

Air Canada reports record September load factor

MONTREAL, Oct. 3 /CNW Telbec/ - For the month of September, Air Canada today reported a load factor of 79.9 per cent on a consolidated basis with Jazz, a record for the month, versus 78.7 per cent in September 2007, an increase of 1.2 percentage points. System traffic decreased 5.0 per cent on a capacity decrease of 6.4 per cent system wide.

Air Canada mainline reported a load factor of 80.9 per cent, a record for the month, compared to 79.1 per cent in September 2007; an increase of 1.8 percentage points. The mainline carrier flew 4.8 per cent fewer revenue passenger miles (RPMs) in September 2008 than in September 2007 on a capacity decrease of 6.9 per cent, according to preliminary traffic figures.

Jazz, from which Air Canada purchases regional capacity, flew 7.3 per cent fewer RPMs in September 2008 than in September 2007, according to preliminary traffic figures. Capacity decreased by 1.6 per cent, resulting in a load factor of 69.2 per cent, compared to 73.5 per cent in September 2007; a decrease of 4.3 percentage points.

"Air Canada mainline posted a record load factor of 80.9 per cent for the month of September," said Montie Brewer, President and Chief Executive Officer. "We're pleased that through on-going prudent capacity management we are able to maintain our strong performance, even in a softening North American market. I am particularly proud of our employees who, for the sixth consecutive month, have exceeded On-Time Performance objectives through some of the busiest travel periods of the year."

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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 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)

	SEPTEMBER			YEAR-TO-DATE		
	2008	2007	Change	2008	2007	Change
Traffic (RPMs millions)	3,928	4,125	-4.8%	36,506	35,943	+1.6%
Capacity (ASMs millions)	4,854	5,212	-6.9%	44,162	43,759	+0.9%
Load Factor	80.9%	79.1%	+1.8 pts	82.7%	82.1%	+0.6 pts
RPMs	1,107	1,153	-4.0%	10,293	10,124	+1.7%
Canada ASMs	1,417	1,472	-3.7%	12,662	12,365	+2.4%
Load Factor	78.1%	78.3%	-0.2 pts	81.3%	81.9%	-0.6 pts
RPMs	455	568	-19.9%	5,351	5,782	-7.5%
U.S. Trans- border ASMs	604	763	-20.8%	6,754	7,299	-7.5%
Load Factor	75.3%	74.4%	+0.9 pts	79.2%	79.2%	0.0 pts
RPMs	1,268	1,302	-2.6%	9,901	9,850	+0.5%
Atlantic ASMs	1,417	1,575	-10.0%	11,533	11,665	-1.1%

	Load Factor	89.5%	82.7%	+6.8 pts	85.8%	84.4%	+1.4 pts
	RPMs	771	797	-3.3%	6,751	6,727	+0.4%
Pacific	ASMs	982	1,012	-3.0%	8,031	8,057	-0.3%
	Load Factor	78.5%	78.8%	-0.3 pts	84.1%	83.5%	+0.6 pts
	RPMs	327	305	+7.2%	4,210	3,460	+21.7%
Latin America & Other	ASMs	434	390	+11.3%	5,182	4,373	+18.5%
	Load Factor	75.3%	78.2%	-2.9 pts	81.2%	79.1%	+2.1 pts

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