# A350-1000 TO ENTER FINAL ASSEMBLY NEXT MONTH

**News / Manufacturer**




© AIRBUS S.A.S. 2010 - COMPUTER RENDERING BY FIXION - GWLNSD

**Airbus is expecting the first A350-1000 to enter the final assembly line in February, with first flight set to take place by the end of this year.**

The aircraft is at the pre-final assembly stage and chief operating officer Tom Williams says its development is progressing relatively smoothly.

“It’s coming together really well, probably better than the -900,” he told Flightglobal during a briefing in Paris on 12 January.

Williams says the work on the -1000 has benefited substantially from the design experience of the -900, although he points out that the larger aircraft has encountered “a few hiccups”.

These include snags in the wing development as a result of the supply chain. While Williams

© 2015-2026 50SKYSHADES.COM — Reproduction, copying, or redistribution for commercial purposes is prohibited. 

declines to elaborate, he stresses that the issue was not design-related but largely centred on provision of brackets and similar components.

“We seem to have worked through [these problems],” he says.

Airbus chief executive Fabrice Bregier says the airframer is aiming to have the initial aircraft – powered by Rolls-Royce Trent XWB-97 engines – in final assembly during February.

He adds that the first flight of the aircraft will be conducted in the fourth quarter.

Airbus had secured orders for 181 A350-1000s by the end of last year.

While the airframer has been looking at the potential for a larger version of the -1000, chief operating officer for customers John Leahy says the case has yet to become clear – even though Boeing’s 777-9 will have some 35 more seats than the -1000.

“The jury is still out as to whether the market is asking for more seats in this category, which is why we haven’t rushed into the marketplace just yet with [an A350] stretch beyond where we are today,” he says.

Leahy says the -1000 has “economics that work very, very well”, adding that the type will be an “unbeatable airplane”.

**15 JANUARY 2016**

**SOURCE: FLIGHTGLOBAL**
**ARTICLE LINK:**
https://ut.50skyshades.com/news/manufacturer/a350-1000-to-enter-final-assembly-next-month

© 2015-2026 50SKYSHADES.COM — Reproduction, copying, or redistribution for commercial purposes is prohibited.