



Press office TAROM

Contact:
phone.: 021/201.47.34
Fax: 021/204.12.70
Email: presa@tarom.ro

DATE: 01.09.09

PRESS RELEASE

TAROM will reduce costs by 650,000 USD per year after installing blended winglets on its Boeing 737 – 700 series

BUCHAREST/ TAROM/ 01.09.09: From 01.09.2009, TAROM will start installing blended winglets on all 4 Boeing B737 – 700 in its fleet. These 4 aircraft will join the 3 Boeing B737 – 800 which are already equipped with the Winglet system from production.

This initiative is part of the airline strategy to reduce costs and increase the efficiency of the operations concerning fuel consumption as well as to reduce the impact of aviation on the environment.

Installing blended winglets on the 4 aircraft B737-700 will reduce yearly fuel consumption by up to 1000 metric tons, equivalent of a cost saving of aprox. 650,000 USD. The 4 aircraft fly per year aprox. 12,000 hours on TAROM's network.

The blended winglets are installed at the wingtips and reduce the drag increasing the performance of the aircraft.

Blended winglets also increase the range of the aircraft, the speed and the cruising altitude, reducing the impact on the environment. The equipment reduces the fuel consumption of the aircraft by up to 3% which in turn reduces the emissions by 3%. Aircraft equipped with blended winglets have a lower noise signature at take-off, the noise levels being decreased by up to 6,5%.

Next month, on the 18th of September, TAROM celebrates 55 years since its foundation. TAROM is an airline with a great history, but it is also a modern airline focused on the future and concerned of its impact on the environment. We have set a goal to reduce the carbon footprint of our aircraft through increased energy efficiency and through the reduction of the fuel consumption. The blended winglets allow us to implement our fuel consumption reduction policy bringing both financial benefits and environment benefits through reduced emissions”, says Ruxandra BRUTARU, General Director of TAROM.

The blended winglets that will be installed on TAROM aircraft Boeing B737-700 are manufactured by Aviation Partners Boeing (APB) – worldwide leader in the production and certification of winglets, the only supplier of such equipment for Boeing B737 aircraft.

“APB is proud to have TAROM as our newest Blended Winglet customer. With Blended Winglets installed on their 737NG’s, TAROM can look forward to improved airplane performance through reduced fuel consumption, increased takeoff performance, and lower emissions. They have also proven to be an excellent Blended Winglet installation center for their planes, as well as other operator’s airplanes” says Troy Brekken, APB Director of Sales and Marketing.

The blended winglets have a tremendous commercial success due to the fact that they bring huge benefits for the airlines on a scale unmatched, until now, in the history of aviation.

Blended winglets Benefits:

- Increased cruise speed with reduced fuel consumption;
- Increased range, making possible new destinations, further away;
- Reduced fuel consumption on existing routes (between 3% and 4%, depending on the length of the route);
- Optimized wing with reduced wingtip vortices;
- Improved take-off and landing performance, allowing pilots to use procedures; that minimize wear on engines reducing maintenance costs;
- Lowers the negative impact on the environment.

At the end of the 90's, Boeing introduced the blended winglets on its Boeing Business Jet and in 2001 certified the system for Boeing B737-700 and Boeing B737-800. Aviation Partners Boeing (APB) delivered winglets for over 3000 Boeing aircraft worldwide.

TAROM operates flights to more than 40 destinations on 3 continents, in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East.

The Romanian flag carrier has one of the youngest fleets in Europe, composed of 26 aircraft: three BOEING 737-800, four BOEING 737-700, four BOEING 737-300, four Airbus A318-111, two Airbus A310-325, seven ATR 42-500 and two ATR 72-500.