

Avianca phases out A330 – report

Hugh Davies

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Colombian carrier Avianca has returned an Airbus A330-200 to lessor Aircastle, local media have reported.

The aircraft was ferried from Bogota to Lake Charles, Louisiana, and placed into storage.

Aircastle declined to comment on the return.

The 2009-vintage was delivered new to Avianca before being sold and leased back to Aircastle, according to *Airfinance Journal's* Fleet Tracker.

The carrier operates seven other A330-200s leased from CDB Aviation, Wings Capital, Merx Aviation, Avolon and AerCap.

In September, *Airfinance Journal* reported that Avianca Holdings was expected to cut its fleet by over 30% upon emergence from Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection.

Avianca's fleet profile is set to comprise 98 passenger and 11 freighter aircraft, compared with 147 passenger and 11 freighter units when the carrier first entered bankruptcy protection.

A total of 90 firm contractual deliveries remain scheduled through 2029 under the carrier's Chapter 11 exit plan, including two Boeing 787-9s in 2024.

The carrier reduced firm commitments with Airbus to 88 A320neo aircraft from 108, and cancelled or deferred A320neo deliveries in 2020 through 2024.

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