

DATE: 19/10/09

SOURCE: Flight Daily News

NBAA 09: Airbus brings A318 Elite to Orlando for the first time

By Jon Ostrower

Airbus has brought its **A318** Elite to **NBAA** for the first time as the European airframer passes the decade mark for deliveries of the type.

The **Comlux** A318 Elite features an optimized cabin produced in co-operation with **Lufthansa** Technik and features, for the first time, a domed ceiling.

Airbus uses available space in the upper cabin interior to install concave panels that the company says will create a "pleasing impression of light and space that is unique to its aircraft in this class".

Comlux took delivery of its first A318 Elite at EBACE in Geneva in 2007 and, recently, the example on display here at NBAA. The aircraft is the tenth A318 Elite delivered.



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Airbus has won more than 25 orders for A318 Elites for customers in Asia, Europe and the Middle East, accounting for about a quarter of the 100-plus orders for the Airbus Corporate Jet family.

In addition, Airbus has unveiled a new artist impression of the interior of the **A330/A340** Prestige aircraft, which the company believes will find increased market traction as converted VIP transports as its new **A350 XWB** enter service in 2013, prompting the airline retirement of the older long-range widebodies.