Emirates Flight Catering invests in 53 aircraft catering trucks

(Left to right) Ramez Hamdan, Managing Director, Al Futtaim Industrial Equipment, Shahreyar Nawabi, Chief Executive Officer, Emirates Flight Catering, Ronan Mallaghan, Chief Executive Officer, Mallaghan

Emirates Flight Catering (EKFC) has signed an agreement with Mallaghan, Al-Futtaim Auto and Machinery Company (FAMCO) and Volvo to purchase 53 aircraft catering trucks, an investment of AED 60 million (USD $16 million), as part of its extensive ground fleet renewal program, under which EKFC plans to introduce 120 next-generation vehicles over five years. In total, 92 aircraft catering trucks will be added to the EKFC fleet within the next 12 months, with the first vehicles slated for introduction later this year.

The new Volvo FL 250 4X2 Euro 6 aircraft catering trucks will feature advanced sensors and monitoring systems to enhance efficiencies on the ground for loading and unloading tasks, in addition to improving overall emissions reductions with the adoption of the latest Euro diesel engine technologies.

EKFC will also closely collaborate with Mallaghan, FAMCO and Volvo Trucks on a Proof-of-Concept electric aircraft catering truck, the first in the catering provider's fleet, and a regional first in

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sustainable aviation catering equipment. The electrified aircraft catering truck will be optimized for ground catering operations at Dubai International, putting EKFC at the forefront of testing and prototyping the latest technologies and laying the groundwork for emission-free ground catering operations in the coming years with fleet electrification and automation. The electric aircraft catering truck is expected to begin operating by the summer of 2026.

Shahreyar Nawabi, Chief Executive Officer of Emirates Flight Catering said, “We are excited to embark on the complete modernization of our fleet of aircraft catering trucks. This fleet investment is a key part of our broader strategy to implement industry-leading initiatives, keep pace with ever-growing demand, and strengthen EKFC’s value proposition to our airline customers as a dedicated culinary partner delivering exceptional operational performance at our busy Dubai hub. It also reflects our strong confidence in the long-term growth prospects and continued market leadership of Dubai's aviation sector.”

“We’re also investing in the latest technologies and working closely with Mallaghan and Volvo Trucks to empower a future towards a fully electrified aircraft catering truck fleet, enabling us to reduce our carbon footprint while continuing to deliver top-notch operational performance on the ground. The integration of the first electric aircraft catering truck next summer will mark a milestone for EKFC, reinforcing our commitment to more sustainable operations and pushing the boundaries of innovation.”

Ronan Mallaghan, Chief Executive Officer at Mallaghan, commented: “We are pleased to partner with Emirates Flight Catering in this landmark fleet renewal, delivering its largest ever order of high loaders and introducing the first electric high loader of its kind to the region.

This collaboration reflects our shared commitment to innovation, operational excellence, and a more sustainable future for aviation ground support. The inclusion of a Proof-Of-Concept electric unit marks an exciting step toward the broader electrification and modernization of airport operations across the GCC."

Ramez Hamdan, Managing Director Al-Futtaim Industrial Equipment said: “Securing this milestone agreement with Emirates Flight Catering marks a proud chapter in FAMCO’s journey toward a more sustainable future. By partnering to introduce the region’s first electric Volvo truck at Dubai Airport, alongside 52 advanced Euro 6 trucks, we are not just enhancing fleet capability, we are delivering on ESG priorities through real-world impact: reducing emissions, promoting responsible logistics, and enabling long-term value. Together, we’re setting a new standard for green mobility and operational excellence in the region.”

Christine Sandgren, Acting Managing Director, Volvo Trucks Middle East & Turkey said: “We are proud to be the trusted partner to Emirates Flight Catering as they prepare for the future expansion of operations in DXB and later at Al Maktoum Airport. This agreement is a strong endorsement of Volvo Trucks’ commitment to sustainable transport solutions and our core values of quality, safety, and environmental care. Together with our long-standing partner FAMCO, whose dedication and on-ground support have been instrumental, we are driving real progress through innovation in alternative fuels and automation. These are not just technological advancements; they are vital steps toward building a more resilient and environmentally responsible transport ecosystem in the Middle East.”

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EKFC currently operates a fleet of 300 aircraft catering trucks, one of the largest in the world, ensuring the highest levels of aircraft handling to deliver quality inflight dining experiences for more than 100 airline customers at Dubai International Airport.

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