

13 February 2013

FROM LATIN AMERICA AND AFRICA WITH LOVE

- © **IAG Cargo transports nearly 800 tonnes of flowers for St. Valentine's Day**
- © **Flowers grown mainly in Ecuador, Colombia, Kenya, Costa Rica, and Guatemala**

IAG Cargo, the single business created following the merger of British Airways World Cargo and Iberia Cargo, will carry nearly 800 tonnes of flowers in the run up to St. Valentine's Day.

The most common variety of flowers carried by IAG Cargo are roses and carnations coming from Ecuador, Colombia, Kenya, Costa Rica, Guatemala and South Africa. The main destinations for these flowers are Madrid and London, followed by other Spanish cities such as Seville, Malaga, and Barcelona, along with Lisbon, Rome, Amsterdam, and Munich.

IAG Cargo controls the temperatures of delicate flower shipments at all times, to ensure that they arrive in optimum condition. The cargo terminals of both London-Heathrow and Madrid-Barajas airports are equipped with refrigerated and humidity-controlled ground transport and storage facilities.

While flowers are carried by IAG Cargo throughout the year, flower shipments peak in the run-up to All Saint's Day (1 November), St Valentine's Day (14 February) and Mother's Day in the UK (13 March). Other high traffic dates for flower shipments include St George's Day, honouring Barcelona's patron saint on 23 April, and the day of the Virgin of the Pillar on 12 October, when an image of Saragossa's patron is adorned with tens of thousands of flowers.

Note

In 2011 IAG Cargo posted sales of €1,190 million euros. The company has a combined staff of 2,700, and serves more than 350 destinations worldwide.

For more information, please contact the IAG Cargo press office:

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