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## NEWS INFORMATION

### **AIRCRAFT TYRE SPECIALIST EXPANDS CHOICE FOR BOEING 737 NEXT GENERATION OPERATORS**

Dunlop Aircraft Tyres today announced it has received Boeing approval for three new tyres for the Boeing 737 Next Generation range of aircraft.

The move provides a welcome expansion of industry capacity to satisfy demand for tyres. With more than 2,400 Boeing 737NGs in service, and a backlog of over 2,000 on order, Boeing recently announced that it is stepping up the production rate of the aircraft.

The new products will enable Dunlop Aircraft Tyres, the world's only specialist aircraft tyre manufacturer, to expand its share of the medium haul sector of the market.

This will be achieved through the introduction of two new main gear bias ply (cross ply) tyres and a new radial ply nose gear tyre.

“Our improved and expanded range of tyres for Boeing 737 Next Generation aircraft will enable us to compete even harder in a market worth an estimated \$50 million a year,” said Dunlop Aircraft Tyres’ chairman, Ian Edmondson.

“Operators now have even greater choice of tyres. This will benefit airlines by introducing further competition for their business while also expanding product availability to support a growing market.

“A growing proportion of this market is located in the Asia Pacific rim. Our joint venture retreading facility with HAECO that is due to start operation in China next year will enable us to capture a significant share of the B737 Next Generation aircraft based in the region.”

AAC Capital Partners, formerly the private equity business of ABN Amro, acquired 74.6 per cent ownership of Dunlop Aircraft Tyres in May 2007.

Ends.

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**Notes to editors:**

**About Dunlop Aircraft Tyres**

Based in Birmingham, Dunlop Aircraft Tyres Ltd specialises in the supply of aircraft tyres and tubes from design thorough to delivery, using the most sophisticated precision and manufacturing and retreading techniques available today. In its 98-year history, Dunlop Aircraft Tyres has achieved worldwide recognition and today is the only dedicated aircraft tyre manufacturer and retreader. The company focuses solely on meeting the needs of the aviation industry with a comprehensive product range available, backed by service 24 hours a day, all year round. Dunlop Aircraft Tyres' high profile customers include major international airlines, aircraft constructors, wheel and brake manufacturers and maintenance facilities throughout the world.