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Finnair's New Airbus A330 Offers Full-Flat Business Class Seats on JFK Route

NEW YORK (December 22, 2009) - Travelers on Finnair's New York-Helsinki route will be among the airline's first passengers to experience its newest aircraft, an Airbus A330 - the fifth Airbus A330 added to Finnair's worldwide fleet this year (www.finnair.com). The business class section of this new Airbus A330 offers Contour Vantage seats - a new type of full-flat seats that reclines to a fully horizontal position - as well as a new configuration that offers more privacy than before. The Airbus A330 aircraft are part of Finnair's long-haul traffic fleet modernization, which will reduce emissions significantly.

"The design of these seats offers passengers more privacy and personal space. The seats have been arranged so that nearly 90% of passengers have direct access to an aisle, and there is more storage space for hand luggage and clothing," explains Markku Remes, Finnair's Customer Experience Development Manager.

The new lay-out also allows for more seats to fit into the same space. The business class of Finnair's latest Airbus A330 aircraft has 45 seats instead of the 42 seats in the business class section of previous aircraft. A third of business class passengers can select a lie-flat seat without another seat beside it.

"Our passengers certainly will enjoy the new Airbus A330 aircraft on Finnair's New York-Helsinki route, as well as on other shorter long-haul routes, for instance to Delhi, Seoul and Nagoya," says Michael Maass, Finnair's Sales Director for North America. "In addition, the acquisition of the new aircraft will significantly improve Finnair's profitability and environmental efficiency, especially when you take into consideration that the new Airbus long-haul aircraft consume 20% less fuel than the MD-11 they replace."

The cabin of the new Airbuses has a new, brighter look, and technically high-level solutions also significantly enhance passenger comfort in economy class. Every passenger has an individual display screen with diverse entertainment opportunities, and it is also possible to send text messages and work with a laptop computer during flights.

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Finnair was established in 1923, and its major shareholder is the Finnish government with a 55.8 % holding. From North America, Finnair offers non-stop flights from New York to Helsinki, Finland, connecting with its global network including more than 50 international destinations. In addition to passenger and cargo traffic, the Finnair Group operations cover technical and ground handling operations, catering, travel agencies as well as travel information and reservation services. The Group's current number of employees is approximately 9,500, while the fleet comprises 63 aircraft. During 2008, Finnair carried a total of 8,270,100 passengers. Finnair is a member of oneworld, the leading global airline alliance.

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