

Media Information

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CATHAY PACIFIC RELEASES SEPTEMBER 2005 TRAFFIC FIGURES

Cathay Pacific Airways today released improved passenger and cargo traffic figures for September 2005. Although the latest Bali bomb attacks had minimal impact on passenger numbers rising fuel prices may be contributing to weaker advance bookings.

The airline carried 1,245,828 passengers in September, a 13.8 percent increase year-on-year, just ahead of a corresponding 12.7 percent increase in passenger capacity, measured in terms of Available Passenger Kilometres, or ASKs. The passenger load factor increased to 76.4 percent, up 1.2 percentage points from the same month last year, helped by the Chinese Mainland's Golden Week holiday.

Cathay Pacific carried 100,292 tonnes of cargo, up 19.8 percent from September last year, a figure that includes significant transshipment tonnage growth. Increased competition on key trunk routes to the US and Europe added to downward pressure on yield. The cargo load factor dipped slightly to 68.7 percent.

Recent market jet fuel prices have topped US\$85 a barrel, up by more than one-third from the first half of this year.

Cathay Pacific General Manager Revenue Management, Sales & Distribution Ian Shiu said: "Passenger growth is keeping pace with increased capacity, yet increased uncertainty has been created by high fuel prices. Although there is no obvious trend in passenger numbers, increasingly late bookings have added to the sense of market volatility and weakened pricing."

Cathay Pacific Director & General Manager Cargo Ron Mathison said: "September's high tonnage growth, boosted by transshipment, masks the softening in demand for exports from China, including a slowdown in garment shipments. We have seen a significant increase in cargo capacity in the market in the last few months and remain highly concerned about the pressure on yields and loads, particularly in the context of high jet fuel prices."

Full September 2005 figures are on the following page.



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TRAFFIC	Sep 2005	% change vs Sep 04	Cumulative Sep 2005	Cumulative Sep 2004	% change
RPK (000)					
- North Asia	768,290	7.6%	6,936,737	6,087,051	14.0%
- South East Asia & Middle East	1,026,040	16.2%	9,558,277	8,559,549	11.7%
- Europe	1,302,964	15.6%	10,555,363	9,487,235	11.3%
- South West Pacific & South Africa	813,173	24.6%	7,940,182	6,261,128	26.8%
- North America	1,417,785	11.1%	13,130,648	11,548,183	13.7%
RPK Total (000)	5,328,252	14.5%	48,121,207	41,943,146	14.7%
Passengers carried	1,245,828	13.8%	11,437,074	10,035,738	14.0%
Cargo and mail tonne km (000)	580,991	12.5%	4,786,418	4,351,924	10.0%
Freight carried (000Kg)	100,292	19.8%	808,961	711,801	13.6%
Number of flights	2,810	12.1%	24,764	22,516	10.0%

CAPACITY	Sep 2005	% change vs Sep 04	Cumulative Sep 2005	Cumulative Sep 2004	% change
ASK (000)					
- North Asia	1,084,459	5.1%	9,708,792	9,236,254	5.1%
- South East Asia & Middle East	1,437,860	13.7%	12,814,300	11,620,519	10.3%
- Europe	1,403,885	10.9%	11,902,409	11,381,347	4.6%
- South West Pacific & South Africa	1,153,560	17.1%	10,861,578	8,855,381	22.7%
- North America	1,891,034	15.4%	15,591,943	13,285,698	17.4%
ASK Total (000)	6,970,798	12.7%	60,879,022	54,379,199	12.0%
Passenger load factor	76.4%	1.2pt	79.0%	77.1%	1.9pt
Available cargo/mail tonne km (000)	845,482	13.9%	7,224,398	6,360,542	13.6%
Cargo and mail load factor	68.7%	-0.9pt	66.3%	68.4%	-2.1pt
ATK (000)	1,508,481	13.4%	13,015,114	11,533,754	12.8%

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The Cathay Pacific Website can be found at www.cathaypacific.com

* Cathay Pacific was voted 'Airline of the Year 2005' in the world's largest passenger poll conducted by UK-based Skytrax Research.

