

Media Release

For Immediate Release

AEI Customer, Allied Air, Takes Ownership of Second AEI B737-800SF Freighter

Miami, Florida – November 11th, 2024 – Aeronautical Engineers, Inc. (AEI) is pleased to share that its customer, Nigeria-based Allied Air, has taken ownership of a second AEI B737-800SF freighter (MSN 30146) in a third-party transaction. This aircraft is the second youngest 737-800 converted freighter with a build date of 2010. Allied Air took delivery of its first B737-800SF freighter from AEI in October of 2020.

“The AEI B737-800SF freighter has been faithfully serving our cargo routes for four years,” said Captain Valentine Tongo, Allied Air CEO. “This second AEI freighter will augment our existing customers’ growing cargo transportation needs.”



Captain Valentine Tongo – Allied Air CEO

As Allied Air continues to expand, the company has said they plan to have a fleet of up to eight (8) AEI B737-800SF freighters by 2028.

“The movement of 737-800s returning to service is a good sign overall that the lull in the narrowbody conversion market is beginning to resolve,” stated Robert T. Convey, AEI Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing. “We believe that the market and demand for narrowbody freighters will begin to return to normal by mid-2026.”

The AEI converted B737-800SF freighter offers a main deck payload of up to 52,700 lbs. (23,904 kg) and incorporates eleven full height 88” x 125” container positions, plus an additional position for an AEP/AEH. The conversion also incorporates new floor beams aft of the wing box, a large 86” x 137” Main Cargo Door with a single vent door system.

AEI’s forward-thinking design allows for containers to be loaded into the aircraft a full 16.5” aft of the forward door jamb, ensuring ground operators have sufficient maneuvering room which minimizes potential door and aircraft strikes. Additionally, the AEI B737-800SF includes a flexible Ancra Cargo Loading System, a rigid 9g barrier, five supernumerary seats as standard, a galley, and full lavatory.

About AEI

Aeronautical Engineers, Inc. (AEI) is the global leader in the aircraft passenger-to-freighter conversion business and is the oldest conversion company in existence today. Since the company’s founding in 1958, AEI has developed over 130 Supplemental Type Certificates (STCs) and has modified over 600 aircraft with the STCs. AEI helps its customers extend aircraft life and increase the overall value of aircraft assets by continuously focusing on dependable and flexible product offerings. AEI currently offers passenger-to-freighter conversions for the Boeing 737-800, 737-400, 737-300, MD-80 series, and CRJ200 aircraft. <https://www.aeronautical-engineers.com/>

About Allied Air

Allied Air was founded in 1998 by Valentine Tongo, the current MD/CEO and principal shareholder of Allied Air Limited. Captain Valentine Tongo is a seasoned airline pilot who has operated various aircraft types including the Boeing series 747,707 and the DC-10. He has also operated BAC 1-11 and the HS-125 aircraft. Over a period spanning more than 30 years he has acquired a wealth of experience and know-how in management and flight operations in the aviation industry.

Allied Air commenced operations over twenty years ago and has successfully established an enviable brand identity as an outstanding Cargo Airline with scrupulous commitment to quality, dependable service delivery standards and an exemplary air safety record.

The Airline is fully authorized and recognized by the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority as a National Flag Carrier. **Allied Air**, which is the first IOSA certified cargo airline on the continent, is also the Designated Cargo Airline on numerous routes across Africa under the Bi-Lateral Services Agreement. With this new acquisition, **Allied Air** is set to upscale the quality and expand the coverage of its highly acclaimed efficient service delivery.

With corporate headquarters and facilities at the Mohammed Airport in Lagos, Nigeria, **Allied Air** boasts of impressive state-of-the-art Transit Cargo and Warehousing Facilities. A highly skilled and well-motivated work force of over 120 staff run the Flight Operations, Engineering, Technical Records, Training and Cargo Document Processing Departments.

AEI is proud to be associated with **Allied Air** which has offices in locations throughout Nigeria and Overseas offices in London, Paris, Amsterdam and Brussels.

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