

PRESS RELEASE

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November 2018 / Traffic / Preliminary

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Asia Pacific Airlines Traffic Results – November 2018

Healthy expansion in air passenger markets and easing of cargo demand

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia – Preliminary traffic figures for the month of November released today by the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA) showed sustained growth in international air passenger markets, underpinned by continued strength in the global services sectors. Air cargo volumes remained relatively high but demand growth was almost flat for the month.

The region's airlines carried a combined total of 29.0 million international passengers in November 2018, representing a 6.2% increase compared to the same month last year. Measured in revenue passenger kilometres (RPK) terms, demand increased by 6.5%, reflecting relative strength on long haul markets. Available seat capacity expanded by 6.0%, resulting in a slight increase in the average international passenger load factor, by 0.3 percentage points to 79.3% for the month.

International air cargo demand as measured in freight tonne kilometres (FTK) edged 0.1% higher in November, just matching the strong demand recorded during the same month in the previous year. Offered freight capacity increased by 5.9% leading to a 3.8 percentage point decline in the average international freight load factor to 65.2%.

Commenting on the results, Mr. Andrew Herdman, AAPA Director General said, "Business and leisure travel markets continued to expand at an encouraging pace for the region's airlines, on the back of continued global economic expansion and rising regional living standards. Overall, for the first eleven months of the year, Asian airlines registered a healthy 7.1% increase in the number of international passengers carried to an aggregate total of 325 million."

"Meanwhile, the moderation in export activity with slowing business orders, contributed to the slowdown in air cargo growth for the month, although this was mitigated by higher volumes of e-commerce shipments going into the end-year festive season. Overall, the region's airlines recorded a cumulative 4.3% increase in air cargo demand during the first

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eleven months of the year, a reasonably solid growth rate following the exceptionally strong 9.6% annual increase recorded in 2017.”

Looking ahead, Mr. Herdman said, “Overall prospects remain relatively positive. Continued moderate growth in the global economy and lowered oil prices should support further expansion in air travel demand and air cargo markets in the coming year, although the recent deterioration in trade sentiment and uncertainties over the potential impact on consumer confidence levels present some downside risks. Overall, Asian airlines continue to exercise vigilance in monitoring any changes in market conditions, whilst seeking growth opportunities.”

TRAFFIC UPDATE – PRELIMINARY

International Scheduled Services of Asia Pacific Airlines

International	Nov-18	Nov-17	% Change	Jan-Nov 2018	Jan-Nov 2017	% Change
Passengers (Thousand)	29,039	27,340	+ 6.2%	324,762	303,113	+ 7.1%
RPK (Million)	105,760	99,319	+ 6.5%	1,201,822	1,122,685	+ 7.0%
ASK (Million)	133,294	125,715	+ 6.0%	1,491,126	1,405,454	+ 6.1%
Passenger Load Factor	79.3%	79.0%	+ 0.3 pp	80.6%	79.9%	+ 0.7 pp
FTK (Million)	6,469	6,462	+ 0.1%	66,883	64,122	+ 4.3%
FATK (Million)	9,918	9,363	+ 5.9%	105,516	98,859	+ 6.7%
Freight Load Factor	65.2%	69.0%	- 3.8 pp	63.4%	64.9%	- 1.5 pp

Effective January 2018, the dataset comprises aggregated traffic data from the following 36 Asia Pacific based carriers: 3K, 5J, 6E, 9C, 9W, AI, AK, BI, BR, CA, CI, CX, CZ, D7, GA, HO, HU, JL, JQ, KA, KC, KE, MH, MU, NH, NZ, OZ, PG, PR, QF, SG, SQ, TG, TR, 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 1,486 million passengers and 22 million tonnes of cargo, representing over one-third of global passenger and air cargo traffic, and thus play a leading role in the ongoing development of global aviation.

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