

First BelugaXL becomes airborne for its maiden flight #BelugaXL

Toulouse, 19 July 2018 – The first BelugaXL took off this morning from Blagnac in Toulouse, France at 10:30 hrs local time, for its maiden flight over south-western France. The aircraft is the first of five BelugaXL to enter into service later in 2019 and to gradually replace the BelugaST transporters.

The crew in the cockpit on board this flight comprised: Captain Christophe Cail, Co-Pilot Bernardo Saez-Benito Hernandez and Test-Flight Engineer Jean Michel Pin. Meanwhile, monitoring the aircraft systems and performance in real-time at the flight-test-engineer's (FTE) station were Laurent Lapierre and Philippe Foucault.



The BelugaXL was launched in November 2014 to address the transport and ramp-up capacity requirements for Airbus beyond 2019. The new oversize air transporters are based on the A330-200 Freighter, with a large re-use of existing components and equipment.

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Photo Release

About Airbus

Airbus is a global leader in aeronautics, space and related services. In 2017 it generated revenues of € 59 billion restated for IFRS 15 and employed a workforce of around 129,000. Airbus offers the most comprehensive range of passenger airliners from 100 to more than 600 seats. Airbus is also a European leader providing tanker, combat, transport and mission aircraft, as well as one of the world's leading space companies. In helicopters, Airbus provides the most efficient civil and military rotorcraft solutions worldwide.

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Photos to download: <http://www.airbus.com/newsroom.html>

Press kit to download: <https://www.airbus.com/newsroom/press-kits.html>

BelugaXL web page: <https://www.airbus.com/newsroom/events/BelugaXL-flight-tests.html>

Live stream take-off and landing:

Youtube: <https://youtu.be/RMusdjZqoTk>

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