



five minutes with

## Faisal Alboinin

The first Qatari A350 XWB licensed engineer, Faisal Alboinin, is one of the lucky few who gets to work first-hand with the world's newest wide-body passenger aircraft. Away from the inspection site, Alboinin is a high achiever with endless ambition. Interviewed by Heba Hashem.

### Why did you choose to become an aircraft mechanical engineer?

When I graduated from high school, it was my lifetime dream to become a mechanical engineer, and one of the fields that attracted me the most was aircraft engineering. I joined Qatar Aeronautical College, where I studied for five years, underwent job training for two years, and applied to become an aircraft engineer. It's a challenging field; technology is continuously evolving, and it combines both mechanical and electrical engineering.

### What are the must-have qualities to be an aircraft engineer?

Self-confidence and integrity, because you're dealing with an aircraft, which needs to be in a remarkable condition. And of course, knowledge. You must always be up to date with the latest

aviation standards and regulations. Qatar Airways has a very stringent procedure for a person to become an aircraft engineer. It personally took me seven years from college until I was qualified to work with and certify aircraft.

**What fascinates you about the A350?** The Airbus A350 is unlike any other aircraft. Since Qatar Airways was the first operator of the A350, it was a great opportunity to prove myself, and a major step in my professional career.

### Tell us about your ambitions.

I'm currently undertaking a Master of Business Administration programme with Massey University in New Zealand, sponsored by Qatar Airways.

My ambition is to continue my studies with a doctorate, and advance within Qatar Airways so I can help



enhance the organisation. I would also like to develop my personal business, which is an antiques and vintage store.

**Where will you travel next, and why?** My next trip will be to New Zealand to attend my MBA graduation ceremony. In the future, I would like to visit Canada, as well as Greece to explore its historical sights.

### How do you like to unwind at the end of a long day?

After a long day of work is usually a long night of studying for my MBA. It's a temporary phase to get results in the future. Generally, I enjoy swimming and jogging, as they are good ways to relax. During Ramadan, I often go to pray and spend more time with my family, especially my mother, who is my biggest motivator and supporter, as well as my wife, who always encourages me. ❌