

Air Canada reports record November load factor

Mainline domestic traffic grows over previous year

MONTREAL, Dec. 3 /CNW Telbec/ - Air Canada and Jazz reported today a record consolidated load factor of 77.6 per cent for the month of November, according to preliminary traffic figures.

The result was an increase of 1.9 percentage points over its 75.7 per cent load factor in November 2007. System traffic decreased 5.2 per cent on a capacity reduction of 7.5 per cent system wide.

Air Canada mainline reported a load factor of 78.5 per cent compared to 76.1 per cent in November 2007; an increase of 2.4 percentage points. The mainline carrier flew 4.4 per cent fewer revenue passenger miles (RPMs) in November 2008 than in November 2007 on a capacity decrease of 7.3 per cent. Domestically, traffic grew 2.8 per cent on a 2.2 per cent increase in capacity.

Jazz, from which Air Canada purchases regional capacity, reported a load factor of 69.6 per cent, a decrease of 2.6 percentage points from 72.2 per cent in November 2007. Capacity decreased by 9.4 per cent from November 2007 and the carrier flew 12.7 per cent fewer RPMs than in the previous November.

"Air Canada reported a record 77.6 per cent consolidated load factor for November, one of the highest in the North American industry. Our strong performance reflects a more robust Canadian market relative to that of the U.S.," said Montie Brewer, President and Chief Executive Officer. "These traffic results show that we are managing capacity effectively and utilizing our assets efficiently. This ongoing strategy along with the decline in fuel prices positions us well to manage through these challenging economic times. Our performance is also a tribute to our employees' hard work and I thank them for their commitment to customer service, exemplified by the fact November was the eighth consecutive month in which we exceeded our monthly On-Time Performance target."

CAUTION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This disclosure may include forward-looking statements within the meaning of applicable securities laws. Forward-looking statements are based on assumptions, are subject to important risks and uncertainties and cannot be relied upon due to, amongst other things, changing external factors and general uncertainties of the business. Results indicated in forward-looking statements may differ materially from actual results due to a number of factors, including without limitation, energy prices, general industry, market, credit and economic conditions, currency exchange and interest rates, competition, war, terrorist acts, epidemic diseases, insurance issues and costs, changes in demand due to the seasonal nature of the business, the ability to reduce operating costs, employee and labour relations, pension issues, supply issues, changes in laws, regulatory developments or proceedings, pending and future litigation and actions by third parties, as well as the factors (including assumptions) identified in Air Canada's public disclosure file and accessible through SEDAR at www.sedar.com. Any forward-looking statements contained in this disclosure represent Air Canada's expectations as of the date of this disclosure and are subject to change after such date. Air Canada disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required under applicable securities regulations.

AIR CANADA MAINLINE (Includes Jetz & Tier 3)

	NOVEMBER			YEAR-TO-DATE		
	2008	2007	Change	2008	2007	Change
Traffic (RPMs millions)	2,929	3,065	-4.4%	42,984	42,705	+0.7%
Capacity (ASMs millions)	3,732	4,027	-7.3%	52,266	52,460	-0.4%
Load Factor	78.5%	76.1%	+2.4 pts	82.2%	81.4%	+0.8 pts
RPMs	912	887	+2.8%	12,242	12,081	+1.3%
Canada ASMs	1,146	1,121	+2.2%	15,084	14,822	+1.8%
Load Factor	79.6%	79.1%	+0.5 pts	81.2%	81.5%	-0.3 pts
RPMs	458	552	-17.0%	6,277	6,913	-9.2%
U.S. Trans-border ASMs	590	735	-19.7%	7,929	8,780	-9.7%

COMBINED (AIR CANADA MAINLINE AND JAZZ)						
	NOVEMBER			YEAR-TO-DATE		
	2008	2007	Change	2008	2007	Change
Traffic (RPMs millions)	3,217	3,395	-5.2%	46,783	46,637	+0.3%
Capacity (ASMs millions)	4,146	4,484	-7.5%	57,498	57,747	-0.4%
Load Factor	77.6%	75.7%	+1.9 pts	81.4%	80.8%	+0.6 pts
RPMs	1,110	1,136	-2.3%	14,994	15,035	-0.3%
Canada ASMs	1,416	1,455	-2.7%	18,699	18,672	+0.1%
Load Factor	78.4%	78.1%	+0.3 pts	80.2%	80.5%	-0.3 pts
RPMs	548	633	-13.4%	7,324	7,891	-7.2%
U.S. Trans-border ASMs	734	858	-14.5%	9,546	10,217	-6.6%
Load Factor	74.7%	73.8%	+0.9 pts	76.7%	77.2%	-0.5 pts

	RPMs	1,559	1,626	-4.1%	24,465	23,711	+3.2%

Interna-							
tional	ASMs	1,996	2,171	-8.1%	29,253	28,858	+1.4%

	Load						
	Factor	78.1%	74.9%	+3.2 pts	83.6%	82.2%	+1.4 pts
-----%SEDAR: 00001324EF							

For further information:

For further information: Isabelle Arthur (Montréal), (514) 422-5788;
 Peter Fitzpatrick (Toronto), (416) 263-5576; Angela Mah (Vancouver), (604) 270-5741; Internet: aircanada.com

