

CDB Aviation to sell aircraft leased to Chinese carriers

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Airfinance Journal has learnt that all the aircraft put up for sale recently by CDB Aviation have leases attached to Chinese carriers.

Earlier this week, AFJ [reported](#) that CDB Aviation was in the market to offload a portfolio of five narrowbody aircraft, with additional sisterships available on request.

Currently available for sale are a 2018-vintage Airbus A320neo attached to Loong Airlines; two 2016-vintage A320s – one with Loong, the other with Sichuan Airlines; and two 2015-built Boeing 737-800s with leases attached to Xiamen Airlines.

CDB Aviation currently holds 276 aircraft in its owned and managed portfolio and has an additional 107 units committed. A new aircraft order is being negotiated with the OEMs, its boss, Jie Chen, told AFJ earlier this year.

"While CDB Aviation is certainly a Chinese-owned platform, we are committed to advancing our long-term vision of being a full-service, top-tier aircraft leasing company with a global footprint and teams based in Dublin and Hong Kong," said Chen.

"Our global customer base reflects this approach as we've been working with airlines in markets spanning the Americas, China, Asia-Pacific and the EMEA regions, as demonstrated by 23% of our fleet being leased within China and 77% outside China."

He added: "Despite the odd, unsubstantiated industry rumour claiming inside knowledge, the reality is there has been no mandate from our parent, CDBL, to reduce our exposure outside the country. On the contrary, at CDB Aviation, we are busy building our global footprint.

"At the same time, CDB Aviation will remain a key lessor to Chinese airlines, given our extensive relationships and our focus on newer technology aircraft required to fuel their growth. If overseas lessors feel they should downsize exposure in a market as critical as we see China, well then, we see that as an opportunity for CDB Aviation growth through asset acquisitions."

Its current orderbook includes 60 A320neo-family units and 35 aircraft from Boeing, plus aircraft committed to sale and leaseback (SLB) financing and from committed trades with other lessors.

In addition, the wider CDB Leasing group has 100 non-binding entitlements with other OEMs, consisting of 20 ARJ21 and 50 C919 aircraft from COMAC, and 30 MA700 aircraft from AVIC Aircraft.

Airfinance Journal reported earlier this month that [CDB Aviation and CCB Leasing were in talks](#) with Air Lease regarding Chinese leases.

It [revealed on 30 June](#) that CDB Leasing is expected to be sold to a Shenzhen-based state-owned enterprise called Shenzhen Development Company (深发展).

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