

# Aercap finds home for used A350s

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Brazilian carrier Azul will lease in four second-hand Airbus A350-900 widebodies reclaimed from HNA Group's Hong Kong Airlines (HKA), [as recently reported by Airfinance Journal](#).

*Fleet Tracker* shows that the four aircraft, manufactured in 2017-18, belong to Aercap's portfolio.

In its latest orders and deliveries update through 31 August, Airbus already lists Azul as the operator of four A350s. Hong Kong Airlines' A350 fleet, however, has slipped to just two units, according to the OEM data.

Azul confirms the introduction of A350 aircraft to its fleet. Aercap was unavailable for comment.

Fleet Tracker data indicates that Aercap has more than 40 A350s in its current portfolio, including aircraft on lease to Delta Air Lines and Qatar Airways.

Brazil's Azul operated more than 140 aircraft through the end of August 2022, with more than 80 additional units in the pipeline.

In the operator's current fleet are 67 Airbus units – the four aforementioned A350s, five A330neos, eight A330-200s and 50 A320- and A320neo-family aircraft, the Airbus data shows. The remainder of Azul's fleet comprises ATR72 and Embraer regional aircraft.

Azul says it hopes to operate an all new technology aircraft fleet by 2026.

Earlier this year, another [leasing entity commenced legal proceedings](#) against the delinquent HNA offshoot, seeking its liquidation. Ireland-registered Stellar Aircraft Holding 1 filed an application to have HKA wound up following various contract and payment defaults.

[HKA remains deep in the red](#). It recorded a HK\$6.68 billion (\$851 million) net loss for the year ended 31 December 2021, worsened from a HK\$6.3 billion loss posted the previous year.

The airline recorded HK\$6.77 billion in annual revenues, up from HK\$4.56 billion a year earlier, which includes HK900 million from passenger operations, HK\$1.4 billion from cargo services and HK\$1.2 billion from lease income derived from HKA aircraft seconded to other HNA carriers, including Tianjin Airlines.

The airline remains "a going concern" its auditors said.

HKA said that due to Covid-19, it had received "numerous forms" of rent concessions from lessors including rent forgiveness and deferrals.

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