

## Aircraft *interiors* INTERNATIONAL

### News

#### 2017's Crystal Cabin Awards finalists revealed!



January 24, 2017 – The Crystal Cabin Awards – often referred to as the “Oscars” of the aircraft interiors industry – are approaching once again. The shortlist for the 2017 awards – the 11th year of the event – has just been revealed by organizer Hamburg Aviation, and it boasts 85 applicants from 21 countries, with aircraft manufacturers, airlines, suppliers, engineering firms and universities all in contention for prizes.

The applicants are vying for prizes across eight awards categories: Cabin Concepts; Cabin Systems; Electronic Systems; Greener Cabin, Health, Safety and Environment; Material & Components; Passenger Comfort Hardware; University; and Visionary Concepts. The full list of shortlisted entries can be found below.

The Cabin Concepts category is of particular interest in this year’s event, as the latest business class products from US airline rivals Delta and United are in contention for the title. The Delta One Suite, being introduced on the airline’s A350s, offers enclosed suites for every business class passenger, while United’s Polaris business class boasts an innovative LOPA that combines direct aisle access with cabin density. Other business class contenders in this category include Qantas, with its A330 Business Suite, and Hawaiian Airlines with its Premium Cabin.

***Below: Delta's enclosed business class suite is impressive, but it faces stiff competition from United's innovative Polaris rival***



### Flexible seat pitch is trending

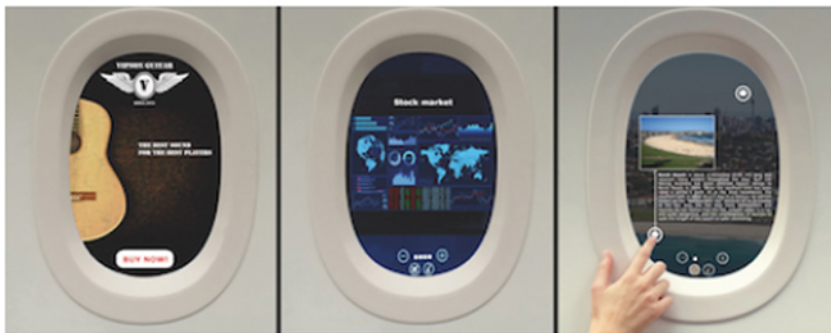
A strong entry from the aircraft manufacturer's side is Bombardier's C-Series cabin concept. This B737 and the A320 rival is claimed to offer outstanding in-flight comfort to all passengers, regardless of the seating arrangement, and the first examples were delivered to launch customers Swiss Air Lines and Air Baltic in 2016.

Meanwhile Airbus has developed an innovative seating rail concept called Smart Cabin Reconfiguration (pictured below), designed to allow crew to adjust seat pitch in the cabin based on reservations for a particular flight. The advantage for the passenger is that when a flight is not fully booked, the last row of seats can be folded away and the remaining rows pushed back further, giving passengers more legroom.



### Little luxuries

Sometimes it's the small things that make all the difference to the flying experience, and there are several innovative concepts on the shortlist that could make flying more attractive. For example, Vision Systems has developed a window that doubles as a touchscreen, projecting information about the flight directly on to the window surface.



There are also several innovative headrest concepts for long-haul flights, such as the successful Kickstarter project, FaceCradle, which can be used to gently support a weary traveler's head from all sides.

### Sustainable ideas

The shortlist also includes 'green' ideas for aviation, such as an innovative and environmentally friendly aircraft lavatory design from Zodiac Aerospace, and the Re-Trolley from Airbus, which allows crew to sort and compress garbage while they pass through the cabin. Engineering firm Altran has also developed a cabin trolley, a futuristic autonomous concept that passes through the cabin and serves passengers by itself. Meanwhile, Diehl Aerospace's Wireless Seat System aids safety on board by informing the crew automatically if any passenger seatbelts are not fastened when they should be.

## How it works

For each of the eight categories, the 29 international experts on the judging panel select three shortlist entries to become finalists. These concepts are then presented in further detail at a final judging event just prior to Aircraft Interiors Expo in Hamburg, where the winners are decided. The winners of the Crystal Cabin Awards 2017 will be formally announced on the evening of April 4 at a gala dinner in the Hotel Atlantic Kempinski in Hamburg.

The judging panel includes representatives of all parts of the industry, including airlines, aircraft manufacturers, suppliers, universities and consulting firms. Members include Adam Gavine, editor of *Aircraft Interiors International*; Peter Cooke, design manager for aircraft cabins at British Airways; Paul Estoppey, senior director and head of cabin product management for the Lufthansa Group hub airlines (Austrian, Lufthansa and Swiss); Kent Craver, director of cabin experience & revenue analysis at Boeing; Melissa Raudebaugh, general manager for aircraft experience at Delta Air Lines; and Paul Sweeney, program manager for aircraft design & projects at Qantas Airways.

## The shortlist

Acro Aircraft Seating: Series 6 economy class seat  
AIM Altitude: Generation 2 autonomous lighting dimmer (ALD)  
Air Caraïbes: iZivision  
Airbus: Towards Wireless Aircraft  
Airbus: Watchdog - prevention of inadvertent slide deployment  
Airbus: ReTrolley  
Airbus: A380 aft galley stair module  
Airbus: Smart cabin reconfiguration  
Air-Craftglass: Natural Collection  
Airtango: Airtango Living Networks  
Altran: Autonomous cabin trolley (ACT)  
Ameco Beijing: Ink-and-Wash Landscape ACJ319 cabin concept  
Anker: Floor aviation carpeting  
Astronics PGA Avionics: Philea  
Autonomous University of Baja California: Baby Seat U  
Axing: Asleep Mask  
Axinom: Digital platforms  
B/E Aerospace: Comfort Wellness System  
B/E Aerospace: Device holder / snack package  
B/E Aerospace: Project Somna  
B/E Aerospace: Family Zone  
Bishop GmbH: Half inch fitting for more comfort  
Bishop GmbH: Micro-attachment systems  
Boltaron: FAR-rated translucent decorative material collection  
Bombardier: C Series Cabin  
Bombardier: CRJ Series PRM lavatory  
Composite Technology Center: Hybrid SMC technology  
Composite Technology Center: REKAS recycled cabin lining (ReCaFi)  
CTT Systems: CAIR Airliner System  
Delta Air Lines: Delta One Suite  
Diehl Aerospace: Smart wireless seat monitoring system  
Diehl Aerospace: Power line communication (PLC) for aircraft  
Diehl Aircraft: Direct digital printing for interior parts  
Diehl Comfort Modules: Galley-bar module (GBM)  
F.LIST: Heated stone flooring  
GermFalcon: UVC airplane sanitizing device  
Global Eagle Entertainment: Airtime Portal  
HAECO Cabin Solutions: Arc headrest  
Hairy Turtle: FaceCradle travel pillow  
HAW Hamburg: StepSeat  
HAW Hamburg: Cabin crew lair  
HAW Hamburg: Smart onboard wheelchair (Smart OBW)  
HAW Hamburg: Comfortmax - Economy seating meets comfort  
Hawaiian Airlines: Premium Cabin  
Heinkel Engineering: Topology optimized A380 ceiling bracket assembly  
IFPL: Nexus integrated seat arm  
Immfly: Immfly Wireless Solution  
In2tec: In2sense Smart Office  
Jamco: Villa  
Jormac Aerospace: Carbon fiber profiles  
Kestrel Aviation Management: Sky Blue BBJ 787  
Krüger Aviation: K-Reflexion- the revolution of plastic mirrors  
Lantal Textiles: TEC-Leather  
Lufthansa Technik: GuideU Curved CustomFit  
Lufthansa Technik: Mercedes-Benz Style VIP aircraft cabin  
Lufthansa Technik: Niceview Mobile  
Mirus Aircraft Seating: Mirus Hawk Smart Seat  
Mli: Armrest 2020  
Molon Labe Seating: Stagger Seat  
Neotech AMT: Heated sidewall panel  
Neutral Digital: Fleet Explorer  
Pitch Aircraft Seating: PF27 economy seat  
Qantas Airways: A330 Business Suite  
Reliant Worldwide Plastics: Reliant-Lite thermoplastic carbon composite tray table  
Reutlingen University: Visionair 2040  
SACS/ Boysen Aerospace: Xbag  
SleeperTech: Sleeper Seat - Premium economy & economy class  
Studio Moderna BI/Boxmark: Octaspring lightweight seat cushion  
TAP Portugal: Innovative A320 family layout  
TC Inter-Informatics - C-spacer smart cabin divider  
TU Delft: Myseat  
TU Delft: Sky Grove  
TU Delft: The Revitalisation System  
Turkish Airlines: Sausage headrest  
UERJ - Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro: DIYFood  
United Airlines: United Polaris  
Villinger: Liteheat cabin heating systems  
Vision Systems: Smart-Info window  
Weigele Aerospace: Quahuay onboard live EMI monitoring system  
Weigele Aerospace: IFPS inflight power supplies  
ZEO/Zodiac Aerospace: ECOS luggage management system  
ZIM Flugsitz: ZIMflexible NG economy class seat  
Zodiac Aerospace: Five on board fragrance  
Zodiac Aerospace: Revolution toilet  
Zodiac Aerospace: Smartlock