



HIGH-SPEED INTERNET TAKES FLIGHT ON ATR AIRCRAFT

Starlink certification granted by EASA to ATR 72 aircraft

Toulouse, 21 January 2025 – ATR, the world's leading regional aircraft manufacturer, continues to elevate the standards of regional air travel by introducing Starlink high-speed internet connectivity onboard its aircraft. After successful test flights carried out on ATR's 72-600 test aircraft in the past months, the solution has been certified by EASA. Long-standing partner Air New Zealand is poised to be the launch customer, bringing internet to its domestic flights from 2025.

Under the agreement, PMV Engineering has developed the necessary modifications for the certification of the Starlink aeroterminal on ATR aircraft, which is now available as a retrofit option on ATR 72-500 and – 600 for all ATR operators through a Supplemental Type Certificate (STC).

Engineered by SpaceX, Starlink is the world's first and largest satellite constellation using a low-Earth orbit to deliver broadband internet capable of supporting streaming, online gaming, video calls and more. By adopting this game-changing technology, ATR operators worldwide will be able to provide their passengers with internet services that reflect their home experience.

Nikhil Ravishankar, Chief Digital Officer at Air New Zealand, said: "We're always looking at how new and innovative technology can deliver improved customer experiences and with the world's largest satellite constellation, exploring in-motion connectivity on our aircraft with Starlink was a no brainer. Whether travelling for work or leisure, we know maintaining seamless internet connectivity is something that will transform the travel experience for customers. We can't wait to bring connectivity to our domestic flights. Collaborating with ATR and the PMV Engineering team has been fantastic, and their expertise has been instrumental in bringing this vision to life."

Eric Sperazza, Chief Executive Officer at PMV Engineering, added: "We're honoured to be the providers of such a revolutionary technology onboard ATR aircraft, sharing our expertise and solution-led approach to open up new opportunities for ATR, its customers and their passengers."

Daniel Cuchet, Senior Vice-President Engineering at ATR, commented: "Starlink opens up a new era for ATR, offering unparalleled levels of comfort and passenger experience in the regional market. This achievement demonstrates our dedication to staying ahead of the curve, responding to the latest travel trends in line with our customers' expectations, and collaborating with industry-leading partners who share a vision of excellence and innovation to transform the way people experience air travel."

In addition to passenger benefits, this system will also allow pilots to connect to aviation weather services, enhancing flight safety through more informed decision-making. Moreover, the compact size of the antenna makes it perfectly suited to the ATR platform in terms of aerodynamics.

With a fully connected cabin that can already integrate USB sockets in all seats, In-Flight Entertainment systems, high-speed internet, and a whole range of high-end cabin solutions (the ATR HighLine collection), ATR expects strong interest from airlines worldwide, including in markets such as Japan, Europe, Asia-Pacific, and the United States, where demand for in-flight connectivity is growing rapidly.



ABOUT AIR NEW ZEALAND

Air New Zealand's story started in 1940, first taking to the skies between Auckland and Sydney on a flying boat - a Short S30. Known for its warm Kiwi hospitality, today, the airline has operating aircraft ranging from Boeing 787-9 Dreamliners and Airbus A320s to ATRs and Q300s, offering customers comfort in the latest most efficient jets and turboprops. It's a modern fuel-efficient fleet with an average age of 8.7 years. Air New Zealand's global network of passenger and cargo services centres around New Zealand. In 2023, the airline flew more than 16 million passengers. Air New Zealand was named 2024 World's Safest Airline by the Australian rating service AirlineRatings.com, highlighting the airline's laser-focus on safety and won Best Corporate Reputation in New Zealand in 2023 – the 9th year in a row.

ABOUT STARLINK

Starlink delivers high-speed, low-latency internet to users all over the world. As the world's first and largest satellite constellation using a low Earth orbit, Starlink delivers broadband internet capable of supporting streaming, online gaming, video calls and more. Starlink is engineered and operated by SpaceX. As the world's leading provider of launch services, SpaceX is leveraging its deep experience with both spacecraft and on-orbit operations to deploy the world's most advanced broadband internet system. Learn more at www.starlink.com. Follow Starlink on X <https://x.com/Starlink>.

ABOUT PMV ENGINEERING

Founded in 2010, PMV Engineering is an EASA-approved Design Organisation (DOA 21J.487), specialising in minor changes, STCs, and both minor and major repairs. We offer cost-effective and timely solutions in a variety of areas, including aircraft cabin interiors, cabin systems and connectivity, avionics modifications, external liveries, structural repairs, and passenger-to-freighter (P2F) conversions for ATR 42/72 aircraft. With a truly global presence, PMV Engineering has successfully completed over 800 aircraft modifications across more than 60 countries, serving a diverse portfolio of 300 clients. Find out more: www.pmv-groupe.com.

ABOUT ATR

ATR is the world number one regional aircraft manufacturer with its ATR 42 and 72, the best-selling aircraft in the below 90-seat market segment. The unifying vision of the company is to accelerate sustainable connections for people, communities and businesses, no matter how remote. Flown by some 200 airlines in over 100 countries, ATR aircraft opened 160 new routes in 2023, facilitating the development of territories and enabling access to crucial services like healthcare and education. Thanks to ATR's focus on continuous innovation and the intrinsic efficiency of the turboprop technology, ATR aircraft are the most advanced, versatile, cost-effective and lowest-emission regional aircraft on the market, emitting 45% less CO2 than similar-size regional jets. In January 2022, we flew the first ever commercial aircraft using 100% SAF in both engines. ATR is a joint-venture between Airbus and Leonardo. Visit us on www.atr-aircraft.com for more information.

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