

LOT POLISH AIRLINES SHOWS OFF BOEING DREAMLINER-787

By Raymond Rolak

Special for Seattle Polish News

Everett, WA-- It was such a historic day, when watching the aviation partnership of LOT Polish Airlines and the Boeing Corporation unfold for the rollout of the new Dreamliner-787. The events added such a fresh new sense to the occasion. It was easy to notice that fresh new airplane fragrance also. Just like the attractive scent from a brand new automobile, new airplanes smell great.

Guests and enthusiastic employees applauded as Boeing showcased the first LOT Dreamliner-787 here. This is the new future for European air travel and LOT Polish Airlines is front and center.



As an aviation professional and global traveler, I have seen and observed the wonderment of man's engineering successes. This airplane is an international showpiece.

When the giant LOT Polish Airlines Boeing 787 started its taxi one could feel the power of the twin Rolls Royce engines. This was near the intersection of runway 16R-34L at Paine Field. Paine Field and the Boeing aprons and taxiways are part of Snohomish County Airport. It has a 9,000 foot runway, perfect for the jumbo jets.

The advanced avionics in the Dreamliner cockpit was a marvel. It has a 17 hour flying range. This wide-body was being documented as it taxied effortlessly around. When you watch the smoothness of the big airplane, one can only smile. From the frontend, one notices that the crew is 30-feet high-up from the tarmac. This airplane is big.

LOT plans to use the new plane primarily on the Warsaw-Chicago-Warsaw and Warsaw-Beijing-Warsaw routes. There are future plans for Warsaw-Toronto-Warsaw and Warsaw-JFK-Warsaw flights. The inaugural flight from Warsaw to Chicago will be on Jan. 16, 2013, followed closely by Toronto on Feb. 1 and New York's JFK on Feb 3. Beijing will begin one month later on Mar. 3, 2013.

The LOT Dreamliner is configured with 252 seats and has three classes of seating in the cabin. Luxurious business-class, premium economy-class and economy-class will be offered. There is also an overhead crew rest compartment. The plane has a custom design for inflight services and amenities, including personal entertainment systems.

Earlier, LOT Polish Airlines CEO Marcin Pirog said, "I can say with confidence this is a breakthrough moment for LOT. I am sure our offer of Dreamliner flights is currently the best on the market because it is an ideal combination of an advantageous price with the highest standards of service on the most modern passenger plane in the world."

The Boeing-787 Dreamliner is the first commercial jetliner made primarily of advanced composite materials. It offers improved passenger features including cleaner cabin air, higher humidity and bigger windows that dim electronically. There is also much more overhead storage space.

Randy Tinseth, vice-president of Boeing Commercial Airplanes in Seattle gave a behind the scenes perspective regarding the Dreamliner.

LOT's planes will be the initial Dreamliner in Europe. This month marks the one year anniversary of the first delivery of the first Boeing-787 Dreamliner to Japan's ANA (All Nippon Airways). Since then, Boeing has delivered 25 Dreamliner's to six different customers.

"One year ago today we reached a significant milestone in Boeing and ANA's partnership," said Ray Conner, president and CEO of Boeing Commercial Airplanes. "We are grateful for the support and confidence that ANA has placed in Boeing as the launch customer of the 787 Dreamliner."

Airlines that acquire the Dreamliner will appreciate its fuel efficiency. This fuel efficiency also results in 20 percent lower carbon emissions, helping Boeing to achieve its environmental objectives.

Before the Delta Airlines and Northwest Airlines merger in 2008, the first Dreamliner-787 was slated to be put in operation with NWA for the Detroit-Japan market. Delta currently has 18 Dreamliner's on order.

LOT Polish Airlines currently has crew in training to fly the Dreamliner-787. Pilots and check-airmen have been preparing and using the 787 full-flight simulator here and will be checked out on ZA001, the first 787 flight test airplane.

The airplane's livery sure looked great and with that fresh new '*Roza*' scent and bouquet in the cabin, everything will be '*Coming-up-Roses*' for this global carrier. LOT Polish Airlines is scheduled to take delivery of their first airplane next month. LOT is scheduled to get eight in total.

The Polish community of Seattle and Pacific Northwest along with all those at Boeing International salutes the employees of LOT Polish Airlines for flying into the future in a big way.

And as the LOT crew said in Polish, "*Bardzo Dobrze.*"

YouTube video: <http://youtu.be/UPGTdXuGsTY>

LOT info: <http://www.lot.com/us/en/web/newlot/dreamliner-787>