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Airbus / EADS

- **A400M:** EADS says the timetable for the maiden flight this summer is becoming "increasingly tight, notably because of the engine".
- **A350:** Airbus to introduce a streamlined final assembly concept to almost half the time compared with the A330/A340 (A350 output planned at 18 aircraft in the first year of full production -2013- and at 143 units by 2017).
- **A380:** Emirates will put its first A380 into service on 1 August between Dubai and New York - Qantas sets 20 October for the first service between Melbourne and LA.
- **EADS:** French authorities file preliminary charges against former EADS executive Jean-Paul Gut, the second to be charged after Noel Forgeard.
- **EADS:** plans to double turnover by 2020 to around €80 billion; half that figure would be achieved by Airbus as high fuel prices bring more orders.
- **Abu Dhabi:** is reportedly identified by Airbus as a potential site for manufacturing facilities – the emirate's aerospace plans involve a plant to produce carbon fiber that could be built as early as 2010.

Boeing

- **787:** Boeing begins the 787 power-on process, says full power-on could be achieved before the end of June.
- **US tanker contract:** GAO expected to reach a ruling as early as today – Boeing says the US Air Force has conceded that the KC-767 would cost less over time than the winner offered by Northrop Grumman/EADS.
- **Alenia:** Boeing announces the finalisation of the agreement to acquire Vought Aircraft Industries' interest in Global Aeronautica – GA is now a 50-50 joint venture between Boeing and Alenia North America.
- **767:** the first 767-300 converted Freighter is delivered to All Nippon Airways – the programme was launched in 2005 with seven aircraft in order.
- **777:** Boeing under pressure from airlines to increase production of the 777-300ER (because of 787 delay and parking of 747s due to fuel costs), with the first availability for new orders now quoted as 2014.

Orders and Deliveries

- **Jan.-May 2008:** Airbus received 435 net aircraft orders, compared with 418 for Boeing - Airbus delivered 201 aircraft and Boeing delivered 195.

Other Manufacturers

- **Dassault:** one year after first delivery, the Falcon 7X with 217 orders approaches the break-even point (around 250 orders); Dassault increases its forecast from 300 sales in 10-15 years to 400-500.
- **Bombardier:** quarterly profit nearly triples as aircraft deliveries rise to 87 planes from 78 in the same period last year. The backlog at its aerospace division grows to a record \$24.1 billion.
- **GE:** is studying a successor to its CF34 for regional aircraft; the programme, named NG34, is targeting a 15% reduction in fuel consumption and could be completed around 2015.
- **Eclipse:** says "nearly 100" Eclipse 500 buyers had traded in their twinjet order slots for the new single-engine Eclipse 400, a week after it began offering it.

Airlines

- **ATA:** the US Air Transport Assn. says fuel prices increases could lead US airlines to lose nearly \$10 billion for the full year 2008.
- **Fuel prices:** Air Canada, China Airlines, Finnair, Qantas, Virgin Blue and Continental are some of the latest airlines to announce cost savings in response to fuel prices.
- **Alitalia:** the European Commission launches an “in-depth” investigation into the €300 million loan by the Italian government.
- **Austrian Airlines:** is in search of a strategic partner; detailed recommendations to be presented by the end of September. Lufthansa, Aeroflot and Air France KLM are “studying” the situation.
- **Lufthansa:** will begin phasing out its 60-strong 737-300/-500 fleet by next year, says that for regional aircraft it will look at the CSeries as well as emerging products in China, Russia and Japan.

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