

Airbus A350 muscles in on the 777

The proposed new Airbus A350 jet family will compete against the Boeing 787 Dreamliner and also against the 777. Though the Dreamliner's future looks secure, Boeing is pondering its response to the potential 777 threat. The largest A350-1000 will be a similar size to the 777-300ER, but with a lighter plastic composite fuselage.

A350-800

vs.

787-9



Capacity: 270 seats

Range: 9,700 mi.

List price: \$199 million

In service: 2014



Capacity: 270 seats

Range: 9,700 mi.

List price: \$195 million

In service: 2010

A350-900

vs.

777-200ER*



Capacity: 314 seats

Range: 9,700 mi.

List price: \$230 million

In service: 2013



Capacity: 300 seats

Range: 8,900 mi.

List price: \$213 million

Already in service

A350-1000

vs.

777-300ER**



Capacity: 350 seats

Range: 9,700 mi.

List price: \$259 million

In service: 2015



Capacity: 365 seats

Range: 9,100 mi.

List price: \$265 million

Already in service

* Boeing has already decided that it will produce a 787-10 to supersede the 777-200ER and go up against the A350-900

** Though some customers want it, Boeing is reluctant to produce a further Dreamliner stretch – sometimes called the 787-10X – for a market segment covered by the A350-1000 and the 777-300ER

Note: The smaller 787-3 and 787-8 Dreamliner models are not included. These variants essentially have no competition from Airbus.