



### **Delta completes winglet installs on its Boeing 737-800s**

(10Jan11 18:26 GMT) Lori Ranson, Washington DC

Delta Air Lines has completed winglet installations on its fleet of 73 Boeing 737-800s.

Carrier chief executive Richard Anderson tells employees that Delta TechOps recently completed the last installation, and citing a 3% gain in fuel efficiency says winglets are "one of the most efficient ways to invest capital".

He further states that every aircraft in Delta's fleet that "can hold a winglet" will be equipped with the devices.

Winglets are especially useful now that fuel prices have recently increased, says Anderson. "Fuel prices have long been the real wildcard in airline costs," he states.

Delta's chief executive believes the carrier has a strong fuel hedge position, stating the airline's hedge book is worth about \$300 million, which helps the carrier remove volatility from its business plan.

The airline recently stated the disruptions from winter storms on the US East Coast in late December should result in a reduction in Delta's fourth quarter net profit by roughly \$45 million.