

PRESS RELEASE

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Association of Asia Pacific Airlines
(Reg. No.587)
9/F Kompleks Antarabangsa
Jalan Sultan Ismail
50250 Kuala Lumpur
Malaysia
Tel +603 2145 5600
Fax +603 2145 2500
www.aapairlines.org

Asia Pacific Airlines Traffic Results - February 2010

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia – Preliminary figures released today by the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA) provide further confirmation of an ongoing global economic recovery, with a continuing pickup in both passenger travel and air cargo demand. Collectively, airlines based in the Asia Pacific region transported 14.2 million international passengers in February, an increase of 16.9% compared to the same month last year. In revenue passenger kilometre (RPK) terms, international passenger traffic posted a 14.0% gain, indicating the relative strength of demand on routes within the region. The average passenger load factor for the month was 79.2%, reflecting stronger demand while available seat capacity was only 2.4% higher than a year ago.

Air cargo demand, as measured in freight tonne kilometres (FTKs), recorded growth of 29.8% in February compared to the same month last year, close to the bottom of the downturn. The average international air cargo load factor for Asia Pacific carriers was 10.3 percentage points higher at 68.5%, even with a 10.2% increase in offered freight capacity.

Commenting on the results, Mr. Andrew Herdman, AAPA Director General said, “The signs of economic recovery which first became evident in the fourth quarter of 2009 have continued to gather momentum. For the first two months of 2010 we have seen a 12.8% increase in international passenger numbers, with prospects for further growth in both leisure and business travel in the coming months. International air cargo demand for the first two months of 2010 has recorded a dramatic rebound, up 33.5% compared to the same period last year when the industry was suffering from the worst effects of the slump in international trade. Whilst the recent recovery has been led by the more dynamic Asia Pacific economies, it is worth noting that the rebound in demand for international air cargo has been broadly based, with both exports and imports from other regions showing renewed vigour.”

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Mr. Herdman concluded, "Following a positive start, we are cautiously optimistic about prospects for the coming year. The recovery in both passenger travel and air cargo demand is certainly welcome, but will need to be coupled with careful management of costs and available capacity, if airlines are to succeed in restoring profitability following two years of heavy financial losses."

TRAFFIC UPDATE – PRELIMINARY
International Scheduled Services of Asia Pacific Airlines

International	Feb-10	Feb-09	% Change	Jan-Feb 2010	Jan-Feb 2009	% Change
Passengers (000)	14,197	12,142	+ 16.9%	29,250	25,920	+ 12.8%
RPK (mn.)	53,381	46,835	+ 14.0%	112,657	101,832	+ 10.6%
ASK (mn.)	67,443	65,870	+ 2.4%	142,217	141,255	+ 0.7%
Passenger Load Factor	79.2%	71.1%	+ 8.1 pp	79.2%	72.1%	+ 7.1 pp
FTK (mn.)	4,358	3,358	+ 29.8%	9,022	6,758	+ 33.5%
FATK (mn.)	6,359	5,771	+ 10.2%	13,273	12,095	+ 9.7%
Freight Load Factor	68.5%	58.2%	+ 10.3 pp	68.0%	55.9%	+ 12.1 pp

- Aggregated traffic data for 23 Asia Pacific based carriers
- 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 520 million passengers and 15 million tonnes of cargo, representing one-quarter 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.

For further information, please contact:
Office of the Director General
Tel +603 2145 5600 Fax +603 2145 2500
email: odg@aapa.org.my