SPIRIT AIRLINES TOOK FIRST-EVER AIRBUS A321NEO DELIVERY

News / Airlines, Manufacturer

Spirit Airlines unveiled its first A321neo aircraft in a ceremony at Detroit maintenance hangar. The aircraft, N702NK, will operate its first commercial flight on June 7. Spirit plans to accept seven more new A321neos in 2023, and 24 more are projected for delivery in 2024 in addition to other A320 Family aircraft deliveries. The A321 is the largest member of the Airbus A320 Family, and Spirit currently operates 30 A321ceo aircraft in its fleet of nearly 200 aircraft. Spirit already operates one of the youngest and most fuel-efficient fleets in the industry and adding the A321neo to its fleet will drive even more fuel efficiency. All of Spirit' A321 aircraft will deliver with new engine option advanced engines that together with fuel-saving Sharklet wingtip devices, are 20 percent more fuel-efficient than A321ceo aircraft.

Ted Christie, Spirit Airlines President and CEO, commented: "Adding this new variant of the A320 Family aircraft to our fleet is a feat that has been years in the making. I'm grateful for all our Team Members who made it possible for us to step up our capabilities and open the door to new horizons for Spirit. We know our Guests enjoy the brand-new plane experience combined with our latest cabin upgrades, and on the business side of the equation, this transition will increase our

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average gauge, which will drive efficiencies that benefit unit costs and reduce fuel burn."

Spirit is currently in a fleet renewal process as it retires its A319ceo aircraft while adding larger, more modern aircraft to increase capacity and fuel efficiency. Spirit recently completed an agreement to sell 29 of its A319ceo aircraft, which are the oldest aircraft in Spirit's fleet and the smallest of the Airbus A320 Family aircraft. The company is planning for all its A319ceo aircraft to transition out the fleet by the end of 2025.

The new features and benefits of the A321neo include:

- A321neos offer expanded seating capacity with the optimized use of cabin space, increased exit limits and a new cabin door configuration. Additionally, all new aircraft are receiving Spirit's latest cabin upgrade with enhanced, wider seats that include additional usable legroom from the curved seatback design.

- The larger aircraft allow Spirit to increase capacity at constrained slot-controlled airports, providing More *Go* for Guests in major metropolitan areas.

- Spirit will maintain its wide aisles that allow quicker on- and off-boarding and extra space for crews to work.

- The new aircraft add an additional 500 nautical miles in range over the previous generation A321ceo type, opening new destination opportunities.

- Spirit is installing Pratt & Whitney GTF engines on new aircraft deliveries. The GTF engine has demonstrated its promised ability to reduce fuel burn and carbon emissions by 16 percent on this family of aircraft, reduce nitrogen oxide emissions by 50 percent compared to the regulatory standard and reduce the noise footprint by 75 percent.

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