Virgin Atlantic | French Tax Lease | 05-24 | \$170m (est.) | 1xA350-1000

Virgin Atlantic Airways is still in the market to finance a new delivery scheduled for the second quarter of this year.

Airfinance Journal understands that the aircraft - an Airbus A350-1000 is scheduled for delivery in April.

Virgin Atlantic could turn to the insurance market for the unit.

Update: Virgin Atlantic Airways has financed a new Airbus A350-1000 aircraft under a French tax lease structure with the Itasca MGA insurance cover.

Technical acceptance of the new aircraft is on 24 May.

Sources say Natixis-CIB is the mandated lead arranger and lender on the financing, along with MUFG and Banque Postale.

The junior loan is provided by Tamweel Aviation Finance (TAF) and arranged by Novus Aviation Capital. TAF is the finance leasing platform managed by Novus Aviation Capital, which brings together a partnership of Airbus and the Development Bank of Japan to provide high loan-to-value mezzanine financing for Airbus deliveries.

The transaction marks the first insurance-covered financing for Virgin Atlantic.

Transaction Overview

Structure

Product category: Financing
Product type: Structured lease
Structure French lease
Use of proceeds Aircraft Purchase

Transaction Categories

Regions:

Europe | United Kingdom |

Tagged as:

Secured | G8 |

Transaction Roles

Borrower/Issuer

Company Name	Role	Client
Virgin Atlantic Airways	Borrower/Issuer	

Banks

Company Name	Role	Client

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Itasca MGA	Guarantor	
Natixis	Debt Arranger	
Natixis	Overall Arranger	
MUFG	Debt Arranger	
MUFG	Overall Arranger	
La Banque Postale	Debt Arranger	
La Banque Postale	Overall Arranger	
Tamweel Aviation Finance	Debt Arranger	

Lawyers

Company Name	Role	Client
Vedder Price	Advisor	

Back to top

Transaction Timeline

24/05/2024	Financial close	Exclusive: Virgin Atlantic taps insurance market
10/03/2024	Finance mandated	
21/02/2024	RFP	Exclusive: Virgin Atlantic seeks widebody financing

Back to top

MSN Quantity Model BodyType Manufacturer
MSN 1234 1 A350-1000 Widebody Airbus

Back to top

Coverage

Exclusive: Virgin Atlantic seeks widebody batch financing

Extends multiple aircraft RFP

Values and lease rates trends: A350-1000 - the largest Airbus on offer

Geoff Hearn reviews the upper end of the widebody market

Novus Aviation Capital expands in Dubai

Hires ex-Deucalion AVP origination

Itasca MGA expands product offering

CEO Gareth John talks to Airfinance Global about the first year of operations, prospects for 2025

Virgin Atlantic closes sale and leaseback

At the July Farnborough air show, the UK carrier placed a firm order for seven A330-900s

DBJ Tsuda moves to corporate capital structure role

Will be responsible for both the bank's debt and equity investments into airlines, airports and aviation sector

UK watchdog bans Virgin SAF ad

Rejects '100% sustainable' claim

Analysis: Investor appetite grows for A350 models

Latest innovative multiple financing mandate shows depth of the market for aircraft finance. Airfinance Journal reviews this year's financings for the best widebody aircraft in Airfinance Journal's 2024 investor poll

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Virgin pushes for SAF scale-up

Touts results of one-off SAF London-New York flight

Exclusive: Virgin Atlantic taps insurance market

UK carrier diversifies financing sources

Virgin EBITDA margin improves: The Airline Analyst

AFJ's The Airline Analyst shows its previous EBITDA margin at 8.5%

Virgin Atlantic emerges from debt drag

Expects 2024 profit after interest weighed on 2023 performance

Exclusive: Virgin Atlantic seeks widebody financing

UK carrier CFO tells Airfinance Journal it is adding several widebodies this year

Back to top

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