Chinese airline Zhejiang Loong Airlines has selected Messier-Bugatti-Dowty (Safran) wheels and carbon brakes for its future A320 fleet, comprising seven A320neo and 34 A320ceo models.

With this contract, Zhejiang Loong Airlines becomes Messier-Bugatti-Dowty’s first customer for A320neo wheels and carbon brakes, marking the company’s entry in the wheel and brake market for the upcoming re-engined version of Airbus’s single-aisle twinjet.

A legacy cargo carrier, Zhejiang Loong Airlines began offering commercial passenger flights early this year. The airline plans to develop regional routes from its hub in Hangzhou to destinations in Zhejiang province.

Liu Jianjun, Deputy Chief Engineer of Zhejiang Loong Airlines, said, "We opted for Messier-Bugatti-Dowty carbon brakes to support our growth and expansion into the passenger market, particularly demanding in terms of operational reliability and cost management."

MBD’s carbon brake for the A320neo offers a host of advantages, including greater energy absorption capacity during than its counterpart for the classic A320ceo, but at the same weight. It also features better cooling and lower maintenance costs.

Commenting on this latest contract win, Messier-Bugatti-Dowty Chairman and CEO Vincent Mascré said, "Our new carbon brake for the A320neo capitalizes on our experience with its best-selling predecessor. While building on this success, we have also integrated incremental design changes that enhance the brake’s performance and reliability, while reducing costs."

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Messier-Bugatti-Dowty (Safran) is the world leader in aircraft landing and braking systems. Company capabilities encompass the full life cycle of our products, ranging from design and manufacture to in-service support, repair and overhaul. Messier-Bugatti-Dowty is a partner to 30 leading commercial, military, business and regional airframers, and supports more than 24,000 aircraft making over 40,000 landings every day. The company employs 7,000 staff working in locations across Europe, North America and Asia.

Messier-Bugatti-Dowty (Safran)
Communications Department