

Monday, 05 December 2011

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Concerns expressed over EC's planned slot revision



The European Low Fares Airline Association (ELFAA) has said that it is concerned with the European Commission's Airport Package, announced last week, particularly to the possible future inclusion of the auctioning and withdrawal of slots.

"This is extremely worrying, as it leaves the door open for a possible amendment which will permit the primary auctioning of grandfathered rights," explained ELFAA Secretary General John Hanlon. "There is no consumer benefit to be gained from auctioning of slots in whatever form. ELFAA remains of the view that the existing Slot Regulation is perfectly adequate but requires more uniform enforcement across Europe and more active monitoring of that enforcement by the Commission."

Meanwhile the IACA (International Air Carrier Association) issued its own statement "Apart from the Commission's plan to legalise secondary slot trading, IACA is alarmed by further and unnecessary changes to the current slot system. These will have a severely detrimental effect on airlines, the flights they currently offer to passengers and the destinations they fly to. IACA airlines are market driven i.e. they fly to destinations at times of the year when passengers want to fly. As a result, this makes them efficient airlines – serving the travel markets with large and very full aircraft, at the required frequency".

Bombardier Aerospace sees rise in revenues for third quarter



Bombardier Aerospace saw its revenues rise 25 per cent to \$2.3 billion for the third quarter, compared to the \$1.8 billion reported for the same period last year. EBIT (earnings before interest and tax) amounted to \$129 million. During the three months it delivered 68 aircraft and

received 34 net orders. However the company pointed out that its commercial aircraft division “continues to be affected by the economic uncertainty in U.S and in Europe”.

ICAO could be looking for global agreement on emissions by end of next year



A spokesman for ICAO has been reported as saying that it hopes to have a global agreement on commercial aircraft emissions in place by the end of 2012. It is believed that among the measures being considered is a type of emissions trading programme. Possible trade conflicts over the EU’s own scheme are understood to have accelerated ICAO’s plans.

Kalitta adds B747-400ERF to fleet



Kalitta Air has it purchased a new B747-ERF “in order to continue and expand” its operations. The acquisition marks the first time in the company’s history that it has bought a new aircraft. The Michigan based cargo carrier was formed in 2000 and currently operates a fleet of seven B747-400Fs and 15 B747-200Fs.

Change of name for ATA



The Air Transport Association has changed its name to Airlines for America. According to its announcement, the new name represents the association’s membership and mission “as it advocates for the American airline industry and its passengers”.

Piece of Aviation History for December 5



1921 - Western Australia Airways opens the first scheduled regular airline service in the country from Geraldton using three Bristol Tourers. Unfortunately one crashed 130 km north of the town resulting in flight operations being suspended until the following February. In 1936 West Australian Airways was purchased by Adelaide Airways and in July that year became part of Australian National Airways.

Quote of the Day

What's money? A man is a success if he gets up in the morning and goes to bed at night and in between does what he wants to do. Bob Dylan

A Bit of Light Relief

What should you do if you find three tax inspectors buried up to their neck in cement? Go and find some more cement!