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Airbus forecast demand for 27,800 aircraft over next 20 years

Global airlines will buy USD\$3.5 trillion of aircraft over the next 20 years to meet relentless demand for travel to and from Asia's burgeoning "megacities" and renew older fleets in the West, Airbus said on Monday. The world's largest civil jet maker raised its forecast for deliveries over the next 20 years by around 8 percent to 27,800 aircraft as part of an annual market survey. The figure includes 900 freighters to keep up with a projected expansion in global trade. The European company shrugged off turmoil in financial markets, saying population growth and urban growth would continue to promote strong aviation demand. The industry has recovered more quickly than expected from the last recession but some are nervous over the short-term outlook. "People need and want to fly more than ever before," Airbus said in a statement. "Over the next 20 years the aviation sector is expected to remain as resilient to cyclical economic conditions as in the past."

China will need 72,700 more pilots by 2030 says Boeing

The Asia/Pacific region will require hundreds of thousands of new commercial airline pilots and technicians over the next 20 years to support airline fleet modernization and the rapid growth of air travel, according to Boeing's 2011 [Pilot & Technician Outlook](#) released Monday. The report called for 182,300 new pilots and 247,400 new technicians in the Asia/Pacific region through 2030. The greatest need is in China, which will require 72,700 pilots and 108,300 technicians over the next 20 years, said Boeing Training & Flight Services CCO Roei Ganzarski. "The demand for aviation personnel is evident today. In Asia we're already beginning to see some delays and operational disruptions due to a shortage of pilots," Ganzarski said. "To ensure the success of our industry as travel demands grows, it is critical that we continue to foster a talent pipeline of capable and well-trained aviation personnel. As an industry we must make a concentrated effort to get younger generations excited about careers in aviation. We are competing for talent with alluring hi-tech companies and we need to do a better job showcasing our industry as a global, technological, multi-faceted environment where individuals from all backgrounds and disciplines can make a significant impact,"

FAA to fine Cogan \$1.8 million

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is proposing a civil penalty of \$1,892,000 against Colgan Air, a subsidiary of Pinnacle Airlines, for allegedly allowing flight attendants to work on 172 revenue passenger flights when they were not properly trained to use the planes' cabin fire

extinguisher system. "FAA rules on flight crew training are designed to help ensure the safety of passengers," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood. "We require carriers to comply with all of our safety rules, and we will not hesitate to take enforcement action when they do not." The 84 newly-hired flight attendants worked flights on the Bombardier Dash 8-Q400 twin turbo-prop aircraft between Nov. 3 and Nov. 9, 2009 after the FAA told Colgan the flight attendants had not completed the required training. The FAA inspected the carrier's new-hire flight attendant training for the Q400 on Nov. 2, 2009. The FAA alleges the new Colgan flight attendants were trained with fire extinguishers used on the airline's Saab 340s, which operate differently than those used on the Q400. "The airlines have to properly train crewmembers on the use of emergency equipment," said FAA Administrator Randy Babbitt. "The flight attendants' primary responsibility is to know exactly how to handle emergency situations, and they can't carry out that responsibility if they're not properly trained." Colgan has 30 days from the receipt of the FAA's enforcement letter to respond to the agency.

Qantas cancels 28 of today's flights due to ground staff industrial action

Qantas Airways has cancelled 28 flights scheduled for Tuesday due to a planned four-hour strike by ground staff, which the airline said will affect more than 6,100 passengers. Qantas said in a statement on Monday it expected a further 27 flights to be delayed by up to 35 minutes and warned passengers of further disruptions over the next two days. The Transport Workers Union, which represents baggage handlers and catering staff, called the strike action due to a dispute over pay and in opposition to planned domestic job cuts as the airline expands in Asia.

Piece of Aviation History for September 20



1945 - Rolls-Royce's first turboprop, the Trent RB.50, makes its first flight

Based on a concept provided by Sir Frank Whittle, it was essentially a Derwent Mark II turbojet engine with an additional turbine stage driving a reduction gearbox. The unit was then connected to a five-bladed Rotol propeller.

The engine ran for 633 hours on test before being installed in a Gloster Meteor at the start of a programme which eventually comprised 298 hours of flight tests.

Quote of the Day

Most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be. Abraham Lincoln (1809 - 1865)

A Bit of Light Relief

A grizzled old man was eating in a truck stop when three Hell's Angels bikers walked in. The first walked up to the old man and pushed his cigarette into the old man's pie, and then took a seat at the counter. The second walked up to the old man and spit into the old man's milk, and then he took a seat at the counter. The third walked up to the old man and turned over the old man's plate, and then he took a seat at the counter. Without a word of protest, the old man quietly left the diner. Shortly thereafter, one of the bikers said to the waitress, "Humph, not much of a man, was he?" The waitress replied, "Not much of a truck driver either. He just backed his truck over three motorcycles."