



# PRESS RELEASE

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## Carsten Spohr and Armin Laschet promote sustainable technology in aviation

- **An Airbus named Aachen: First Lufthansa Airbus A321neo christened by Minister-President Armin Laschet**
- **New flying ambassador for the European city**
- **The Lufthansa Group is investing continuously in the modernization of its fleet**
- **Spohr: Innovation requires investment – policy makers are called on to create framework**

The name of Lufthansa's first Airbus A321neo is "Aachen". Armin Laschet, Minister-President of the German federal state North Rhine-Westphalia and a native of Aachen, signed the naming certificate of the Airbus A321neo at Düsseldorf's airport together with Carsten Spohr, CEO of Deutsche Lufthansa AG.

The state-of-the-art successor to the Airbus A321, the A321neo, uses up to 20 percent less fuel, is much quieter and emits significantly less CO<sub>2</sub> than the previous model. By the year 2025, forty A321neo-model aircraft will have been delivered to the Lufthansa Group. Overall, the company will be welcoming a new airplane every two weeks on average for the next ten years.

"The Lufthansa Group invests almost three billion euros per year into new, fuel-efficient aircraft. That is the most powerful tool we currently have to make flying as climate-friendly as possible," says Carsten Spohr, adding that the prerequisite for these enormous investments is that Germany remains internationally competitive: "Policy-makers have to create a framework that allows investments into the future and strengthens the country's position as an air traffic location."

The "Aachen" will be a flying ambassador for the city and its federal state. North Rhine-Westphalia, where the group employs around 5000 people, is an important location for Lufthansa. From the airports in Düsseldorf, Cologne/Bonn, Paderborn-Lippstadt and Münster/Osnabrück, the Lufthansa Group airlines connect the economic powerhouse of North Rhine-Westphalia with the whole world. Düsseldorf, with its densely populated and economically strong catchment area, is an important long-haul and short-haul airport for Lufthansa Group.

### → Additional information

Press release on the modernization of the fleet

Key climate policy messages of Lufthansa Group



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“This aircraft will carry the name “Aachen” to many cities throughout Europe. This will also make it an ambassador for the European idea embodied by Aachen and North Rhine-Westphalia,” said Minister-President Laschet. “At the same time, giving the aircraft the name ‘Aachen’ also pays tribute to a city that is above all the distinguished home of RWTH Aachen University and many research institutions and companies with innovative drive and a pioneering spirit in all areas of future-oriented mobility. As the state government, we also want to harness this pioneering spirit for the aviation sector and are therefore supporting the expansion of the airfield in Aachen-Merzbrück to a research airport where alternatives for low-noise flight can be tested along with the environmentally-friendly propulsion technologies of the future. Our aim is to make flying more sustainable with new technology, further strengthening the competitive position of the aviation sector in North Rhine-Westphalia.”

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