April 15, 2008

PASSENGER INCREASE IN FIRST QUARTER OF 2008

Traffic result of the Austrian Airlines Group, January to March 2008

Commenting on the latest traffic results, Austrian Chief Executive Officer **Alfred Ötsch** said the following: 'Even in the traditionally weak first quarter, we were able to achieve an increase of 2.0%, taking us to an approximate total of 2.3 million passengers carried. This strong traffic result is based first and foremost on continuing strong growth in the short- and medium-haul segment, above all in the Focus East regions, where we succeeded in recording a 7% increase in passenger volume in the first quarter of 2008. On long-haul routes, flight capacity is lower this year due to the reduction in long-haul implemented according to plan from the second quarter of 2007 onwards. We shall continue to gain momentum in the summer schedule with our new routes in the Central and East European region and Saudi Arabia, and through frequency increases in our core markets.'

Short- and medium-haul segment as driver of growth

With an increase in passenger volume of 7%, the trend in the short- and medium-haul segment in the first quarter of 2008 was exceptionally good compared to the previous year. Revenue passenger kilometers on scheduled services (RPK) rose by 10.4%, while scheduled capacity (ASK) increased by 7.1%. The resultant improved passenger load factor, at 64.6%, was 1.9 percentage points above the figure for last year.

The Austrian Airlines Group carried 677,000 passengers in the short- and medium-haul segment in March, an increase of 2.1% on the previous year. The expansion in capacity on scheduled services of 4.2% (measured in available seat kilometers or ASK) was balanced by a strong increase in revenue passenger kilometers (RPK) of 6.1%. The passenger load factor stood at 67.8%, an increase of 1.2 percentage points on the previous year's figure.

As a result, the Austrian Airlines Group was able to hold its own in the price war currently raging with the low-cost airlines. But in the traditionally weak first quarter this put more pressure on yields.

Long-haul segment sees higher load factor in March

Cumulatively, around 272,000 scheduled passengers were carried in the long-haul segment from January to March, 24.1% fewer than in the same period in 2007. While the Group made a structural reduction in capacity on scheduled services (ASK) of 31.6%, revenue passenger kilometers on these scheduled services (RPK) fell by 33.3%. The passenger load factor in the long-haul segment was 79.8%, or 2.1 percentage points below last year.

In March, by contrast, the Group was able to increase the load factor, which, at 82.9%, was 2.8 percentage points above the previous year's figure. Long-haul scheduled capacity (ASK) stood at 30.4% in March, in line with the company's plans, while revenue passenger kilometers in the long-haul segment (RPK) were 28.0% below the respective comparison figures for the previous year.

Charter segment well positioned

The Group's charter services recorded passenger growth and an increase ion payload both in March and in the first quarter as a whole. The reason for this, amongst other things, was this year's unusually early Easter and more individual charter business.

Traffic statistics in detail

AUSTRIAN AIRLINES GROUP (Austrian + Austrian Arrows + Lauda Air)

TRAFFIC STATISTICS	March 2008	March +/- % p.y.		January - March 2008	January - March +/- % p.y.	
Revenue passenger km (**RPK**) m	1,520.1	-12.7		4,133.1	-16.6	
Scheduled	1,350.4	-14.9		3,724.6	-18.0	
Long Haul	702.1	-28.0		1,968.7	-33.3	
Short/Medium Haul	648.3	6.1		1,755.9	10.4	
Charter	169.8	9.5		408.6	-1.4	
Available seat km (**ASK**) m	2,011.4	-13.9		5,700.1	-14.6	
Scheduled	1,803.0	-15.5		5,182.3	-15.6	
Long Haul	846.7	-30.4		2,465.7	-31.6	
Short/Medium Haul	956.3	4.2		2,716.6	7.1	
Charter	208.4	3.4		517.8	-2.9	
Passenger load factor %	75.6	1.0	P.	72.5	-1.8	P.
Scheduled	74.9	0.6	P.	71.9	-2.1	P.
Long Haul	82.9	2.8	P.	79.8	-2.1	P.
Short/Medium Haul	67.8	1.2	P.	64.6	1.9	P.
Charter	81.4	4.5	P.	78.9	1.2	P.
Passengers carried 000	843.2	0.2		2,290.1	2.0	
Scheduled	773.2	-1.6		2,126.8	1.7	
Long Haul	96.0	-21.7		272.1	-24.1	
Short/Medium Haul	677.2	2.1		1,854.8	7.0	
Charter	70.0	26.2		163.3	5.7	
Total revenue tonne km (**RTK**) m	194.5	-15.7		536.9	-17.7	
Scheduled	178.1	-17.4		497.1	-18.7	
Long Haul	108.6	-27.5		308.3	-29.8	
Short/Medium Haul	69.5	5.5		188.7	9.8	
Charter	16.5	7.7		39.8	-2.6	
Total available tonne km (**ATK**) m	260.5	-16.9		742.6	-17.3	
Scheduled	238.4	-18.2		686.7	-18.2	
Long Haul	130.6	-31.1		380.5	-31.6	
Short/Medium Haul	107.8	5.7		306.2	8.2	
Charter	22.2	0.3		55.9	-5.2	
Overall load factor %	74.7	1.0	P.	72.3	-0.3	P.
Scheduled	74.7	0.7	P.	72.4	-0.5	P.
Long Haul	83.2	4.1	P.	81.0	2.0	P.
Short/Medium Haul	64.4	-0.1	P.	61.6	0.9	P.
Charter	74.3	5.1	P.	71.3	1.9	P.

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