

Next Generation Single Aisle  
Aircraft - How Soon? -  
Implications for the Supply  
Chain

September 2019

**COUNTERPOINT**



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# Current market position in single aisle 737 MAX vs A320neo

- A320neo has a clear market lead overall and dominates at the top end
- There has been relatively little order activity since the MAX grounding
- 737 MAX has seen only one definite cancellation Flyadeal – 30 a/c, but others threatened
- Net A320 orders have been modest
- Airbus A220 is now increasing its presence in this space

Boeing Variant	Orders	Airbus Variant	Orders	Known Market Share	
				Boeing	Airbus
737 MAX 7	82	A319neo	36	69.5%	30.5%
737 MAX 8	3,053	A320neo	3,903	43.9%	56.1%
737 MAX 9 & 10	991	A321neo	2,699	26.9%	73.1%
737 MAX TBD	930	-	-	-	-
<b>Total 737 MAX</b>	<b>5,056</b>	<b>Total A320neo</b>	<b>6,638</b>	<b>43.2%</b>	<b>56.8%</b>

# Reasons for early MAX replacement

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## **Design age – EIS 1968**

- Low wing (height of wing from ground vs A320)
- No FBW (envelope protection)
- Fuselage diameter (less important)

## **Reputational damage to MAX**

- Current situation without precedent; size and importance of grounded fleet
- 787 most recent example of grounding, but no crashes or fatalities
- Historically A/C in a similar situation have recovered e.g. DC-10, but social media influence now

# Reasons for early MAX replacement

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## Market position vs A320neo

- Boeing is already behind – 43% share
- Boeing's share is likely to get worse;
  - Backlog of undelivered A/C will constrain production 2020 - 2021 while Airbus ramps up A320
  - Reputational damage likely to have some effect on orders

## Boeing will have the engineering capacity

- NMA likely to go ahead once MAX grounding is lifted
- Engineering resources from Embraer should allow NSA as well

# Airbus will follow with its own NSA

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## **Probably not immediately**

- Large order book
- Still developing A320 family e.g. A321XLR
- Has A220 – potential for stretch to -500 (Air France interested)

## **But ultimately will need to compete directly with an all-new Boeing NSA**

- A320 – EIS 1988
- Has the engineering resources
- Already preparing e.g. wing of the future

# New technologies on NSA

- **Timescale leads to a conventional design**
- **Innovation concentrated on airframe & systems**

# The NSA will almost certainly be a conventional design

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- **Twin engine, under wing nacelle, conventional tail**
- **Focus on airframe and systems optimisation**
- **Significant advantages with a clean-sheet design**
- **New technology introduction will depend on maturity at programme launch**
  - Need to rapidly ramp up to 70+ per month
  - Rigours of single aisle operations





# Aerostructures

## **A composite wing is almost certain**

- significant performance advantages
- cost coming down
- compatible with rates of up to 100/month?
- out-of-autoclave?

## **Fuselage almost certainly conventional aluminium**

- Aluminium-Lithium too expensive
- In the longer-term thermoplastic composites could be attractive but will not be ready for NSA

## **More thermoplastics likely**



## More electric is certain - the question is how much

### Possible more electric systems

- ➔ 787-type bleed-less architecture; electrically powered ECS, electrothermal de-icing
- ➔ Landing gear; electric braking, nose-wheel steering
- ➔ Flight controls;
  - main PFC hydraulic with EHA back-up
  - electrically powered spoilers
  - possibly electric motors for high-lift and HSTA
- ➔ Utilities; widespread EMA

# Engines

**New developments likely to be limited – LEAP and GTF relatively new to the market**

- Bleed-less architecture
- More innovation possible on the APU
- An opportunity for Initium (Boeing/Safran JV)

**Are we getting close to the limits for the high by-pass turbofan?**



**General Electric GEnx**



**Pratt & Whitney R-4360 Wasp Major**

# Supply chain for NSA

- **Engine OEMs' experiences on LEAP and GTF show the challenges**

# Supply chain for NSA

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## **The experiences of CFMI and P&W on LEAP and GTF show the challenges**

- Dual or triple sourcing → more make-to-print vs design and build?
- Focus on critical hard to manufacture components

## **Boeing**

- Continuation of current initiatives; PFS, in-sourcing, focussed factory
- Composite wing – in-house manufacture and assembly
- Fuselage; reduced dependence on Spirit AeroSystems likely

## **Airbus**

- More manufacturing adjacent to local FALs in the US and China?
- Will composite wing manufacture stay in the UK post Brexit?

# Prospects for NSA

- **Will it be overtaken by new technology?**
- **Will demand continue to rise?**

# Commercial air transport landscape 1979 vs 2019

## Incremental development over last 40 years

### LCA in production 1979

- **Airbus A300**
- **Boeing 727**
- **Boeing 737**
- **Boeing 747**
- **Lockheed L-1011**
- **MD DC-9**
- **MD DC-10**

### LCA in production 2019

- **Airbus A220**
- **Airbus A320**
- **Airbus A330**
- **Airbus A350**
- **Airbus A380**
- **Boeing 737**
- **Boeing 747**
- **Boeing 767**
- **Boeing 777**
- **Boeing 787**

# Commercial air transport landscape 2019 vs 2059

## Nobody really expects incremental development only

- Over the last 5 years it has become clear - more electric/hybrid propulsion is coming
  - New aircraft and propulsion configurations
  - Revolution rather than slow evolution
- NSA will not be like Boeing 737 and A320
  - 30+ year production life
  - Plus 20-year extra aftermarket
  - 50+ year programme
  - NSA programmes likely to be significantly shorter





# How quickly can technology change?

## Example from rail transport 1950s/1960s

- Technologically mature transport system
- Steam locomotives – typical working life 30 years – up to 50
- 1951 British Rail introduced new Standard Class steam locos
- Incorporating all best practice, emphasis on low running costs, ease of maintenance
- 999 manufactured 1951-1960
- 1960; last locomotive 'Evening Star' completed, retired 1965 at first major overhaul
- 1968; last steam locomotives retired from British Rail



**BR Standard Class 9F 92220 Evening Star**

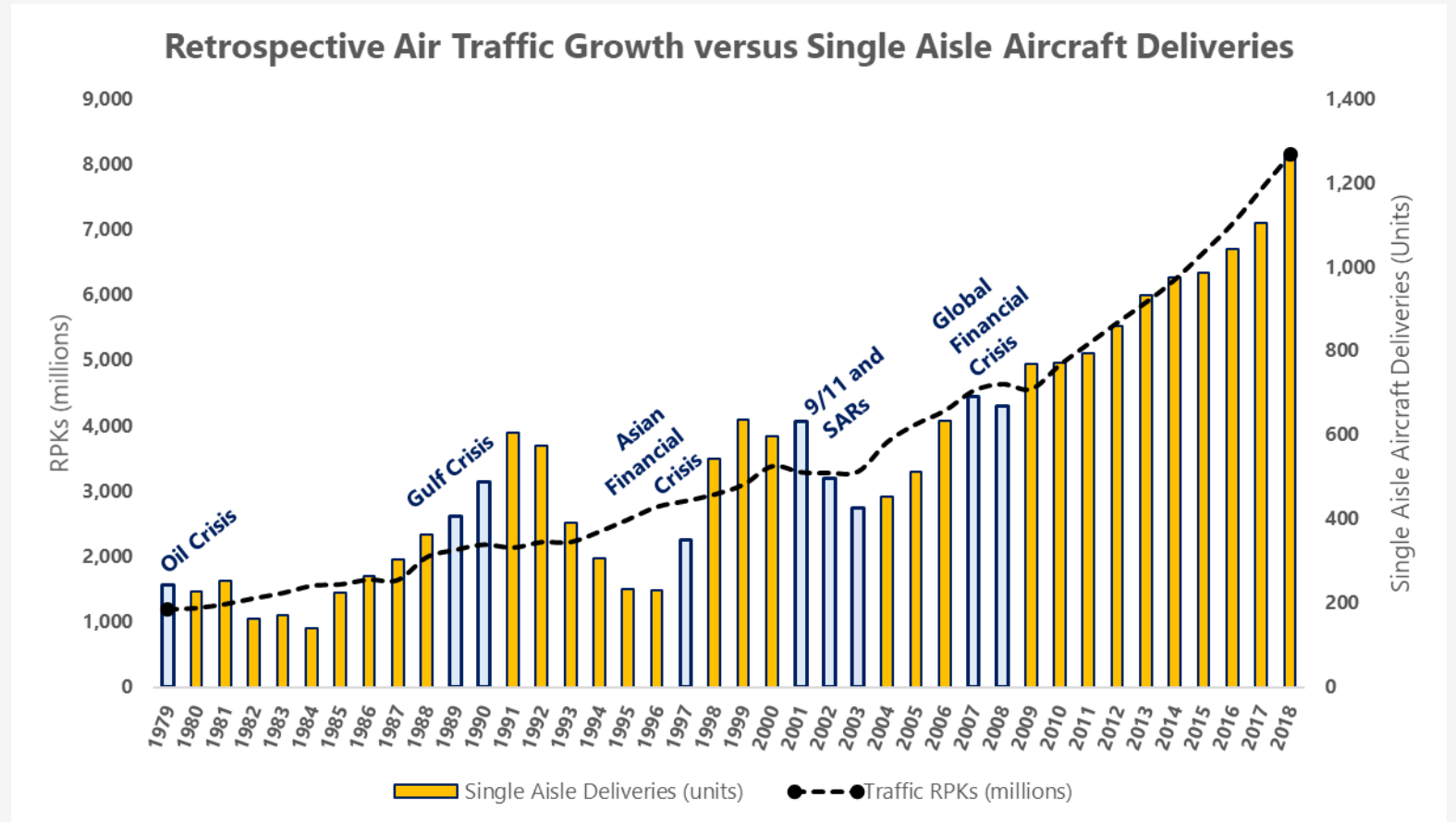
# Air traffic growth

→ **Is the current growth rate sustainable?**

# Air traffic growth over the last 40 years

## Air traffic growth has been rising on an exponential-like curve

- Strong correlation with GDP growth, negative yield
- Resilient to shocks
- Single aisle deliveries show a strong correlation



# Air traffic growth over the next 40 years

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## The next 40 years are likely to be different – growth will slow

- Climate change
  - Targets to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> incompatible with unchanged growth rate
  - Government action e.g. French eco-tax on plane tickets, pressure for EU – wide action
  - Changing social attitudes e.g. 'flygskam' translates as 'flight shame'
  - ACARE Flightpath 2050 Targets - Noise, NO<sub>x</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Pressure is greatest in Europe but likely to spread worldwide
- Tourist hot-spot overcrowding
  - Local authorities taking action
  - A worldwide issue

# Conclusions

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## **There are good reasons to think that Boeing will launch an NSA quite soon**

- Lower market share of MAX relative to A320neo – not likely to improve
- Once it completes on Embraer it will have sufficient engineering resources to do NSA as well as NMA

## **Airbus will follow with its own NSA**

- Will need to compete directly with Boeing; A320 is also an old design

## **The forthcoming NSAs are likely to be stop-gap aircraft**

- More electric/hybrid aircraft are coming
  - Once everything is aligned technology change can happen fast

## **The next 40 years will be different from the last 40 years**

- Technology revolution not evolution
- Expect to see changes in the demand for air travel

# Conclusions – suppliers

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## **NSA will be here sooner than had been expected**

- Very rapid production ramp up to ~ 70 A/C per month
- Dual sourcing – more build to print?
- Relatively short production run ~ 15 years?

## **Aerostructures**

- Composite wing, conventional aluminium fuselage, more thermoplastics

## **Systems**

- More electric; trade studies to determine extent

## **Engines**

- Relatively little change; APU innovation?

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