AIR TRANSPORT

Swissair picks up the first A310-300
TOULOUSE

Th e long range A310-300, the
aeroplane designed to Swis-
sair's own specifications, has
entered revenue service. The
airline is using the 172-seat
aircraft on operations to
North Africa and the Middle
East. By the end of February,
Swissair will be operating four
of the type with a fifth for
charter subsidiary Balair in
the spring.
Swissair asked Airbus

Industrie for the longer range
A310 after the -200, designed
for European routes, proved
to have low passenger appeal
on medium-haul operations.
Th e manufacturer responded
by designing a spacious three-
class interior and boosting
range to 4,600 n.m. by intro-
ducing a tailplane trim tank
with centre of gravity control,
wingtip fences, and carbon-
fibre components, including
the first production carbon-
fibre fin.

Above The
A310-300 at its
Zurich base for the
first time. Left Fog
shrouded at
last month's
delivery ceremony
at Toulouse—
appropriate weather
for an aircraft with
Cat III 125m

visibility and 5m.
decision height
capability. Right
The A310-300
winglets (wingtip
fences, Airbus says)
will improve
aerodynamic
efficiency. Pictures
by Janice Lowe

FLIGHT INTERNATIONAL, 4 January 1986