



SAS SELECTS INMARSAT'S GX AVIATION INFLIGHT BROADBAND FOR NEW AIRBUS A350 FLEET

News / Airlines



Inmarsat announced that its award-winning GX Aviation inflight broadband service has been selected by Scandinavian Airlines (SAS) for its brand new fleet of Airbus A350 aircraft.

SAS has ordered a number of new Airbus A350 aircraft as part of an extensive fleet renewal programme, the first of which will be delivered from the Airbus factory in Toulouse at the end of this year with GX Aviation pre-installed. The aircraft has been named 'Ingegerd Viking' and will officially enter service on 28th January 2020, serving long-haul routes to destinations such as Chicago, San Francisco, New York, Beijing, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong. GX Aviation's unique proposition of fast, seamless global coverage was a key factor in its selection by SAS.

GX Aviation will be a key part of the world-class experience in the new aircraft's economy, premium economy and business class cabins, allowing passengers to seamlessly browse the internet, stream video and audio, check social media, instant message and more, with speeds on par with mobile broadband on the ground.

SAS is the latest in a growing list of European airlines to offer passengers access to GX Aviation, the world's first and only global, high-speed inflight connectivity service delivered through a wholly-owned and operated network of high-throughput satellites.

The airline will also benefit from major upcoming enhancements to the GX network, with additional capacity being introduced by three new satellites launching in 2019, 2020 and 2021. In addition, Inmarsat recently signed an agreement with Airbus Defence & Space to develop a pioneering new generation of GX satellites, which will mark a transformative step-change in inflight broadband capabilities. The ground-breaking satellites, named GX7, 8 & 9, are optimised for real-time mobility and feature thousands of dynamically-formed beams that direct capacity with laser-like precision over high-demand areas.

Philip Balaam, President of Inmarsat Aviation, said: "GX Aviation is already the gold standard for inflight broadband and our extensive long-term development plans for the service have been extremely well received by the aviation industry, as this contract win with Scandinavian Airlines has shown. The superior capabilities of GX Aviation and its status as the only solution with global coverage was a perfect fit for the airline's new Airbus A350 aircraft, which will cover high demand long-haul routes from Scandinavia to the United States and Asia. We look forward to working with the airline on the service's rollout to passengers from early next year."

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