
Gulf Air picks three suppliers for A330 upgrade

By **Rick Lundstrom** on January, 22 2014 | Inflight Entertainment



Gulf Air announced last week it has signed contracts totaling approximately US\$20 million making Avianor, Zodiac Aerospace and B/E Aerospace partners for the retrofit of its A330 fleet.

Gulf Air's planned A330 retrofit is scheduled for completion in the last quarter of 2014 and will give the aircraft a fully-flat bed seats in the airline's Falcon Gold Class, revamped seats in Economy Class and a new in-flight-entertainment (IFE) system throughout.

The new Falcon Gold seats convert into fully flat beds measuring 1.90 meters. The Falcon Gold seats offer more personal space between seats than the airline's previous A330 business class product with a 22-inch wide armchair. The new Economy Class seats offer a 4-inch recline, an 18-inch seat-width and an adjustable head and foot rest.

All seats in Gulf Air's retrofitted A330 aircraft will include an integrated Audio-Video on Demand (AVOD) feature. They will have an individual touch screen of 15-inches in Falcon Gold class and 9-inches in Economy. A USB port is available in every seat to allow passengers to easily charge electronic devices.

"We strive to offer a best in class product and with the new A330 seats and IFE we believe we do. Furthermore, we have selected three of the best industry partners to support us with the successful execution of this project, which will only serve to enhance the final product offering," said Gulf Air's Acting Chief Executive Officer Maher Salman Al Musallam, in last week's announcement.

Earl Diamond, CEO of Avianor Inc. added, "Avianor has worked very closely with Gulf Air over the past year in helping define this project and we are very proud to have been selected to lead and

implement this very important upgrade.”

Zodiac Aerospace is supplying the Economy Class seats and the seat centric IFE system. B/E Aerospace is supplying the Falcon Gold Class seats.

Gulf Air’s A330 aircraft will feature a total of 214 seats in a two-class configuration of 30 in Falcon Gold Class and 184 in Economy.