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CDB Aviation Delivers Three A321neo Aircraft to Jet2

CDB Aviation handed over three Airbus A321-251NX jets to UK carrier Jet2 in Hamburg on August 17, 2026.



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By **AirPro News Team**



CDB Aviation completed the delivery of three [Airbus](#) A321-251NX aircraft to United Kingdom-based leisure carrier Jet2 on August 17, 2026, advancing the airline's transition to a next-generation narrowbody fleet.

In a press release, CDB Aviation, a wholly owned Irish subsidiary of China Development Bank Financial Leasing Co., Ltd., confirmed the handover took place at the Airbus facility in Hamburg, Germany. The [deliveries](#) support Jet2's broader climate transition plan by replacing older airframes with more fuel-efficient technology.

Advancing Jet2's narrowbody transition

The three newly delivered Airbus A321-251NX aircraft are configured in a 232-seat, all-economy layout. These airframes are part of a larger fleet renewal effort by Jet2, which holds firm [orders](#) for 155 brand-new A321neo aircraft.

The [airline](#) began its fleet modernization program in March 2023 with the arrival of its first Airbus aircraft. Prior to this latest handover from CDB Aviation, Jet2 received its 30th A321neo on July 30, 2026. That aircraft subsequently operated its first customer flight from Manchester Airport (MAN) to Corfu.

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Lessor partnerships and sustainability targets

The transaction highlights the role of leasing companies in facilitating major European fleet transitions. Gavan Daly, Head of Commercial for Europe, the Middle East, and Africa (EMEA) at CDB Aviation, emphasized the importance of the United Kingdom market for the lessor.

“The addition of Jet2 in a key market, such as the U.K., is a testament to our commercial team’s razor focus on meeting our customers’ needs. We are delighted that the Jet2 team opted to engage us in securing the leasing of these A321neo deliveries with Airbus,” Daly stated.

Daly also noted that cultivating customer relationships and executing reliable deliveries remain central to the company’s commercial [strategy](#).

For Jet2, the A321neo is a cornerstone of its sustainability initiatives. The aircraft type delivers a 20 percent reduction in fuel consumption and carbon dioxide emissions per seat compared to the airline’s current fleet average. The A321neo also produces a 50 percent lower noise footprint. These efficiency gains are tied to Jet2’s target of achieving a 35 percent reduction in carbon emissions per revenue-paying passenger kilometer by 2035, measured against a 2019 baseline.

AirPro News analysis

We view Jet2’s continued induction of the Airbus A321neo as a critical operational pivot for the historically Boeing-heavy leisure operator. By utilizing lessors like CDB Aviation to secure delivery positions, Jet2 is insulating itself against some of the broader supply chain constraints currently affecting direct manufacturer orders. The 232-seat high-density configuration maximizes revenue potential on core European holiday routes while simultaneously driving down per-seat emissions, a metric that is becoming increasingly important under tightening European environmental regulations.

Sources: [CDB Aviation](#)

Photo Credit: CDB Aviation

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