

PRESS RELEASE

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Asia Pacific Airlines Full Year 2015 Traffic Results

Robust Growth in Passenger Traffic, Marginal Increase in Cargo Markets

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia – Preliminary traffic figures for the full calendar year 2015 released today by the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA) showed growth in both international air passenger and air cargo markets.

For the year under review, the region's airlines recorded a robust 7.9% increase in the number of international passengers carried to an aggregate total of 276.3 million, boosted by lower oil prices leading to the widespread availability of competitive airfares. The average international passenger load factor increased by 1.4 percentage points to 78.4% for the year, after accounting for an 8.2% increase in demand in revenue passenger kilometre (RPK) terms and a measured 6.3% expansion in available seat capacity.

International air cargo demand, measured in freight tonne kilometres (FTK), registered a 1.6% increase for the year, reflecting the slowdown in global trade conditions. Offered freight capacity increased by 3.5%, leading to a deterioration in the average international freight load factor, by 1.3 percentage points to 63.7% for the year.

Commenting on the results, Mr. Andrew Herdman, AAPA Director General said, "The region's carriers enjoyed a year of strong growth in international passenger numbers, up 7.9% for 2015, and well ahead of the 4.9% increase recorded the year before. Long haul travel markets prospered on the back of an improvement in economic conditions in selected advanced economies. In addition, Asian regional travel demand grew solidly, despite slowing economic growth and regional currency weakness. Less optimistically, air cargo markets saw only marginal growth for the year 2015, a reflection of the slowdown in global trade."

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Mr. Herdman added, “Asian airlines benefitted in 2015 from the robust growth in international passenger traffic, and significant fall in oil prices, but competitive market conditions continued to restrain margins. Airline profitability was also affected by currency volatility, and variations in individual fuel hedging policies, amongst other factors.”

Looking ahead, Mr. Herdman concluded, “The outlook for air travel markets in 2016 remains broadly positive, although there are some significant risk factors to consider, including increased uncertainty over the regional economic outlook. Asian airlines are closely monitoring market developments, whilst continuing to invest in future growth opportunities.”

TRAFFIC UPDATE – PRELIMINARY

International Scheduled Services of Asia Pacific Airlines

International	Dec-15	Dec-14	% Change	Jan-Dec 2015	Jan-Dec 2014	% Change
Passengers (000)	24,481	23,171	+ 5.7%	276,338	256,177	+ 7.9%
RPK (mn.)	89,777	83,401	+ 7.6%	1,000,457	924,784	+ 8.2%
ASK (mn.)	114,181	106,642	+ 7.1%	1,275,927	1,200,492	+ 6.3%
Passenger Load Factor	78.6%	78.2%	+ 0.4 pp	78.4%	77.0%	+ 1.4 pp
FTK (mn.)	5,593	5,612	- 0.3%	64,925	63,917	+ 1.6%
FATK (mn.)	8,768	8,587	+ 2.1%	101,863	98,401	+ 3.5%
Freight Load Factor	63.8%	65.4%	- 1.6 pp	63.7%	65.0%	- 1.3 pp

- Effective September 2014, the dataset comprises aggregated traffic data from the following 31 Asia Pacific based carriers: 5J, 6E, 9W, AI, AK, BI, BR, CA, CI, CX, CZ, GA, JL, JQ, KA, KC, KE, MH, MU, NH, NZ, OZ, PG, PR, SG, SQ, TG, TR, QF, VA and VN.
- Previous year data adjusted for comparison purposes
- RPK = revenue passenger kilometres
- ASK = available seat kilometres
- FTK = freight tonne kilometres
- FATK = available freight tonne kilometres
- All figures, including estimates for missing data, are provisional

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Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA)

The AAPA is the trade association for scheduled international airlines based in the Asia-Pacific region. The AAPA permanent secretariat is headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia with international representation in Brussels and Washington, D.C. Collectively, the region's airlines carry 1,106 million passengers and 20 million tonnes of cargo, representing one-third of global passenger traffic and two-fifths of global air cargo traffic respectively, and thus play a critically important role in the ongoing development of global aviation.

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