

ACIA Aero Leasing starts conversion of the first ATR72-600 Large Cargo Door

ACIA has allocated MSN1239 to be the first ATR72-600 to be converted to LCD

DUBLIN – July 19, 2024 – ACIA Aero Leasing (“ACIA”), a leading provider of regional aircraft leasing and lease management services, announced today that it will commence the first ATR 72-600 Large Cargo Door (“LCD”) freighter conversion. This project was originally planned in 2022, but due to sustained demand for the passenger variant of the aircraft, it was postponed until now.

ACIA acquired five ATR 72-600 passenger aircraft this year and is allocating one of them (MSN 1239) to the first conversion.

The project will commence in August 2024 at Empire Aerospace, Idaho in the United States and it is expected that the conversion and final certification will be completed by Q1 2025.

“We are continuing to see very strong demand for the overall ATR72 platform, as it is the most fuel-efficient regional aircraft in its class,” commented Mick Mooney, CEO of ACIA Aero Leasing.

Over the last 18 months, ACIA has delivered eight ATR 72 freighters to customers, including six LCDs. “The demand for the 72-600 LCD has been there for some time as operators have been looking to renew their fleets with the latest technology. Along with our sister company, IPR Conversions, which owns the ATR conversion STC, we have the experience and capability to meet this operator demand,” Mick Mooney added.

ACIA has successfully placed a substantial number of ATR72 freighters into the market. Its latest delivery was a second Bulk Freighter Conversion (“BFC”) to Thailand’s Pattaya Airways, ahead of the airline’s commercial launch. The company also delivered an additional ATR 72-212 LCD to Aerlink in Australia.

“As the 72-500 variant becomes scarcer, it was only going to be a matter of time before the first ATR72-600 underwent freighter conversion. It is strategic for ACIA and IPR as a group to be the first movers,” Mooney added.

“We see strong opportunities for growth in the cargo sector and we are already in active discussions with several prospects, existing customers and operators exploring new market opportunities, particularly in Asia Pacific,” he concluded.

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About ACIA Aero Leasing

ACIA Aero Leasing (“ACIA”), a subsidiary of ACIA Aero Capital (“ACIA Group”), is a leading regional aircraft lessor headquartered in Ireland, with offices located in France, United Kingdom, and South Africa. ACIA manages a portfolio of 70 regional passenger and freighter aircraft on lease to operators in more than 21 countries globally. Through our strategic partnerships, ACIA provides airlines with turn-key leasing solutions from dry leasing through to charter operations. www.aciaaeroleasing.com

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