

THE STRAITS TIMES

In Brief: SIA first to buy latest Rolls-Royce engine

🕒 PUBLISHED 4 HOURS AGO

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Singapore Airlines is the first customer for the enhanced performance version of Rolls-Royce's Trent XWB-84 engine, launched yesterday at the Singapore Airshow.

The engine, which has better fuel efficiency and improved turbine cooling and aerodynamics, will be delivered in the fourth quarter of this year to SIA and be available to other customers after that. SIA has a total of 67 A350-900 aircraft on order, all powered by this engine.

Avation orders five ATR 72-600s

Avation, a Singapore-based commercial aircraft leasing firm, yesterday announced the purchase of five new ATR 72-600 aircraft, bringing its total orders from the French turboprop manufacturer to 35.

The deal is worth about US\$130 million (S\$182 million), both sides said. To date, Avation has taken delivery of over 20 ATR 72s, which are leased to airlines, including Virgin Australia.

With its low fuel burn and efficiency, the ATR is seen as a solution by Asian carriers for regional, short-haul travel.

SIA Engineering puts \$50m in new tech

SIA Engineering is investing \$50 million over the next few years to explore the use of technologies such as robotics, additive manufacturing and data analytics.

It said the initiative is supported by the Economic Development Board, and will involve collaborations with airlines, research institutions and technology partners.

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