunteers have been involved in the design and development of the 787 at an early stage offering opinion from the pilot perspective and so we will be following the progress of the test programme with keen interest. "These links will be strengthened as IFALPA experts from the Aircraft Design & Operation Committee work with Boeing colleagues on IFALPA's Future Flight Deck project which sets out to define the shape and style of the cockpits of the next generation of airliners." explained Capt. Limon.

Notes to Editors

The International Federation of Air Line Pilots' Associations represents in excess of 100,000 pilots in more than 100 countries world-wide. The mission of IFALPA is to be the global voice of airline pilots, promoting the highest level of aviation safety and security world-wide and providing services, support and representation to all of its Member Associations. See the Federation website www.ifalpa.org

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