

Press Release

5,000th A320 delivered to Middle East Airlines

Milestone A320 with Recaro inside

Schwaebisch Hall/Hamburg, Germany. On January 20, 2012, Middle East Airlines (MEA) took delivery of the 5,000th A320 aircraft manufactured by Airbus. On its maiden flight, the landmark aircraft took off with business class seats from Recaro Aircraft Seating.

The Airbus A320 aircraft marked with the Manufacturer's Serial Number MSN 5,000 was officially consigned to Middle East Airlines in Hamburg on January 20, 2012. The festive transfer ceremony was attended by senior executives from Airbus and MEA along with representatives of Recaro Aircraft Seating. On the maiden flight to Beirut following the ceremony, the aircraft's first passengers had a chance to gain an impression of the comfort of Recaro business class seats. Upon arrival in the Lebanese capital, the ensuing festivities included members of government.

"We are very pleased and honored to be able to be a part of this special landmark occasion, and proud that our products are a feature of this milestone aircraft for Airbus," remarked Axel Kahsnitz, CEO of Recaro Aircraft Seating, on the occasion of the aircraft transfer. "It once more underlines our long-standing and extraordinary business relations with MEA, which have been characterized by mutual trust and excellent collaboration."

Like the medium-haul Airbus A320, the business class seat by Recaro has been a real success story. Indeed, MEA has employed the CL4420 for the past ten years. During that time, the seat model has been enhanced constantly to meet the latest technical standards. As a result of its good experience with the product, MEA also ordered it for the 5,000th Airbus A320. Over the past decade, the Schwaebisch Hall-based company has already delivered a total of 480 seats of this type to MEA.

The CL4420 is a classic business class seat for short- and medium-haul flights. Thanks to the high-end actuation system the seat can be adjusted to various pre-defined seating positions with a push of a control panel button. A lumbar support and an integrated massage feature afford exceptional on-board seating comfort. The CL4420 is also standard-equipped with an integrated in-flight entertainment system, as well as PC and USB power supply outlets.

Recaro Aircraft Seating is a globally active developer and manufacturer of aircraft seats for the leading airlines worldwide. The company currently has 1,500 employees, including more than 700 working in Germany, and operates production plants in Germany, Poland, South Africa and the USA. Recaro Aircraft Seating has also Recaro Service Centers in Europe, the Middle East, America, Asia and Australia. Based in Schwaebisch Hall, Germany, Recaro Aircraft Seating generated sales of 288 million Euros in 2010. The company ranks among the world's top three aircraft seat manufacturers.

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