New Fuel-Saving Aircraft Will Enhance Customer Experience with Custom Seats, New Inflight Entertainment, More Storage and Power Ports

American Airlines is taking delivery of new 737-800s, underscoring how the company is reinvesting in its future by further enhancing the customer experience and remaining competitive and cost-efficient.

The new 737-800s will improve travel for American Airlines customers with:

• New First Class and economy class seats are specially designed to offer enhanced space and more comfort.
• Larger overhead bins maximize overhead storage capacity.
• Updated inflight entertainment equipment, including LCD monitors
• An increased number of power ports will be available in AC (not DC), eliminating need for adapters and making it easier for passengers to stay "plugged in"

While passengers will appreciate these amenities, the operational capabilities of the aircraft will have a favorable impact on the environment and the airline’s fuel costs. The new 737-800 burns about 35 percent less fuel per seat-mile than the MD-80 it is replacing, an average savings of 800,000 gallons of fuel per aircraft per year.

The airline will begin taking delivery of 76 Boeing 737-800s with 29 aircraft this year, followed by 39 aircraft in 2010 and eight aircraft in 2011. The two Boeing 737s delivered to American on March 25, and March 31, 2009, are the first narrowbody aircraft delivered to the airline since Dec. 20, 2001.

Here are more details on the features of American's new 737-800:

Enhancing the Customer Experience

First Class Seat: The 737 First Class, in a 2-2 seating configuration, will feature 16 new First Class seats – designed specifically for American by Weber Aircraft. The "slim-line" seatback design and innovative seat bottom create enhanced space and increase customer comfort. The seat bottom articulates, which produces an innovative cradling motion that better distributes weight while increasing the recline angle of the seatback. The result improves customer comfort and protects personal space for passengers in the following row.

Moveable armrests make every seat handicap accessible. In addition, each seat is equipped with a unique laptop storage feature, and pre-flight and in-flight cocktail tables allow passengers to maximize table space for work or dining.

Economy Class Seat: The economy cabin will feature 144 new seats, an increase of 12 seats, designed specifically for American by Weber Aircraft. The newly designed seat has a higher recline pivot, providing increased knee room. Like the First Class seat, the seat bottom articulates, producing an innovative cradling motion that better distributes weight while increasing the recline angle of the seatback, resulting in improved overall customer comfort while protecting the personal space for passengers in the following row.

Entertainment: Throughout the cabin, drop-down, 10.4 inch LCD monitors will replace the centerline CRT monitors currently present in the existing 737 fleet, significantly improving the in-flight entertainment experience. Plus, a digital media file server will provide better-quality video and audio entertainment. Programming will be provided by NBC Universal and includes television shows from NBC, USA, Bravo, SCI FI, Oxygen, MSNBC and
CNBC, as well as films from Universal Pictures and programming from NBC News, NBC Sports and other divisions of the company. Content is refreshed every 30 days.

**Power Source:** A 110V AC power port is located at every First Class seat and two power ports are located per every three economy class seats for easy accessibility. This is the first time one of American’s fleets has included AC power, which eliminates the need for passengers to carry a DC power adapter. Now, laptops and other electronic equipment can simply be plugged in, as a customer would do in the home or office.

**Storage:** Bigger overhead storage bins significantly increase customer cabin luggage storage capacity by allowing rolling bags to be loaded wheels first. The new bins almost double the standard roll-a-board storage capacity compared to the MD-80.

**WiFi:** Over time, all 76 of the new 737-800s will be equipped with Gogo Inflight Internet service, which will allow passengers to surf the Web, check email and send instant messages conveniently from the air.

**Saving Environment, Costs**

**More Eco-Friendly:** Furthering American’s commitment to environmental responsibility, the 737 increases fuel efficiency and thereby decreases emissions compared to the MD-80. For the same flight operation, a B737-800 will burn 35 percent less fuel than an MD-80 on a seat mile basis.

**Reduce Fuel Burn and Community Noise:** Blended Winglets™ are extensions on the wing tips that provide lower operating costs by reducing fuel burn in-flight by 3.5 to 4 percent on flights greater than 1,000 nautical miles. As a result, the new aircraft reduce engine maintenance costs, reduce community noise by .5 to .7 EPNdB (Effective Perceived Noise Level in Decibels) on takeoff and lower overall emissions through improved fuel efficiency.

CFM56 Tech Insertion engine improvements, which provide a new high-pressure compressor blade design, an improved combustor, and a variety of improvements in coatings, materials, and geometry, increase engine time on-wing to help reduce maintenance costs, lower emissions and improve engine durability.

**Fleet Renewal:** As part of its commitment to fleet renewal, American plans to retire MD-80 aircraft as it takes delivery of the new 737-800 aircraft.

**Maintenance:** The new 737s will not require a heavy maintenance check for six years after delivery, though they will undergo two light checks every 24 months prior to the six-year mark, saving the airline money on overall maintenance costs.

**At-a-Glance**

- Number of Engines: 2
- Engine Type: CFM56-7B
- Engine Manufacturer: Snecma/G.E.
- Wingspan: 117'5"
- Length: 129'6"
- Height: 41'2"
- Typical Cruising Altitude: 35,000 feet
- Typical Cruising Speed: 520 mph
- 16 First Class seats in a 2-2 configuration
- 144 economy class seats, an increase of 12 seats, in a 3-3 configuration