

Vietnam Airlines eyes regional jets

Olivier Bonnassies

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Vietnam Airlines is considering regional jets to fly short-haul local routes to meet increasing customer demand.

The carrier says it is 'researching the feasibility' of operating regional jets on routes such as Hanoi - Vinh / Dien Bien / Dong Hoi and Ha Noi - Con Dao - Ho Chi Minh City along with its ATR72 fleet.

According to *Airfinance Journal's* Fleet Tracker, Vietnam Airlines operates seven ATR72-500s. Two units were delivered in 2002, while four aircraft are 2009-vintage ATR72-500s and one unit was delivered in 2010. Three 68-seat aircraft are available for sale.

The airline also has the larger Airbus A321 in its fleet, configured with 184 seats.

Vietnam Airlines's widebody fleet includes 11 Boeing 787-9s, three 777-200ERs, seven A330-200s and 12 A350-900s.

The carrier issued a request for proposals in June for the research and analysis on Vietnam domestic aviation market in 2018. The deadline to submit proposals was in July.

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