

PRESS RELEASE

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Asia Pacific Airlines Traffic Results – October 2012

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia – Preliminary traffic figures for the month of October released today by the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA) showed a continuation of established trends, with growth in international passenger traffic, but weakness in air cargo demand.

In aggregate, Asia Pacific airlines carried a combined total of 17.0 million international passengers in October, a 2.7% increase compared to the same month last year. Measured in revenue passenger kilometre (RPK) terms, international passenger traffic grew by 2.1%, underlining continued strength for regional routes. Available seat capacity increased by just 0.9%, resulting in a 0.9 percentage point increase in the average international passenger load factor to 76.6% for the month.

International air cargo demand, expressed in freight tonne kilometre (FTK) terms, declined by 5.8% year-on-year in October, a reflection of overall weakness in air cargo markets. Offered freight capacity was reduced by 6.1%, leaving the average international air cargo load factor almost unchanged at 67.4%.

Commenting on the results, Mr. Andrew Herdman, AAPA Director General said, “During the first ten months of the year, Asia Pacific carriers were encouraged by the 6.9% growth seen in international passenger demand. However, traffic numbers for the month of October indicate a continuation of the slower growth trend already apparent in the third quarter of the year, with regional traffic holding up relatively well, but some softening of demand for long-haul travel markets.”

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“Global air cargo markets are still depressed, with volumes for the first ten months of the year 4.0% down on last year’s levels. Overall, the air cargo market is characterized by weak demand and excess capacity, maintaining downward pressure on rates.”

Mr. Herdman concluded, “Asia Pacific airlines are still facing a very challenging operating environment, clouded by uncertainties over the global economic outlook. Competitive market pressures, and the impact of persistently high fuel prices, have pushed up breakeven load factors, and are spurring further efforts to deploy newer more fuel-efficient aircraft, whilst carefully managing overall capacity.”

TRAFFIC UPDATE – PRELIMINARY
International Scheduled Services of Asia Pacific Airlines

International	Oct-12	Oct-11	% Change	Jan-Oct 2012	Jan-Oct 2011	% Change
Passengers (000)	17,048	16,596	+ 2.7%	171,824	160,780	+ 6.9%
RPK (mn.)	63,406	62,108	+ 2.1%	643,008	608,862	+ 5.6%
ASK (mn.)	82,790	82,059	+ 0.9%	824,474	792,769	+ 4.0%
Passenger Load Factor	76.6%	75.7%	+ 0.9 pp	78.0%	76.8%	+ 1.2 pp
FTK (mn.)	5,052	5,363	- 5.8%	49,036	51,104	- 4.0%
FATK (mn.)	7,496	7,985	- 6.1%	73,964	76,592	- 3.4%
Freight Load Factor	67.4%	67.2%	+ 0.2 pp	66.3%	66.7%	- 0.4 pp

- Aggregated traffic data for 25 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 650 million passengers and 18 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.

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