

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Futura International Airways Adopts Blended Winglets for its 737NG Fleet**

***Spanish Charter Operator Takes Delivery of its First Aviation Partners Boeing Blended Winglet System on April 11, 2003.***

With a goal of remaining on the leading edge of innovation, Palma de Majorca, Spain-based Futura International Airways believes in investing in visible technology. A futuristic logo, a fleet renewal plan to all Boeing 737-800s and a commitment to Aviation Partners Boeing Blended Winglet Technology™ is all part of positioning this successful carrier for its second decade of service.

**“We’re extremely pleased to have Futura, one of the leading privately held airlines worldwide, as a new member of the Blended Winglet community,” says Aviation Partners Boeing Vice President of Sales Sheldon Best. “As Futura moves to an all Blended Winglet Equipped 737-800 fleet its next ten years of business will, no doubt, be even more impressive than its very successful first decade of service.”**

Formed in 1990, Futura carried over 12 million passengers to more than 60 destinations throughout Europe and North Africa over its first decade of service. Since the turn of the Millennium, Futura has added six 737-800s to its fleet and has signed an order with GE Capital Aviation Services (GECAS) for an initial batch of three Blended Winglet Shipsets. With an average stage length of 1400 nm, and a charter network ranging from the Canary Islands to Iceland, Scandinavia and Israel, Futura is ideally positioned to benefit from the fuel saving and performance advantages of Blended Winglet Technology.

**“Futura is a modern airline with a high-tech image. While Blended Winglets will enhance this state-of-the-art image the decision to invest in our technology was made for practical, dollars and cents, reasons,” says Aviation Partners Boeing Sales and Marketing Director for Europe Patrick LaMoria. “Blended Winglet Technology will save Futura approximately 113,500 gallons of fuel per aircraft per year through improved aerodynamic efficiency. Aviation Partners Boeing projects that Futura will also realize engine maintenance savings of 4.6% and reductions in carbon dioxide and nitrous oxide emissions in the order of 4% and 5% respectively.”**

As with most Blended Winglet 737NG operators who lease their aircraft, Futura’s negotiated incremental lease rates with GECAS ensure that they will be cash positive from the first month of operation. And, the environmentally friendly benefits of this patented\* Performance Enhancing Technology will become increasingly important in the eco-sensitive European operating arena.

**Today, 25% of delivered 737-700s & 800s are equipped with Blended Winglet Technology. To learn more about Blended Winglet Technology from Aviation Partners Boeing see: [www.aviationpartnersboeing.com](http://www.aviationpartnersboeing.com)**

\*Patent No. 5348253

# # #

NEWS RELEASE NEWS RELEASE NEWS RELEASE