

## **A PRESS RELEASE**

**A** December 2004 / Traffic / Preliminary

~ For immediate release ~

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## **A ASIA PACIFIC AIRLINES END 2004 ON A HIGH NOTE**

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The Association of Asia Pacific Airlines today released preliminary traffic results for the month of December 2004 and the full year (attached). For the full year of 2004, the number of international passengers carried reached a record level of 117 million, up by 22.5%, 21 million more than the previous year and eight million more than the previous record level set in 2002. In addition to robust intra-regional traffic, demand was strong on long-haul routes, and both contributed to new record levels of passenger traffic measured in RPKs and capacity, up 18.6% and 12.8%, respectively, in 2004. Load factors averaged 73.3% for the year.

The number of international passengers carried by AAPA members rose by 7.2% to 10.4 million in December, boosted by holiday season travel. In terms of passenger-kilometres (RPKs) flown, passenger traffic rose by 5.6%. Capacity, up 5.4%, increased at almost the same pace as RPKs, resulting in a load factor of 74.0%, unchanged from December 2003.

Air cargo also set new records in 2004, with cargo traffic, measured in freight tonne-kilometres (FTKs), up 12.9% for the year. Growth in December was +8.9%.

“Helped by strong global economic growth, 2004 was a remarkable year in terms of traffic recovery and new growth for the AAPA member airlines.” Said Andrew Herdman, AAPA’s Director General. “Despite high fuel prices and competitive pricing pressures, the strong traffic growth and tight cost controls led to a general improvement in profitability.”

“The outlook for 2005 remains positive and we are looking at a prospect of further traffic growth of 6-7%. Consistent with this pattern of growth, the AAPA members will be taking delivery of a total of 73 aircraft in 2005, adding to the existing fleet of 1,273, mainly larger widebody aircraft.”

## **AAPA TRAFFIC UPDATE - PRELIMINARY**

### **International Scheduled Services of the AAPA Member Airlines**

#### **DECEMBER 2004 (Preliminary)**

	<b>DEC 2004</b>	<b>DEC 2003</b>	<b>% CHANGE</b>
<b>Passengers Carried (000)</b>	<b>10,404</b>	<b>9,710</b>	<b>7.2 %</b>
<b>Revenue Passenger Kilometres (000)</b>	<b>44,208,511</b>	<b>41,883,147</b>	<b>5.6 %</b>
<b>Available Seat Kilometres (000)</b>	<b>59,740,700</b>	<b>56,666,549</b>	<b>5.4 %</b>
<b>Passenger Load Factor</b>	<b>74.0 %</b>	<b>73.9 %</b>	<b>0.1 points</b>

#### **JANUARY-DECEMBER 2004 (Preliminary)**

	<b>JAN-DEC 2004</b>	<b>JAN-DEC 2003</b>	<b>% CHANGE</b>
<b>Passengers Carried (000)</b>	<b>117,329</b>	<b>95,772</b>	<b>22.5 %</b>
<b>Revenue Passenger Kilometres (000)</b>	<b>499,468,110</b>	<b>421,186,035</b>	<b>18.6 %</b>
<b>Available Seat Kilometres (000)</b>	<b>681,820,336</b>	<b>604,677,977</b>	<b>12.8 %</b>
<b>Passenger Load Factor</b>	<b>73.3 %</b>	<b>69.7 %</b>	<b>3.6 points</b>

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### **Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA)**

The AAPA is a grouping of 17 scheduled international airlines based in the Asia-Pacific region. It is the trade association of the region's airlines, created to represent their interests and to provide a forum for all members to exchange information and views on matters of common concern. For more information about the AAPA, please visit the web site at [www.AAPAAirlines.org](http://www.AAPAAirlines.org).

The 17 members comprises Air New Zealand, All Nippon Airways, Asiana Airlines, Cathay Pacific Airways, China Airlines, Dragonair, EVA Air, Garuda Indonesia, Japan Airlines, Korean Air, Malaysia Airlines, Philippine Airlines, Qantas Airways, Royal Brunei Airlines, Singapore Airlines, Thai Airways International and Vietnam Airlines.

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