

# 100 Years of Commercial Aviation

KOSTAS IATROU



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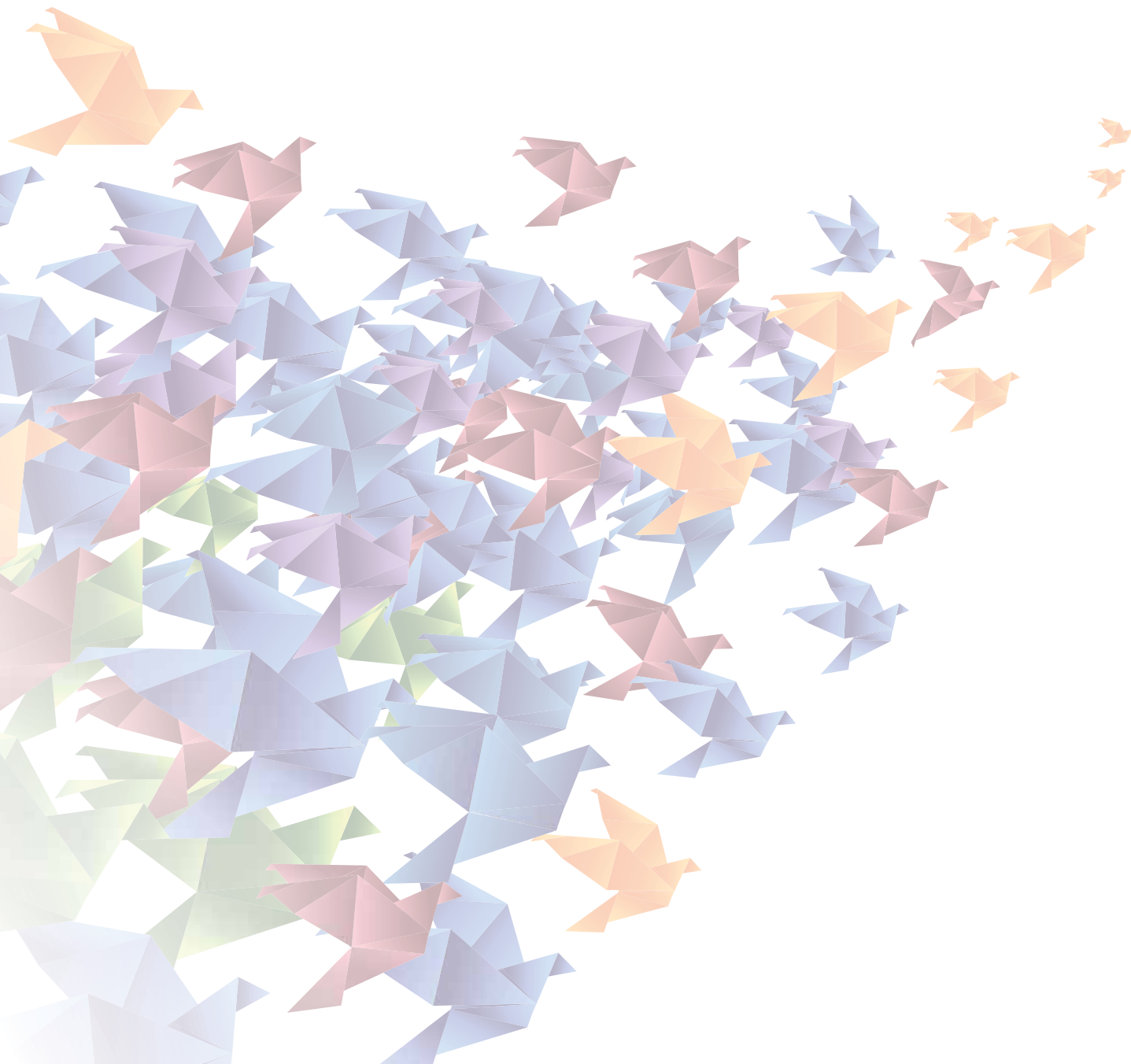
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**Dedicated to my wife Evgenia and my sons George and Yianni**



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# 100 Years of Commercial Aviation

## preface

This year we celebrate 100 years of commercial aviation, and at the same time 70 years since the signing of the Chicago Convention. The dream of flying goes back to the ancient world, from the mythological flights of Icarus and Daedalus, even though the first heavier-than-air flight did not occur until 1903.

Over the last 111 years, and especially since the dawn of commercial aviation in 1914, humankind has managed to make huge steps in aviation. From what was originally an expensive, for-adventurers pursuit, flying has now become accessible to an ordinary person. Without aviation, the world would be a completely different place. The air transport industry has become a key component in the globalization of the world, with airlines regularly traveling across national borders transporting people and cargo.

This book provides a timeline of key moments in commercial air transport history. I have made my best effort to include as many key moments in aviation history as possible, and to provide the most accurate dates for the events that influenced the evolution of the air transport industry. The book gives an understanding of the path air transport has followed to become a major contributor to modern society by bringing together people from around the world, allowing for the exploration of the wonders of our planet, and by playing an important humanitarian role, for example through opportunities for family reunification. The air transport industry remains a fascinating sector. Its future will undoubtedly will bring new adventures – flights in orbit – and wondrous new technologies – flying with solar energy.

I would like to thank first and foremost my family, Aikaterini, Evgenia, George, Yianni, Toula and Giannis for their support over the five months I have spent researching and writing this volume. I also appreciate the support of the Hermes Air Transport Club founding members for accepting my invitation to launch Hermes. In addition, I would like to thank Raymond Benjamin, Angela Gittens, Jeff Poole, Tony Tyler and their organizations for partnering with Hermes on this book, SITA for its sponsorship, and the Board of Hermes for its advice and consent.

Without the support of Anthony Philbin, Ryan White, Martine Ohayon, Quentin Browell and Tony Concil, who provided me with valuable information and comments, writing this book would have been impossible. Finally, I appreciate the efforts of Professor Martin Dresner, President, ATRS and Hermes Board Member, for his excellent job editing the contents of the book.

**Dr Kostas Iatrou**  
Administrator of Hermes Air Transport Club





## Foreword



It behoves the critical importance of International Civil Aviation that while World War II was still underway in Europe and Asia 52 States met, formulated and on 7 December 1944 signed the Convention on International Civil Aviation better known as the Chicago Convention. As we celebrate the 100 years of commercial aviation and the 70 years of the International Civil Aviation Organization let us remember that a country's or region's competitiveness is directly related to its connectivity. Globally Travel & Tourism represents US\$7 trillion, 266 million jobs and US\$1.3 trillion in exports. 35% of international trade by value is transported by air.

The multiplier effect of air transport is amazing as ICAO estimated that every US\$ 100 of revenue produced by air transport triggers an additional US\$ 325 and that every 100 jobs generated by air transport triggers over 600 additional jobs in other industries. A more dramatic case for aviation was made in 2010 when Iceland's volcanic ash led to the closure of 300 European airports for 5 days, over 100,000 cancelled flights, more than 10 million stranded passengers and \$5 billion in lost GDP worldwide.

However, even if air transport is the strongest link in the job creation and economic development chain it remains the weakest and most exposed link in the travel and tourism value chain. We simply cannot promote connectivity if we ignore profitability and we cannot promote profitability if we ignore all that undermine it. In these exceptionally difficult financial times Governments should not clip the wings of a sector that makes economies take off. Inefficient national and regional air space management, misguided national or regional regulation of the commercial and operational aspects of international civil aviation and unreasonable taxes, fees and charges undermine both connectivity and profitability.

It is therefore simply senseless and counter-productive for anyone trying to stimulate socio-economic growth and jobs to fail to effectively promote connectivity. Travel and Tourism will only flow smoothly in a country and in a region only if and when all the stakeholders develop the necessary synergy and work in harmony in the pursuit of a shared vision.

To achieve this alignment requires a worldwide culture of communication and cooperation because as States, ICAO and UNWTO, as air navigation service providers and CANSO, as airlines and IATA, as airports and ACI, as cargo operators and TIACA, as travel and tourism professionals and WTTC, as consumers, as employees, as aircraft and engine manufacturers and as ground handlers we need each other and we depend on each other. We are and we will remain a community of linked interests and we will make a formidable difference if and only if we can work together to harness the formidable power of travel and tourism to bring about socio-economic growth, jobs, understanding and happiness worldwide. And we must all work together because we need each other and we depend on each other.

**Vijay Poonoosamy**  
President  
Hermes Air Transport Club

# Foreword



The pilot of the first commercial flight to take to the air on 1 January 1914 for the St. Petersburg-Tampa Airboat Line, in Florida, could not have imagined that his exploit would be celebrated 100 years later as a historic event that would forever alter the way human beings live and relate to each other across a shrinking planet.

How could he even think that aviation would one day become a formidable driver of economic, social, cultural and political development, way beyond his town or State? After all, the horizon from his cockpit extended barely a few miles.

Could he travel in time, he would be proud to witness how air transport today contributes to the well being of hundreds of millions of people on every continent; how it is directly responsible for the creation of millions of jobs; and how it supports the world's largest industry, travel and tourism. Indeed, with the democratization of air travel, holidays or visits to family and friends have become and remain affordable and easily accessible. Businesses can flourish and cargo flights readily bring high-value goods to homes everywhere, while young people still dream of fulfilling their dreams with a career in aviation.

Perhaps it would be the power of modern air travel to foster friendship and understanding among the peoples of the world that would impress him the most. Or the fact that, in spite of thousands of aircraft criss-crossing the skies above our heads, air travel is amazingly safe and efficient.

Of course, such a remarkable achievement could not have been possible without the regulatory framework established by ICAO from the day it was created 70 years ago, on 7 December 1944. Through the development of technical and operational standards, policies covering economic and legal matters, as well as on-going guidance and support to its Member States, ICAO paved the way for the sustained growth of air travel and kept the aviation community cooperatively focused on the issues that matter the most.

Just as critical to the dramatic growth of civil aviation was the commitment of airlines, airports, air navigation service providers, manufacturers and all other stakeholders to work together in ensuring the integrity of the air transport system. Cooperation with and among IATA, ACI, CANSO, IFALPA and others will continue to inspire public confidence in air travel as we look forward to the many challenges ahead.

On 1 January 2014, the second century of commercial flight held the promise of being as exciting as the first. New technologies will soon enable us to see our blue planet as never before aboard sub-orbital flights, while the liberalization of the industry will open up new markets and allow even more people to fly to more destinations than ever before.

And ICAO will remain the global forum for the aviation world to proactively ensure the safety, the security, and the regularity of air travel, respectful of the environment we all depend on. Aviation has progressed as it has on the basis of determined cooperation, and it will certainly deliver humanity even greater connectivity and prosperity in the years ahead if we continue to confront its challenges together.

**Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu**  
President  
ICAO Council



## Foreword



Despite being a pioneer in the world of air transport, I doubt very much that Tony Jannus could have foreseen just how far afield the consequences of his 1 January 1914 flight—the first commercial flight ever from St. Petersburg to Tampa—would propagate over the 100 years that followed. Since that time, a complex industry has sprung up that contributed US\$2.4 trillion to the global economy in 2012, according to figures from the Air Transport Action Group (ATAG).

Airports Council International (ACI) is proud to represent the world's airports—vital components of the global aviation industry, engines for local economies and drivers of global economic growth. In parallel with the changes that the aviation industry at large has undergone in the last century, airports have evolved from being simple infrastructure providers to complex businesses in their own right. Worldwide some 470,000 people work directly for airport operators, and when on-site workers at airlines, ground handlers, retail outlets, restaurants, hotels, government agencies and other employers are included, this number balloons to 4.6 million.

Over and above the statistics, though, let us not forget that aviation produces other more intangible benefits, the effects of which are nigh on impossible to measure. As connectors of people, places and businesses, airports were fortunate to play an important role in the lives of over 6 billion travelers in 2013. From working in the airport industry for most of my life, I can tell you that airports are far more than concrete and metal; they are distinctly human spaces where on any given day people meet, fall in love, bid farewell, dream, create and become inspired. Apart from our dollars-and-cents contribution to the world, we are enablers of the human condition, purveyors of a vast depth and breadth of emotion and experience that cannot be quantified.

It is fitting that this publication, conceived as a celebration of the good work that the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has done since its inception 70 years ago, has been developed through the cooperation of ACI, the Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO), the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and Société Internationale de Télécommunications Aéronautiques (SITA) under the guidance of Hermes Air Transport Club. Certainly, without a clear commitment to collaboration on the part of all stakeholders it is doubtful that aviation would have reached the mass market levels it has today.

However, much work remains to be done, and as much as this publication is an homage to how far we've come collectively, it is also a call to action for all of us who have a stake in the future of the global aviation industry. We are the safest mode of transport in the world, but we can be safer. We are the first industry to set out ambitious global goals for reducing the climate impact of our operations, but we can be greener. We are profitable, but we can work more closely with regulators to develop policies that will help increase our contribution to the global economy. We are blessed with gifted leaders throughout our industry, but we must work harder to deepen our talent pool by attracting the next generation of young professionals to an industry rife with opportunities for personal and professional growth.

For its part, ACI is working closely with stakeholders on the priorities of safety and security, environmental and economic sustainability, customer service, succession planning, training and much more to ensure that the next 100 years are as exciting and productive as the first. Whether you've worked in the industry for years or are picking up this book to learn more about a new field, *100 Years of Commercial Aviation* will be of interest and value. In addition to discovering where we've been, it might just inspire you to help define where we're going.

**Angela Gittens**  
Director General  
ACI World

# Foreword



When people think of aviation, they tend to think of aircraft and airports because they are visible. Air traffic management (ATM) is the invisible part of aviation, but ATM has played an essential role in ensuring safe and efficient airspace since the earliest days. There was no need for air traffic control on that first commercial flight in 1914 when Tony Jannus flew across Tampa Bay in Florida. But before long, it was clear that there was a need for air traffic control services.

The first essential service was communicating with the aircraft once it was airborne about the weather and operating conditions at arrival airports. Short messages could be relayed to and from the ground through radio and Morse code. The development of high frequency radio and then very high frequency radio, or VHF, meant that it was possible to keep constant contact between the air and the ground. VHF radio continues to be the basis of most communications used today.

The second service is navigation. Early pilots used road maps to plot their course. As the aircraft started to fly longer distances, the name of the town would be painted on the roofs of large buildings, such as barns and airport terminals, and large arrows were installed in the ground, lit at night by towers with fires. Radio beacons replaced these, allowing navigation, and thus operations at night.

The third service is surveillance, or monitoring the exact location of the aircraft, and importantly the exact location of the aircraft relative to each other. It is only by knowing that, and by being able to communicate with the aircraft, that safety can be assured.

The breakthrough in this area was the invention of radar before World War II. With radar, controllers were able to see aircraft accurately, and with VHF radio, talk to the aircraft. Thus, the tools necessary for controlling aircraft were in place. In 1950, the rules of separation were created. With these tools controllers can maintain significantly more aircraft in an area than would otherwise be safe, and manage their movements into and out of airports, as well as across the skies. The same principles apply today but modern technologies have changed, and continue to change, the face of ATM. Exchange of data is replacing much of the need for voice communications; automatic dependent surveillance - broadcast (ADS-B), which uses satellites to more accurately track aircraft positions, is replacing radar as the means for monitoring aircraft and ensuring their safe separation; and performance-based navigation allows aircraft to fly precisely defined paths without relying on ground-based radio navigation systems.

Coordination between the various players in the aviation system has made a big difference. "Collaborative decision making" demonstrates the value of shared information and cooperative planning. "Air traffic flow management" uses up-to-date flight information to anticipate future traffic demand versus capacity and control the flows of traffic. Together they are revolutionising ATM and leading to reduced delays; increased predictability and better use of capacity. The next 100 years will see huge changes that we cannot possibly begin to imagine. In the near future, ATM faces the challenges of growing traffic; the incorporation of remotely piloted aircraft systems into airspace; increasing automation; as well as the opportunities offered by cutting edge technology.

CANSO's vision is to transform global ATM performance to enable aircraft to fly in seamless airspace globally across invisible borders. Our goal is a globally harmonised and interoperable air navigation system capable of delivering a safe, efficient and seamless service. Our strategic framework, Vision 2020, sets out the steps required to achieve this vision through 126 deliverables in the related Work Plan. But we cannot do it alone, and in the same way that the early aviation pioneers cooperated to make commercial aviation such a success, CANSO is working with industry partners including airlines, airports and States, to ensure a safe, efficient and harmonised air traffic management system, fit for the future.

**Jeff Poole**  
Director General  
Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation



## Foreword



Scheduled commercial aviation began with a 23-minute journey across Tampa Bay, Florida on 1 January 1914. Since then, it has changed our world immeasurably for the better. As we celebrate our industry's first 100 years we can be proud of our achievements. Flying is a team effort that started with the partnership of four visionaries. Percival Fansler was the entrepreneur who saw commercial opportunity in the technology of flight. Thomas Benoist built the aircraft. Tony Jannus safely piloted the plane across Tampa Bay. And Abram Pheil became the hero of the day by purchasing the first ticket. The airline industry quickly grew from a single aircraft, one route and a lone passenger. In our 100th year we expect to connect 3.3 billion passengers and 52 million tonnes of cargo over a network of 50,000 routes with 100,000 flights a day.

Today, aviation is the life blood of the global economy. The industry supports over 58 million jobs and \$2.4 trillion in annual economic activity. It creates jobs for Kenyan farmers who sell fresh flowers in world markets. It facilitates global supply chains so that workers in many nations can collaborate to build computers, cars and even airplanes. Aviation delivers many of the real world goods that are traded in the virtual shops of internet commerce. As a catalyst for economic and social development, aviation and the businesses that we support have spread prosperity and lifted countless people from poverty. The intangibles create even greater value. Flying brings people together—families, friends and business colleagues. It helps minds to meet and exchange ideas. It gives people the freedom to be almost anywhere in just 24 hours. And it has turned our wonderfully big planet into a wonderfully small world of enormous and wonderful opportunities.

As we stand at the dawn of commercial aviation's second century, what will define our future success?

At least part of the answer can be found in the Chicago Convention. It set forth the framework for post-war aviation and established IATA's most important partner—the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). The words of its preamble ring as true today as they did in 1944: "The future development of international civil aviation can greatly help to create and preserve friendship and understanding among the nations and peoples of the world." Recognizing that, governments agreed a global approach to aviation that has fostered the development of an industry that became ever more reliable as it grew. Today we fly as many people in a day as took to the air in all of 1944. And flying is the safest form of transport known to humankind. As with the first flight, partnerships remain at the core of aviation. On safety, for example, ICAO's Universal Safety Oversight Audit Program works with states to ensure compliance with global standards. And the IATA Operational Safety Audit complements that by working with individual airlines to meet global best practices and standards. And there is a sense of common purpose on safety that carries through to the Airports Council International and Civil Air Navigation Services Organization.

As we embark upon commercial aviation's second century, we carry an important responsibility. Aviation is critically important to humanity. And we must continue to make flying safer, more secure, increasingly efficient, and sustainable. Strong partnerships and global standards remain the key to successfully meeting our many challenges. We should never lose sight of the fact that we are privileged to be associated with a truly great industry. That was clear to some even on commercial aviation's first day. "What was impossible yesterday is an accomplishment today, while tomorrow heralds the unbelievable." These prophetic words were uttered by Percival Fansler, the visionary entrepreneur who launched our industry. A century later, aviation is powering economies and lifting the human spirit. We have broken the bounds of speed and distance with ubiquitous global mobility. This very day some nine million people will travel to somewhere that they want to be by air. Aviation's greatest contribution is the freedom it gives people to follow their dreams and change their lives. Thanks to the Hermes Club for their work in putting together this important centennial commemoration volume. I trust that it will be an inspiration for all who read it.

**Tony Tyler**

Director General and CEO

International Air Transport Association (IATA)



Hermes is a non-profit organisation whose aims are:

- ▶ To provide a forum for networking and exchange of ideas among its members;
- ▶ To contribute to the progress and promotion of the science of air transport;
- ▶ To promote and present to the wider public the work of aviation and its contribution to the economic, political and social development around the world;
- ▶ To cooperate with Higher Education Establishments and other organisations engaged in aviation;

Founding members of Hermes are personalities of all parts and stakeholders of the air transport sector. The members of the first Board of Directors are the following:

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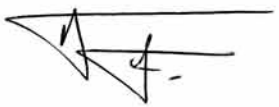
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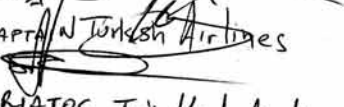
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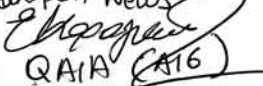
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The SITA logo is rendered in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. A thin blue diagonal line cuts across the logo from the top right to the bottom left. The logo is positioned on the left side of the page, with a blue geometric shape in the top left corner.

## SHAPING THE NEXT 100 YEARS OF AVIATION

Change is a fact of life for the air transport industry and technology has often been a driver of that change. At SITA, as we look back over the 100-year history of commercial aviation, we are reminded of the company's contribution to change during as many as 65 of those years. In that time, SITA has stayed at the forefront of the information and communication technologies that have helped to transform the way the industry works.

SITA's own history is testament to the company's inextricable link with commercial aviation's evolution. It began with the founding of SITA. In 1947, KLM's founder met with the Director General of Air France. They proposed creating an independent company to coordinate communications between airlines. For 35 years since the birth of commercial aviation, a rudimentary air passenger service had operated in pockets around the world. Yet in the aftermath of the 1939-1945 war, fledgling airlines were eager to provide faster, safer and more economical services. As the volume of traffic grew, communications problems multiplied.

### **OWNED BY THE INDUSTRY**

On 23 February 1949 the idea of shared communications became a reality when the representatives of 11 airlines met in a lawyer's office in Brussels to approve the Articles of Association creating SITA as a cooperative owned by airlines as both shareholders and users.

Being founded and owned by the industry, SITA's mandate was to deliver common benefits to the global air transport community. It would do this by pooling the industry's data communication needs, making technology and innovation available for the benefit of its entire community on a shared or common-use basis to reduce total cost of ownership. To this day, the commitment to meeting air transport requirements – as an IT and communications provider totally dedicated to the industry – has not changed. SITA remains driven by the needs of the air transport industry, which is well represented through its 450 or so owner members, steered by the company's Board and Council.

## **DRIVING CHANGE**

The pace of change through the years has been relentless, with technology often at the helm, and SITA often in the vanguard. Early game-changing communications milestones included a SITA-created nodal distributed network during the 1960s, some three years before the US Department of Defense's ARPA Network, which eventually led to the internet, began operating with four interconnected nodes. Then, in 1971, SITA became the first to use a common carrier packet switched network to handle data traffic in real time, a technological leap for the evolving aviation industry.

Over the years, network developments continued apace, paving the way towards another milestone that would forever change aviation communications – the Internet Protocol. In the early 2000s, SITA led the charge in the industry's adoption of IP communications, sweeping away legacy systems and enabling air transport organizations to maximize the cost-effectiveness and efficiencies of this new disruptive technology. By then, the network had become the largest in the world; the communications infrastructure backbone of the global industry, and SITA lay at its heart.

## **I.T. AND THE WIDER COMMUNITY**

As aviation grew and evolved, so did SITA. Over the years, the company's focus broadened to encompass information technology and applications, as well as an increasing customer base of airports, ground handlers, air navigation service providers, governments, industry bodies and other players in aviation's rapidly evolving eco-system. Once again, technology was to usher in change. SITA notched up many firsts, among them the introduction of CUTE (Common Use Terminal Equipment) in 1984, enabling airlines and airports to reduce costs while maximizing check-in facilities. This led to SITA being one of the first to provide Common Use Self Service kiosks (CUSS) and the first to have a true Common Use Passenger Processing (CUPPS) platform, the latest generation of shared use solutions.

In 1985, SITA launched VHF AIRCOM, the first step beyond ground network services into radio communications. The AIRCOM VHF network has since grown to provide coverage unequalled by any other line of sight radio network run by a single operator. In 1992, air-ground telephony was introduced through Satellite AIRCOM; in 1995, SITA's



Create success. Together

software partner company made e-commerce history with the launch the first website able to complete travel bookings and take payments in real time via the internet; and in 1996, the world's first electronic visa system went live in preparation for the Sydney Olympic Games, leading to SITA's position today as the world's foremost border management provider.

## **A HISTORY OF COLLABORATION**

Through all of this time, SITA has collaborated closely with industry bodies such as ACI, CANSO, IATA, and ICAO to help drive and create the essential standards and services required for the safe and efficient operation of the complex global aviation eco-system. That includes helping to realize the objectives of major industry programs like IATA's Simplifying the Business (StB) and Fast Travel, as well as the IATA/ACI Smart Security initiative. IATA's 2004 StB program, which helped spark the self-service revolution, massively changed air traveler behavior and expectations. SITA's self-service capabilities played a huge part in driving that evolution. Spanning nine stages of the journey – from booking and check-in to bag drop, boarding and border control – they continue to do so, including exciting new developments that are bringing yet more change that will shape aviation, in areas such as intelligent baggage and self bag drop capabilities, self-service automated border control, and more.

## **THE BRINK OF A NEW ERA**

Today's technology has changed beyond recognition, and global air transport has become a US\$ 600 billion-plus industry, moving more than 3.1 billion people a year. SITA's own transformation reflects that reality. SITA today is present at more than 1,000 airports and provides common-use services at almost 400. Some 14,500 aircraft use SITA's communication services; and 300-plus million passengers are handled by SITA's government business every year. Covering communications and infrastructure, airports, passenger, aircraft communications, government and border security, SITA now offers the largest portfolio of IT and communications services to the air transport industry. Investment in new businesses along the way bring further ground-breaking developments, such as in-flight connectivity through OnAir (initially in partnership with Airbus) and the world's largest cargo management system through subsidiary CHAMP Cargosystems.





Create success. Together

Tomorrow's technology will bring even more change to aviation. While it may seem our digital age promises a revolution every day, we are clearly on the brink of a new digital era, the impact of which may even be likened to the historical enormity of the PC or print press. That era will be driven by vast amounts of data, as air travel increasingly depends on data for up-to-the-second intelligence and analysis, and as the Internet of Things begins to connect everything that can benefit from a connection, on the ground and in the air. They will combine with the growing impact of technologies like mobile services, cloud computing, biometrics and wearable computing. Together, technologies like these will bring profound and lasting change to the hugely interdependent aviation eco-system, connecting its stakeholders and assets like never before, and revolutionizing practices in areas such as the passenger experience, airport and aircraft operations, aircraft e-enablement, air navigation, and a whole lot more.

Once again, SITA is in the vanguard, through ground-breaking work in all of these areas, including myriad strategic and collaborative industry initiatives by the organization's 'engine of innovation' the SITA Lab. Through these technologies and initiatives, SITA will continue to help shape the future of air travel. As the years have shown, the evolution of air transport and the evolution of SITA cannot be separated. We are traveling, and always will be, on one and the same path – taking the long term view and investing for the years ahead, wherever in the world the industry operates.

We are proud of our role in aviation history, and we are delighted to be part of this celebration of 100 years of commercial flight. We extend our congratulations to all industry partners involved.

**FRANCESCO VIOLANTE**  
CEO, SITA



1914-1923

The first steps

# 1914-1923

## The first steps

It is doubtful that the earliest aviators could have foreseen the incredible developments that have taken place in commercial aviation over its first hundred years. The industry has evolved from a few entrepreneurs flying primitive aircraft to the sophisticated network of manufacturers, air service providers, airlines, and financial firms that comprise today's industry. It is impossible to single out the most important industry innovations – there have been far too many – so I will confine myself to a discussion of three that I, personally, find important.

First, is the inauguration of commercial airmail service in 1918. In that year, the United States Army transferred responsibility for airmail to the U.S. Post Office, with the first regularly scheduled airmail service between College Park, Maryland and Chicago. The revenues from airmail service were vital to the growth of air transport in its formative years.

Second, is the introduction of jet aircraft which greatly facilitated long-distance routes. Jets were initially manufactured for military purposes in Germany, but the technology was soon transferred to the commercial sector. BOAC operated the first jet route between London and Johannesburg using de Havilland Comets in 1952. Six years later, the Boeing 707 began transatlantic services, ushering in the modern commercial jet age.

The third key innovation was the “invention” of air freight express service by the Federal Express Corporation, now FedEx, in 1971. A visionary, Fred Smith, realized the value in time-definite package delivery. Companies would pay a premium to have packages arrive at the office just one morning after they were sent. Moreover, a hub-and-spoke system could efficiently connect most of the United States on an overnight basis and, indeed, most of the world in two days.

With these events in mind, and so many others that you will read about in this book, let's celebrate the first hundred years of aviation and plan for the next century as well. Who knows what it will bring?

**Professor Martin Dresner**

*President, ATRS*

*and Board Member, Hermes Air Transport Club*



Source: State Archives of Florida [1]

- ▶ On the morning of 1 January 1914, the first scheduled commercial airline flight took to the air. Taking off from St Petersburg, Florida, and flying to Tampa, the Benoist flying boat was piloted by Tony Jannus, with former mayor of St Petersburg, Abram C Pheil, as his passenger. This marked the dawn of regular passenger air travel (100 Years of Commercial Flight) [1]
- ▶ Lawrence Sperry demonstrates a gyrostabiliser at a French air show (Grant, 2002)

### Early

/ The Do Department is formed as part of "Luftschiffbau Zeppelin" (Dornier, 1983)

### February

11 February

/ The second Sikorsky Ilya Muromets prototype (factory airframe 128) takes off for its first demonstration flight with 16 passengers aboard, marking a record for number of passengers carried (Wikipedia)

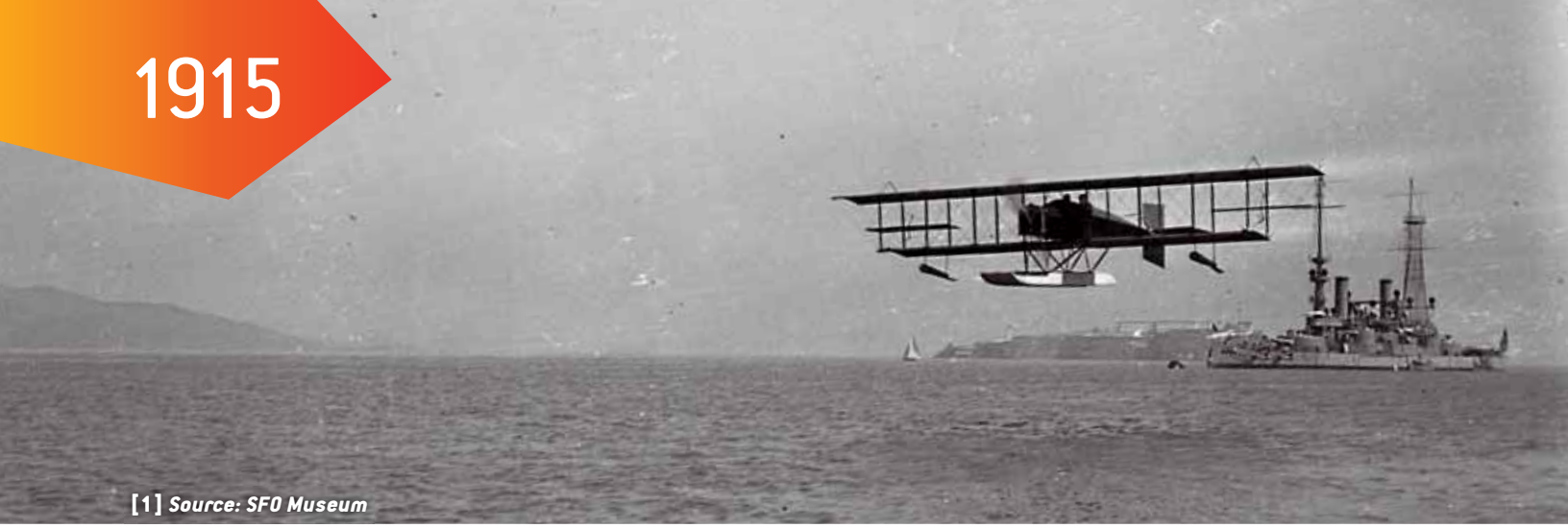
### June-July

30 June to 12 July

/ Sikorsky Ilya Muromets sets a world record by making a trip from Saint Petersburg to Kiev, a distance of some 1,200 km, and back. The first leg takes 14 hours and 38 minutes, with one landing for fuel at Orsha, and the return trip, with a fuel stop at Novosokolniki, takes even less time, about 13 hours (Wikipedia)



# 1915



[1] Source: SFO Museum

## February

**20 February** / At the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, San Franciscan Allan Loughhead obtains authorization to launch flight service with a Model G hydro-aeroplane. He transported 600 paid passengers in 50 days over the bay

for 10 USD. The crossing lasted 10 minutes  
*(Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991)* [1]

## December

**17 December** / Handley Page Type O first flight *(Royal Air Force Museum)*

# 1916

- *Sperry Instruments Corporation introduces advanced aircraft instruments, including compass, air speed indicator, altimeter, bank indicator, angle of attack and stall warning (Lockheed Martin)*
- *The Loughhead brothers establish the Loughhead Aircraft Manufacturing Company*
- *AD Flying Boat/Supermarine Channel first flight (Wikipedia)*

➤ *"Giovan Battista Pastine" Ciampino airport is inaugurated on the Via Appia. The airport was designed for airships and used as a military airport until 1947 (ACI)*

## March

/ The First Conference of Pan-American Aeronautics, held in Santiago, Chile, recommended to the American Republics that consideration be given to the necessity to unify their aerial legislation so as to formulate an international air code *(ICAO)*

## July

**15 July** / William Boeing incorporates Pacific Aero Products Co. for \$100,000. Boeing buys 998 of the 1,000 stocks issued and moves the operation to the shipyard he bought in 1910

## May

/ Armstrong Whitworth F.K.8 first flight *(Jane's, 1993)*

## June

**15 June** / William Boeing takes Bluebill, the first B & W, on its maiden flight. Pilot Herb Munter takes Mallard, the second B & W, on its first flight in November. Both are sold to New Zealand in 1918 [1]



Source: Boeing

**August** / Airco DH.4 first flight (*de Havilland Aviation*)

**September**

**2 September** / Airplanes in flight communicate with each other directly by radio for the first time (*AIAA*)

**20 September** / Supermarine Aviation Works Ltd is founded (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

**October**

**5 October** / Despite the prohibition of civil aviation activities until the end of the war George Holt Thomas founds the first British airline, Aircraft and Transport and Travel Ltd. (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

**November**

**21 November** / Breguet 14 first flight (*Association Breguet XIV*)

# 1917

- **First flight of:**
  - *AEG J.I* (*Wikipedia*)
  - *Friedrichshafen G.III* (*Wikipedia*)
  - *LVG C.V* (*Wikipedia*)
  - *LVG C.VI* (*Wikipedia*)

**May**

**9 May** / William Boeing changes the name of Pacific Aero Products to the Boeing Airplane Co.

**June** / Thomas-Morse S-4 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**4 June** / The Boeing Airplane Co. hires Clairmont (Claire) L. Egtvedt and Philip G. Johnson, recent engineering graduates of the University of Washing-

ton. Both will become company presidents

**14 June** / Nieuport 28 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**September** / Friedrichshafen FF.49 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**December**  
**17 December** / Deutsche Luft-Reederei (DLR) is established (*Heimann, 1988*)

# 1918

- **First flight of:**
  - *Farman F.50* (*Wikipedia*)
  - *Felixstowe F5L* (*Wikipedia*)
- **"Reichsamt des Inneren"** (*German National Office of the Interior*) is provisionally charged to settle matters in aviation (*LBA*)
- **Det Norske Luftfartsrederi or DNL, Norway's first scheduled airline, is founded** (*SAS*)

**January** / Blackburn R.T.1 Kangaroo (*Jane's, 1993*)

**March**  
**4 March** / Airco DH.10 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**27 March** / Hansa-Brandenburg W.29 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**28 March** / Loughhead F-1 "Flying-boat One" first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**April**  
**1 April** / Austria establishes the world's first regular international air connection when it opens its

- June** / The first scheduled Canadian airmail flight is made, between Montreal and Toronto (*Wikipedia*)
- July** / The line from Vienna to Budapest is open (*Austrian*)
- August**  
**18 August** / U.S. Army transfers responsibility for airmail delivery to the Post Office Department, which launches the first regular airmail service between College Park, Md. and Chicago (*United Airlines*)
- October**  
**29 October** / Det Danske Luftfartselskab A/S (DDL), SAS's Danish parent company, is founded (*SAS*)

## November

- 1 November** / Creation of the Société des Lignes Aériennes Latécoère. M. Beppo de Massimi is the Managing Director (*Air France*) [1]

## December

- 25 December** / Société des Lignes Aériennes Latécoère begins serving its first airmail route between Toulouse and Barcelona (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)



Source: Air France

- **First flight of:**

  - *Airco DH.16* (*Wikipedia*)
  - *Ansaldo A.300* (*Jane's, 1993*)
  - *Curtiss Oriole* (*Wikipedia*)
  - *Nieuport-Delage NiD 30* (*Wikipedia*)
  - *Sablattnig P.III* (*Wikipedia*)
  - *Zeppelin-Staaken E-4/20* (*Wikipedia*)
- **Chalk's Flying Service begins operations**
- **Paris Le Bourget starts commercial operations** (*ACI*) [1]
- **Ernesto Cortissoz International Airport in Barranquilla is the first airport in South America. The first commercial airline arrives in the Americas that year, SCADTA** (*ACI*)
- **Launch of l'Aéronavale and Messageries Transaériennes** (*Air France*)

- January** / First flight of Farman F.60 Goliath and of Bristol Tourer (*Wikipedia*)
- / Creation of Aerial Services Ltd in Australia (*Trove*)
- 8 January** / Civil aviation resumes in Germany (*Wikipedia*)
- 31 January** / The UK Air Ministry issue its first aviation meteorological report - the forecast for 1 February (*British Airways*)

## February

- 5 February** / In Germany inaugurates the world's first sustained scheduled daily passenger service between Berlin and Weimar by the Deutsche Luft-Reederei (DLR), using AEG and DFW biplanes (*Wikipedia*) [2]
- 7 February** / Svensk Lufttrafik is founded (*Wikipedia*)
- 8 February** / Henry Farman carries eleven paying passengers in a Farman F.60 from Paris to London





[1] Courtesy "Airports in the first 100 years of flight" (2003)



[2] Courtesy LH-Bildarchiv Lufthansa D 50-14-15



[3]

on the world's first international commercial flight, initially known as the Lignes Aériennes Farman (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**12 February** / The UK Department of Civil Aviation is formed at the Air Ministry. Winston Churchill MP is appointed Secretary of State for Air (*British Airways*)

**12 February** / Farman opens the route between Paris and Brussels, flown by an F.60 Goliath (*Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991*)

**28 February** / CMA (Compagnie des Messageries Aériennes) commences a mail and freight service between Paris and Lille (*Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991*)

### March

**1 March** / DLR sets up a regular service between Hamburg and Berlin (*Heimann, 1988*)

**6 March** / A special Aeronautical Commission of the Peace Conference is formed under the auspices of the Peace Conference. The countries represented at the Commission are: Belgium, Brazil, the British Empire, Cuba, France, Greece, Italy, Japan, Portugal, Romania, the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, and the United States. At the first meeting, the Commission agreed to produce a set of basic principles in prepar-

ing the Convention and its Annexes (*ICAO*)

**8 March** / French Lignes Aériennes Latécoère establishes the first line between Europe and Africa (*AENA*) as it extends the route from Toulouse and Barcelona to Casablanca (*Wikipedia*) [3]

**20 March** / The Compagnie des Grands Express Aériens is established (*Wikipedia*)

**31 March** / SNETA (Syndicat National d' Etude du Transport Aérienne) is founded (*Wikipedia*)

**April** / BAT F.K.26 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**12 April** / Aerial Transport Ltd is founded (*Trove*)

**13 April** / Vickers Vimy Commercial first flight (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

**17 April** / Creation of the airline Nimes—Nice (*Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991*)

**23 April** / The North Sea Aerial Navigation Company is formed as a domestic airline, using surplus military Blackburn RT1 Kangaroo Torpedo Bombers. Each aircraft can carry seven passengers, flying between Hounslow and Leeds (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

**30 April** / Civil flying in Britain is formally restored with the issue of Air Navigation Regulations 1919, which authorise civil flying from 1 May (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

[4]



Source: Junkers



## May

/ Avro 536 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

/ The de Havilland DH.16 four-seater passenger airliner enters service with Aircraft Transport & Travel (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

## 24 May

/ Avro Civil Aviation Service begins daily flights between Manchester, Southport and Blackpool (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

## 31 May

/ The Société des Transports Aéronautiques du Sud-Ouest – TASO is founded (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

## June

### 21 June

/ The UK Secretary of State for Air appoints the Standing Advisory Committee on Civil Aviation under the chairmanship of Lord Weir to "advise and report on the best method of organising Imperial Air Routes." (*British Airways*)

### 25 June

/ Junkers F 13, the world's first all-metal transport aircraft and the world's first self-supporting cabin low-wing transport, first flight (*Junkers & Wikipedia*) [4]

## 25 June

/ Gordon Selfridge, founder of the Selfridge's department store in Oxford Street in London, becomes the first businessman to charter an aeroplane exclusively for business use (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

## July

/ Westland Limousine first flight (*Wikipedia*)

### 1 July

/ Hounslow Heath Aerodrome begins operating scheduled international commercial services. First flight is to Paris Le Bourget. This is the first airport to operate scheduled international commercial services (*ACI*) [5]

### 21 July

/ Fokker founds Hollands' first aircraft factory: The Netherlands Aircraft Factory

### 31 July

/ Dornier Gs I flying boat first flight (*Dornier, 1983*)

## August

### 24 August

/ The airship LZ 120 Bodensee with accommodation for 23 passengers starts a regular service between Friedrichshafen and Berlin (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)



[5]

Courtesy "Airports in the first 100 years of flight" (2003). Independent picture: Putnam Aero Journal

**25 to 28 August** / Representatives of five air transport companies from Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, Norway and Sweden meet at The Hague, Netherlands and sign an agreement to form the International Air Traffic Association (IATA) in order to help airlines standardize their paperwork and passenger tickets and also help airlines compare technical procedures (ICAO) [6]

**25 August** / The world's first scheduled international service takes place when single-engine de Havilland DH.4A G-EAJC (Pilot: Lt E H "Bill" Lawford) of Air Transport and Travel flies from Hounslow Heath, Middlesex to Paris carrying one passenger, a consignment of leather, several brace of grouse and some jars of Devonshire cream (British Airways) [7]

**26 August** / Handley Page Transport carries the first two women to fly on an airline service, between England and France (Royal Air Force Museum)

## September

**2 September** / Handley Page Transport Ltd starts flights from London Cricklewood to Paris, Le Bourget with Handley Page converted twin-engine World War I bombers. The pilot of the first service was Lt-Col W Sholto Douglas, later a chairman of BEA (British Airways)

**12 September** / Queen Wilhelmina of Netherlands awards KLM its "Royal" designation

**30 September** / The British Aerial Transport Company begins domestic flights between London and Birmingham (Royal Air Force Museum)

**October** / Fokker F.II first flight. It is the first of a long series of commercial aircraft from the Fokker Aircraft Company (Jane's, 1993)

**7 October** / Dutch Royal Airlines for the Netherlands and its Colonies (Koninklijke Luchtvaart Maatschappij voor Nederland en Koloniën) – KLM is founded [8]

**11 October** / The first airline meals are served by Handley Page Transport, when passengers are offered a pre-packed lunch-box, costing 3 shillings, on their London to Paris service (Royal Air Force Museum)

**13 October** / The International Air Convention (Paris Convention) is signed by 27 states and lays down the principles and rules for air traffic, which would serve as the basis for uniform international regulations. This Convention consists of 43 articles that dealt with all technical, operational and organizational aspects of civil aviation, and the creation of an International Commission for Air Navigation (ICAN) under the direction of the League of Nations with its headquarters in Paris (ICAO) [9]

[6]



[7]

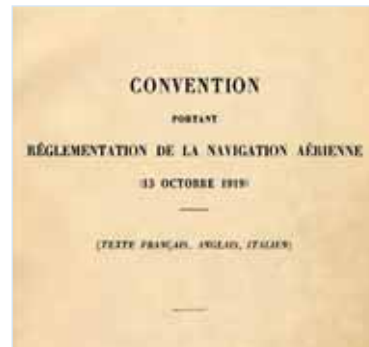


Source: British Airways

[8]



[9]



**30 October** / The UK Advisory Committee on Civil Aviation recommends the establishment of certain main trunk routes connecting Canada, Newfoundland, South Africa, India, Australia and New Zealand to the UK by air. The committee also recommends that "the proper place for initial action" is the route to India thence to Australia "to be followed by a service to South Africa and that the development of these Imperial routes should be by private enterprise backed by State assistance." (*British Airways*)

**November** / Air Transport and Travel and Compagnie générale transaérienne join forces to operate London – Paris services (*IATA Wings for the World since 1945, 2009*)

**1 November** / Creation of Societe des Transports Aeriens Guyanais (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

**1 November** / West Indies Airways begins service between Key West, Florida, and Havana, Cuba (*Wikipedia*)

**10 November** / Transport and Travel carries international air mail – to Paris (*British Airways*)

**10 November** / Blériot-SPAD S.27 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**December** / The Handley Page W8 is introduced on the London to Paris route and becomes the first civil airliner with a lavatory to be used on a regular passenger service (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

**2 December** / Handley Page Type W first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**5 December** / Colombia's flag carrier is founded under the name Sociedad Colombo Alemana de Transporte Aéreo, SCADTA (*Avianca*)

**6 December** / The first experimental airmail flight in China takes place between Peking and Tientsin (now called Beijing and Tianjin) with a Handley Page O/7 (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**15 December** / Ad Astra Aero S.A. is registered as Aktiengesellschaft (*Wikipedia*)

**27 December** / The Boeing Airplane Co. B-1 mail plane, the first Boeing-designed commercial aircraft, makes its first flight

**31 December** / Colombian President Marco Fidel Suarez sanctions Law 126 of 1919, which becomes the first form of legislation in Colombia dealing with aviation, making aviation companies, and everything related to aviation subject to government regulations (*Wikipedia*)

## 1920

- *The first aircraft with an enclosed, oxygen enriched cockpit, Packard-Le Père LUSAC-11 a modified French design makes its first flight (Wikipedia)*
- *Nieuport-Delage NiD.30T first flight (Wikipedia)*
- *Loughead becomes Lockheed*
- *Archie League pioneers the world of ATC with a red and a checkered flag (CANSO)*
- *La Compagnie Franco-Roumaine is set up (Air France)*
- *MAEFORT Hungarian Air Transport Joint Stock Company is established offering regular mail and goods delivery service in Hungary (Malev)*
- *DDL is listed on the Copenhagen Stock Market (SAS) [1]*
- *SCADTA's first Junker aircraft arrives (Avianca)*
- *The first aviation route linking Warsaw with the world is inaugurated (LOT)*
- *Schiphol begins accepting civil aircraft. Arrival of the first passenger plane which is a "de Havilland DH.16" (ACI)*
- *Sydney Kingsford Smith International Airport opens as a private airfield.*
- *Three years later it is acquired by the government and remains the main airport today (ACI)*
- *Bremen Airport reopens for commercial traffic (ACI) [2]*
- *The first hangar in Minneapolis, a wooden structure, is constructed to accommodate airmail service and the 160-acre property become known as Speedway Field (Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport)*
- *Owner George Holt Thomas sells AirCo to BSA (Birmingham Small Arms Company) (liquidated a year later) (BAE Systems)*



**January** / A/S Aero (a Norwegian airline company) is founded by Tancred Ibsen (*Wikipedia*)

**7 January** / The Boeing BB-1 seaplane, another new commercial aircraft, makes its first flight. It is bought by a Canadian and becomes the company's second international sale

**February** / The Instone Airline Limited starts Hounslow to Paris services (*British Airways*)

/ Alan A. Griffith's analysis of the process of brittle fracture is published (*Wikipedia*)

**1 February** / The first commercial Hawaii interisland flight takes place (*Aloha State*)

**6 February** / Avro 547 first flight (*Holmes, 2004*)

**22 February** / First transcontinental mail service arrives in New York from San Francisco. The trip took 33 hours and 20 minutes (*AIAA*)

**March** / Handley Page Transport in Cricklewood install the first radio direction-finding equipment in an aircraft (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

**29 March** / London's airport is moved from Hounslow Heath to the much larger and better equipped airfield of Croydon Aerodrome (*Croydon Airport Society*)



Fokker FF-49 DDL first aircraft - Source: SAS



Source: City Airport Bremen

## April

**8 April** / de Havilland DH.18 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## May

**17 May** / Air Transport and Travel, together with KLM, inaugurate Croydon to Amsterdam service (*British Airways*)

## June

1 June / The French-Spanish company Cantabrian Seaplane Company inaugurates its air service between Bayonne and Bilbao (*AENA*)

**26 June** / Establishment of the Romanian Directorate Aviation in the Ministry of Communications (*Romanian CAA*)

## July

**1 July** / Belgium establishes the first internal air service in any European colony with the Lara-Ligne Aérienne Roi Albert in the Belgian Congo (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

**22 July** / Donald W. Douglas and David R. Davis form the Davis Douglas Co. near Santa Monica, Calif.

## August

**7 August** / Svensk Lufttrafik airline make its first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**19 August** / The Western Queensland Auto Aero Service Limited signs a purchase agreement for two Avro aircraft (*Qantas*)

## September

1 September / Geoffrey de Havilland creates the de Havilland Aircraft Company

1 September / With Fritz Hammer as pilot, Wilhem Schnurrbush as co-pilot and Stuart Hosie as passenger, SCADTA make its first flight between Barranquilla and Puerto Berrio (*Avianca*)

**1 September** / For the first time a plane operated by the newly-founded airline KLM flies from Amsterdam over Bremen to Hamburg, and continues on to Copenhagen. This flight is called the "Europe Northwest Flight" (*Hamburg Airport*)

**8 September** / U.S. Air Mail Service becomes a coast-to-coast operation as mail is flown during the day and moved by train at night (*United Airlines*)

## November

**1 November** / The U.S. Post Office awards a contract for

the first international airmail to Aeromarine. In addition, Aeromarine becomes the first scheduled U.S. international passenger airline (Key West to Havana) (*Wikipedia*) [3]

**16 November** / Papers formally establishing Queensland and Northern Territory Aerial Services Ltd (Qantas) are signed in the Gresham Hotel, Brisbane. The company, based in Winton, is registered with Fergus McMaster as Chairman

**24 November** / Dornier Delphin flying boat makes its first flight (*Dornier, 1983*)

## December

**12 December** / Air Transport and Travel cease its operations (*British Airways*)

**12 December** / Blériot-SPAD S.33 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

[3]







[1] The world's first and only preserved copy of Aeromarine West Indies Airways baggage label from December 1920. Removed from an old suitcase in the 1940s, its original background colour was light blue. (Image from "Nostalgia Panamericana" by Don Thomas, 1987)

- ▶ *Engineering Division USD-9A, a modified Airco DH.9A, becomes the first aircraft to fly with the addition of a pressurized cockpit module (Wikipedia)*
- ▶ *An initial merger take place between C.G.T. and Les Messageries Aériennes (Air France)*
- ▶ *SCADTA establishes routes between the cities of Barranquilla, Girardot and Neiva (Avianca)*
- ▶ *First flight of:*
  - *Caudron C.61 (Jane's, 1993)*
  - *Farman F.90 (Wikipedia)*
  - *Loening Model 23 (Wikipedia)*
  - *Potez IX (Jane's, 1993)*
- ▶ *Svensk Lufttrafik flight operations of the company are terminated (Wikipedia)*
- ▶ *Croydon Airport is the first airport in the world to introduce air traffic control (ACI)*
- ▶ *Aerotarg Poznan Aviation Society is founded, and between May and June sets up the first regular Poznan – Warsaw flights (LOT)*
- ▶ *Königsberg Devau Airport is open (Wikipedia)*
- ▶ *Aeromarine: World's first airline baggage label (Wikipedia) [1]*

## January

/ The first automatic pilot system, known as the Aveline Stabilizer, is installed in a British aircraft by Handley Page Transport (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

## February

**24 February** / The first wholly Douglas-designed, Douglas-built aircraft, The Cloudster, makes its first flight. It is the first airplane to lift a useful load exceeding its own weight [2]

**28 February** / Due to subsidised European competition, all British airlines cease operations (*British Airways*)

## Spring

/ Aeromarine West Indies Airways is reorganized as Aeromarine Airways (*Wikipedia*)

## March

/ The Australian Minister for Defence approves the establishment of a civil aerodrome for Melbourne (*Essendon Airport*)

**3 March**

/ Junkers K 16 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**19 March**

/ A temporary UK government subsidy is granted enabling British air services to restart. Handley Page Transport operates the first subsidised London to Paris service (*British Airways*)

**22 March**

/ Aeronaut is founded (*Wikipedia*)

**28 March**

/ Australian Civil Aviation Branch is formed (*CASA*)

## April

/ Fokker F.III first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**4 April**

/ Following a winter hiatus, KLM resumes ser-

vice with its own pilots and aircraft: the Fokker F-II and F-III

**4 April**

/ DLR found Aero Union as a holding company of the group AEG, HAPAG, Luftschiffbau-Zeppelin and Metallkonzern Frankfurt/M (*Heimann, 1988*)

## June

**1 June**

/ Air to ground traffic control is established, when air patrols report information to the police and the Automobile Association on Derby Day (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

**16 June**

/ Blériot-SPAD S.46 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**21 June**

/ Bristol Ten-seater first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## Summer

/ First flight of Dornier Komet I (*Dornier, 1983*)

## July

/ Donald W. Douglas incorporates The Douglas Co.

**12 July**

/ Mexicana Airlines is founded in Mexico City under the name Compania Mexicana de Transportación Aérea (CMTA)

**23 July**

/ SCADTA establishes regular routes between Girardot and Bogota (*Avianca*)

## August

/ First in-flight movie. Aeromarine. showed a movie promoting Chicago (HOWDY CHICAGO) (*White, 2012*)

## October

**15 October**

/ The Spanish airline Compania Espanola de Trafico Aéreo makes its first flight between Seville and Larache (*Wikipedia & AENA*)

## November

**11 November**

/ Lengthy negotiations between the just-formed Aero Union and the Trade Delegation of the Soviet Union lead to the founding of Deutsch-Russische Luftverkehrs A.G., or Deruluft with a share equally contributed by the partners share (*Heimann, 1988*)

## December

**5 December**

/ The first regular air services in Australia commences with West Australian Airways (*Wikipedia*)

## Late

/ Airco DH.9C first flight (*Wikipedia*)

[2]



Source: Boeing



[1] Courtesy "Airports in the first 100 years of flight" (2003)

- *Experimental Design Bureau Tupolev is established headed by Andrey N. Tupolev*
- *Aero A-14 first flight (Jane's, 1993)*
- *First permanent airport and commercial terminal solely for commercial aviation opens at Flughafen Devau (ACI) [1]*
- *Traffic density leads to a mid-air collision. Flying rules become a necessity (CANSO)*

## January

- 1 January** / Instone introduces uniforms for pilots and staff, believed to be the first airline service uniforms (*British Airways*)
- 3 January** / Aero Letnany A.10, the first commercial aircraft to be built in Czechoslovakia, makes its first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## March

- 26 March** / de Havilland DH.34 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## April

- 1 April** / The UK government subsidy is made permanent (*British Airways*)
- 2 April** / The Daimler Airway begins operations from Croydon to Paris using "cabin boys" on their aircraft (*British Airways*)

## 7 April

/ The first airliner collision takes place when a French Farman Goliath of Grands Express flies into the path of a de Havilland DH.18 operated by Daimler Airways. The collision takes place over Poix in northern France (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

## May

/ Radio Position Fixing used in Croydon Airport-based procedure is approved by the Air Ministry with associated NOTAM. This is a new system using aircraft radio transmissions to fix an aircraft's position, an essential first step in establishing a radio based global air navigation network. G.J.H "Jimmy" Jeffs, Croydon Civilian Air Traffic Officer, is one of the great innovators in developing the new discipline. Issued with Air Traffic Control Licence No.1 (*ACI & Croydon Airport. Society*) [2]



**3 May**

/ William E. Boeing becomes Boeing Airplane Co. chairman of the board

**June**

**9 June**

/ The first airliner night flight is made by Grands Express, from Le Bourget in France to Croydon (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

**July**

/ Aeromarine Airways opens in Cleveland the First U.S. airline ticket office (*Wikipedia*)

/ Lioré et Olivier LeO H-13 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**11 July**

/ International Air Convention and ICAN enter into force (*ICAO*) [3]

**August**

**27 August**

/ Passengers on a flight from Geneva to Paris can hear a concert broadcast by radio on board (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

**September**

**5 September**

/ A limited liability company by the name of Aerolloyd Polish Airlines (Polska Linja Lotnicza "Aerolloyd") is established and launches regular flights from Gdansk to Warsaw and onward from there to Lwnw (*LOT*)

**October**

**2 October**

/ The need for a register classifying aircraft is encouraged by the French Government by a Decree which instructs the Bureau Veritas to exercise on French civil aircraft in construction or operation a technical control (*ICAO*)

**9 October**

/ Dornier Komet II first flight (*Dornier, 1983*)

**November**

**2 November**

/ Alexander Kennedy becomes the first Qantas passenger on a scheduled flight on the Longreach – Winton – McKinlay – Cloncurry section of the inaugural mail service from Charleville to Cloncurry [4]

**12 November**

/ Franco-Roumaine inaugurates the first transcontinental air passenger service: Paris – Strasbourg – Prague – Warsaw – Vienna – Budapest – Belgrade – Bucharest (Baneasa) – Istanbul (*Ambassade de France à Bucarest*)

[2]



Source: Ian Walker - Croydon Airport Society

[3]

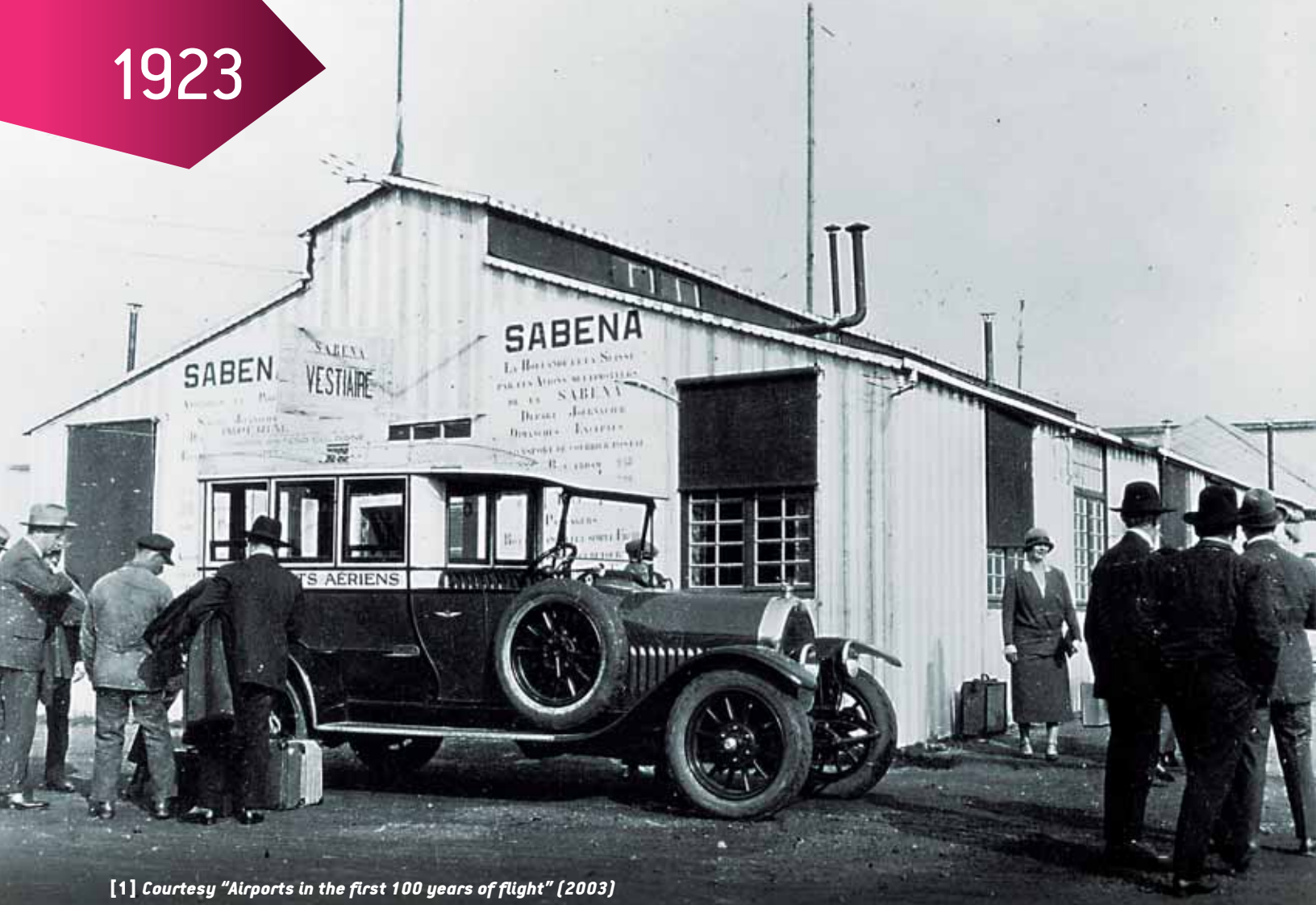


Source: ICAO

[4]



Source: Qantas



[1] Courtesy "Airports in the first 100 years of flight" (2003)

- **First flight of:**
  - Albatros L 58 (Wikipedia)
  - Farman F.120 (Wikipedia)
  - Vickers Type 170 Vanguard (Wikipedia)
- **Construcciones Aeronauticas S.A. (CASA) is founded in Getafe, Spain** (Compendium of International Civil Aviation)
- **Anthony Fokker moves to the United States and he establish an American branch of his company, the Atlantic Aircraft Corporation** (Fokker)
- **Aeroexpress Joint Stock Company starts its regular regular flights between Budapest and Vienna with five-person Junkers F 13 aircraft and The Hungarian Aviation Joint Stock Company starts scheduled passenger, goods and mail deliveries, also on the Budapest – Vienna route with Fokker F-III 5-person aircraft** (Malev)
- **The Caucasus Joint Stock Company of Civil Aviation ZAKAVIA is established** (Azerbaijan Airlines)
- **Fred Mockford, Croydon's Senior Radio Officer, coined the distress phrase "Mayday, Mayday, Mayday"** (Croydon Airport Society)
- **Boston Municipal Airport's, now Boston – Logan's, first runways are laid down in a T-shape, a first in runway design** (ACI)
- **The first airport building at Brussels is built of wooden packing cases. In December of the same year Sabena receives permission to build a new airport terminal** (ACI) [1]

## January

**1 January** / Compagnie des messageries aériennes merges with Grands Express Aériens to form Air Union (Esperou & Maoui, 1997)

## 2 January

/ Civil Air Transport Subsidies Committee is appointed under Sir Herbert Hambling "to consider the present working of cross-channel



subsidies and to advise on the best method of subsidising air transport in the future." (*British Airways*)

## February

**3 February** / Blériot-SPAD S.56 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**9 February** / Russian Labour and Defence Council issues a resolution entitled "On empowering the Central Air Fleet Administration to handle technical supervision over airlines and on founding the Civil Aviation Council." (*Aeroflot*)

## March

**17 March** / Open joint stock "DOBROLET" (The Russian Society for Voluntary Air Fleet) is established (*Aeroflot*)

## April

ZAKAVIA's Junkers airplane performs a flight from Baku to Tbilisi and back (*Azerbaijan Airlines*)

## May

**1 May** / Flights on the first Aeroflot international route Moscow – Königsberg (part of Germany at that time) are launched and later extended to include Berlin

**6 May** / Latécoère extends its line to Dakar (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

**9 May** / Blériot 115 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**14 May** / The first aircraft to be operated by ÖLAG (Österreichische Luftverkehrs AG) flies from Vienna to Munich (*Austrian*)

**23 May** / Sabena is founded (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

## June

/ Supermarine Sea Eagle first flight (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

**23 June**

/ Handley Page Transport Ltd carries 79 passengers in one day (*British Airways*)

## July

**15 July** / Introduction of the first regular Aeroflot domestic route between Moscow and Nizhny Novgorod

**30 July**

/ de Havilland DH.50 first flight (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

## August

**23 August** / Bright beacons are placed to facilitate night flying on the grounds of the Illinois State (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

## September

/ Aeromarine AM-1 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**12 September**

/ The charter establishing the company Aero O/Y is signed in Helsinki (*Finnair*)

## October

/ Latécoère 17 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**6 October**

/ Czechoslovak State Airlines is founded (*CSA*)

**20 October**

/ Tupolev ANT-7 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**29 October**

/ CSA first transport flight from Prague to Bratislava takes place. On that trip, pilot Karel Brabenec flew the distance of 321 km with an Aero A-14 (Brandenburg) bi-plane

## November

**1 November** / Aero O/Y starts operations (*Finnair*)

**6 November**

/ Dornier Wal first flight (*Dornier, 1983*)



**1924-1933**

**setting the standards**

## 1924-1933

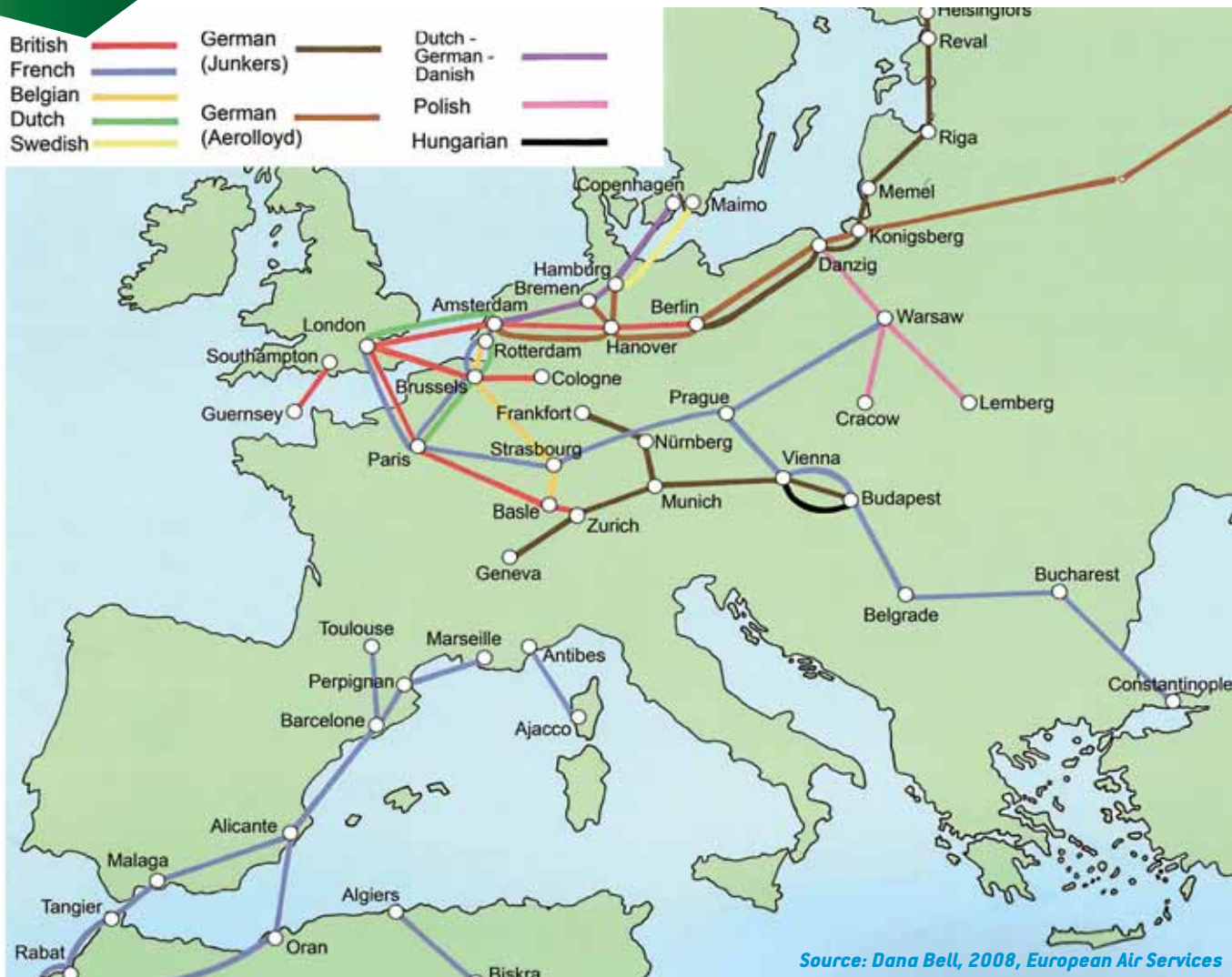
# Setting the standards

After WWI spurred the development of aviation for combat purposes, manufacturers and pilots turned their attention to converting aviation to civilian uses. The growth during the period 1924-1933 became the foundation for the industry we know today. There was the launch of dozens of new aircraft types by many manufacturers, some of which remain today. Companies such as Sikorsky, Tupolev, Boeing and are just a few of the intrepid builders of that time. The Postal Service became the first “express mail” service and fostered the growth of airlines. Imperial (BA), KLM, Air France, and Pan Am were airlines serving both domestically and across borders to connect people globally. Early aviators quickly recognized that the industry needed to be managed and standards and regulations enacted. The early 1930’s saw the establishment of ground clearance and separation rules, the growth of Air Traffic Control, radio equipped aircraft and pilot regulations. The international community began holding conventions to establish “certain rules relating to international carriage by air” and in 1929 twenty three member states signed the agreement. Aviation as a global business was quickly being born.

One hundred years has passed since the first commercial flight by Tony Jannus and the industry today is much different from those early times. Aviation is much more global and intertwined with three major alliances providing the traveler a seamless process and new carriers such as COPA and Emirates emerging into prominence. Big airframe manufacturers have evolved and while Boeing remains, new players like Airbus, Bombardier, and Embraer have emerged. The evolution of aviation as a global industry has changed our societies, our economies and our environment. Today goods ordered online are frequently manufactured that day on the other side of the globe and shipped via air the next day. This provides tremendous economic development impact and jobs. Over 56 million jobs worldwide are supported by aviation, with over 2.2 trillion dollars of global economic impact or 3.5% of global GDP. Finally, organizations like ACI, IATA, CANSO, and other alphabet organizations are working within the framework of ICAO to solve the global challenges aviation faces.

**Frederick Piccolo**

*CEO, Sarasota Bradenton International Airport  
and Chairman, ACI World*



- **First flight of:**
  - Focke-Wulf A.16 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Letov S-19 (*Jane's, 1993*)
  - Nieuport-Delage NiD 38 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Swallow New Swallow (*Wikipedia*)
- **Lincoln Standard L.S.5 introduction**
- **The Huff Daland Dusters crop-dusting operation, a predecessor to Delta Air Lines, is founded in Macon, Ga. This is the world's first commercial agricultural flying company**
- **A four-passenger DH.50 with an enclosed cabin is introduced by Qantas**
- **on the Charleville – Cloncurry run, marking the introduction of post-war commercial aircraft to Australia**
- **Early 1924: Aeromarine Airways cease operations due to a freeze on mail contracts by the U.S. Postal Service (*Wikipedia*)**

## February

**1 February** / Aleksandrov – Kalinin AK-1 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**15 February** / Dornier Delphin II first flight (*Domier, 1983*)

## March

**14 March** / Aero O/Y takes delivery of its first aircraft,

a German-registered Junkers F 13 D-335 (*Finnair*) [1]

## 20 March

/ Aero O/Y makes its maiden commercial flight carrying 162 kilos of mail from Helsinki to Tallinn (*Finnair*)



**25 March** / Supermarine Swan, British experimental amphibian aircraft, first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**31 March** / Imperial Airways is incorporated on 31 March as the “chosen instrument” of the British Government with the mission of developing British commercial air transport on an economic basis. The new airline is formed the fleets of The Instone Airline Limited, The Daimler Airway, Handley Page Transport Limited and British Marine Air Navigation Co Ltd (operating a Southampton to Guernsey flying boat service) (*British Airways*)

## April

**11 April** / Fokker F-VII first flight (*www.dutch-aviation.nl*)

**23 April** / Stout 2-AT Pullman first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**26 April** / Imperial Airways launches its first flight between London Croydon and Paris Le Bourget with DH.34 G-EBCX (Captain H.S. Robertson) (*British Airways*)

## May

**4 May** / Sikorsky S-29A first flight (*Sikorsky Archives*)

**5 May** / The German airline Deutsche Aero Lloyd established a partnership with the Colombian company Sociedad Colombo – Alemana de Transporte Aéreo – SCADTA to create the Condor Syndikat (*Wikipedia*)

**26 May** / Tupolev ANT-2 piloted by test-pilot N.I.Petrov taking off for the first time [2]

## June

**2 June** / AB Aerotransport (ABA) commence operations (*Wikipedia*). Aero O/Y begins to fly to Stockholm in cooperation with the Swedish airline ABA (*Finnair*)

**28 June** / Avro Andover first flight (*Holmes, 2004*)

## July

**19 July** / Blériot 135 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## August

/ Savoia-Marchetti S.55 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## 20 August

/ In Tampico, Americans George L. Rihl, William Mallory, R.G. Piper and Carl V. Schlaet establish Mexicana Airlines. The new partners purchased the majority of CMTA assets

## September

**18 September** / Junkers G 23 first flight (*Junkers*)

## October

**1 October** / KLM initiates its first intercontinental flight, from Amsterdam to Batavia (Colonial Jakarta) in a Fokker F-VII

## November

/ The civil air transport in Albania marks its beginnings as the Republic of Albania signing a Governmental Agreement with German Air Company “Luft Hansa”. On the basis of this ten-year concession agreement, the Albanian Airline with the name “Adria Aero Lloyd” is established

**4 November** / Canadian Vickers Vedette first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## December

**7 December** / Dornier Komet III first flight (*Dornier, 1983*)

[1]



Source: Finnair

[2]



Source: Tupolev





[1] Source: Atlanta Airport

- ▶ **First flight of:**
  - CRDA CANT 6 (Jane's, 1993)
  - CRDA CANT 10 (Wikipedia)
  - Curtiss Carrier Pigeon (Wikipedia)
  - Farman F.170 Jabiru (Wikipedia)
  - Fokker Universal (Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991)
  - NVI F.K.33 (Wikipedia)
  - Pitcairn PA-1 Fleetwing (Wikipedia)
  - Sikorsky S-31 (Sikorsky Archives)
- ▶ Aerolloyd is transformed into Aerolot S.A., a joint stock company, and its technical facilities are transferred from Gdansk airport to Warsaw's Mokotow airport. In Poznan, Aero Sp. z o.o., a limited liability air transport company, is founded and launches regular carrier operations on the Poznan – Lodz – Warsaw route (LOT)
- ▶ Huff Daland Duster's headquarters moves to Monroe, La. Huff Daland's 18 planes are the largest privately owned fleet in the world. Operations range south to Florida, north to Arkansas, and west to California and Mexico (Delta Air Lines)
- ▶ Stout Air Services is founded by the engineer and businessman, William Bushnell Stout (Wikipedia)
- ▶ The Mayor of Atlanta signs a five-year lease on an abandoned auto racetrack and commits the City to developing it into an airfield. Flights are operational in 1926 (ACI) [1]
- ▶ Cleveland Airport (CLE) opens and becomes the first municipal airport in the U.S. (Cleveland Airport System)
- ▶ Copenhagen Airport is founded (ACI) [2]

- February** / Latécoère 15 first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 2 February** / The U.S. Air Mail Act, commonly known as the Kelly Act, provides for transportation of mail on the basis of contracts between the Post Office Department and individual air carriers. Under the original Kelly Act, however, a carrier's compensation was computed as a percentage of the actual postage affixed to the mail transported (*FAA*)
- 10 February** / Dornier Merkur I first flight (*Dornier, 1983*)
- Spring** / Adria Aero Lloyd begins its first domestic flights to Shkodra and Vlora (*Albanian Directory General of Civil Aviation*)
- March**
- 1 March** / T. Claude Ryan's Los Angeles – San Diego Air Line begins the first scheduled passenger service operated wholly over the U.S. mainland and throughout the year (*FAA*)
- 10 March** / Supermarine Southampton first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 18 to 19 March** / The 13th General Meeting of the International Air Traffic Association (IATA), held in London, reviews the excessive formalities and restrictions imposed by European Customs Administrations with respect to aircraft operating international services and concludes that this situation greatly hampers the develop-

- April**
- 15 April** / Ukvozduchput airline begins operating when it offers service from Kharkiv to Odessa and Kiev (*Wikipedia*)
- May**
- 15 May** / Imperial Airways' Croydon to Amsterdam service becomes the first sector of England to Scandinavia through service. Imperial Airways operates London to Amsterdam and AB Aero-transport (Swedish Air Lines) works Amsterdam – Copenhagen – Malmö (*British Airways*)
- June**
- 18 June** / de Havilland DH.54 Highclere first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- Mid**
- July**
- 6 July** / First Douglas mail plane, the M-1, starts manufacturer's flight trials



**7 July** / The Boeing Model 40 mail plane makes its first flight, testing the wood used to construct its fuselage. It will evolve into the Model 40A [3]

**13 July** / Western Air Express is founded in Los Angeles (TWA)

**29 July** / Blériot 155 first flight (Wikipedia)

**August** / Test flight of the Dornier Wals ATLANTICO and PACIFICO of SCADTA across the countries of Central America (Dornier, 1983)

**6 August** / Tupolev ANT-3 first flight (Wikipedia)

**25 to 26 August** / The 14th General Meeting of the International Air Traffic Association (IATA), held in Brussels concludes that there is a need to collaborate with international institutions interested in matters pertaining to the development of scheduled international air transport services (Compendium of International Civil Aviation)

## September

**2 September** / Balair is founded (Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991)

**3 September** / SPCA Météore 63 first flight (Wikipedia)

**15 September** / Lloyd Aereo Boliviano is born under the leadership of Guillermo Kyllman as the first elected President of the company based in Cochabamba, Bolivia

## October

**27 October to 6 November**

/ The First International Conference of Private Air Law is convened in Paris to examine the question of the responsibility of the airlines and to undertake the immense work of the coding of the private air law; the final protocol of this Conference asks for the creation of a special committee of experts (Comité International Technique d'Experts Juridiques Aériens, C.I.T.E.J.A.) (ICAO)



## First flight of:

- Albatros L 72 (Jane's, 1993)
- Albatros L 73 (Jane's, 1993)
- Breguet 26T first flight (Wikipedia)
- Buhl-Verville CA-3 Airster first flight, the first aircraft to receive a type certificate in the U.S. (Wikipedia)
- CAMS 51 (Wikipedia)
- Fairchild 71 (Wikipedia)
- Heinkel HD 39 (Jane's, 1993)
- Junkers G 31 (Junkers)
- Latécoère 26 (Wikipedia)
- Lioré et Olivier LeO 21 (Wikipedia)

- Lioré et Olivier LeO H-190 (Wikipedia)
- Messerschmitt M 18 (Jane's, 1993)
- Pitcairn PA-2 Sesquiwing (Wikipedia)
- Rohrbach Ro VIII Rol (Heimann, 1988)
- SABCA S.2 (Jane's, 1993)
- Aero A.23 introduction (Wikipedia)
- Allan Lockheed officially forms the Lockheed Aircraft Company
- The Aircraft International Register (Registre International Aéronautique, AIR) is organized on the initiative of the Bureau Véritas (ICAO)
- "Radio operators" are put in charge of radio transmissions (CANSO)
- The first organized Authority for the Civil Aviation is established in Greece
- Aeroexpress Joint Stock Company is wound up (Malev)
- Sleeper seats are introduced by Luft Hansa on the Albatross L73, known as the "flying sleeping car" on trunk routes from Berlin to London, Malmo and Vienna (IATA Wings for the World since 1945, 2009)
- ZAKAVIA's regular flights begin on the Mineralniye Vody – Groznyi – Makhachkala – Baku – Yevlakh – Tbilisi route. Airports started operating in Baku, Yevlakh and Sheki (Azerbaijan Airlines)
- Chicago Municipal Airport is one of the first airports with a concrete runway (ACI)



## January

### January to February

/ Spain – Buenos Aires with the Dornier Wal PLUS UTRLA; first South Atlantic flight from the east to the west; 10,270 km in 60 hours  
*(Domier, 1983)*

**6 January** / Founding of “Deutsche Luft Hansa AG” by Deutscher Aero Llyod and Junkers Luftverkehr *(Deutsche Lufthansa AG, Media Relations)*

**19 January** / Udet U 11 Kondor first flight *(Wikipedia)*

**25 January** / Stinson Detroider first flight *(Wikipedia)*

**February** / Latécoère 25 first flight *(Wikipedia)*

**14 February** / Ryan M-1 first flight *(Jane's, 1993)*

## March

/ First flight of:  
- Fokker Super Universal *(Wikipedia)*  
- Travel Air 5000 *(Wikipedia)*

/ Western Canada Airways is established *(Wikipedia)*

**13 March** / Alan Cobham completes Imperial Airways'

route survey that began on 16 November with a flight from the UK to Cape Town and back in the Armstrong Siddeley Jaguar-powered DH.50J G-EBFO. The outward flight was London – Paris – Marseille – Pisa – Taranto – Athens – Sollum – Cairo – Luxor – Assuan – Wadi Halfa – Atbara – Khartoum – Malakal – Mongalla – Jinja – Kisumu – Tabora – Abercorn – Ndola – Broken Hill – Livingstone – Bulawayo – Pretoria – Johannesburg – Kimberley – Blomfontein – Cape Town *(British Airways) [1]*

**16 March** / Armstrong Whitworth Argosy first flight *(Jane's, 1993)*

## April

**17 April** / A Douglas M-2 serving with Western Air Express begins mail operations on Salt Lake City, Utah, to Los Angeles, Calif., route [2]

## May

**12 May** / National Air Transport (NAT) begins air service between Chicago and Dallas, via Kansas City, Mo. *(United Airlines)*

**20 May** / U.S. President Calvin Coolidge signs into law the Air Commerce Act, which places the ad-

[1]



Source: British Airways



ministration of commercial aeronautics under the Department of Commerce (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

**23 May** / Aboard a Douglas M-2, Western Air Express' first two passengers, for a \$90 fare, flying between Salt Lake City and Los Angeles

**25 May** / Start of pooling arrangements between two international airlines; i.e., Deutsche Luft Hansa and the Farman Company –Société Générale de Transport Aérien (SGTA)— permitting joint operations between Berlin and Paris via Cologne (*Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991*)

**31 May** / The International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations (FIATA) is founded in Vienna (*FAA*) [3]

## June

**4 June** / Aero O/Y with a state-guaranteed loan, purchases a three-engine, nine-passenger Junkers G 24, which is brought to Helsinki and put into service on the Stockholm route (*Finnair*)

**11 June** / The Ford Trimotor makes its first flight (*FAA*)

**14 June** / Fairchild FC-1 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**17 June** / The single-engine cargo transport low-wing Junkers W 33 makes its first flight (*Junkers*)

## July

/ Avia BH-25 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

/ Latécoère 21 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**16 July** / The Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company inaugurates the first daily passenger air service between Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. (*FAA*)

**16 July** / Imperial Airways introduces the three-engine Armstrong Whitworth Argosy on the London Croydon – Paris Le Bourget route (*British Airways*) [4]

## August

**9 August** / Focke-Wulf GL 18 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**11 August** / The "US Airways Division" is created an early form of an ATS Department (*CANSO*)

## September

**1 September** / Col. Lewis Brittin founds Northwest Airways as a Michigan corporation with operations



Source: Delta Flight Museum



based at Speedway Flying Field (site of today's Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport) (*Delta Air Lines*)

**15 September** / Pacific Air Transport (PAT) inaugurates service between Los Angeles and Seattle (*United Airlines*)

**15 September** / Florida Airways delivers mail on the Tampa – Jacksonville – Atlanta route to become the first commercial flight into Candler Field, Atlanta (*City of Atlanta*)

**30 September** / Dornier 2-mot. Superwal first flight (*Dornier, 1983*)

**30 September** / de Havilland DH.66 Hercules first flight (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

**October** / The Ibero-American Convention (also called the Madrid Convention) is created under the auspices of Spain, with Portugal and the States of Latin America; this convention differs from the Paris Convention in the way it takes account of the principle of the equal rights of its members. This Convention had limited impact because of the restricted number of ratifications that it received, as only 5 States (Spain, Paraguay, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica and Mexico) deposited their instruments of ratification (*ICAO*)

**1 October** / Alan Cobham completes 28,000 miles in 78 days with 320 hours flying time as the DH.50 alights on the Thames at Westminster. He left the Medway at Rochester on 30 June in the DH.50 G-EBF0 on a commercial route survey to Melbourne, arriving on 15 August. He left Melbourne on 29 August (*British Airways*)



Source: British Airways

**10 October** / Northwest Airways takes to the sky, carrying air mail from the Twin Cities to Chicago with a "fleet" of two rented, open-cockpit biplanes – a Thomas Morse Scout and a Curtiss Oriole

**27 October** / Blériot 165 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## November

**2 November** / Northwest introduces nation's first closed-cabin commercial plane: the 3-passenger Stinson Detrouer

**13 November** / Avio Linee Italiane S.A. (ALI) is founded in Rome (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

## December

**7 December** / The first airway light beacon erected by the Aeronautics Branch begins operation (*FAA*)

**7 December** / The U.S. Aeronautics Branch makes its first official airworthiness inspection of an American aircraft when Inspector Ralph Lockwood tests a Stinson Detrouer before its delivery to Canadian Air Express (*FAA*)

**27 December** / Imperial Airways DH.66 Hercules G-EBMX leaves Croydon for a survey flight to India. The flight reaches Karachi on 6 January and Delhi on 8 January. The aircraft was named City of Delhi by Lady Irwin, wife of the Viceroy, on 10 January. The return flight left on 1 February 1927 and arrived at Heliopolis, Cairo on 7 February. The flying time from Croydon to Delhi was 62 hours 27 minutes and Delhi to Heliopolis 32 hours 50 minutes (*British Airways*)

**31 December** / The first Air Commerce Regulations of the Aeronautics Branch, U.S. Department of Commerce, become effective. The regulations require all aircraft engaged in interstate or foreign commerce to be licensed and marked with an assigned identification number. Pilots of licensed aircraft are required to hold private or commercial licenses. Commercial pilots are classed as either transport or industrial. Mechanics repairing aircraft engaged in air commerce are required to secure either engine or airplane mechanic licenses, or both (*FAA*)





[1] Source: Kostas Iatrou

Source: iconicphotos.files.wordpress.com [2]

► **First flight of:**

- *Arado V.1* (Wikipedia)
- *Aviméta 132* (Wikipedia)
- *Bach Air Yacht* (Wikipedia)
- *CANT 22* (Wikipedia)
- *de Havilland Giant Moth DH.61* (Wikipedia)
- *Focke-Wulf A.17* (Wikipedia)
- *Heinkel HD 40* (Jane's, 1993)
- *Keystone Pathfinder* (Wikipedia)
- *Latécoère 28* (Wikipedia)
- *Nieuport-Delage NiD 39* (Wikipedia)
- *Nieuport-Delage NiD 640* (Wikipedia)
- *Pitcairn Mailwing* (Wikipedia)
- *Potez 29* (Jane's, 1993)

- *Ryan Brougham* (Wikipedia)
- *Sikorsky S-36* (Sikorsky Archives)
- *Stearman C2 & C3* (Wikipedia)

► *Rohrbach Ro V Rocco seaplane is built* (Wikipedia)

► *Atlantic Aircraft Corporation is re-named Fokker Aircraft Corporation of America*

► *Light beacons are installed. Permanent tracks for navigation start to be established* (CANSO)

► *Aeronaut stop operations* (Wikipedia)

► *L' Aéropostale, is set up* (Air France)

► *Huff Daland airline extends dusting services to Peru* (Delta Air Lines)

► *In the city of Barahona the first Dominican airline is organized under the name West Indian Aerial Express (IDAC)*

► *Western is the first U.S. airline to pay a cash dividend to stockholders* (Delta Air Lines)

**January**

/ Imperial Airways operations open Cairo – Baghdad – Basra sector of the Britain to India route (British Airways)

**12 January**

/ Deutsche Luft Hansa establishes the Syndicato Condor Ltda. in Rio de Janeiro as a Brazilian airline company to introduce joint airmail services between Germany and cities in South America (Compendium of International Civil Aviation)

**28 January**

/ The Boeing Airplane Co. signs a contract with the U.S. Postal Department to fly airmail on the 1,918-mile route between Chicago, Ill., and San Francisco, Calif., using the Model 40A mail plane with an air-cooled engine

**February**

**18-19 February** / The 17th Annual General Meeting of the International Air Traffic Association (IATA) held

in Vienna adopts the first standard format of an international air ticket and consignment note (air waybill) and the procedures to be used for their completion, together with a set of general transport conditions applicable to both passengers and goods (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

## March

- 12 March** / Fokker F.VIII (or F.8) first flight (*www.dutch-aviation.nl*)
- 29 March** / The Aeronautics Branch issues Aircraft Type Certificate No. 1 to the Buhl Airster C-A3, a three-place open biplane (FAA)

## April

- 11 April** / Latécoère decides to sell 93% of his business to another Brazilian-based French businessman named Marcel Bouilloux-Lafont. On that basis, Bouilloux-Lafont then founds the Compagnie générale aéropostale, better known by the shorter name Aéropostale (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)
- 19 April** / Ryan Airline Company is founded (*Wikipedia*)
- 28 April** / Spirit of St. Louis first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## May

- 1 May** / The luxury Silver Wing launches service to Paris. Service is introduced by Imperial Airways using the Armstrong Whitworth Argosy. With a comfortable recognisable airliner cabin, a steward, a four-course luncheon and a bar service, the flight took 2 hours 30 minutes (*British Airways*)
- 4 May** / Det Norske Luftfartselskap A/S (DNL), SAS's Norwegian parent company is founded (*SAS & Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)
- 7 May** / S.A. Empresa de Viação Aérea Rio-Grandense, (VARIG) is born
- 20 May** / The Boeing Model 40A two-passenger mail plane makes its first flight
- 20 to 21 May** / Charles A. Lindbergh, a former airmail pilot, makes the first nonstop solo flight across the Atlantic in an airplane, a Ryan monoplane dubbed the Spirit of St. Louis. He flew the 3,610 miles from Roosevelt Field, Long Island, N.Y., to Le Bourget Field, Paris, France, in 33 hours 29 minutes (FAA) [1] [2]

## June

- 4 to 5 June** / Charles A. Levine, a New York businessman, becomes the first person to cross the Atlantic by airplane as a passenger when he flies nonstop between New York and Germany in a Bellanca monoplane piloted by Clarence Chamberlin, whom he had sponsored (FAA)
- 15 June** / U.S. businessman Van Lear Black charts a KLM Fokker F.VIIa for a flight from the Netherlands to Batavia, the first international charter flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 17 June** / Founding date of the Society for Air Transport AEROPUT, later succeeded by Yugoslav Airlines and now by Air Serbia
- 24 June** / Polikarpov Po-2 first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 28 June** / Iberia, Compania Aérea de Transporte, is formally founded
- 30 June** / Boeing Air Transport (BAT), predecessor to United Airlines, is founded to operate the mail routes and run the new airline. Philip G. Johnson is President, Claire L. Egtvedt is General Manager and William E. Boeing is Chairman of the Board
- 30 June** / The U.S. Aeronautics Branch announces that its first airways strip map is available for purchase: Moline, Ill., to Kansas City, Mo. (FAA)

## July

- 1 July** / F.180 Oiseau Bleu first flight (*Aviafrance*)
- 1 July** / Bertha Boeing, William's wife, inaugurates the first BAT airmail flight between Chicago and San Francisco, charging passengers \$204 for a one-way trip (*Boeing & United Airlines*)
- 1 July** / Condor Syndikat officially ceases to exist (*Wikipedia*)
- 4 July** / First flight of Lockheed Vega
- 5 July** / St. Paul businessman Byron Webster becomes Northwest's first ticketed passenger

## August

- / The office of Civil Aviation of Air Traffic Ministry of Italy buys "Adria Aero Lloyd Society" (*Albanian Directory General of Civil Aviation*)

## September

- 1 September** / NAT expands its operations to include a Chicago – New York route, connecting with BAT at Chicago, to establish the first transcontinental passenger air service (*United Airlines*)



- 1 September** / American Railway Express and major airlines begin air cargo express operations (*FAA*)
- 1-10 September** / First International Air Post Congress at The Hague, Netherlands, initiated by USSR. This Conference results in an agreement that establishes the airline companies as officially recognized carriers of mail at the maximum remuneration of 6 postal gold francs per metric ton-kilogram. It also initiates some significant rules and regulations concerning the acceptance and rapid delivery of airmail by the signatory powers, the expeditious handling of airmail by countries without air services, and the basis of accounting procedures for international airmail. Another provision agreed upon is that the par avion labels should have a blue colour and, when the mail does not actually travel by air, such labels or annotations should be crossed out (*ICAO*)
- 10 September** / The first rapid transit station to connect an airport with a mass transit system is the Berlin U-Bahn's Paradenstraße station and is built to provide direct access to Berlin Tempelhof Airport (*Wikipedia*)
- 15 September** / Pitcairn Aviation, Inc., is formed (*Eastern Air Lines*)
- October**
- / Imperial Airways introduces second class travel on the Paris route, using Handley Page aircraft without cabin service and a slower flying time (*British Airways*)
  - / Survey flights to the Far East and South Africa lay out the basis for the sought after goal of regular links to the Empire. The initial link is established from Cairo to Baghdad in 1927 following pioneering work by the RAF. It is soon extended to Karachi and then Delhi (*British Airways*)
  - / The International Radio Convention meets in Washington, D.C. During sessions that lasted into November, the conferees secure international agreements on the use of certain frequencies by aircraft and airway control stations (*FAA*)
- 6 October** / Imperial Airways introduces the Supermarine
- Swan flying boat G-EBJY on the Southampton to Guernsey route. The route was discontinued in February 1929 when the Calcutta flying boats were transferred to the Mediterranean for the opening of the UK to India service (*British Airways*)
- 19 October** / Pan American Airways begins its operations with an airmail flight between the United States and Cuba, accomplished with a rented plane to meet a contract deadline (*FAA*)
- 25 October** / Bunavad, the first national airline of Bulgaria, commences operations (*Wikipedia*)
- 26 October** / Air Union lowers its prices and creates a second class with very interesting fares on the Paris – London route (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)
- 28 October** / Pan American Airways begins regular airmail service between Key West and Havana and also is the first U.S. airline to operate land aircraft over water on a regular schedule (*FAA & Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)
- November** / Guinea Airways is established (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)
- 22 November** / Aéropostale starts regular flights between Rio de Janeiro and Natal (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)
- December**
- 14 December** / Iberia take-off: King Alfonso XIII looks on as Spain's first commercial air route Madrid – Barcelona is opened [3]



Source: Iberia



Source: Western Canada Aviation Museum [1]

- **First flight of:**
  - Aero A.35 (*Jane's*, 1993)
  - Aero A.38 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Bernard 190 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Breguet 280T (*Wikipedia*)
  - CAMS 53 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Caproni Ca.101 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Fairchild KR-34 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Hamilton H-47 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Keystone – Loening Air Yacht (*Wikipedia*)
  - Koolhoven F.K.40 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Latécoère 32 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Loening C-2 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Mitsubishi MC-1 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Rohrbach Romar (*Wikipedia*)
  - Simmonds Spartan (*Wikipedia*)
- The first nonstop transcontinental flight is completed in 19 hours in a Lockheed Vega
- Stanley C. Kennedy, a Silver Star Navy pilot, convinces the board of directors of Inter-Island Steam Navigation of the importance of air service to the Territory and forms Inter-Island Airways (*Hawaiian Airlines*)
- Of the several proposed inter-island air services, the field narrows down to two contenders: Hawaiian Airways and Inter-Island Airways. Hawaiian Airways after erecting a hangar at John Rodgers Airport and making survey flights with a small tri-motor Kreutzer monoplane, runs into organizational difficulties and ceases operations (*Aloha State*)
- Huff Daland operates the first international mail and passenger route on the west coast of South America (Lima to Paita and Talara) for Pan American subsidiary Peruvian Airways (*Delta Air Lines*)
- C. E. Woolman, the principal founder of Delta Air Lines, leads movement to buy Huff Daland Dusters; renamed Delta Air Service for the Mississippi Delta region it serves (*Delta Air Lines*)
- Hungarian Aviation Joint Stock Company is reorganized, continuing operations under the name Malert (Malév)
- Iberia starts with three Rohrbach Roland aircraft, powered by three engines and with a top speed of 205 km/h
- Pan American is the first U.S. airline to develop an airport and airways traffic control system, and also the first U.S. airline to carry emergency life-saving equipment and the first U.S. airline to order and purchase aircraft built to its own specifications, with the Sikorsky S-38 flying boat

- ▶ *Stout Air Services purchases airmail routes from Ford Air Transport Service (Wikipedia)*
- ▶ *Western is the first airline to fly a trimotor (3-engine) plane in the United States, the Fokker F-10 (Delta Air Lines)*
- ▶ *Western begins developing the basis for today's air-to-ground communications and weather forecasting. Establishes 37 weather stations along its "model" airway route (Los Angeles-San Francisco) achieving a 99% on-time performance (Delta Air Lines)*
- ▶ *The world's first airport hotel opens at London Croydon Airport (where one of its first visitors is Charlie Chaplin). It is called The Aerodrome Hotel (ACI)*
- ▶ *Winnipeg Airport opens as Stevenson Aerodrome in honour of the noted Manitoba aviator and pioneer bush pilot, Captain Fred J. Stevenson. This is Canada's first international airport (ACI) [1]*

## January

- 1 January** / Boeing Air Transport acquires 73% of Pacific Air Transport's stock and runs an airline up and down the West Coast
- 16 January** / Pan American Airways begin its scheduled passenger service on the Key West and Havana route (FAA) [2]

## February

- 1 February** / Northwest becomes an international airline with weekly Twin Cities – Winnipeg flights via Fargo, N.D. After only three months, Fargo-Winnipeg service is suspended due to opposition from the Canadian government

[2]



- 14 February** / The first Short S.8 Calcutta flying boat G-EBVG built for Imperial Airways make its first flight at Rochester (British Airways & Century of Flight)

- 20 February** / The Pan American Convention on Air Navigation (also called the Havana Convention) is signed in Havana, with clauses that largely enable USA-owned airlines to freely operate services within North and South America. Among the principles of the Havana Convention, is the freedom of air passage, but unlike the Paris Convention it makes no attempt to develop uniform technical standards, nor is there any provision for periodic discussions on common problems through the agency of a permanent organization. This Pan-American Agreement is a certain success, since, signed by 21 States; it is finally ratified by 16 of them (ICAO)

- 26 February** / BFW (Messerschmitt) M.20 first flight (Heimann, 1988)

## March

- 1 March** / The airline Aéropostale (originally called Lignes Aériennes Latécoère) inaugurates a pioneering mail service by a flying boat between Toulouse and Buenos Aires, with a scheduled journey time of eight days (Compendium of International Civil Aviation) [3]

- 28 March** / Assistant U.S. Secretary of Commerce MacCracken calls a special conference of representatives of the Army Air Corps, Navy Bureau of Aeronautics, Weather Bureau, Bureau of Standards, and the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics to study the causes and prevention of ice formation on aircraft,



and to discuss the possible development of an instrument to indicate when ice forms on an aircraft in flight (FAA)

**30 March** / Dornier Delphin III first flight (Dornier, 1983)

**April** / Lockheed Air Express first flight (Wikipedia)

**15 April** / Aboard a Mexicana's single-engine Fairchild FC2 with 450 horsepower and piloted by Cap. Edward Snyder, the first flight with mail cargo carrying more than 5,000 pieces of mail and an edition of one of Mexico City's major newspapers arrive in Tuxpan, Veracruz

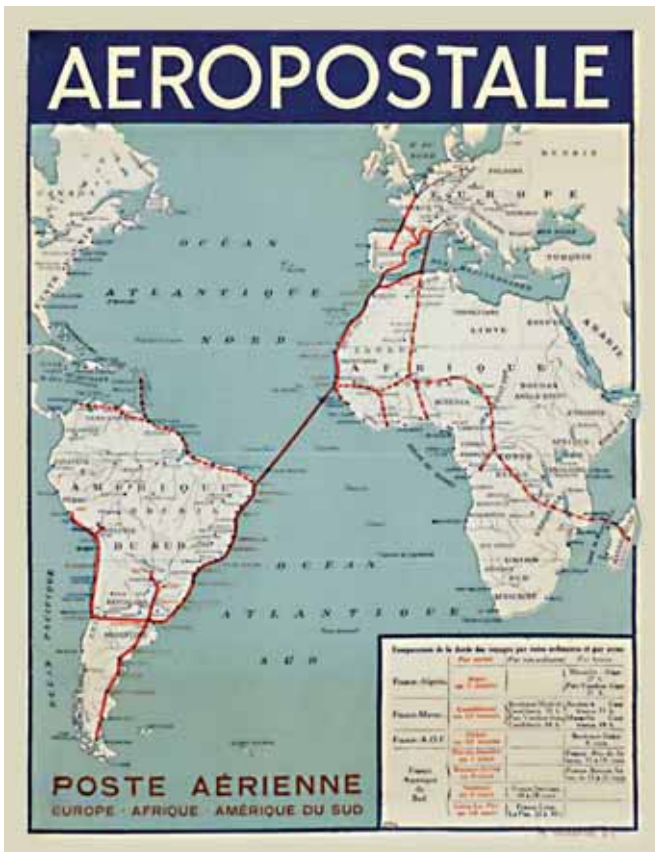
**15 April** / Travel Air 6000 first flight (Wikipedia)

**May**

**2 May** / The new passenger terminal at Croydon Airport, the Airport of London, is formally open by Lady Maud Hoare. Operations had begun earlier in the year (British Airways)

**16 May** / Transcontinental Air Transport (TAT) comes into being (FAA)

[3]



**17 May** / Vickers Vellore first flight (Wikipedia)

**25 May** / Sikorsky S-38 first flight (Wikipedia)

**31 May to 9 June**

/ Australian pilots Charles E. Kingsford-Smith and Charles T. P. Ulm, accompanied by a navigator and a radioman, both Americans, make the first transpacific crossing by air. They flew from Oakland, Calif., to Brisbane, Australia, with stopovers at Hawaii and the Fiji Islands, in a modified Fokker F.VII (FAA)

**June**

/ Kalinin K-4 first flight (Wikipedia)

**15 June**

/ Imperial Airways' Argosy G-EBLF City of Glasgow (Captain Gordon Olley) with 18 passengers, from Croydon to Edinburgh Turnhouse in a race with the London and North Eastern Railways' Flying Scotsman. The Argosy makes two refuelling stops and completes the journey approximately 15 minutes faster than by train (British Airways) [4]

**17 to 18 June**

/ Wilmer Stultz pilots a pontoon-equipped Fokker from Newfoundland to Wales on the first nonstop transatlantic flight by a seaplane. He is accompanied by a mechanic and by Amelia Earhart, the first woman transatlantic air passenger (FAA)

**20 June**

/ Braniff Air Lines begins operations. Organized by brothers Thomas and Paul Braniff, the airline carries passengers between Tulsa and Oklahoma City (FAA)

**23 June**

/ Merger of Aviation Corp of Americas with Pan American Airways Inc (Bell, 2008)

[4]



Source: British Airways



**30 June** / The U.S. Commerce Department's Aeronautics Branch establishes a five-member Aircraft Accident Board and succeeds in developing a practical radio navigation beacon system (FAA)

**July** / Farman F.190 first flight (Aviafrance)

**1 July** / The U.S. Commerce Department begins using teletype machines to transmit aviation weather information (FAA)

**27 July** / The Boeing Model 80, a 12-passenger trimotor biplane transport, makes its first flight [5]

**27 July** / Irish-born aviator Mary, Lady Heath, becomes the first woman appointed as a co-pilot with a civil airline, KLM (Wikipedia & <http://www.ladyicarus.com>)

**August**  
**1 August** / Luft Hansa and Dobrolet partner to operate a regular postal service on the route Berlin-Moscow-Irkutsk (Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991)

**September**  
**15 September** / Compania de Aviacion Faucett makes its first flight (Airlines Remembered, 2000)



**18 September** / The Graf Zeppelin, the most successful rigid airship ever built, makes its first flight (FAA)

## October

**1 October** / Newark first major airport in the New York metropolitan area open (The Port Authority of NY & NJ)

**30 October** / The Boeing Airplane and Transport Corp. is formed to encompass both airline and aircraft manufacturing operations and acquires BAT, PAT and the Boeing Airplane Co. as subsidiaries (Boeing & United Airlines)

## November

**20 November** / Douglas Aircraft Co. Inc. is organized

## December

**12 to 14 December**

/ The International Civil Aeronautics Conference is held in Washington, D.C., The purpose of the Conference is to consider the strides made throughout the world in the science and practice of civil aeronautics since the first power-driven flight, and to discuss ways and means of further developing air transport for the benefit of mankind. It provides an opportunity for an exchange of views on problems pertaining to aircraft in international commerce and trade, and suitably commemorates the twenty-fifth anniversary of the first flight of the Wright brothers. It also streamlines the way international airmail is prepaid and handled; before that, rules for prepaying international airmail depended on country-to-country treaties (ICAO)

**29 December** / The Polish Civil Aviation Department at the Ministry of Transport draws up a programme of fundamental changes in Polish air transport. Every private aviation company is closed down. In their stead, a single, self-governing, state enterprise is founded and named LOT Airlines Ltd. (Linje Lotnicze LOT Sp. z o.o.)

- ▶ **First flight of:**
  - *Bellanca CH-300* (Wikipedia)
  - *Consolidated Commodore* (Wikipedia)
  - *Curtiss Kingbird* (Wikipedia)
  - *Curtiss Thrush* (Wikipedia)
  - *Heinkel HE 12* (Wikipedia)
  - *Keystone-Loening Commuter* (Wikipedia)
  - *Keystone Patrician* (Wikipedia)
  - *Lioré et Olivier LeO H-242* (Wikipedia)
  - *Messerschmitt M 24* (Wikipedia)
- ▶ **Waco Mailplanes introduction** (Wikipedia)
- ▶ **Edwin Link, a citizen of the United States, invents the ground-based pilot training device, the world's first electro-mechanical flight simulator, that becomes known as the Link Trainer** (Compendium of International Civil Aviation & Century of Flight)
- ▶ **Tests of the ILS system begin in the United States** (Wikipedia)
- ▶ **IATA has grown from the original five members to 23 airlines. In 1929 five committees exist: Legal, Postal, Radiotelegraphic, Traffic and Cash Examination** (IATA Wings for the World since 1945, 2009)
- ▶ **New Zealand Parliament pass the "Local Authorities Empowering (Aviation Encouragement) Act 1929". It give County Councils, Harbour Boards, etc, power to establish and maintain aerodromes** (Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand)
- ▶ **American Airlines: The consolidation begins when The Aviation Corporation is formed to acquire younger aviation companies, including Robertson**
- ▶ **Dobrolyot and similar organizations of other Soviet republics, Ukrvozdrukput (Ukrainian Airways) and Zakavia (a Georgian Airline), are incorporated into Dobrolyot USSR** (Wikipedia)
- ▶ **Linea Aerea Nacional de Chile (LAN) is founded by Comandante Arturo Merino Benitez**
- ▶ **Luft Hansa pilots are routinely trained in instrument flying and aircraft are linked to air traffic controllers by radio** (Grant, 2002)
- ▶ **Luft Hansa opens its first cargo routes**
- ▶ **Union Airways of South Africa, the first South African commercial airline, starts its operations** (Wikipedia)
- ▶ **UPS becomes the first package delivery company to provide air service via privately operated airlines. Unfortunately, a lack of volume (caused in part by the Great Depression) contributed to the ending of the service in the same year**
- ▶ **The city of St Louis hires the first U.S. air traffic controller - Archie W. League, a pilot and mechanic** (ACI)

## January

✓ Juan Trippe forms Pan American-Grace Airways Inc that will open service as far south as Santiago, Chile in July (PANAGRA) (Bell, 2008) [1]

## 15 January

✓ Stearman M-2 Speedmail first flight (Wikipedia)

## 23 January

✓ Pan American takes control of Mexicana (CMA) stock

## 26 January

✓ The Portuguese National Council of Air, is created by Decree-Law No. 16 424 (INAC)

## February

### 1 February

✓ The Boeing Airplane and Transport Corp. changes its name to United Aircraft and Transportation Corp. and by the end of the year expands its operations to include Chance Vought Corp., Hamilton Metalplane Division, Boeing Aircraft of Canada, Stout Airlines, Northrop Aircraft Corp., Stearman Aircraft Co., Sikorsky Aviation Corp., Standard Steel Propeller Co. and Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Co.



Pan American route map 1936: "The Americas"

- 6 February** / First flight carrying international airmail in Central America and USA. Lindbergh piloting the amphibious Sikorsky S-38 opens the Pan American Miami-Panama route (*Autoridad Aeronautica Civil of Panama*)
- 13 February** / Junkers A50 first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 22 February** / Westland IV first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- March** / Mexicana open the international Mexico – Tuxpan – Tampico – Brownsville route
  - / Formation of New York, Rio and Buenos Aires Line (NYRBA) (*Bell, 2008*)
- 3 March** / Aviation Corporation (AVCO), a holding company is chartered
- 9 March** / Col. Charles A. Lindbergh inaugurates the first direct mail route to Mexico City, carrying 13 passengers on a trip from Brownsville, Texas (*AIAA*)
- 30 March** / Imperial Airways inaugurates its first through service from Britain to India (Karachi). The route is London (Croydon) – Paris – Basle by Argosy (by air), Basle – Genoa (by train), Ge-

[2]



Source: British Airways

noa-Rome (Ostia) – Naples – Corfu – Athens – Suda Bay (Crete) – Tobruk – Alexandria by Calcutta (by flying boat), Alexandria – Gaza – Rutbah Wells – Baghdad – Basra – Bushire – Lingeh-Jask – Gwadar – Karachi by DH.66 Hercules. The originally planned all-air route could not be operated as Italy would not allow British aircraft to enter Italy from France, and flying over the Alps then was not considered practical. The London – Karachi journey time was seven days and the single fare £130. By December the service had reached Delhi (*British Airways*) [2]

## April

- 12 April** / The Chinese Government founds the China National Aviation Corporation (CNAC). Its first objectives are to establish air services between Shanghai and Peking (now called Beijing), Hankow (Wuhan), and Canton (Guangzhou) (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

## May

- 7 May** / Dornier Do K1 first flight (*Dornier, 1983*)
- 14 to 20 May** / The first International Congress on Sanitary Aviation (Congrès international de l'aviation sanitaire) is held in Paris (*ICAO*)
- 22 May** / Pan American inaugurates its passenger service between Miami and the Canal Zone that lasts 56 hours (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)
- 25 May** / Lasco Lascoter first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## June

- 17 June** / Delta's first passenger flight carries one pilot and up to five passengers. Departed Dallas, Texas, at 8 a.m. Made scheduled stops at Shreveport and Monroe, Louisiana, before landing at Jackson, Mississippi. The 427-mile flight took 5 hours [3]

[3]



Source: Delta Flight Museum



**18 June** / The second day of Delta's passenger service. Delta's first woman passenger was on the flight out of Dallas. Her name was Billie Rose, wife of pilot Elmer Rose, and she flew non-revenue status

## July

**7 July** / Transcontinental Air Transport, becomes the first airline to offer coast-to-coast travel, with combination air-and-rail service (*TWA*)

**12 July** / Chief Pilot Richard Wagner takes off for the first flight with the Dornier Do X (*Dornier, 1983*) [4]

**August** / Bernard 60 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**1 August** / Twin Cities' businessmen led by Richard C. Lilly of St. Paul purchase Northwest Airways from the original Michigan investor group

**23 August** / Fokker F.IX first flight (*www.dutch-aviation.nl*)

**September** / KLM starts regular, scheduled service between Amsterdam and Batavia. Until the outbreak of the Second World War, this was the world's longest-distance scheduled service

**1 September** / NYRBA opens an east coast route connecting Buenos Aires and Santiago (*Bell, 2008*)

**1 September** / Delta extends its original route east from Jackson to Meridian, Mississippi, and Tuscaloosa and Birmingham, Alabama

**9 September** / de Havilland Puss Moth first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**12 September** / 18-passenger Boeing Model 80A makes its first flight

**13 September** / Fokker F.32 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**Mid** / Trippe buyout of NYRBA (*Bell, 2008*)

**24 September** / At Mitchel Field, N.Y., Army Lt. James H. Doolittle becomes the first pilot to use only instrument guidance to take-off, fly a set course, and land. Doolittle received directional guidance from a radio range course aligned with the airport runway, while radio marker beacons indicated his distance from the runway. He relied on a sensitive altimeter to determine his altitude, and controlled the attitude of his aircraft with guidance from a directional gyro and an artificial horizon (*FAA*)

## October

**1 October** / Allocation of radio frequencies by the U.S. Federal Radio Commission clear the way for air transport companies to develop a communications network supplementing Federal facilities (*FAA*)

**4 to 12 October** / The Second International Conference on Private Air Law meets in Warsaw (*ICAO*)

**5 October** / The Boeing Model 40B-4 makes its first flight. It is the first plane in the Model 40 series to use the two-way radio, designed by Thorpe Hiscock, William Boeing's brother-in-law

**8 October** / Cubana is founded

**12 October** / Warsaw Convention formally entitled Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to International Carriage by Air is signed by 23 States. This convention establishes the international liability for air carriers and the monetary limits for damage, delay and loss (*ICAO*) [5]

[4]



Source: German Federal Archives - Georg Pahl

[5]





# 1929

**18 October** / Kalinin K-5 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**21 October** / A record flight with 169 people on board is made with a Dornier Do X (it took 20 years to break this record) (*Dornier, 1983*)

## November

**6 November** / First flight of four-engine large commercial aircraft Junkers G 38 in Dessau (*Junkers*)

**11 November** / Inter-Island Airways, Ltd. introduces the first scheduled air service in Hawaii with a fleet of two 8-passenger Sikorsky S-38 (*Hawaiian Airlines*)

**13 November** / With Decree No.19, the Costa Rica General Directorate of Civil Aviation is created (*Direccion General de Aviacion Civil Costa Rica*)

**December** / Dornier Do K 2 first flight (*Dornier, 1983*)

**18 December** / The first IATA International Scheduling Conference to coordinate airline schedules and to standardize scheduling information is held in Berlin (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**21 December** / SPCA 40T first flight (*Wikipedia*)

# 1930

## Mid 1930s:

- Earl Ward the importance of radio contact between all flights (*CANSO*)
- Glen Gilbert (*CANSO*)
  - All pilots should get clearance from ground personnel

- First separation rules: 1,000 feet vertical separation and the 10 nm airway width

## Late 1930s:

- ATC: Aerodrome (Tower) Control and Area Control (*CANSO*)

- First flight of:
  - Bellanca Aircruiser (*Wikipedia*)
  - Desoutter Mk.II (*Wikipedia*)
  - Fairchild 100 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Focke-Wulf A 32 (*Jane's, 1993*)
  - Focke-Wulf A 33 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Heinkel He 58 (*Heimann, 1988*)
  - Northrop Alpha (*Wikipedia*)
  - Saro A.19 Cloud (*Wikipedia*)
  - Savoia-Marchetti S.71 (*Jane's, 1993*)
  - Stearman 4 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Stinson SM-6000 Airliner (*www.flugzeuginfo.net*)
  - Wibault 280 (*Wikipedia*)

➤ Fokker Aircraft Corporation of America is merged with General Motors Corporation and the company's new name is General Aviation Manufacturing Corporation

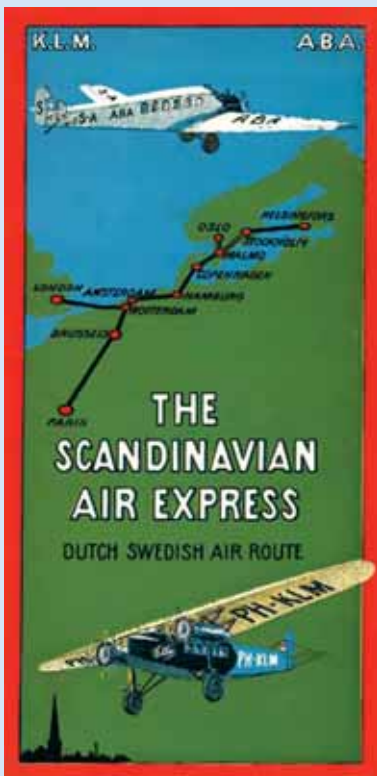
- The first airplane kitchen is invented (patented) by Werner Sell (Georg Robert Werner Sell) of Germany (*Wikipedia*)
- A sound-locator acoustic system for detection of aircraft in flight is developed (*AIAA*)
- Directorate General of Civil Aviation of Chile is created
- Ghana Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) is established
- Aero O/Y and ABA launch the name "Scandinavian Air Express" to market the companies' routes between Stockholm and Helsinki as well as Aero's route between Helsinki and Tallinn (*Finnair*) [1]

- Bunavad, the national airline of Bulgaria, ceases operations (*Wikipedia*)
- Service begins to Atlanta. Lack of mail contract forces suspension of passenger service. Company renamed Delta Air Corporation
- The first Greek airline is established, a partnership named "Icarus", which after a few months was replaced by the corporation E.E.E.S (Hellenic Air Transport Company) (*Olympic Airways*)
- Mexicana become the first international airline to unite two foreign destinations: Brownsville and Guatemala. The route made stopovers in Veracruz, Minatitlan, Ixtepec and



Source: Burbank Bob Hope Airport [2]

[1]



Tapachula, and continued on to the city of Guatemala. There, Mexicana linked up with Pan American routes, which at the time flew to Miami, Nicaragua and Panama

- ▶ Pan American is the first U.S. airline to offer international air express service
- ▶ TWA is the first airline:
  - to require that its pilots have a flight plan, flight log, flight clearance and cockpit check lists
  - to fly four-engine aircraft, when the Fokker F-32 was put into scheduled service
  - to organize a weather department and employ a professional meteorologist
  - to develop the first automatic trailing wire antenna release device and first the elastic de-icible radio beacon antenna
- ▶ Western uses the first directional radio compass for air navigation, and with the

Boeing Aircraft Company develops and uses the first air-to-ground radio (Delta Air Lines)

- ▶ The world's first radio-equipped Air Traffic Control Tower regulating arrivals, departures and surface movement of aircraft at a specific airport, opens in Cleveland (ACI & Cleveland Airport System) and the first runway lighting appeared at Cleveland Municipal Airport (Wikipedia)
- ▶ Burbank California Airport is inaugurated one of the first examples of the "simple terminal" design, which was a standalone building separate from the hangars (ACI) [2]
- ▶ IATA Traffic Committee develops the first standard hand-written ticket for multiple trips (These same standards served the industry into the early 1970s) (IATA)

## January

- 13 January** / Farman F.300 first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 17 January** / Pitcairn's name is changed to Eastern Air Transport, Inc. **[3]**
- 25 January** / The Aviation Corporation's airline subsidiaries are incorporated into American Airways, Inc. (*American Airlines & FAA*)

## February

- 1 February** / Deutsche Luft Hansa, in partnership with the Chinese Government, establishes the Eurasia Aviation Corporation (*Morgensten and Plath, 2006*)
- 4 February** / First air route in Arkhangelsk is launched with a "Dobrolyot" four-seat aircraft with side number 119 led by Konstantin Deduschenko takes off from Kegostrov airport and successfully operates the route Arkhangelsk – Ust-Sysolsk – Arkhangelsk (*Nordavia*)

## March

- 31 March** / United Aircraft and Transport Corp. (UATC) acquires NAT (*United Airlines*)

## April

/ PWS-21 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## May

- 4 May** / Sikorsky S-41 first flight (*Sikorsky Archives*)
- 6 May** / The Monomail, the first Boeing commercial monoplane, makes its first flight **[4]**
- 15 May** / Ellen Church, a registered nurse, joins the crew of the Boeing Model 80A headed to San Francisco. She is the first world's female flight attendant **[5]**
- 15 May** / The U.S. Department of Commerce require airlines to obtain a certificate of authority to operate if they engage in interstate passenger service (*FAA*)

## June

- 12 June** / Delta enters Atlanta
- 16 June** / Imperial Airways inaugurates a London-Birmingham-Manchester-Liverpool thrice-weekly service with Argosy aircraft. This service is to provide continental connections at Croydon (it was withdrawn on 20 September) (*British Airways*)

**[3]**



Source: Eastern

**[4]**



Source: Boeing

**[5]**



Source: Boeing



## July

**1 July** / Northwest moves its operations base to St. Paul's Holman Field (today's St. Paul Downtown Airport). First ground radio installation is purchased

**1 July** / CSA enters into the world of international transport with a Ford 5AT plane on the Prague -Zagreb route

## August

**18 August** / Eastern inaugurates passenger operations between New York and Washington (FAA)

**24 August** / Latécoère 380 first flight (Wikipedia)

## September

**23 September** / Dornier Do S first flight (Dornier, 1983)

## October

**1 October** / Vickers Viasra first flight (Wikipedia)

**1 October** / Western Air Express merges with Transcontinental Air Transport to become Transcontinental and Western Air (TWA)

**13 October** / Junkers Ju 52/1m first flight (Jane's, 1993)

**16 October** / Saro A.21 Windhover first flight (Wikipedia)

**25 October** / TWA is the first airline to offer all-air trans-continental service lasting 36 hours, with an overnight stop in Kansas City

## November

**13 November** / Braniff Airways begins operations (FAA)

**14 November** / Handley Page H.P.42 first flight (Wikipedia)

## December

**5 December** / Fokker F.XII first flight (www.dutch-aviation.nl)

**10 December** / Eastern Air Transport inaugurates first continuous passenger service from Atlanta to New York (City of Atlanta)

**22 December** / Tupolev TB-3 first flight (Wikipedia)

**31 December** / Airworthiness regulations for aircraft components and accessories become effective in U.S. (FAA)

# 1931

### ➤ First flight of:

- Avro 627 Mailplane (Wikipedia)
- Beriev MBR-2 (Wikipedia)
- Farman F.250 (Wikipedia)
- Focke-Wulf A 38 (Wikipedia)
- Koolhoven F.K.43 (Wikipedia)
- Latécoère 300 (Jane's, 1993)
- Letov S-32 (Wikipedia)
- Lockheed Model 9 Orion, the first airliner to have retractable landing gear (Wikipedia)
- Savoia-Marchetti S.66 (Wikipedia)
- Werkspoor Jumbo (Wikipedia)
- Wibault 360 (Wikipedia)

➤ Airport codes are introduced. The airports with two-letter weather station

codes receive an X on the end (LA became LAX and Portland's PD became PDX), and every subsequent airport is given three letters (ACI)

➤ Although there is only one passenger fare on a given route, a round trip discount is introduced (IATA Wings for the World since 1945, 2009)

➤ Eastern acquires New York Airways (FAA)

➤ E.E.E.S (Hellenic Air Transport Company) first flight is Athens – Thessaloniki and the route opened officially carrying an enthusiastic passenger, Greek Prime Minister Eleftherios Venizelos (Olympic Airways)

➤ General Motors acquires control of Western through a subsidiary (Delta Air Lines)

➤ The "crane" is officially accepted as the LOT Polish Airlines livery. Also a multi-section route is established, flying Warsaw-Lwow-Czerniowce-Bucharest

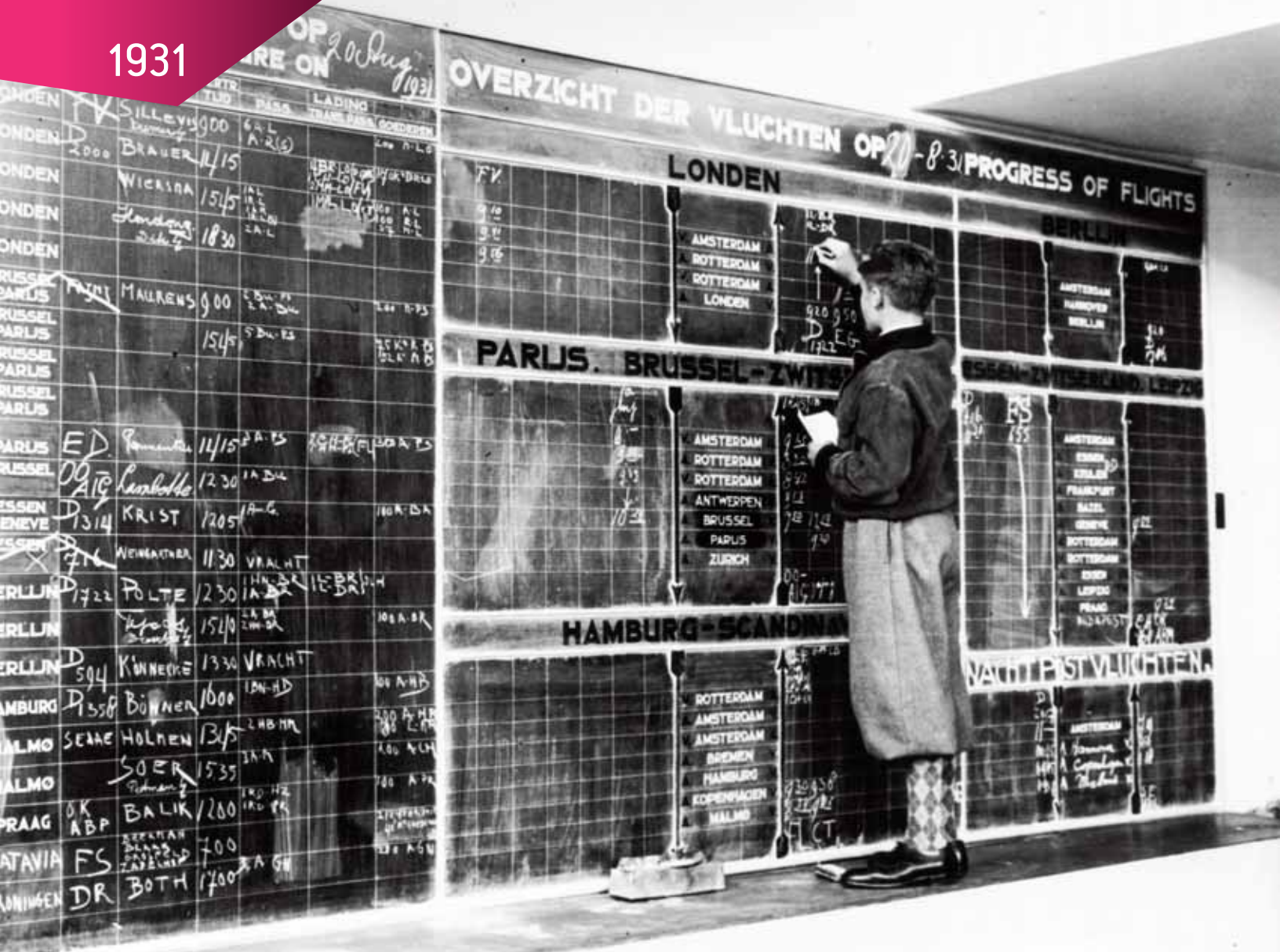
➤ Pan American is the first U.S. airline to develop and operate four-engine flying boats, its first Clippers, Sikorsky S-40 fleet

➤ Qantas establishes its first link with Britain's Imperial Airways when it carries the first airmail from Brisbane to Darwin as part of an experimental Australia-England run

➤ The airline Transportes Aéreos Centroamericanos (TACA) is founded in Tegucigalpa, Honduras

➤ TWA develops the first transport tail-wheel lock, applied to the Northrop Alpha airplane





Schiphol offers flights to multiple European destinations - Source: Schiphol Group

**February** / Breguet 393T first flight (*Wikipedia*)

/ Farman F.280 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**2 February** / Northwest resumes "international" service to Winnipeg. In a compromise to satisfy both U.S. and Canadian governments, Northwest flies to the border town of Pembina, North Dakota, where mail and passengers transfer to Western Canada Airways for the last 67-mile leg to Winnipeg

**12 February** / An amendment to existing regulations in U.S. covering interstate airline operations requires a co-pilot on all aircraft flying a schedule of five or more hours with eight or more passengers (*FAA*)

**21 February** / In Peru a pilot of Faucett Aviation transport is forced to deviate from his planned flight path under threat from a passenger with a weapon. This is the first recorded hijacking (*IATA Wings for the World since 1945, 2009 & Wikipedia*)

**24 February** / Short S17 Kent first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**28 February** / G-ABFA Scipio, the first of three Short S17 Kent flying boats for Imperial Airways, makes its first flight from the Medway at Rochester. It left the UK on 27 April for its Mediterranean station (*British Airways*) [1]

**28 February** / Imperial Airways introduces a weekly England to Central Africa service terminating at Mwanza on Lake Victoria, taking ten days to cover the 5,124 mile route (*British Airways*)

## March

**26 March** / Swissair is formed following the merger of Balair and Ad Astra

**28 March** / Boeing Air Transport, National Air Transport, Varney Airlines and Pacific Air Transport combine as United Air Lines, providing coast-to-coast passenger service and mail service. It takes 27 hours to fly the route, one way

## June

**11 June** / The Handley Page H.P.42 four-engine biplane, a notable aircraft, is introduced by Imperial Airways on the Croydon to Paris route (*British Airways*) [2]

**14 June** / Aerovias Nacionales de Colombia S.A. Avianca is constituted as a result of the merger of SCADTA and the Servicio Aéreo Colombiano SACO

## July

/ David Behncke meets with 24 "key men" in Chicago to officially form ALPA

**7 July** / Sikorsky S-40 first flight (*Sikorsky Archives*)

**August** / PWS-24 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**6 August** / TWA is the first airline to inaugurate cargo service, with a shipment of livestock from St. Louis to Newark

**14 August** / Tupolev ANT-14 first flight. It has been credited as Russia's first all-metal aircraft, with a corrosion-resistant-steel structure (*Wikipedia*) [3]

**17 August** / Dornier Do K 3 first flight (*Dornier, 1983*)



Source: British Airways

## October

**1 October** / The U.S. Department of Commerce promulgates a regulation prescribing a cockpit crew complement of two, a pilot and co-pilot, on all scheduled air transports capable of carrying fifteen or more passengers or having a gross take-off weight of 15,000 pounds or more (*FAA*)

## November

**20 November** / Legislative Act No. 3909 is passed by the Philippine Legislative creating an Office under the Department of Commerce and Communications to handle aviation matters (*Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines*)

## December

**9 December** / The Imperial Airways' service for Central Africa is extended experimentally to Cape Town for the carriage of Christmas mail. The aircraft used on the last sector, DH.66 G-AARY City of Karachi arrived in Cape Town on 21 December (*British Airways*)



Source: British Airways



Source: Wikipedia





[1] Source: Alaska Airlines

- ▶ **First flight of:**
  - Airspeed AS.4 Ferry (Jane's, 1993)
  - Fiat G.2 (Jane's, 1993)
  - Northrop Gamma (Jane's, 1993)
  - Spartan Cruiser (Wikipedia)
- ▶ **Direccion General de Aeronautica of Paraguay is created** (Direccion Nacional de Aeronautica Civil of Paraguay)
- ▶ **The company that ultimately becomes Alaska Airlines is born when Linious "Mac" McGee paints "McGee Airways" on the side of a three-passenger Stinson and starts flying out of Anchorage** [1]
- ▶ **Pan American becomes the first airline to sell all-expense international air tour packages**
- ▶ **Pan American acquires 100% of Cubana** (Wikipedia)
- ▶ **RAF Sharjah opens. It is the first airport in the UAE and the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, and is used by Imperial Airways (ACI)** [2]

## January

- 20 January** / Routes to East Africa via Cairo are also being developed and on this day a mail-only route to Cape Town was opened. On 27 April the route was opened to passengers. The flights left Croydon on Wednesday and landed at Cape Town on Sunday, ten days later (British Airways)
- 29 January** / de Havilland Fox Moth first flight (Jane's, 1993)

## February

- 11 February** / Couzinet 70 first flight (Wikipedia)
- 24 February** / Latécoère 500 first flight (Wikipedia)
- 25 February** / The Central Administration of the Civil Air Fleet is founded and "Aeroflot" is adopted as the official abbreviation of the country's civil aviation service

## March

- / Junkers Ju 46 first flight (Wikipedia)

**2 March** / National Air Transport Company (Costa Rica) starts operating (*Direccion General de Aviacion Civil Costa Rica*)

## April

**30 April** / The International Aeronautical Q Code, used in air traffic communications throughout the world, is established at a meeting in London, U.K. (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

## May

**7 May** / Egyptair is established (*Egyptian Ministry of Civil Aviation*)

**7 May** / Junkers Ju 52/3m first flight (*Junkers*) [3]

[2] Source: Sharjah Airport



**7 May** / Dornier Do F make its first flight (*Dornier, 1983*)

**9 May** / Capt. A. F. Hegenberger flies without a check pilot to make the first blind solo flight on instruments only, at Dayton, Ohio (*FAA*)

**21 May** / Western is the first airline with airborne television reception (a one-time event). The broadcast, from an experimental TV station, features a then unknown actress named Loretta Young (*Western & White, 2012*)

**22 May** / General Aviation GA-43 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**26 May** / Farman F.220 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## June

**6 June** / Armstrong Whitworth Atalanta A.W.15 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**24 June** / Birthday of Pulkovo Airlines. The first facility, the Shosseynaya airfield, is commissioned, with the first two airplanes with passengers and mail from Moscow landing on its ground (*Rossiya*)

**30 June** / Fokker F.XVIII first flight (*Wikipedia*)

[3]



Source: Kostas Iatrou



## July

**1 July** / Aero's first Ju 52/3 goes into service on the Helsinki-Stockholm route (*Finnair*)

**26 July** / The Boeing Model 247, the first modern airliner, is awarded its patent

## August

/ The Douglas Gamma transport, built by John Northrop, makes its first flight

## 23 August

/ By Decree No. 147 is established the National Commission for Aviation of Panama (*Autoridad Aeronautica Civil of Panama*)

## September

**20 September** / Douglas is awarded a contract by TWA to build the DC-1 prototype, with options for 60 more

**26 September** / Imperial Airways introduces the Armstrong Whitworth A.W.15 Atalanta, four engine aircraft (*British Airways*)

## October

/ First scheduled commercial flight arrives in Bahrain en-route from London to Delhi

**4 October** / Kharkov KhAI-1 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**15 October** / Tata Sons Ltd. operates the first Karachi - Ahmedabad - Bombay - Bellary - Madras mail service to connect with Imperial Airways' London - Karachi services. The first service carried mail which had left London on 8 October

**24 or 30 October** / Bloch MB.120 (*Dassault Aviation*)

## November

**8 November** / Junkers Ju 60 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**24 November** / de Havilland Dragon DH.84 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## December

**1 December** / Heinkel He 70 first flight (*Heimann, 1988*)

**8 December** / SPCA 90 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

► **First flight of:**

- CAMS 58 (*Wikipedia*)
- Fokker F.XX (*www.dutch-aviation.nl*)
- PWS-54 (*Wikipedia*)
- Stinson Reliant (*Wikipedia*)

► **Larry Jewell improves pilot-controller coordination through the ALDIS lamp** (*CANSO*)

► **A code for seat reservations come into general use** (*IATA Wings for the World since 1945, 2009*)

► **The Air Transport Association of Canada (ATAC) is established**

► **The history of civil aviation of the Kyrgyz Republic start by adoption Resolution of the Council of People's Commissars of the Kirghiz SSR** (*Civil Aviation Agency of the Kyrgyz Republic*)

► **Eastern acquires Luddington Air Lines (FAA)**

► **Swissair links Switzerland to the European night airmail network with service between Basel and Frankfurt**

► **TWA is the first to develop and use advanced "flight planning" for every flight, based on a thorough analysis of weather and overall operating conditions**

► **TWA is the first airline to operate regular all-cargo service. The airline is also the first to fly transcontinental all-cargo service, inaugurated with Ford Tri-Motor "Flying Boxcars."**



Source: Boeing [1]

**January**

**30 January** / Curtiss T-32 Condor II first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**February**

**8 February** / First flight of Boeing Model 247 [1]

**13 February** / The Warsaw convention of 1929 comes into force (*ICAO*)

**19 February** / Vultee V-1 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**April**

**11 April** / Airspeed AS.5 Courier first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**12 April** / The first International Sanitary Convention for Aerial Navigation is signed at The Hague (without a conference) to protect communities against diseases liable to be imported by aircraft and to protect flying personnel against diseases due to flying (*ICAO*)

**May**

15 to 29 May / Northrop Delta first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**15 to 29 May** / The Third International Conference on Private Air Law meets in Rome. This conference adopts two conventions, as follows:

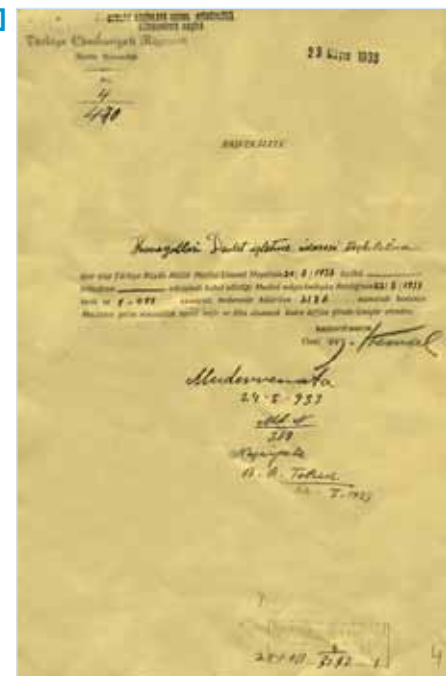
- The Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to Damage Caused by Foreign Aircraft to Third Parties on the Surface;
- The Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to the Precautionary Arrest of Aircraft.

The purpose of these conventions is to ensure adequate compensation for persons who suffer damage caused on the surface by foreign aircraft while limiting in a reasonable manner the extent of liabilities incurred for such damage in order not to hinder the development of international air transport (*ICAO*)

**20 May**

/ The "State Airlines Administration" operating under the supervision of the Ministry of National Defense is established (*Turkish Airlines*) [2]

[2]



Source: Turkish Airlines

- 27 May** / de Havilland Leopard Moth first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 29 May** / An England to Australia survey flight take-off, operated by Imperial Airways Armstrong Whitworth XV Atalanta G-ABTL Astraea. Major H G Brackley, Imperial Airways' Air Superintendent, is in charge of the flight. Astraea flew Croydon – Paris – Lyons – Rome – Brindisi – Athens – Alexandria – Cairo where it followed the normal route to Karachi then onwards to Jodhpur – Delhi – Calcutta – Akyab – Rangoon – Bangkok – Prachuab – Alor Star – Singapore – Palembang – Batavia – Sourabaya – Bima – Koepang – Bathurst Island – Darwin – Newcastle Waters – Camooweal – Cloncurry – Longreach – Roma – Toowoomba reaching Eagle Farm, Brisbane on 23 June. Sydney was visited on 26 June, Canberra on 28 June and Melbourne on 29 June (*British Airways*)
- June**
- 2 June** / The Gamma flown by Capt. Frank Hawks broke several speed records including flying 13 hours and 278 minutes at 181 mph non-stop between Los Angeles, Calif., and New York
- 21 June** / Supermarine Walrus first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 25 June** / Pacific Seaboard Air Lines makes its first flight (*Delta Air Lines*)
- July**
- 1 July** / The first Douglas airliner, the DC-1, makes its first flight
- 1 July** / The UK to India route is extended from Karachi to Calcutta in conjunction with Indian Trans-Continental Airways. The trans-India route was Karachi – Jodhpur – Delhi – Cawnpore – Allahabad – Calcutta (On 23 September the route is extended Calcutta – Akyab – Rangoon. On 9 December the route is extended Rangoon – Singapore) (*British Airways*)
- 1 July** / Air France and Deutsche Luft Hansa inaugurate a twice-weekly pool service across the South Atlantic as the volume of airmail continued to grow (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)
- 11 July** / Dewoitine D.332 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)
- August**
- / Air Orient, Air Union, the Société Générale de Transport Aérien (S.G.T.A. formerly Lignes Farman) and the C.I.D.N.A. (formerly Franco-Roumaine), start a joint airline named Société Centrale pour l'Exploitation de Lignes Aériennes (S.C.E.L.A.). The airline is named Air France following the takeover of the assets of the bankrupt Aéropostale
- / Egyptair commences commercial operations with the Spartan Cruiser flying from Cairo to Alexandria
- 3 August** / Blériot 5190 first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 11 August** / Boston and Maine Airways makes its first flight from Boston to Portland and Bangor, Maine (*Northeast Airlines*)
- 18 August** / Short Scion first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)
- October**
- 7 October** / Air France is officially inaugurated at Paris-Le Bourget Airport
- November**
- 1 November** / Central Airlines and Pennsylvania Airlines merge to form Pennsylvania-Central Airlines (*FAA*)
- 4 November** / VASP is founded
- 7 November** / The formation of Civil Aviation in Belarus begins with the construction of the airport in Minsk that is inaugurated with the first flight on the route Minsk – Moscow
- December**
- / KLM flies Christmas and New Year's cards from Amsterdam to Batavia in a record time of just over four days in a Fokker F-XVIII Pelikaan. The mail arrived in time for Christmas
- / The only Douglas DC-1 ever built is delivered to TWA
- 1 December** / Indian National Airways commences the first daily service in India, between Calcutta and Dacca (*Wikipedia*)





1934-1943

exploring the world  
and world war II

## 1934-1943

# Exploring the world and World War II

The first modern airlines were developed during this decade (1934-1943). The Boeing 247 unveiled in 1933 is among the first modern aircraft ordered by United Air Lines. Other innovations during this period included the variable pitch propeller that reduced take-off distance and increased rate of climb and boosted cruising speeds. The DC-1 was the first to be equipped with an automatic pilot and the first efficient wing flaps for added lift during take-off. The DC-2 and 3 followed later. The DC-3 enabled viable commercial operations. It was built with the innovative aluminium alloys and more powerful engines. The use of the hydraulics to lower and raise the landing gear was another significant innovation with the DC-3.

Apart from technological breakthroughs, Government decisions were very important to aviation's future. One of the most important aviation bills ever enacted by Congress in the USA was the Civil Aeronautics Act of 1938. Until that time, various government agencies and departments had a hand in aviation policy. The Act created the Civil Aeronautics Authority (CAA) and gave the new agency power to regulate airline fares, airmail rates, interline agreements, mergers and routes, thereby encouraging the development of commercial air transportation. The accident investigation function was bestowed to the CAA, which was renamed the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB). These moves, coupled with the tremendous progress made on the technological side, put the industry on the road to success.

The Second World War brought about many innovations. One significant one was the pressurisation with the B-29 being the first large pressurised aircraft which led to the growth in comfort, altitude (above 10 000 feet) and range. The Boeing Statoliner, a derivation of the B-17 Bomber was introduced in 1940 and first flown by TWA with pressurised cabin. Another critical innovation was the development of the jet engine. Other advances were recorded in radio technology (communication and radar) and aerodynamics efficiency.

During the war, airlines provided much needed airlift to keep troops and supplies moving to the front and throughout the production chain back home. For the first time in their history, the airlines had far more passenger and freight business than they could handle. Several of them also had opportunities to pioneer new routes, gaining an exposure that would give them a decidedly broader outlook when the war ended.

**Elijah Chingosho**  
*Secretary General, AFRAA*

➤ **First flight of:**

- Avro 642 Eighteen (*Wikipedia*)
- Breda Ba.44 (*Jane's, 1993*)
- Caudron Simoun (*Wikipedia*)
- ICAR 36 (*Wikipedia*)
- Kellett KD-1 (*Wikipedia*)
- Messerschmitt Bf 108 (*Jane's, 1993*)
- Parnall Heck (*Wikipedia*)
- Savoia-Marchetti S.73 (*Wikipedia*)

➤ **IATA replaces a preliminary emblem with a new one, representing more adequately the aeronautical, peaceful and international character of IATA's work**



➤ **An International Air Guide is able to reassure its readers that "no special clothing is required" for flight (*Grant, 2002*)**

➤ **The Transport Licensing (Commercial Aircraft Services) Act 1934 come into force, heralding the beginning of regulated airline passenger services in New Zealand (*Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand*)**

➤ **American Airlines developed and tested the first automatic direction-finder for airplanes (*AIAA*)**

➤ **Eastern Air Transport takes the name Eastern Air Lines (*FAA*)**

➤ **Luft Hansa launches airmail service to Buenos Aires (*Deutsche Lufthansa AG, Media Relations Lufthansa Group*)**

➤ **McGee merges with Star Air Service creating the largest airline in Alaska with 22 aircraft**

➤ **TWA is the first airline to cooperate with the Civil Aeronautics Administration to develop and install an**

**ultra-high-frequency blind-landing system**

➤ **TWA, with the Goodrich Rubber Co., develop the rubber wing de-icer and the rubber propeller de-icer overshoe**

➤ **TWA is the first to adopt the Sperry automatic pilot as standard equipment to reduce pilot fatigue**

➤ **Walter T. Varney and his partner Louis Mueller found Varney Speed Lines. That same year, Varney cedes control to Mueller (*Continental Airlines*)**

➤ **Western changes its name to General Air Lines and once again becomes an independent corporation under the control of General Motors. Also Western's association ends with TWA when an independent Western Air Express Corporation is created, dissolving both General Air Lines and Western Air Express, Inc. (*Delta Air Lines*)**

**January**

**3 January** / The Laté 300 "Croix du Sud", an Air France four-engine seaplane, crosses the South Atlantic (Dakar – Natal) in 19 hours

**14 January** / de Havilland Express DH.86 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**18 January** / Qantas Empire Airways Limited is registered in Brisbane, effectively combining the interests of Imperial Airways and Qantas each of which held a half share

**30 January** / Junkers Ju 160 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**February**

**1 February** / South African Government takes over the assets and liabilities of Union Airways. The airline is renamed South African Airways (*SAA*)

**3 February** / Deutsche Luft Hansa begins the first regular airmail service across the Atlantic Ocean, between Berlin and Rio de Janeiro (*Wikipedia & Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

**9 February**

/ Postmaster General James A. Farley, carrying out the wishes of U.S. President Roosevelt, announces the cancellation of all existing airmail contracts, effective midnight, 19 February. His action followed disclosures made by a special Senate investigating committee chaired by Senator Hugo L. Black (D-Ala.) and investigations made by Farley himself. The general basis for cancellation of the airmail contracts was the charge that competitive bidding had been bypassed and contract awards had been made as a result of collusion in a series of conferences of operators with Postmaster General Walter Folger Brown. The following day, noting that the airmail contracts had been canceled and that the continuing need for air mail service had created an emergency, President Roosevelt issued an Executive order directing the Secretary of War to make available the planes and pilots necessary to carry the airmail during the emergency. In response to the President's Executive Order, the Army Air Corps



began carrying the airmail when the contracts expired *(FAA)*

**19 February** / The Douglas DC-1 makes record coast-to-coast flight, Los Angeles to Newark, N.J., in 13 hours, 4 minutes

**19 February** / Wideroes Flyveselskap AS is founded

**23 February** / Lockheed Electra L-10 first flight, the first airliner to be pressurised **[1]**

## March

**21 March** / Railway Air Services Ltd. (RAS) is registered. Formed by the four mainline railways, London Midland & Scottish, London & North Eastern, Great Western and Southern and Imperial Airways, the company was "to provide and operate air services in the British Isles and elsewhere, and to form connecting links with the services of Imperial Airways *(British Airways)*

**26 March** / Short Scylla first flight *(Wikipedia)*

**30 March** / Sikorsky S-42, the Flying Clipper, first flight *(Sikorsky Archives)*

**31 March** / By Decree No. 24070, is granted government permission to VASP to "establish air traffic in the country" with the granting of lines: Sao Paulo – Ribeirao Preto – Uberaba (450km) and Sao Paulo – San Carlos – Black River (450km)

## April

**11 April** / American Airways becomes American Airlines, Inc. *(American Airlines & FAA)*

**16 April** / Northwest is reincorporated under Minnesota law as Northwest Airlines, Inc. **[2]**



**[2]**

**17 April** / Qantas operates its first overseas passenger flight from Brisbane to Singapore, a four-day trip. The first overseas passenger is Major A. Phillips

**17 April** / de Havilland Dragon Rapide DH.89 first flight *(Jane's, 1993)*

**27 April** / Stinson Model A first flight *(Wikipedia)*

## May

**8 May** / Mail service by commercial air companies begins again on certain routes in U.S. *(FAA)*

**11 May** / The Douglas DC-2 makes its first flight **[3]**



**[1]**

Source: National Museum of the U.S. Air Force, Lockheed Y1C-36 Fact Sheet Media

**18 May** / The Douglas DC-2, the production version of the DC-1 and forerunner of the DC-3, enters commercial service on TWA's Columbus – Pittsburgh – Newark route

**19 May** / Tupolev ANT-20 Maksim Gorky first flight. Its wingspan was similar to that of a modern Boeing 747 (*Wikipedia*) [4]

**24 May** / Koolhoven F.K.48 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**26 May** / The first official Royal Air Mail pennant is presented to Imperial Airways (*British Airways*)

## June

**12 June** / The U.S. President signs the Air Mail Act of 1934 into law (*FAA*)

**22 June** / Fokker F.XXXVI first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**26 June** / Airspeed AS.6 Envoy first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## July

**1 July** / The name of the U.S. Aeronautics Branch is changed to Bureau of Air Commerce (*FAA*)

**4 July** / Delta receives Air Mail Route 24 from Post Office and starts first mail service

**15 July** / Varney Speed Lines first flight is a 530-mile route from Pueblo, Colorado to El Paso, Texas with stops in Las Vegas, Santa Fe and Albuquerque, New Mexico (*Continental Airlines*)

**20 July** / United Airlines Transport Corporation (UALTC) is formed to succeed UAL as owner/operator of BAT, NAT, PAT and Varney and United Airports of California

**24 July** / Supermarine Stranraer first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**28 July** / First air hostesses in Europe employed by Swissair (*Swissair & Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

## August

**5 August** / Delta Air Lines resumes passenger service

**28 August** / Società Ala Littoria comes into being through the merger of Società Aerea Mediterranea (SAM), Società Anonima Navigazione Aerea (SANA), Società Italiana Servizi Aerei (SISA) and Aero Espresso Italiana (AEI) (*Wikipedia & Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**31 August** / United Aircraft and Transport Corp. dissolved (*United Airlines*)

**September** / Caudron C.510 Pélican (*Aviafrance*)

/ P.Z.L. 27 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**13 September** / Following a conclusive demonstration of an Army Air Corps blind-landing system, the U.S. Bureau of Air Commerce adopts that system as its standard (*FAA*)

**14 September** / Antonio Diaz Lombardo creates Aeronaves de Mexico. Julio Zinser makes the inaugural flight from Mexico City to Acapulco in the airline's first plane, a Stinson Reliant

**28 September** / New Boeing Airplane Co. president is Claire L. Egtvedt, after government regulations require that United Aircraft and Transport Corp. divide into three separate companies: United Aircraft Co., Boeing Airplane Co. and United

[3]



Source: Boeing

[4]



Source: Tupolev

Air Lines. United Air Lines takes over the Boeing School of Aeronautics

**28 September** / Deutsche Luft Hansa carries its 1,000,000th passenger (*Century of Flight*)

**October** / DC-2 is the first Douglas airliner to enter service with an airline outside the United States. KLM's Douglas DC-2 Uiver wins a "handicap" race—a flight with passengers and cargo—from London to Melbourne

**1 October** / Revised safety requirements for airlines become effective. The revision results from an amendment to the Air Commerce Act of 1926, effective in June 1934, which strengthens and makes more explicit the authority of the U.S. Secretary of Commerce to prescribe safety regulations. The new provisions include the requirement for airline pilots to use multi-engine aircraft capable of operating with one engine not functioning when flying at night or over terrain not readily permitting emergency landings. Instrument or "blind" flying is permitted only for multi-engine airliners equipped with a two-way radio (*FAA*)

**15 October** / National Airlines begins operations (*FAA*)

**31 October** / Fairchild Super 71 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## November

**1 November** / South African Airways introduces Junkers Ju 52/3m

**4 November** / Junkers Ju 86 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**16 November** / Savoia-Marchetti S.74 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**December** / KLM makes its first transatlantic flight, from Amsterdam to Curacao in a Fokker F-XVIII Snip

/ Caproni Ca.133 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

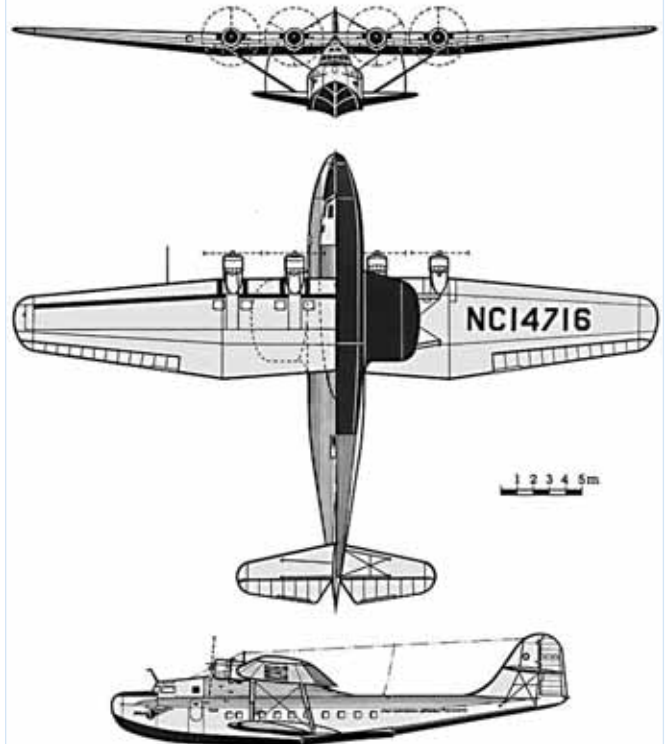
**8 December** / The UK to Australia mail service is open, operated by Imperial Airways (Croydon to Karachi), Indian Trans-Continental (Karachi to Singapore) and Qantas (Singapore to Brisbane) (*British Airways*)

**28 December** / BAT, NAT, PAT and Varney are merged into UALTC. United Airports of California is sold to Lockheed Corporation (*United Airlines*)

**30 December** / First flight of Martin M-130 (*Wikipedia*) [5]

**31 December** / Helen Richey becomes the first woman to pilot a regular civil flight taking a Central Airlines Ford Trimotor on the Washington to Detroit route (*Wikipedia & www.women-in-aviation.com*)

[5]



Source: <http://www.nickgrantadventures.com>





Source: Delta Flight Museum [1]

- ▶ **First flight of:**
  - CANT Z.506 (Wikipedia)
  - Caproni Ca.308 Borea (Wikipedia)
  - Fiat APR.2 (Jane's, 1993)
  - Fokker F.XXII (Jane's, 1993)
  - Koolhoven F.K.50 (Wikipedia)
  - Lavielle PS-89 (Wikipedia)
  - Macchi M.C.94 (Jane's, 1993)
  - Short Scion Senior (Wikipedia)
- ▶ **Boulton & Paul P.71A introduction** (Wikipedia)
- ▶ **Delta offers first night service with the Stinson Model A; first Delta aircraft with two pilots and reclining seats**
- ▶ **Western regroups by leasing and acquiring used Boeing 247D aircraft and operating them in conjunction with United Airlines. Hires female flight attendants – called “stewardesses.”** [1]
- ▶ **Swissair Douglas DC-2 aircraft enters service** [2]
- ▶ **The company T.A.E. (Technical Airline Enterprises) is established (Olympic Airways)**
- ▶ **The State Airlines Administration starts operating under the Ministry of Public Works which at the time is called “Nafia Vekâleti” (Turkish Airlines)**
- ▶ **TWA is the first to place combination lounge-sleeper planes into service**
- ▶ **Pan American is the first airline to develop and employ long-range weather forecasting**
- ▶ **Amelia Earhart dedicates the Newark Airport Administration Building, North America's first commercial airline terminal. The first Air Route Traffic Control Center, which directs the movement of aircraft between departure and destination, is opened in Newark, NJ. The airport has one of the US's first runways with lighting, which permits night-time operations (ACI)** [3]

[2]



Source: Swissair

[3] Source: The Port Authority of NY & NJ



**January** / Pacific Seaboard Air Lines name changed to Chicago and Southern Air Lines [4]



[4]

**4 January** / The Karachi – Bombay – Madras service was re-routed via Hyderabad instead of Bellary. Frequency increased to twice-weekly

**7 January** / Avro 652 first flight (Holmes, 2004)

**17 January** / Latécoère 521 a six-engine flying boat, and one of the first large trans-Atlantic passenger aircraft makes its first flight (Jane's, 1993)

**28 January** / Potez 62 first flight (Jane's, 1993)

**February**

**23 February** / Sabena's first long haul flight to the Congo occurs and takes five and a half days. It was flown by a Sabena Fokker FVII B on a direct service

**24 February** / Heinkel He 111 first flight (Jane's, 1993)

**March**

**1 March** / Caudron C.440 Goéland first flight (Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991)

**10 March** / VASP is transformed into Mixed Capital Company with stock control by the Government

**11 March** / The Avro 652 G-ACRM Avalon is delivered to Imperial Airways and is the first low-wing monoplane with retractable undercarriages to be delivered to a major airline (British Airways)

**15 March** / Dornier Do 18 E first flight (Domier, 1983)

**18 March** / Fiat G.18 first flight (Wikipedia)

**April**

**5 April** / Fairchild 91 a small flying boat airliner makes its first flight (Wikipedia)

**13 April** / Imperial Airways and Qantas Empire Airways open the 12,754 mile London to Brisbane (Kangaroo route) route for passengers for a single fare of £195. There were no through bookings on the first service because of heavy sector bookings, but there were two through passengers on the subsequent service, which left London on 20 April. The route was opened for passengers from Brisbane to London on 17 April. The frequency of service was weekly and the journey time was 12½ days (British Airways) [5]

**30 April** / The Douglas DC-1 breaks its own transcontinental record, flying from Burbank, Calif., to New York in 11 hours 5 minutes

[5] Source: British Airways



## May

**11 May** / Miles M.4A Merlin first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## June

**1 June** / Sikorsky S-43 first flight (*Sikorsky Archives*)

**16 June** / Tupolev ANT-37 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**19 June** / General Aircraft Monospar ST-25 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## July

**6 July** / Fairchild 82 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**7 July** / A single-engine Caudron Pelican, piloted by Pierre Janet, left Cotonou carrying passengers and mail to Niamey, a city in the interior of Africa. It was the first flight of the Aéromaritime, air service created by the Chargers Together, and the beginning of an African adventure (*Air France & Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

## Summer

/ First in-flight sound motion picture: Central Airlines, enroute from Washington DC to Pittsburgh (*aerofiles.com*)

## August

**12 August** / de Havilland DH.90 Dragonfly first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## September

**8 September** / The first civil airport in Finland is opened at Turku Artukainen (*Finnair*)

**23 September** / IAM has been chartered with 35 members

## November

**12 to 14 November** / Representatives of all segments of the aviation community, except manufacturers, meet at the Commerce Building in Washington, D.C., with Bureau of Air Commerce officials to discuss

airway traffic control. Although the conferees agree that the Bureau should establish a uniform system of air traffic control, a lack of funding prevents it from assuming control. Director of Air Commerce Vidal convinces the airline operators to establish airway traffic control immediately and promises that in 90 to 120 days the Bureau of Air Commerce would take over the operations (*FAA*)

**14 November** / Noorduyn Norseman first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**15 November** / Vidal approves an interairline air traffic agreement between carriers flying the Chicago – Cleveland – Newark airway (*FAA*)

**22 November** / The Martin M-130, dubbed the China Clipper by customer Pan American, makes the first ever scheduled transpacific flight between San Francisco and Manila (arrived 29 November)

**29 November** / The U.S. Bureau of Air Commerce, in cooperation with industry, develops a device for elimination of propeller ice (*AIAA*)

## December

**1 December** / A consortium of airline companies organize and man the first airway traffic control center at Newark, N.J. It provides information to airline pilots on the whereabouts of airborne planes in the Newark vicinity during weather conditions requiring instrument flying (*FAA*)

**6 December** / First TWA "air hostesses" begins flying aboard the DC-2

**17 December** / The Douglas Sleeper Transport (DST) makes its first flight. This aircraft is the immediate forerunner of the famous DC-3 [6]

## End

/ Construction of Tirana Airport (in present day Lapraka) is completed (*Albanian Directory General of Civil Aviation*)



Source: Kostas Iatrou



1936



[1] Source: Delta Flight Museum

➤ *First flight of:*

- Aero A.204 (Jane's, 1993)
- Dewoitine D.338 (Jane's, 1993)
- Tupolev ANT-35 (Wikipedia)

➤ *IATA members agree on the conditions and procedures for what may be the first inclusive tour fare. They also set agents' commissions at 5%, and 3% for*

*hotel concierges – a major business source (IATA Wings for the World, 2009)*

➤ *Sudan Civil Aviation Department is established (Sudan Airways)*

➤ *U.S. FAA issues the following regulation: Before obtaining approval for operation, an applicant operating an*

*airplane with two piston engines is required to show that intermediate fields available for safe take-offs and landings are located at least at 100-mile intervals along the proposed route (FAA)*

➤ *Calendar year, 1936: For the first time in their history, U.S. domestic airlines*

carried a million or more passengers (1,042,042) in scheduled air operations (FAA)

- ▶ The first regular mail and passenger flight between Minsk and Moscow is opened (Belavia)
- ▶ Delta Air Lines in-flight meal service

begins with the 14-passenger Lockheed 10 Electra. Co-pilots serve box lunches and coffee [1]

- ▶ DETA is founded (LAM)
- ▶ Gatwick opens. The "Beehive" is recognised as the world's first integrated airport building combining

all necessary functions in a single structure. It was the first airport to give direct, undercover access to the aircraft, and the first to be integrated with a railway station. Originally a local flying club, it was sold in 1933 for 13,500 pounds. This airport is a first example of a split-level/multi-floor airports (ACI)

## January

**1 January** / British Airways Limited is formed from United Airways, Hillman's Airways and Spartan Airlines. It starts operations from Heston, Middlesex, moving on 17 May to Gatwick. The airline operates to Paris, Hamburg, Copenhagen and Malmo and also receives a government subsidy to develop routes to North and East Europe. It mainly uses American-built Lockheed monoplanes

**3 January** / Air Transport Association of America, Inc. (ATA), becomes the first trade organization for the principal U.S. airlines. Founded by a group of 14 airlines at a meeting in Chicago (A4A & FAA)

**13-14 January** / A Gamma owned by Jackie Cochran, and leased to Howard Hughes, sets a new transcontinental nonstop record flying at an average speed of 259 mph

## February

**9 February** / The trans-Africa route is opened by Imperial Airways between Khartoum and Kano and, later, Lagos (British Airways)

**17 February** / Ansett's makes its first flight from Hamilton to Melbourne. Founded by Reginald Myles Ansett

## March

**4 March** / Rigid airship Hindenburg makes its first flight (FAA)

**14 March** / The Hong Kong route is opened by Imperial Airways via Rangoon and, later, Bangkok (British Airways)

## 24 March

/ The first commercial passenger flight "Dorado" lands in Penang operated by the Imperial Airways. With this arrival a new era begins for Kai Tak as an airport for public transportation (Hong Kong Civil Aviation Department)

## April

### 15 April

/ Aer Lingus is founded by the Irish Government to provide air services between Ireland and the UK (Aer Lingus & Wikipedia)

## May

### 9 May

/ The German rigid airship Hindenburg moors at Lakehurst, N.J., after a nonstop transatlantic passage of 61 hours 38 minutes from Fiedrichshafen, Germany. The flight marks the inauguration of regularly scheduled transatlantic air service (FAA)

### 12 May

/ Loire 102 first flight (Wikipedia)

### 23 May

/ Opening of Stockholm Bromma Airport (Finnair)

### 27 May

/ Aer Lingus makes its maiden voyage from Baldonnell Aerodrome in Dublin to Bristol (Whitchurch airfield) in the UK [2]

[2] Source: Aer Lingus



## June

- 6 June** / The Socony-Vacuum Oil Company begins using the catalytic cracking method to produce aviation gasoline, a step forward in the technology of aviation fuel production (*FAA*)
- 11 June** / Bloch MB.220 first flight (*Dassault Aviation*)
- 25 June** / American is the first airline to fly the Douglas DC-3 in commercial service
- 26 June** / The Boeing Airplane Co. signs its first working agreement with the International Association of Machinists Local 751
- 27 June** / Lockheed Model 12 Electra Junior first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## July

- / Mueller sell 40% of Varney Speed Lines to Robert F. Six (*Continental Airlines*)
- 4 July** / Short Empire's first flight of a medium range four engine monoplane passenger and mail carrying flying boat (*Jane's, 1993*)
- 6 July** / The U.S. Bureau of Air Commerce takes over the first air traffic control centers at Newark, Chicago, and Cleveland (*U.S. Department of Transportation & FAA*)
- 8 July** / Frankfurt Rhein-Main Airport and Airship Base is officially opened (*ACI & Wikipedia*)<sup>[3]</sup>
- 21 July** / The Boeing Airplane Co. signs a contract with Pan American Airways to build six Model 314 Clippers

## 25 July

/ Lioré et Olivier LeO H-47 first flight (*Aviafrance*)

## 30 July

/ H.M.'s government announces its plans for North Atlantic air services. It has decided, after discussions with the Canadian, Irish and Newfoundland governments, that a joint operating company would be responsible for operations and that this company would have three directors from each nominated Canadian, Irish and UK company. The British nominated company is Imperial Airways. Preference is given for a direct route from the UK via Ireland, Newfoundland and Canada but it is considered that initial winter services might have to operate via Bermuda. Experimental flights are to be made by Imperial Airways with the results of the experiments being placed at the disposal of the joint company when it is formed. In fact, no joint company is involved in North Atlantic operations (*British Airways*)

## August

### 5 August

/ VASP's PP-SPD takes off from Sao Paulo, inaugurating the new airport, Congonhas, at 8:40 a.m.

### 7 August

/ The Air Ministry officially licenses Traigh Mhor/Barra Airport as an airfield. The airport is unique, being the only one in the world where scheduled flights use a beach as the runway (*Highlands and Islands Airports Limited & Wikipedia & ACI*)<sup>[4]</sup>

## September

### 2 September

/ CSA connects Prague and Moscow

### 7 September

/ The tarmac of Geneva Airport is covered with

[3]



Frankfurt Airport - Source: Fraport AG

[4]



Barra Beach Landing Scotland David Greer - Source: Highlands and Islands Airports Limited



concrete over a length of 400m, the first of its kind in Europe (*Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991*)

**10 September** / Deutsche Luft Hansa's twin-engine Dornier Do.18 flying boat Zephyr alights offshore of Port Washington, N.Y., after a flight of 22 hours 18 minutes from Horta in the Azores, where it had been catapulted from the deck of a depot ship. This is the first of a series of German survey flights for possible transatlantic airmail service (*FAA*)

**12 September** / Nakajima Ki-34 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**18 September** / The Douglas DST operated by American Airlines begins transcontinental service between Newark, N.J., and Glendale, Calif.

**October** / Blohm & Voss Ha 139 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**21 October** / Pan American Airways initiates regular weekly transpacific passenger service as the Hawaii Clipper takes off from Alameda, near San Francisco, arriving at Manila on 27 October (*FAA*)

**November** / United Airlines becomes the second DC-3 customer

**12 November** / The Philippine Legislative pass Commonwealth Act No. 168, better known as the Civil Aviation Law of the Philippines which create the Bureau of Aeronautics (*Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines*)

**19 November** / PLUNA Lineas Aéreas Uruguayas starts operations (*Wikipedia*)

**December** / United opens the industry's first flight kitchen at Oakland, Calif.

## 1937

- **First flight of:**
  - CANT Z.509 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Caproni Ca.309 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Martin 156 (*Wikipedia*)
  - Heinkel He 116 (*Jane's, 1993*)

➤ **SAAB is founded**

➤ **ATC equipment upgrades – radio locators, paper flight strips, teletypes etc.** (*CANSO*)

➤ **Flugfélag Akureyrar is founded at Akureyri on the north coast of Iceland** (*Icelandair*)

➤ **Business expands with the purchase of Alaska Interior Airlines. Late that year, McGee sells Star to a group led by one of his former pilots, Don Goodman, who renames the carrier Star Air Lines**

➤ **TWA is the first to develop and use the anti-rain-static "homing" radio direction finder. TWA also develops shock mounting of all main radio units in a single radio rack and the**

**pub-mounted quickly-removable pilot's radio switch box**

➤ **ZAKAVIA opens a regular air route, Baku – Moscow** (*Azerbaijan Airlines*)

➤ **A passenger terminal, known as "Bahrain Marine Airport", is established to accommodate the rise of the commercial "flying boat" long haul aircraft** (*Bahrain Airport Company*)

➤ **The city of Houston acquires the site of its first major airport, William P. Hobby Airport** (*Houston Airport System*)

**January**

**15 January** / Beechcraft Model 18 first flight (*Wikipedia*) [1]

**February**

**7 February** / British Airways Ltd transfers its operational base from Gatwick to Croydon Airport

**16 February** / American carries its one-millionth passenger

**22 February** / The British Air Ministry issues Pan American Airways a permit to operate a regular air service between the United Kingdom and the United States via intermediate points in Canada, Bermuda, Ireland and Portugal (Azores/Lisbon). A similar permit is signed by Canada

on 5 March, Bermuda on 25 March, Ireland on 13 April, and Portugal on 14 April (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

## March

**5 March**

/ Imperial Airways opens Hythe flying boat base on Southampton Water for operations of its Empire services. From that date on, the airline's European services are operated from Croydon (*British Airways*)

**31 March**

/ Deruluft (Deutsch-Russische Luftverkehrs A.G., or Deruluft) ceases operations (*Wikipedia*)

## April

/ Barkley-Grow T8P-1 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

/ Manshu Hayabusa first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**Beginning**

/ CSA moves to the new airport in Prague – Ruzyni

**5 April**

/ British Airways Ltd introduces Lockheed 10 Electras on the London to Paris route with a 1½ hour schedule

**14 April**

/ Ansett Airways is incorporated in Victoria as a public company and moves its base of operations to the state capital, to Essendon Airport

**28 April**

/ The Pan American Hong Kong Clipper, a Sikorsky S-42B flying boat, arrives at Hong Kong from Manila. Linking with the existing Pan

American route from San Francisco to Manila, this new service completed the first commercial airline route from the United States to a point close to the Asian mainland (*FAA*)

## May

**6 May**

/ The Hindenburg disaster occurs when the German dirigible Hindenburg catches fire and is destroyed at the end of a transatlantic flight while attempting to dock with a mooring mast at Naval Air Station Lakehurst in Lakehurst, New Jersey. The tragedy signaled the end of serious efforts to use rigid airships in commercial air transportation (*Wikipedia & FAA*)

**7 May**

/ The first flight by a fully pressurized airplane, the Lockheed XC-35, occurs (*FAA*)

**20 May**

/ de Havilland DH.91 Albatross first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**29 May**

/ Grumman G-21 Goose first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## June

**16 June**

/ Imperial Airways and Pan American open joint Bermuda to New York services. Imperial Airways C Class flying boat G-ADUU Cavalier flew from Bermuda to New York and Pan Am's Sikorsky S-42 NC16735 Bermuda flew New York to Bermuda. This is the first scheduled airplane service over a segment of the North Atlantic (*British Airways & FAA*)

[1]



Source: Kostas Iatrou

**16 June** / Air France and Luft Hansa sign a joint operating agreement for transatlantic routes (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

**19 June** / Imperial Airways operates its first New York to Bermuda flight (*British Airways*)

**29 June** / The Empire Air Mail programme is inaugurated by the Secretary of State for Air, Viscount Swinton (*British Airways*)

## July

**1 July** / Robert F. Six changes Varney Speed Lines name to Continental Airlines

**5 July** / The first commercial survey flights across the North Atlantic commence, operated by Imperial Airways long-range C Class flying boat G-ADHM Caledonia which left Foynes at 1857GMT and landed at Botwood at 1000GMT (*British Airways*)

**27 July** / S.21 Maia first flight. Flying-boat, launch aircraft for S.20 Mercury (*Wikipedia*)

**27 July** / Focke-Wulf Fw 200 Condor first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**29 July** / Lockheed Model 14 Super Electra first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## August

**9 August** / British Airways Ltd begins a London to Berlin night mail service in cooperation with Luft Hansa

**23 August** / At the Army's Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio, the first wholly automatic landing was made by Capt. Carl J. Crane, the system's inventor, Capt. George Holloman, pilot, and Mr. Raymond K. Stout, project engineer. The landing was made without intervention from the human pilot or from the ground (*FAA*)

**28 August** / Junkers Ju 90 first flight (*Heimann, 1988*)

## September

**1 September** / Trans-Canada Air Lines (TCA) inaugurates its first flight. The 50-minute flight aboard a Lockheed L-10A carried two passengers and mail between Vancouver and Seattle [2]

**1 September** / Douglas Aircraft Co. acquires the remaining 49% of the shares of its Northrop Corp. subsidiary and begins operating the facility in August 1938 as the Douglas El Segundo (Calif.) Division

**5 September** / Short S.20 Mercury first flight. Transport seaplane carried to flight altitude by Short S.21 Maia (*Wikipedia*)

**14 September** / Percival Petrel first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**30 September** / Lioré et Olivier LeO H-246 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## October

**12 October** / Malayan Airways Limited (MAL) is born (*Malaysia Airlines*)

**16 October** / Short Sunderland first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**November** / Savoia-Marchetti SM.75 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**1 November** / A U.S. Department of Commerce rule comes into effect that requires scheduled air carriers to employ a co-pilot on multi-engine aircraft with retractable landing gear or wing flaps, and on single-engine aircraft incorporating both retractable landing gear and wing flaps (*FAA*)

**19 November** / Savoia-Marchetti SM.83 first flight (*Wikipedia*)







[4] Source: Kostas Iatrou

- ▶ *The Lockheed Model 14 Super Electra makes another record for circling the globe in 3 days, 19 hours and 14 minutes piloted by the millionaire Howard Hughes*
- ▶ *Creation of DTA – Divisao dos Transportes Aéreos de Angola (TAAG)*
- ▶ *With changes to certain orthographic rules, Polskie Linje Lotnicze LOT becomes Polskie Linie Lotnicze LOT; the transformation is merely a matter of spelling, though, and not one of meaning*
- ▶ *Northwest assists the Mayo Clinic in developing the first practical aviation oxygen mask, making possible high-altitude flying over the Rocky Mountains*
- ▶ *Following the occupation of Austria, ÖLAG is forced to cease operations (Austrian)*
- ▶ *TCA is the first airline to equip its fleet with alcohol de-icing nozzles to remove the ice that accumulates on windshields at high altitude. (This sets the stage for the airline's introduction of electric de-icing to Canada in 1961) (Air Canada)*
- ▶ *Western becomes the first airline to place typewriters onboard for passenger use (Delta Air Lines)*
- ▶ *Athens Hellinikon Airport is built (Wikipedia)*

## January

**23 January** / Armstrong Whitworth Ensign first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**26 January** / First landing of a scheduled U.S. passenger airliner using ILS occurred when a Pennsylvania Central Airlines Boeing 247-D flew from Washington, D.C., to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and landed in a snowstorm using only the Instrument Landing System (*Wikipedia*)

## February

**22 February** / Government contract with Tata Air Lines

comes into effect for the carriage of first class un-surcharged mail between Karachi – Colombo under the Empire Air Mail Scheme. The route is Karachi – Bhuj – Ahmedabad – Bombay – Hyderabad – Madras – Tiruchirappalli – Colombo (*Air India*)

## March

/ First flight of DB-3 modified passenger aircraft

**12 March**

/ PZL.44 Wicher first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## April

/ North American Aviation finally sells Eastern because of criticism that it was unfair for a

single company to both produce and operate aircraft as North American did

## May

/ CANT Z.1012 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

21 May

/ Dornier Do 26 transocean flying boat makes its first flight (*Dornier, 1983*)

29 May

/ British Airways Ltd. transfers all daytime operations from Croydon and Gatwick to Heston. Night mail services continued from Croydon

May-June

/ A LOT crew makes its first, experimental, transatlantic flight from the United States to Poland

## June

2 June

/ The first aviation group is established in Azerbaijan (*Azerbaijan Airlines*)

7 June

/ The first Boeing Clipper (Model 314) makes its first flight piloted by Eddie Allen [1]

7 June

/ The single Douglas DC-4E prototype makes its first flight [2]

23 June

/ Roosevelt signs into law the Civil Aeronautics Act of 1938, creating the Civil Aeronautics Authority, predecessor to the Civil Aeronautics Board and the Federal Aviation Agency (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

26 June

/ Imperial Airways' first through flying boat service to Australia leaves Southampton (*British Airways*)

## July

5 July

/ Captain P W Lynch Blossie takes off in flying

boat "Cooee" to inaugurate the Qantas' Sydney – Southampton service

20 July

/ The first "heavier than air" commercial crossing of the North Atlantic. Imperial Airways' Short S20 floatplane G-ADHJ Mercury (Captain D C T Bennett). The aircraft separated from the Short S21 flying boat G-ADHK Maia near Foynes and then flew non-stop to Montreal, 2,930 miles in 20 hours 20 minutes (*British Airways*)

## August

4 August

/ The first Qantas official service leaves Rose Bay for Singapore

10 August

/ Deutsche Luft Hansa's new four-engine Focke-Wulf Fw 200 aircraft Condor makes the first nonstop flight from Berlin to New York. It covered the distance of 6,370 km (3,959 sm) with a flight time 24 h 56 min, one of the longest times aloft for an airliner, at a cruising altitude of 2,000 m (6,560 ft) (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation & Wikipedia*)

22 August

/ Creation of the U.S. Civil Aeronautics Authority (*FAA*)

## September

19 to 30 September

/ The Fourth International Conference on Private Air Law meets in Brussels. The conference adopts the following:

1. An Additional Protocol related to the Rome Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to Damage Caused by Foreign Aircraft to Third Parties on the Surface

[1]



Source: Boeing

[2]



Source: Boeing



signed on 29 May 1933, which permitted insurers to use some basic defences. Both were superseded by the 1952 Rome Convention on the same subject.

2. The Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules Relating to the Assistance and Rescue of Aircraft or by Aircraft at Sea (ICAO)

## October

**3 October** / Imperial Airways takes delivery at Croydon of the first of their Armstrong Whitworth AW 27 (British Airways)

**11 October** / Blohm & Voss BV 142 first flight (Wikipedia)

## November

**1 November** / From this date it becomes an offence to operate air services in the UK without a licence issued by the Air Transport Licensing Authority (British Airways)

**11 November** / The British government announces its intention to merge Imperial Airways and British Airways Limited to form a single chosen instrument, British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC). The necessary Bill received Royal Assent on 4 August 1939 (British Airways)

**25 November** / The de Havilland DH.91 Albatross aircraft entered service with Imperial Airways (British Airways [3])

## December

**10 December** / Lockheed Hudson first flight (Jane's, 1993)

**22 December** / de Havilland DH.95 Flamingo first flight (Wikipedia)

**31 December** / Test pilot Eddie Allen takes the Model 307 Stratoliner, the first pressurized commercial transport, on its first flight [4]

[3]



Source: British Airways





Source: American Airlines [1]

- ▶ **First flight of:**
  - Macchi M.C.100 (Wikipedia)
  - Savoia-Marchetti SM.82 (Wikipedia)
  - SNCASE SE.161 Languedoc, four-engine airliner (Wikipedia)
- ▶ **The official term of "Air Traffic Control" is adopted by the British Air Ministry (CANSO)**
- ▶ **All American Aviation brings the first airmail service to many small western Pennsylvania and Ohio Valley communities with introduction of a unique "flying post office" a service (US Airways)**
- ▶ **Iberia becomes a truly international airline starting regular service to Lisbon**
- ▶ **Howard Hughes purchases a majority stake in TWA (Lockheed Martin)**
- ▶ **La Guardia opens as one of the first combined land and water aerodromes for seaplanes (ACI) [1]**

## January

- 26 January** / The Boeing Model 314 Clipper is given permission by the Civil Aeronautics Authority to be used for commercial service by Pan American Airways

## February

- 20 February** / The Douglas DC-5 makes its first flight. Only 12 are built, five as commercial DC-5 transports and seven as R3D military transports [2]

## March

- / Atlanta Airport opens its first control tower (City of Atlanta)
- 15 March** / CSA interrupts activities due to the occupation of Czechoslovakia
- 20 March** / United and the Airmen's Association of America, representing United's mechanics and related ground service employees, sign airline industry's first collective bargaining agreement
- 26 March** / Cessna AT-17 Bobcat first flight (Wikipedia)

## April

**1 April** / Today marks the inauguration of scheduled transnational passenger service between Montreal and Vancouver, with stops in Ottawa, North Bay, Kapuskasing, Winnipeg, Regina and Lethbridge. The flight takes 15 hours (*Air Canada*)

## May

**19 May** / The Civil Aeronautics Authority announces issuance of a certificate of public convenience and necessity to Pan American Airways authorizing transatlantic air transport service of two round trips per week (*FAA*)

**20 May** / The first North Atlantic airmail service is started by Pan American Airways between Port Washington, Long Island, the Azores, Portugal, and Marseille, France (*Wikipedia & Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

## June

**10 June** / American Airlines begins trading on the New York Stock Exchange

[2]



Source: Boeing

**12 June** / The British Overseas Airways Corporation Ltd Bill, providing for the merger of Imperial Airways and British Airways Ltd, is introduced in the House of Commons by Sir Kingsley Wood

**17 June** / The first Imperial's Short S26 G Class flying boat G-AFCI Golden Hind launched on the Medway at Rochester (*British Airways*)

**28 June** / Pan American Boeing Clipper (Model 314) makes the first scheduled trans-Atlantic flight (New York to the Azores, Lisbon, and Marseilles) becoming the first airline with scheduled transatlantic mail and passenger services (*FAA*)

## July

**6 July** / James S. McDonnell incorporates the McDonnell Aircraft Corp. in St. Louis, Mo.

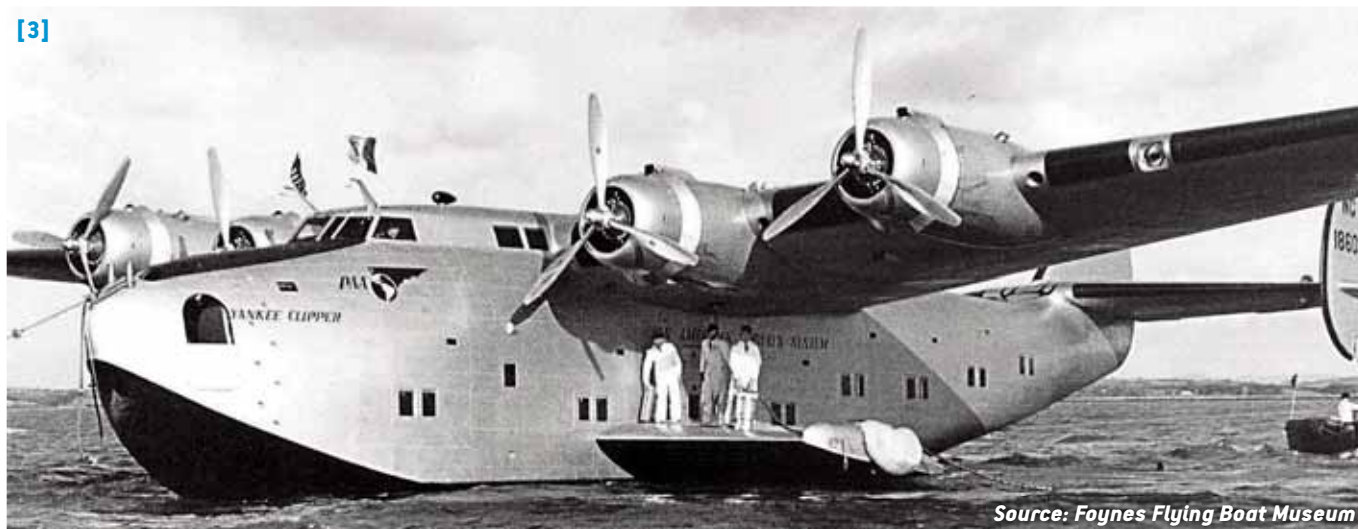
**6 July** / Air France puts in service a DC-3 on the route Buenos Aires – Santiago (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

**8 July** / Pan American opens passenger service between New York and Southampton, England (*FAA*) [3]

**13 July** / The Boeing Stratoliner is delivered to Howard Hughes

**25-29 July** / A plane of Deutsche Luft Hansa flies from Berlin to Bangkok in Siam, inaugurating a regu-

[3]



Source: Foynes Flying Boat Museum



lar service operated by Focke Wulf Fw200 aircraft (*Century of Flight*)

## August

/ Incorporation of Tasman Empire Airways Limited (TEAL) –later to become Air New Zealand– is sufficiently advanced for ZK-AMA “Aotearoa” to fly to New Zealand

### 5 August

/ The first Imperial regular weekly experimental return commercial (air mail) Southampton – Foynes – Botwood – Montreal – New York transatlantic flights begins using two modified C Class flying boats Cabot and Caribou, which refuel in flight (*British Airways*)

### 13 August

/ Vickers Warwick first flight (*Wikipedia*)

### 27 August

/ The first air-breathing jet flight of an aircraft, accomplished by a German Heinkel He 178 aircraft with a jet engine by designed by Hans von Ohain (*FAA*)

### End

/ Swissair scheduled services are suspended as war breaks out

### 30 August

/ Air France suspends its flights and restarts the flights in the non-war zones (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

### 30 August

/ Croydon reverts back to its original role of defending Britain from aerial attack (*Croydon Airport Society*)

### 30 August

/ Pan American Airways' “California Clipper” lands at Auckland, New Zealand, completing the first flight of a regularly scheduled fortnightly service from San Francisco, California

## September

/ As the Second World War gathers force, sixteen of LOT's fleet of twenty-six planes are held in Romania

### 3 September

/ Following the formal declaration of war by the British Government on Germany, all civil flying ceases. The head offices of Imperial Airways, British Airways Ltd and the Civil Aviation Department of the Air Ministry are evacuated to Bristol. The airlines' land-based planes are moved from Croydon and Heston to Whitchurch and Imperial Airways' flying boats from Hythe to Poole

**21 September** / Lockheed Model 18 Lodestar first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**22 September** / Imperial Airways reopens the UK to Egypt landplane route at the request of the Air Officer Commanding in Egypt. The route is Shoreham – Bordeaux – Marseille – Tunis – Malta – Sollum – Alexandria. The first flight is operated by a DH.91 G-AFDK Fortuna. The route is later extended to India and remained open until Italy entered the war in 1940 (*British Airways*)

## October

**25 October** / Handley Page Halifax first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

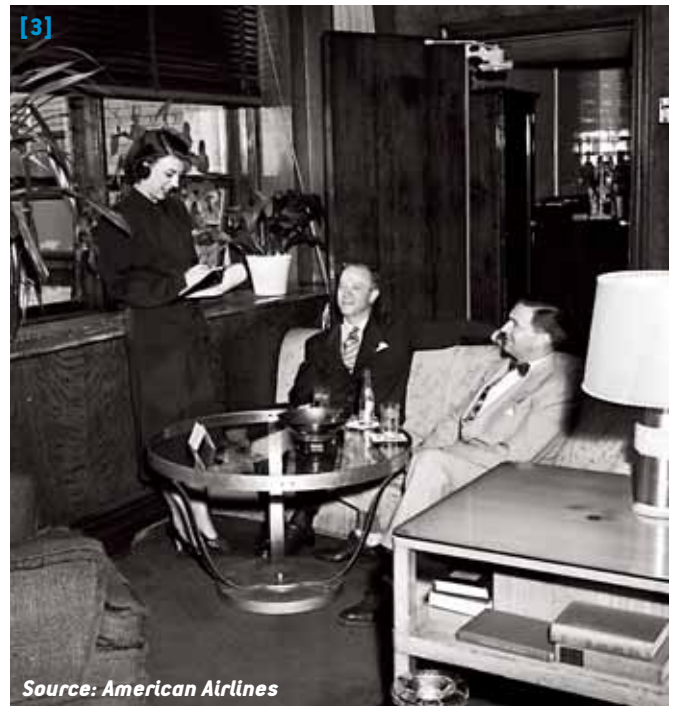
## November

**24 November** / British Overseas Airways Corporation is established under the BOAC Act (*British Airways*)

## December

**2 December** / The first airport lounge, the Admirals Club, opens at LaGuardia airport as “The Flagship Club” because a judge refuses to grant the name “Admirals Club” for fear the public might think it was a facility for Navy admirals only (*ACI*) [3]

**29 December** / Consolidated B-24 Liberator first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)



Source: American Airlines



## Late 1940s:

➤ *The Ground Controlled Approach – the very first radar system (CANSO)*

- *First flight of:*
  - *Grumman G-44 Widgeon (Wikipedia)*
  - *Siebel Si 204 (Wikipedia)*
- *The Central Department of Civil Aviation, the Belarusian Air Group, is created*
- *U.S. President Roosevelt splits the CAA into two agencies, the Civil Aeronautics Administration, which returns to the Department of Commerce, and the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB)*
- *During the Second World War, the Egyptian government takes over Egyptair and changes its name to Misr Airlines*
- *With a fleet of five small airplanes the first flights of TAAG are initiated from Luanda to Maçâmedes (today Namibe), Lobito and Ponta Negra*
- *TWA offers the first-ever in-flight audio entertainment, providing individual receivers to passengers to listen to commercial radio programs and also is the first airline to add flight engineers to the crews of four-engine aircraft on U.S. routes*

### January

**19 January** / Dublin Airport is officially opened when an Aer Lingus Lockheed 14 aircraft departs from Dublin to Liverpool at 09:00

### March

**20 March** / Boeing delivers Pan American Airways its first Model 307 Stratoliners

**26 March** / Curtiss C-46 Commando first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

### April

**1 April** / BOAC officially takes over the operations of Imperial Airways and British Airways Limited. The Secretary of State requires BOAC to place the whole undertaking at his disposal **[1]**



**2 April** / After the Winter War (between Finland and the Soviet Union), Aero O/Y resumes flights to Tallinn (*Finnair*)

**26 April** / TEAL is registered in Wellington as a limited liability company (*Air New Zealand*)

**30 April** / Inaugural TEAL route from Auckland to Sydney (*Air New Zealand*)

### May

**2 May** / U.S. President Roosevelt gives final approval

for development of a version of the instrument landing system (ILS) favored by CAA (*FAA*)

**24 May** / South African Airways becomes a military wing, and all commercial services are suspended

**Summer** / Tachikawa Ki-54 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

### July

**4 July** / Three Boeing Stratoliners start flying Latin American routes for Pan American

**8 July** / The first Boeing Trans World Airlines Stratoliner flies from New York to Los Angeles in 12 hours and 18 minutes

### August

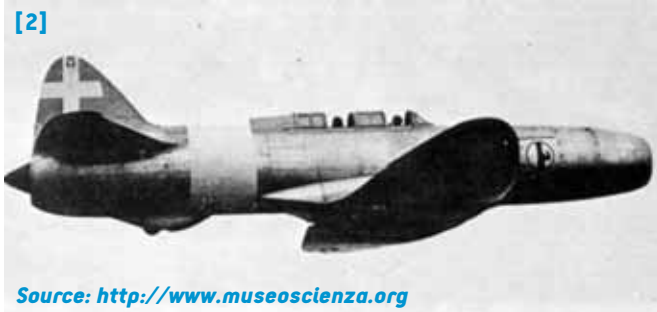
/ TEAL increase the frequency of its Auckland – Sydney service to three times a fortnight. Connection is made at Auckland with Pan American Airways' San Francisco – Auckland flying-boat service (*Air New Zealand*)

/ Mitsubishi Ki-57 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

/ BOAC begins a weekly "Horseshoe" route from Durban to Sydney via Cairo and Karachi due to the direct route over Europe being cut. In October, the C Class Flying boat services link Poole and Lagos in West Africa as part of the route across Central Africa to Durban

**28 August** / Caproni Campini N.1 first flight. N.1 is an experimental aircraft built by the Italian aircraft manufacturer Caproni. The N.1 is powered by a motorjet, a type of jet engine that powers

[2]



Source: <http://www.museoscienza.org>

the compressor using a conventional aircraft engine producing a successful jet powered aircraft (*Jane's, 1993 & Wikipedia*) [2]

## September

**7 September** / Blohm & Voss BV 222, six-engined German flying boat first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## October

**15 October** / Fiat G.12 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## November

/ Boston and Maine Airways is renamed Northeast Airlines (*Delta Air Lines*)

**27 November** / Inception of BWIA West Indies Airways Limited

# 1941

➤ A network of *Lignes Aériennes Militaires (LAM)* is set up in Damascus. Run by Lionel de Marmier, under the authority of General de Gaulle, its purpose is to link the territories of Free France (*Air France*)

➤ Moscow–Leningrad becomes a regular passenger line (*Rossiya*)

➤ Luftwaffe assumes control of LH's aircraft (*Deutsche Lufthansa AG, Media Relations Lufthansa Group*)

➤ SATA is born. Named "Sociedade Açoreana de Estudos Aéreos Lda." (*Azorean Society of Air Studies*), based in Ponta Delgada on Sao Miguel island

➤ West Coast Airlines is formed (*Wikipedia*)

➤ Western becomes an international airline when service extends to Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada. In the same year, the name is changed to Western Airlines (*Delta Air Lines*)

## January

**1 January** / United establishes the industry's first employee pension program

**20 January** / Under Decree Law no. 2961, the Brazilian Aeronautics Ministry is created for the purposes of developing, expanding and coordinating the economic and technical activities of domestic aviation, aiming at progress and national security (*Embraer*)

## February

/ BOAC starts its special air service from Leuchars to Stockholm, the "ball-bearing run", using Lockheed 14 aircraft (*British Airways*)

/ Philippine Airlines is founded by a group of businessmen led by Andres Soriano

**14 February** / NWA common stock is publicly traded for the first time

## March

/ Philippine Airlines takes to the skies with a twin-engine, five-seater Beech Model 18 aircraft from Nielsen airfield in Makati to Baguio

## April

**30 April** / Aeronaves de Mexico sells a 25% share to Pan American

## May

/ Resolutions are passed creating the Sarasota Manatee Joint Airport Authority

**14 May**

/ By Legal Decree, LAB is nationalised

## June

**16 June** / U.S. CAA officially opens Washington National Airport for full-time operations (*FAA*) [1]

- 22 June** / Start of the Continuation War places Aero O/Y under military control once again (*Finnair*)
- September** / The Philippine government invests in PAL, paving the way for the airline's nationalisation
- 1 September** / The federal Transport Department purchases the former Dorval Race Track land, which offers the best possible location for a new and larger airport. Montréal Airport (Dorval) begins operations with three paved runways (*ACI*)
- 24 September** / BOAC's first operation of the North Atlantic Return Ferry service takes place. The service, flown to the requirements of the RAF, uses Consolidated Liberators (*British Airways*)
- October** / BOAC re-opens the UK to Cairo route via Lisbon, Gibraltar and Malta with C Class and Catalina flying boats (*British Airways*)
- 1 October** / Inter-Island Airways, Ltd. name changes to Hawaiian Airlines to pave the way for trans-Pacific operations (*Aloha State*)
- 16 October** / BOAC assumes responsibility for the general administration of the Air Transport Auxiliary (*British Airways*)
- November**
- 1 November** / Tata Airlines begins non-scheduled flights between Karachi and Baghdad via Jiwani, Sharjah, Bahrain and Basra. DC-2s loaned by the Government of India are used (*Air India*)
- 1 November** / U.S. CAA begins operating airport traffic control towers (Prior to this time, towers were operated by local airport authorities, except at CAA-managed National Airport) (*FAA*)
- 30 November** / Mario de Bernardi flies air mail from Milan to Guidonia Montecelio, Italy, in a Caproni Campini N.1 motorjet-powered aircraft. It is the first time air mail is carried in any form of jet aircraft (*Wikipedia*)
- December**
- 13 December** / The U.S. President directs the Secretary of Commerce "to exercise his control and jurisdiction over civil aviation in accordance with requirements for the successful prosecution of the war, as may be requested by the Secretary of War." The Executive order also authorized the latter "to take possession and assume control of any civil aviation system, or systems, or any part thereof, to the extent necessary for the successful prosecution of the war." (*FAA*)
- 13 December** / BOAC commences irregular services across the North Atlantic with Boeing 314 flying boats (*British Airways*)

[1]



Washington National Airport - Courtesy "Airports in the first 100 years of flight" (2003)





Source: Delta Flight Museum [1]

- ▶ Representatives of the Allied Powers in London turn their thoughts towards the post-war future of air transport (*IATA Wings for the World since 1945, 2009*)
- ▶ CAA begins a test program to develop a means of preventing damage to aircraft windshields from collision with birds in flight (FAA)
- ▶ American enters the airline catering business with a subsidiary called Sky Chefs, providing food service to its passengers as well as to other airlines
- ▶ Delta contributes to the war effort. Modifies 916 aircraft, overhauls 1,000+ engines and instruments, trains Army pilots and mechanics, and operates cargo supply routes for military [1]
- ▶ Hawaiian Airlines becomes the first scheduled air cargo service and has U.S. Cargo service certificate #1
- ▶ Pan American becomes the first airline to complete a round-the-world flight. First airline to fly internationally with all-cargo aircraft
- ▶ Star buys three small Alaskan carriers and changes its name to Alaska Star Airlines
- ▶ Western contributes to the war effort by establishing "Sourdough Operation", a supply route from Edmonton, Canada, across the Alaskan wilderness to Russia. As part of the Air Transport Command (ATC), Western carries 22 million tons of goods over 67 million passenger miles. Western has the highest aircraft utilization rate in the ATC—15.9 hours a day—and the best safety record during the war

# 1942

## January

**6 January** / Pan American Airways Pacific Clipper lands in New York, the first commercial airplane to circle the globe, exclusive of the continental United States. The aircraft left San Francisco on 2 December 1941, and was operating in the South Pacific when the Pearl Harbor attack forced it to return to home territory by flying west (*FAA*)

## February

**10 February** / Singapore falls to the Japanese and BOAC's route to Singapore and Australia is terminated at Calcutta (*British Airways*)

**10 February** / Sikorsky S-44 first flight (*Sikorsky Archives*)

## April

**11 April** / New York City begins placing hydraulic fill over the marshy tidelands of Idlewild Golf

## May

**16 May** / Canadian Pacific Railway Company purchases Canadian Airways and forms Canadian Pacific Air Lines (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

## July

**5 July** / Avro York first flight (*Holmes, 2004*)

## November

**4 November** / Latécoère 631 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## December

**11 December** / SNCASE SE.200 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

# 1943

➤ A single authority for air transport responsible to the governments of

*Tanganyika, Zanzibar, Uganda and Kenya, then under the British colonial empire, is recommended by a Committee (Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority)*

➤ As a result of the extensive engagement in the country's defense, *Aeropot* is liquidated (*Air Serbia*)

➤ *Flugfélag Akureyrar* moves its headquarters to the capital, Reykjavik, and changes its name to *Flugfélag Islands* (*Icelandair*)

➤ *Serviços Aéreos Condor* is nationalised and changes its name to *Cruzeiro do Sul* (*Wikipedia*)

**January** / Short Sandringham first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**9 January** / Lockheed L-1049 Constellation first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## March

**10 March** / BOAC introduces Short S-25 Sunderland III flying boats on the UK to West Africa route. The route is withdrawn on 25 October when the Sunderlands opens a UK – Cairo – Karachi service. Because of its operations through military areas, aircraft and crews are given military status (*British Airways*)

## May

**8 May** / Savoia-Marchetti SM.95 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## June

**1 June** / Boeing engineers start preliminary studies for developing a jet-powered aircraft

**29 June** / Qantas, the British Air Ministry and BOAC (formerly Imperial Airways) agree to a daring plan to re-establish the Australia – England air link that had been cut by advancing Japanese forces. The plan calls for regular flights between Wan River, Perth, and Koggala Lake, in southern Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). The first flight takes place on this date under the command of Captain Russell Tapp with flight times 28–33 h, claimed to be the longest time aloft for an airliner. This was called *The Double Sunrise service* (*Wikipedia*) [1]





Source: Qantas [1]

## August

/ BOAC's UK to Gibraltar service resumes, operated twice weekly with DC-3 aircraft. The BOAC UK to Moscow service via North Africa and Iran begins flying, using converted Liberator bombers. During the first six months of the year, BOAC made about 270 flights in the Western Desert. During the year it also introduced Douglas DC-3 aircraft into service between the UK and Lisbon and Gibraltar and in North Africa (*British Airways*)

**September** / Ozark is set up (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

**27 September** / United acquires 75% of the capital stock of Lineas Aereas Mexicanas, S.A (LAMSA), a Mexican airline

## December

**22 December** / United Air Lines Transport Corp. (UALTC) changes its name to United Air Lines, Inc. (UAL)





Agreements signed at the end of the Chicago Conference in the Grand Ballroom of the Stevens Hotel - Chicago



**1944-1953**

# **The Dawn of the Chicago era**

1944-1953

## The Dawn of the Chicago Era

This publication celebrates the fact that 2014 marks 100 years of commercial aviation. Coincidentally, 2014 additionally marks the 70th Anniversary of the signing of the Convention on International Civil Aviation – also known more commonly as the Chicago Convention in light of where its historic Conference was convened in 1944.

It is my great honour to be able to introduce readers to this remarkable period in the history of aviation, and indeed, in the history of mankind.

The extraordinary advances in aircraft technology during the Second World War, as well as the recognition that they would soon spawn a much more pervasive international air transport industry than the world had yet witnessed, prompted world States both large and small to hammer out the Chicago Convention in the midst of that unprecedented global conflict.

Signed three years to the day after Pearl Harbour, the Convention set out as its prime objective the development of international civil aviation “...in a safe and orderly manner”, and such that international air transport services would be established on the basis of equality of opportunity and operated soundly and economically “...to create and preserve friendship and understanding among the nations and peoples of the world.”

These were more than noble aspirations, and it has primarily been through the Organization created to manage the Convention’s evolution – ICAO – that the global air transport system has come to represent one of the greatest examples of what humanity can achieve when we choose to establish common objectives and work towards them cooperatively.

In the 70 years since the Convention’s inception, aviation has become a linchpin of human activity and socio-economic development. It has also increased prosperity and interconnectedness, shrinking vast distances such that we may consider travelling anywhere in the world in a matter of hours.

During this march to the modern air transport era, the Convention’s Annexes have evolved to include over 10,000 international standards and recommended practices, all of which have been agreed by consensus through ICAO and all of which permit hundreds of thousands of commercial, business and leisure flights to be safely and efficiently managed, each and every day.

**1944-1953**

## **The Dawn of the Chicago Era**

But as an essential human endeavour involving sovereign territory and national ambition, the range of external factors and forces which can and do impact the evolution of global air transport – be they political, technological, economic or environmental – are virtually endless.

And yet through ICAO, working cooperatively, world States and the full range of international and industry groups involved in our vast sector do much more than simply deal with aviation's challenges. They also set a course for our sector's future, agreeing essential strategic planning and resolving coordinated assistance and capacity-building to ensure our global system remains responsive and at the service of all nations and peoples of the world – just as the Convention's drafters intended.

But none of this would have been possible were it not for the vision and commitment that was established by the more than 50 States which gathered in Chicago on that momentous occasion at the end of 1944. ICAO marks their accomplishments every year when we celebrate International Civil Aviation Day on 7 December with our now 191 Member States, and we are proud that their legacy has played such an important part in permitting the commercial air transport sector to reach its landmark 100th anniversary on a very positive note.

**Raymond Benjamin**  
*Secretary General, ICAO*



## INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC (SCHEDULED SERVICES)

Year	Passengers (millions)	Passenger- km (millions)	Seat-km available (millions)	Passenger load factor %	Freight tonne-km (millions)	Mail tonne-km (millions)	Total tonne-km performed (millions)	Total tonne-km available (millions)	Weight load factor %
1945		10,000							
1946		20,000							
1947		24,067			355	131	2,676		
1948		26,600			552	172	3,145		
1949		30,401			749	192	3,703		
1950		35,467	58,624	61	1,012	202	4,426	7,605	58
1951		44,334	69,380	64	1,209	233	5,428	8,671	63
1952		50,668	80,043	63	1,327	263	6,176	10,175	61
1953		59,534	96,178	62	1,393	283	6,950	11,661	60

Source: ICAO



[1] Guilford - Source: Perth Airport

- *Canadair is founded (Compendium of International Civil Aviation)*
- *American introduces the first domestic scheduled U.S. freight service with the DC-3*
- *Alaska Star Airlines is renamed Alaska Airlines (Alaska Airlines)*
- *Delta converts DC-3 cargo plane, Delta Ship 43, begins unscheduled freight services*
- *SAS become the first airline to introduce discounted ticket options with certain conditions and only available on transatlantic routes*
- *The first commercial flight at Guildford Airport Perth takes place. Qantas uses the aerodrome for commercial flights. It is renamed Perth International Airport in 1952 (ACI) [1]*

## February

**1 February** / Southern Airways is founded (*Wikipedia*)

## March

**10 March** / Three young Icelandic pilots, returning from flight training in Canada, found Loftleidir (*Icelandair & Wikipedia*)

## April

**15 April** / Consolidated R2Y first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## May

**15 May** / Iranian Airways Company is founded (*IranAir*)

**15 May** / Wisconsin Central Airlines is founded (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

## June

**9 June** / Avro Lincoln 1 first flight (*Holmes, 2004*)

## July

**11 July** / CAB issues a report concluding that an experiment in providing short-haul and local scheduled air service should be conducted. The experiment involves the establishment

of a new airline category, known as “feeder” or “local service” carriers (*FAA*)

## September

**10 September** / Fairchild C-82 Packet first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**19 September** / Peace is concluded causing an interruption to Aero's schedule (*Finnair*)

## November

**1 November to 7 December**

/ In response to the invitation of the United States Government, representatives of 54 nations meet in Chicago to “make arrangements for the immediate establishment of provisional world air routes and services” and “to set up an interim council to collect, record and study data concerning international aviation and to make recommendations for its improvement.” The Conference is also invited to “discuss the principles and methods to be followed in the adoption of a new aviation convention.”

**7 November** / TCA convinces both the International Civil

Aviation Organization and the International Air Transport Association (IATA) to establish their headquarters in Montreal. TCA President H.J. Symington is named president of IATA in 1945 (*Air Canada*)

**9 November** / The Boeing C-97 Stratofreighter prototype, Model 367, makes its first flight in Seattle

**13 November** / Civil air services to London are restored, with the first flights carried out by Railway Air Services (*Wikipedia*)

**December** / South African Airways resumes commercial services

**7 December** / The Convention on International Civil Aviation (also known as Chicago Convention), is signed by 52 States (*ICAO*) [2] [3] [4] [5]

[2] From left to right: Kia-Ngau, China; Lord Swinton, United Kingdom; Adolf A. Berle Jr, Assistant Secretary of State, U.S.; H.J. Symington, Canada, and Max Hymans, France - Source: ICAO



Finale of the Opening Session of the Chicago Conference in the Grand Ballroom of the Stevens Hotel, Chicago. The representatives of the 52 participating nations stand to sing the Star-Spangled Banner (the national anthem of the United States) led by the Chairman of the Conference, Adolf A. Berle, Jr. The flags of 52 countries are shown just behind the main stage - Source: ICAO



Heading of the "Journal" of the Conference, dated 7 December 1944, i.e. the 37th and last day of the Conference - Source: ICAO

[5] LIST OF GOVERNMENTS AND AUTHORITIES TO WHOM INVITATIONS WERE EXTENDED

Albania	Guatemala	Poland
Australia	Haiti	Portugal
Belgium	India	Saudi Arabia
Bolivia	Ireland	Spain
Brazil	Japan	Sweden
Canada	Kenya	Switzerland
Chile	Lebanon	Syria
China	Libania	Turkey
Colombia	Liberia	Union of South Africa
Costa Rica	Luxembourg	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Cuba	Mexico	Uruguay
Dominican Republic	Netherlands	Venezuela
Ecuador	New Zealand	Yugoslavia
El Salvador	Norway	The Danish Minister in Washington
El Salvador	Paraguay	The Thai Minister in Washington
France	Peru	
French Delegation	Philippines	
Great Britain		
Greece		

List of the 55 Governments and Authorities to whom the invitation to attend the Chicago Conference was extended - Source: ICAO





[2] Source: Ilyushin

- *Germany is banned from operating its own airlines after World War II (Deutsche Lufthansa AG, Media Relations Lufthansa Group)*
- *Bonanza Air Lines begins scheduled flights (Wikipedia)*
- *Official corporate name becomes Delta Air Lines, Inc. Recognized by National Safety Council for more than 300 million passenger miles and 10 years of flights without a passenger or crew fatality*
- *Flugfélag Islands make its first international flights to Scotland and Denmark (Icelandair)*
- *Iberia begins flights to Buenos Aires, Argentina, stopping in Villa Cisneros, Natal and Rio de Janeiro. It is the first airline after the war to offer a regular service between Europe and South America*
- *The pre-war LOT Polish Airlines Ltd. (Polskie Linie Lotnicze LOT, Sp. z o.o.) is reactivated under compulsory state control*
- *Middle East Airlines is established and launches its first service from Beirut to the neighbouring cities of Syria, Cyprus, Egypt then Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and other destinations in the Gulf*
- *Northwest adds its first four-engine aircraft, the Douglas DC-4*
- *Swissair scheduled services resume*

## Early

/ Lignes Aériennes Militaires (LAM) is replaced by the Réseau des Lignes Aériennes Françaises (R.L.A.F.) (Air France)

## January

**17 January** / Avro 691 Lancastrian first flight (Holmes, 2004)

**26 January** / Miles M.57 Aerovan first flight (Wikipedia)

## February

**26 February** / Sud-Ouest SO 30P Bretagne first flight (Wikipedia)

**27 February** / Breguet 500 Colmar first flight (Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991)

## March

**14 March** / The Director of the Department of the Secretary of Civil Aeronautics, Humberto Delgado, creates the Air Transport Section (under the name of Portuguese Air Transports) (TAP)

## April

**16 to 19 April** / IATA is formed in Havana, Cuba with 57 members from 31 nations, mostly in Europe and North America (*ICAO*)

**22 April** / By decree, the Egyptian Civil Aviation Administration is established (*Egyptian Ministry of Civil Aviation*)

## May

/ Cubana starts its first scheduled international flights to Miami, using Douglas DC-3 aircraft, making the airline the first Latin American carrier to establish scheduled passenger services to this city (*Wikipedia*)

**5 May** / Before the destruction of all airports and before all flights became insecure, Luft Hansa's last flight leaves Oslo and arrives at Flesburg (*Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991*)

## June

**1 June** / New York service is launched from the Twin Cities via Milwaukee and Detroit, making Northwest the fourth transcontinental air carrier

**1 June** / Ending a monopoly by Pan American Airways, CAB grants three U.S. airlines the authority to serve North Atlantic routes to Europe. The three are Pan American, Transcontinental & Western Air (TWA), and American Export Airlines. On the same day, CAB approves American Airlines' acquisition of American Export (*FAA*)

**14 June** / Avro Tudor first flight, Britain's first pressurised airliner (*Holmes, 2004*)

**22 June** / Vickers VC.1 Viking first flight (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

**26 June** / The French civil aviation industry is nationalized and the formerly private company, Air France, becomes state-owned

## July

**5 July** / AOA is formed as a result of a merger between the international division of American and a company called American Export Airlines (*American Airlines & Wikipedia*)

**18 July** / The LOT Polish Airlines State Enterprise (Przedsiębiorstwo Państwowe Polskie Linie Lotnicze LOT) is established by decree of the Council of Ministers

**25 July** / Flying Tiger Line is formed (*FAA*)

## August

**15 August** / Pending ratification of the Convention by 26 States, the Interim Council meets and begins Provisional International Civil Aviation Organization (PICAO) activities (*ICAO*) [1]

**15 August** / First flight of Ilyushin IL-12 [2]

**17 August** / During the third meeting of the opening session of the Interim Council of PICAO, Dr. Warner is elected the first President (*ICAO*)

**September** / KLM resumes service following the Second World War, starting with domestic flights

**14 September** / Czech Airlines introduces post-war activity as the only Czechoslovakian airline carrier

**17 September** / The old International Air Traffic Association, founded in 1919, ceases to exist at a meeting held in London and all documents, including the International Air Traffic Aviation Code, are transferred to the new IATA (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**20 September** / The Rolls-Royce Trent turboprop engine makes its first flight using a Gloster Meteor testbed (*Royal Air Force Museum*)

**25 September** / de Havilland DH.104 Dove first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)



Source: ICAO

**October**

/ The first Annual General Meeting of the International Air Transport Association is held in Montreal, Canada (*IATA Wings for the World since 1945, 2009*)

**16 October**

/ Costa Rica signs a contract with Pan American, in which the company Costarricense Air Lines SA (LACSA) is created: constituting its capital as follows: 40% of the shares by the Company Pan American, 40% to private partners and the remaining 20% to the Costa Rican State (*Dirección General de Aviación Civil Costa Rica*)

**24 October**

/ A DC-4 operated by American Export Airlines lands at Hurn Airfield, England, after a flight from New York, inaugurating the first scheduled landplane commercial service between North America and Europe (*FAA*)

**24 October**

/ Creation of Aeroports de Paris (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

**26 October**

/ Miles M.65 Gemini first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**November****1 November**

/ The new Labour government announces plans for post-war air services which would be provided by three state corporations: BOAC to continue to operate routes to the Empire, Far East and North America, British European Airways (BEA) to operate services to Europe and domestically within the United Kingdom and British South American Airways

(BSAA) to operate new services to South American and Caribbean destinations (*British Airways*)

**10 November**

/ A joint BOAC and South African Airways Springbok service is inaugurated, using Avro York G-AGNT Mandalay. The route is Hurn – Castel Benito – Cairo – Khartoum – Nairobi – Johannesburg (*British Airways*)

**16 November**

/ Pan American Airways resumes commercial seaplane operations between San Francisco and Hawaii with the Boeing Clippers which had been leased to the Navy during the War (*Aloha State*)

**28 November**

/ Pan American World Airways orders 20 Boeing Stratocruisers (Model 377), a commercial version of the C-97 military transport

**30 November**

/ Air Transport Auxiliary ceases to function as a ferry organization after delivering 308,567 aircraft of 147 types since 1940 (*British Airways*)

**December****2 December**

/ Bristol Type 170 Freighter first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**2 December**

/ Handley Page Hermes first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**29 December**

/ A decision terminates the activities of the RLAf and turns the entire French airline network over to the Société Nationale Air France





PORT OF SEATTLE  
SEATTLE - TACOMA AIRPORT

Source: Washington State Archives [1]

- **First flight of:**
  - *Airspeed AS.65 Consul* (Wikipedia)
  - *Yakovlev Yak-12* (Wikipedia)
- *C.I.T.E.J.A. held its last working meeting in Cairo where it recommends that a Committee on International Air Law be established within ICAO* (ICAO)
- *Non-directional Beacons (NDBs) enhance the airspace division & The Flight Information Regions (FIRs) are officially created in the UK* (CANSO)
- *The Yugoslavian Office for Civil Aeronautics is established* (Civil Aviation Directorate of the Republic of Serbia)
- *The Finnish State acquires a majority holding in Aero O/Y. The remaining 30% of the shares continued to be held by private shareholders, mainly companies* (Finnair)
- *Greek civil aviation resumes with the foundation of three companies, T.A.E., Greek Air Transport (A.M.E) and Hellenic Airlines S.A (ELL.A.S)* (Olympic Airways)
- *Mongolian Civil Air Transportation is founded with the establishment of civil air transport detachment with 7 super airplanes and 1 Po-2 aircraft and starts civil air services to domestic destinations* (MIAT Mongolian Airlines)
- *Paris added to the network, becoming the first Continental European city to be served by Aer Lingus*
- *Aeroflot starts operating the IL-12*
- *Avianca expands its flights, operating routes to Quito, Lima and Panama, and then Miami, New York and Europe in DC-4 and C-54 aircraft*
- *Southern Rhodesia Air Services (SRAS) and Rhodesia and Nyasaland Airways (RANA) decide to consolidate the airline operations of the three territories into one corporation, thus creating Central African Airways* (Wikipedia)
- *Comair is founded*
- *Empire Airlines acquires Zimmerly Airlines* (Northwest Airlines)
- *The State Airlines Department has been renamed the General Directorate of the State Airlines Administration* (Turkish Airlines)
- *LAN operates its first international flight: Santiago – Buenos Aires*
- *Misr Airlines is changed to MisrAir and 10 Beechcraft are purchased* (Egyptair)
- *Saudi Arabian Airlines is set up as an operating agency of the Ministry of Defense. The airline's first airport and operating base is located at Kandara*
- *Luxembourg Findel Airport opens with a grass runway and a small wooden building* (ACI)
- *Sea-Tac Airport civilian operation begins* (ACI) [1]

- January** / Wartime restrictions on flying end (*British Airways*)
- 1 January** / East African Airways is founded (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)
- 1 January** / BSAA operates the first international departure from Heathrow when Avro Lancastrian "Star Light", a converted Lancaster bomber, carrying 13 staff passengers, leaves on a proving flight to Buenos Aires (*British Airways*)
- 14 January** / Pan American begins transatlantic Constellation flights (*Wikipedia*)
- 28 January** / Iraqi Airways starts operations (*Wikipedia*)
- February**
- 5 February** / TWA begins transatlantic service with the Lockheed Constellation flying the New York – Gander – Shannon – Paris route
- 11 February** / The United States and Great Britain sign the Bermuda Agreement, an Air Service Agreement for the operation of commercial air services, which sets a pattern for the conclusion of subsequent bilateral civil aviation treaties by the United States (*FAA*)
- 12 February** / Formation of Trans-Australia Airlines (TAA) (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)
- 14 February** / Philippine Airlines resumes post-World War II operations with services to 15 domestic points. The fleet consists of five Douglas DC-3s
- 15 February** / The military prototype of the Douglas DC-6, the YC-122, makes its first flight [2]
- March** / PICA0 – North Atlantic Route Service Conference is held in Dublin [3]
- 26 March** / Braathens is founded (*Wikipedia*)
- 27 March** / The U.S. and France sign a bilateral Five Freedoms Agreement, giving reciprocal rights for the operation of each country's commercial airlines over the territory of the other (*AIAA*)
- 29 March** / An agreement is signed under which Maszovlet, the Hungarian-Soviet Civil Air Transport Joint Stock Company and the legal predecessor of Malev, is established
- April** / Aigle Azur is created by Sylvain Floirat
- 4 April** / Pan American World Airways launches its international hotel brand: InterContinental Hotels. First opening in Belém Brazil (*Intercontinental*)
- 8 April** / Ethiopian first scheduled flight takes place to Cairo via Asmara in a Douglas C-47 Skytrain. The national airline was set up a few months earlier as Ethiopian Air Lines Inc., a joint venture with American airline, TWA (Trans World Airlines)

[2]



Source: Boeing

[3]



Source: ICAO

**30 April** / Grumman G-73 Mallard first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**May** / Bahamas Government, forms the Department of Civil Aviation

**1 May** / Hong Kong Civil Aviation Department is established

**12 May** / The first post-war UK to Australia flying boat service is operated jointly by BOAC and Qantas with Hythe flying boats taking five and a quarter days

**19 May** / Handley Page Marathon first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**21 May** / KLM initiates scheduled service between Amsterdam and New York using the Douglas DC-4 Rotterdam

**21 May to 7 June** / The Interim ICAO Assembly is held in Montreal (*ICAO*) [4]

**24 May** / Chicago and Southern (C&S) Air Lines is awarded its first international route to the Caribbean

**28 May** / BOAC operates its first departure from London Airport instead of Hurn (*British Airways*)

**31 May** / Heathrow officially opens as the new London Airport to replace the old Croydon grass airfield [5]

## June

**1 June** / R.A.F. withdraws from the Bahamas and Windsor Field, and its base of operations is closed to all traffic. At the same time The Ba-

hamas Government assumes control of the Oakes Field, which is selected as the major Civil Airport of the Colony

**1 June** / Transports Aériens Intercontinentaux is created (*Wikipedia*)

**6 June** / Montreal is selected as the permanent headquarters of ICAO, by 27 votes; the other candidate cities obtained respectively: Paris 9 votes, Geneva 4 votes, a city not named in China 1 vote. The choice of Montreal proposed by Chile was supported by Peru, the United States, United Kingdom and Australia (*ICAO*)

**14 June** / Fairchild F-11 Husky first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**23 June** / Air France reopens flights to South America with a DC-4 flying the route Paris – Rio de Janeiro (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

## July

**1 July** / The Air France Paris – New – York flight is officially inaugurated, operated by a DC-4 with a flight time of 19 hours and 50 minutes

**1 July** / BOAC opens London – Shannon – Gander – New York flights by Lockheed Constellations, the first British civilian flights on the North Atlantic (*British Airways*)

**15 July** / Canadair North Star first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**26 July** / Trans-Pacific Airlines, later to become Aloha Airlines, inaugurates a non-scheduled operation using DC-3 planes (*Aloha State*)

[4] Source: ICAO



[5]



Heathrow official opening tents  
Courtesy "Airports in the first 100 years of flight" (2003)



- 29 July** / Tata Air Lines converts to a public Company and is renamed Air India Limited. Genell Moots of TWA comes from Kansas City to train India's first batch of Air Hostesses
- 30 July** / Sobelair is founded as a charter airline (*Wikipedia*)
- 31 July** / Philippine Airlines becomes first Asian airline to cross the Pacific when it operates a chartered Douglas DC-4 on the first of several flights to ferry home 40 U.S. servicemen
- August**
- 1 August** / British European Airways Corporation (BEA) takes over the services operated by the British European Airways Division of BOAC, operating shorthaul routes from Northolt. BOAC begins services to Hong Kong with Hythe flying boats (Dragon service) and return fares are introduced on all BOAC routes (*British Airways*)
- 16 August** / East Anglian Flying Services commercial operations commence (*Wikipedia*)
- September**
- 2 September** / BSAA begins fortnightly London–Azores–Bermuda–Jamaica–Caracas. The first flight is by a Lancastrian G-AGWL Star Guide (*British Airways*)
- 6 September** / The United States and Brazil sign an air transport agreement, the first such agreement to be made with a South American country (*FAA*)
- 15 September** / Australian National Airways (ANA) inaugurates its first regular air service across the Pacific between Sydney, Australia and Vancouver, Canada (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)
- 17 September** / SAS is formed from Det Danske Luftfartselskab A/S (DDL), Det Norske Luftfartselskap A/S (DNL) and Svensk Interkontinental Lufttrafik AB (SILA). The first intercontinental flight Stockholm – New York (*SAS & Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)
- 19 September** / The first TAP commercial line opens (Lisbon – Madrid)
- 24 September** / American Roy C Farrell and Australian Sydney H de Kantzow found Cathay Pacific Airways [6]
- 25 September** / British Commonwealth Pacific Airlines (BCPA) inaugural flight departs from Sydney (*Wikipedia*)
- Autumn** / Syrian Arab is established
- October**
- 15 October** / Amidst celebratory scenes, the first two Maszovlet flights departed from Budaörs airport to Szombathely and Debrecen (*Malev*)
- 19 October** / Lockheed L-649 Constellation first flight (*Wikipedia*)

[6]



Source: Cathay Pacific

- 23 October** / Orient Airways is born (*PIA*)
- November** / South West Air Transport (SWAT) is established (*Wikipedia*)
- 11 November** / Short Solent flying boat first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 14 November** / An air treaty between the Philippines and the U.S. is signed. Among other things, the treaty limits the Philippines to one route across the Pacific which Philippine Airlines is already operating, while American airlines are allowed two in the exchange of air services. It also gives fifth freedom rights to and beyond Manila while the Philippines is allowed only traffic to and from the U.S.
- 16 November** / Saab 90 Scandia, SAAB's first civil airliner, first test flight is carried [7]

[7]



Source: SAAB

- 23 November** / Martin 2-0-2 first flight (*FAA*)
- 25 November** / SAVAG is founded (*Wikipedia*)
- December** / Philippine Airlines starts regular service between Manila and San Francisco

## 1947

- ▶ The first Traffic Conference is held in Rio de Janeiro and reaches unanimous agreement on nearly 400 resolutions covering all aspects of air travel, for example: fare construction rules for multiple sector trips; baggage allowances; ticket and air waybill forms and agency appointment procedures (*IATA Wings for the World since 1945, 2009*)
- ▶ The Department of Civil Aviation of Pakistan is formed (*Wikipedia*)
- ▶ Sri Lankan Department of Civil Aviation is created (*Sri Lankan Ministry of Civil Aviation*)
- ▶ U.S. CAA commission inaugurates the first very high frequency omnidirectional radio ranges (VORs) (*FAA*)
- ▶ BWIA is bought outright by British South American Airways and pending the formation of a new company, BWIA temporarily takes on the name of British International Airways, a subsidiary of BSAA
- ▶ CSA enters into intercontinental air transport for the first time, with the opening of flights to Cairo and Ankara
- ▶ Northwest's twin engine Martin 2-0-2 enters service [1]
- ▶ Pan American World Airways' (Pan-Am) "Clipper" becomes the world's first in-flight magazine (*Century of Flight*)
- ▶ The Australian Government acquires all remaining Qantas shares. Qantas maintains its role as Australia's overseas airline
- ▶ SATA takes the commercial name, "Sociedade Açoreana de Transportes Aéreos Lda.", and starts operations with a Beechcraft UC-45B Expeditor (CS-TAA), named "Açor"
- ▶ Sudan Airways is incorporated under The Companies' Ordinance (1925) Act
- ▶ Inauguration of Swissair DC-4 service to New York
- ▶ TWA is the first airline to develop and use the quick-frozen precooked method of food preparation, packaging and shipping for in-flight meal service and the first airline to place into operation the "Teleflite," a system of instantaneous reservations
- ▶ The world's first duty free store is opened at Shannon Airport in Ireland by Brendan O'Regan (ACI) [2]

## January

- 6 January** / IATA Clearing House is established in London, participation being voluntary for the settlement of interline transactions for passenger, cargo and other services, such as ground handling, catering, maintenance and other technical services (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation & IATA Wings for the World since 1945, 2009*)
- 7 January** / PICAQ Air Navigation Committee and the first Procedures for International Notices to Airmen Services (Procedures for Air Navigation Services: PANS – NOTAM) are approved by the PICAQ Council (*ICAO*)
- Mid** / The civil aviation traffic administration becomes part of the Transport Ministry of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia (*Air Serbia*)
- 19 January** / Fiat G.212 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)
- 30 January** / Inauguration of TWA transatlantic all-cargo service. This is the first regularly scheduled direct all-cargo service ever operated over the North Atlantic

## February

- 12 February** / The first international voyage of State Airlines Administration "Ankara – Istanbul – Athens" is flown (*Turkish Airlines*)
- 25 February** / U.S. CAA demonstrates a new stall warning instrument which it had developed (*FAA*)



[1]

Source: Delta Flight Museum

## March

- 5 March** / Spain is the 26th state (Chicago Convention requires 26 States to come into force) to deposit, with the Government of the USA, its instrument of ratification to the Chicago Convention
- 14 March** / Lockheed L-749 Constellation first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 16 March** / Convair CV-240 family first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)
- 28 March** / In a dual ceremony, the first two Douglas DC-6 commercial airliners are delivered to American Airlines and United Air Lines
- 30 March** / CAA Administrator T. P. Wright announces that he has lowered ceilings and visibility requirement for airlines using the instrument landing system, known as ILS (*FAA*)

## April

- 1 April** / New Zealand National Airways Corporation begins licensed operations (*Air New Zealand*)
- 1 April** / The first aircraft of the new airline, Yugoslav Airlines (JAT), takes off (*Air Serbia*)



[2]

Credit: Shannon Airport



**2 April** / Malayan Airways Limited takes to the skies with its first commercial flight as the national airline (*Malaysia Airlines*)

**4 April** / ICAO comes into being taking over from PICAO, and ICAN is dissolved (*ICAO*)

**4 April** / CAB certifies Piedmont Airlines as a local service carrier (*FAA*)

**15 April** / The first commercial BOAC operation to Canada commences with a weekly Constellation service between London and Montreal, via Prestwick and Gander (*British Airways*)

**May** / Aero's DC-3s begin operations. Aero O/Y starts to use the name Finnish Air Lines on its aircraft (*Finnair*)

**3 May** / Philippine Airlines starts a DC-4 service to Rome and Madrid, thus earning the distinction of being the first airline in Southeast Asia to fly to Europe

**5 May** / Alitalia-Aereolinee Italiane Internazionali, incorporated in September 1946, operates its first domestic flight on the Turin – Rome – Catania route with a three-engine Fiat G-12. In July of the same year, it made its first international flight from Rome to Oslo with a Savoia Marchetti SM95 aircraft with 38 passengers on board

**10 May** / Seaboard World Airways starts operations (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

**13 May** / The Agreement between the United Nations and ICAO comes into force (*ICAO*)

**28 May** / The first meeting of the ICAO Council, attended by twenty-one representatives of ICAO Member States, is held in Montreal. Dr. Edward Warner is elected President of the Council (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

## June

**4 June** / Orient Airways commences operations with four Douglas DC-3s. The designated route for Orient Airways is Calcutta – Akyab – Rangoon, which also happens to be the first post-war

international sector to be flown by an airline registered in India (*PIA*)

**4 June** / Sabena starts a new route across the Atlantic to New York initially using Douglas DC-4s (Sabena)

**17 June** / Pan American Airways inaugurates round-the-world scheduled passenger service, exclusive of the continental United States, as a Lockheed Constellation takes off from New York and flies eastward on a route that leads to San Francisco (*FAA*)

**29 June** / Bulgaria's Civil Aviation is born

**29 June** / BVS-Bulgarske Vazdusne Sobsternic is set up (*Airlines Worldwide, 2000*)

## July

**8 July** / First flight of the Boeing 377 Stratocruiser airliner [3]

**10 July** / Airspeed AS.57 Ambassador first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**17 July** / Sud-Ouest Corse first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**21 July** / Aero Ae-45 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## August

/ With the publication of Mainliner Traveler, United becomes the first airline to have its own inflight magazine, although only a single issue was published



Source: Boeing

- 1 August** / The UK, Australian and New Zealand governments agree to form British Commonwealth Pacific Airlines (*British Airways*)
- 11 August** / The last of the famous Douglas Skymasters to be built, DC-4 number 1,242, is delivered by Douglas Aircraft to South African Airways
- 15 August** / Copa Airlines is founded as the national airline of Panama by a group of Panamanian investors and Pan American World Airways, which provided technical and economic assistance as well as capital
- 16 August** / de Havilland Canada DHC-2 Beaver first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 31 August** / Antonov An-2 first flight
- September** / Cyprus Airways, the national carrier of Cyprus, is founded
- October** / ICAO becomes a specialized agency of the United Nations linked to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) (*ICAO*)
- 3 October** / President of ICAO Council signs a protocol for the bringing into force of an agreement concerning such a relationship between the United Nations (UN) and ICAO (*ICAO*)
- 11 October** / Trans-Texas Airways begins operations as a local service carrier (*FAA*)
- 14 October** / Maj. Charles E. Yeager, USAF, piloting the Bell X-1 rocket-propelled research aircraft at Muroc, Calif., becomes the first pilot to exceed the speed of sound in level flight (*FAA*)
- 25 October** / Bolivian Directorate General of Civil Aviation is created by Republic Act
- November**
- 1 November** / Braniff becomes the first airline to receive permission to lower its ceiling minimum to 200 feet and one-half mile visibility (*FAA*)
- 2 November** / The Hughes H-4 Hercules (HK-1 Flying Boat), also known as the "Spruce Goose," makes its first and only flight aloft for about a minute, covering one mile at an altitude of 70 feet (1.6 kilometers at 21.2 meters) (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)
- 3 November** / Aero O/Y resumes international flights on the Helsinki – Stockholm route (*Finnair*)
- December**
- 1 December** / Qantas begins its first regular weekly service with L-749 Constellation through to London on the famous Kangaroo Route. The journey takes four days
- 10 December** / Inaugural scheduled flight of the new Airline, Air Ceylon (*Sri Lankan Ministry of Civil Aviation*)

➤ **First flight of:**

- *Breda-Zappata BZ.308*. It was also the first Italian transatlantic aircraft, and the first aircraft to fly into the new Malpensa airport in 1948 (*Wikipedia*)
- *Wideroe C.5 Polar* (*Wikipedia*)

➤ Sri Lanka becomes a signatory to the Chicago convention (*Sri Lankan Ministry of Civil Aviation*)

➤ Air France becomes a *Compagnie Nationale*, a state-owned corporation governed by the Civil Aviation Code

➤ American introduces the Family Fare Plan to enable families to travel together at reduced rates. It also intro-

duces scheduled coach service, an economical and comfortable alternative to first class travel

➤ One of Hong Kong's leading trading companies, *Butterfield & Swire* (today known as the *Swire Group*), takes a 45% share in *Cathay Pacific*

➤ *Comair* begins its first scheduled service using a new *Cessna model 195*. Carrying a pilot and four passengers, the *Cessna* followed the daily return route from Johannesburg to Durban via Kroonstad, Odendaalsrus, Bloemfontein, Bethlehem and Ladysmith

➤ *Delta Air Lines* begins interchange service with *TWA* personnel flying *Delta* planes from Cincinnati to Detroit and *Delta* crews flying *TWA* ships

south from Cincinnati to Atlanta, Miami and Dallas

➤ The air transport industry in Korea is formed with the establishment of *Korea National Airlines (KNA)*, a private company (*Korean Air*)

➤ The "Red Tail" is painted on all Northwest aircraft for the first time

➤ *Pan American* is the first airline to provide coach-class service outside continental U.S.

➤ The French Government authorizes the setting up of *SATI* (*Air France*)

➤ *World Airways* is founded

➤ *Luxembourg Airlines Company* is founded (*Wikipedia*)

➤ **January**

**1 January** / Piedmont Airlines is founded (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

**16 January** / The Airport Operators Council is established as an association of operators of U.S. commercial airports (*FAA*)

**22 January** / Short Sealand first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**23 January** / de Havilland Australia DHA-3 Drover first flight (*Wikipedia*)

➤ **February**

**15 February** / Post-war operation of Moscow Shosseynaya Airport starts (*Rossiya*)

**24 February** / Wisconsin Central Airlines begins scheduled service (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

➤ **March**

**8 March** / Air India International incorporated

**16 March** / First Air India's L-749 Constellation VT-CQS "Mughal Princess" arrives

➤ **April**

/ Cubana starts a transatlantic route between Havana and Madrid (via Bermuda, the Azores and Lisbon) using Douglas DC-4 aircraft (*Wikipedia*)

/ Birth of IFALPA during a conference of pilots' associations held in London for the express purpose of providing a formal means for the airline pilots of the world to interact with ICAO

**1 April**

/ IATA Member airlines introduce the first Multilateral Interline Passenger Traffic Agreement, adopted by the IATA Composite Traffic Conferences in 1947 (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**14 April**

/ Adoption by the ICAO Council of the first set of licensing SARPS contained in Annex 1 (*ICAO*)

**15 April**

/ Standards and Recommended Practices for the Rules of the Air are adopted by the ICAO Council (*ICAO*)

**16 April**

/ ICAO Council adopts:  
Annex 3 titled Meteorological Codes  
Annex 4 – Aeronautical Charts  
Annex 5 named Dimensional Units to be used



- in Air-Ground Communications (*ICAO*)
- 21 April** / Pennsylvania – Central Airlines changes its name to Capital Airlines (*FAA*)
- May**
- 4 May** / BOAC introduces Short Solent flying boats on UK to Johannesburg service. The route is Southampton – Augusta – Cairo – Luxor – Khartoum – Port Bell – Victoria Falls – Vaaldam (*British Airways*)
- 13 May** / Percival P.50 Prince first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)
- June**
- 4 June** / Philippine Air Lines places DC-6s in operation between San Francisco and Manila on the first sleeper service across the Pacific (*Aloha State*)
- 8 June** / Inauguration of Air India's weekly Bombay – London service via Cairo and Geneva with Constellation VT-CQP "Malabar Princess"
- 19 June** / The Convention on the International Recognition of Rights in Aircraft is adopted in the 2nd Session of the ICAO Assembly. The Geneva Convention provides for the recognition by Contracting States of the Rights of property in aircraft; the Rights to acquire aircraft by purchase coupled with possession; the Rights to possession of aircraft under leases of six months or more. Those rights must be constituted in accordance with the law of the Contracting State in which the aircraft was registered as to nationality at the time of their constitution, and the rights are regularly recorded in a public record of the Contracting State in which the aircraft is registered as to nationality. This Convention was the first product of ICAO's work in air law (*ICAO*)
- July**
- 16 July** / Vickers Viscount first flight (*Royal Air Force Museum*)
- 26 July** / The Berlin Airlift starts (*U.S. Department of State*)
- August**
- 8 August** / Myanmar becomes a member state of the ICAO (*Myanmar Ministry of Transport*)
- September**
- 15 September** / EL AL's inaugural flight brings the country's first president, Chaim Weizman, home from Geneva
- 15 September** / The Standards and Recommended Practices for the Rules of the Air becomes effective as Annex 2 – International Standards and Recommended Practices – Rules of the Air (*ICAO*)
- October**
- 1 October** / The Universal Air Travel Plan (UATP) is introduced by the world's airlines to facilitate the sale of air transportation and related services on a credit basis through the Air Travel Card (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)
- 21 October** / Tunisair is established as Tunisia's flag carrier by issuance of the first Decree approving the statutes of «Tunisair», with a capital of 60 million French Francs to be shared between the Tunisian government and Air France
- 26 October** / Air France inaugurates the first post-war air service between Paris Le Bourget and Madrid
- November**
- 4 November** / Capital Airlines creates coach class on the Chicago – Pittsburgh route. The ticket costs 30% less than the normal class (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)
- December**
- 4 December** / Commercial flights begin at Idlewild Airport, New York (*The Port Authority of NY & NJ*)
- 16 December** / The weekly London to Sydney service by Lockheed Constellation aircraft commences (*British Airways*)



Source: British Airways [3]

- *Macchi M.B.320 first flight (Wikipedia)*
- *The plastic-lined airsickness bag is created by inventor Gilmore Schjeldahl for Northwest Orient Airlines (Wikipedia)*
- *The date heralds the formal beginning of aviation in Nepal with the landing of a 4 seater lone powered vintage Beachcraft Bonanza aircraft of Indian Ambassador Mr. Sarjit Singh Mahathia at Gauchar (Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal)*
- *Air Ceylon enters into a partnership with Australian National Airways (Sri Lankan Ministry of Civil Aviation)*
- *American becomes the only airline in the United States with a completely post-war fleet of pressurized passenger airplanes*
- *All American Aviation becomes All American Airways and makes the transition from airmail to passenger service (US Airways)*
- *CPAL opens a route from Vancouver to Sydney and Auckland (Airlines Remembered, 2000)*
- *CSA begins an orientation toward Soviet airline-technology, introducing IL-12 and LI-2 planes [1]*
- *Delta's Coach Class service starts; discounted-fare "Owly Bird" night flights between Chicago and Miami*
- *Israeli Minister of Transport David Remez, decides to set up a domestic airline in place of Aviron. The company is called Eilat (Arkia)*
- *TAA takes over Qantas's Queensland and Northern Territory networks along with the Flying Doctor Service*
- *TABSO is created, a 50/50 participation from the Soviet Union and Bulgaria (Airlines Worldwide, 2000)*
- *Yemen Airways is created*
- *Geneva's first terminal is opened, with a handling capacity of one million passengers a year (The existing terminal was opened in 1968, and has since been expanded several times) (ACI) [2]*

[1]



Source: CSA Czech Airlines

## January

**11 January** / The Civil Aeronautics Board grants a certificate of convenience and necessity as a local service carrier to All American Airways (*FAA*)

**26 January** / The first commercial flight of Indonesian Airways from Calcutta to Rangoon is made using a Douglas DC-3 Dakota aircraft with the tail number "RI 001" (*Garuda Indonesia*)

**28 January** / Direccion General de Aeronautica Civil of Dominican Republic is created (*Instituto Dominicano de Aviacion Civil*)

## February

**1 February** / The ICAO Council adopts the following resolutions on the establishment of the Air Navigation Commission:

1. An Air Navigation Commission of twelve members shall be established in accordance with the Council Resolution dated 5 October 1948.
2. The Air Navigation Committee at its next meeting should consider and dispose of all necessary business to facilitate the transfer of its functions to the Air Navigation Commission.
3. Mr. W.J. Binaghi, Argentina, was appointed the first Chairman of the ANC (*ICAO*)

**7 February** / The original Annex H –Aircraft Registration and Identification Marks becomes Annex 7–Aircraft Nationality and Registration Marks. The ICAO Council adopts the first standards concerning this issue (*ICAO*)

**15 February** / Breguet 763 Deux-Ponts first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**23 February** / SITA is founded by eleven airlines: Air France, KLM, Sabena, Swissair, TWA, British European Airways Corporation (BEAC), British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC), British South American Airways (BSAA), Swedish A.G.Aertransport, Danish Det Danske Luftfartselskab A/S and Noweigan Det Norske Luftfartselskap (*SITA & Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

## March

**1 March** / Breguet 890 Mercure first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**25 March** / ICAO Council adopts Annex 9 – Standards and Recommended Practices for the Facilitation of International Air Transport (*ICAO*)

## April

**2 April** / Sud-Est SE 2010 Armagnac first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## 14 April to 12 May

/ A Special NOTAM Meeting was held in Montreal. It is the first meeting convened by ICAO for the express purpose of standardizing the activities of States in the dissemination of aeronautical information. The principal results of the meeting are the development of a draft set of "Procedures for Air Navigation Services – Aeronautical Information Services" (PANS-AIS, to replace the existing "Procedures for Air Navigation Services – Procedures for International Notices to Airmen Services"), the enunciation of principles to govern the promulgation and dissemination of NOTAMS over the international aeronautical telecommunication service, and the formulation of recommendations for the future handling of aeronautical information problems (*ICAO*)

## May

**6 May** / Pacific Southwest Airlines (PSA) begins operations with service in California (*US Airways*)

**11 May** / Moscow lifts the blockade of West Berlin (*U.S. Department of State*)

## July

**13 July** / Canadian Pacific Airlines (CPA) inaugurates a regular passenger service to Sydney, Australia (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)



Source: Geneva Airport



**27 July** / The first flight of the prototype De Havilland Comet, the first commercial jet aircraft (*Jane's, 1993*) [3]

**30 July** / BSAA is merged with BOAC (*British Airways*)

## August

**10 August** / Avro Canada C102 Jetliner first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**September** / Norsk Flyindustri Finnmark 5A first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**4 September** / Bristol Brabazon first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**10 September** / Nord Noratlas first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**30 September** / The Berlin Airlift officially ends (*Wikipedia*)

## October

**13 October** / TAI (Transports Aériens Intercontinentaux) and SATI become Union Aéromaritime de Transportis (*Air France & Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

**November** / First delivery of Saab 90 Scandia to the Brazilian airline, VASP

**2 November** / CAAC is formed (*Wikipedia*)

**7 November** / Sikorsky S-55 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## December

**28 December** / A DC-3 aircraft registered as "PK-DPD" with the logo "Garuda Indonesian Airways" on its fuselage flies from Jakarta to Yogyakarta to pick up President Soekarno. This is the first flight made under the brand of Garuda Indonesian Airways

# 1950

## Late 1950s:

- *The Instrument Landing System (ILS) replaces the former radar systems:*
  - *It can be linked to the aircraft's autopilot*
  - *Gives the possibility of handling more than one aircraft at a time (CANSO)*

- *Altitude reported by pilots and identification of aircraft still kept in mind by controllers (CANSO)*
- *SITA opens its first telecommunications centre in Rome. Information is manually transmitted using perforated tape and teleprinters. This is the first generation of the world's largest network (SITA)*
- *A handful of entrepreneurs found Air Tahiti*
- *Garuda Indonesia is officially established as a State Corporation*
- *First official Delta souvenir for children, a paper Junior Pilot Certificate – handed out to both girls and boys*
- *TWA's corporate name is officially changed to Trans World Airlines*
- *Western is the first airline to use a conveyor belt system for aircraft loading and unloading (Delta Air Lines)*

**January**

/ Pan American Airways Corporation officially becomes Pan American World Airways, Inc. *(Wikipedia)*

**February****20 February**

/ Air France introduces a tourist class. First class cabin of DC-4 is equipped for 55 passengers at a reduced fare *(Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991)*

**March****24 March**

/ Gulf Aviation Company is registered as a private shareholding company *(Gulf Air)*

**May****10 May**

/ de Havilland DH.114 Heron first flight *(Jane's, 1993)*

**18 May**

/ Annex 11 – Air Traffic Services are first adopted by ICAO Council *(ICAO)*

**25 May**

/ Annex 12 Search and Rescue is first adopted by the ICAO Council *(ICAO)*

**July****1 July**

/ The world's first regularly scheduled helicopter passenger service, between Cardiff and Liverpool, is opened by BEA *(British Airways)*

**25 July**

/ Hostilities in Korea force suspension of commercial service to Seoul; Northwest is selected by the U.S. government as prime contractor for the Korean air lift

**28 July**

/ The world's first gas turbine-powered service

is flown by BEA from Northolt to Le Bourget, Paris with a Vickers V630 Viscount aircraft *(British Airways)*

**September****25 September**

/ Pan American purchases American Overseas Airlines from American

**October****1 October**

/ Ilyushin IL-14 passenger aircraft first flight

**15 to 21 October**

/ During this seven-day period, U.S. CAA puts into operation the first omnirange (VOR) airways *(FAA)*

**21 October**

/ Martin 4-0-4 first flight *(Wikipedia)*

**November****7 November**

/ BOAC retires its last flying boat airliner from service *(British Airways)*

**December****7 December**

/ By decree N° 26.099 of the Executive Power, Aerolineas Argentinas is created as a State Company

**15 December**

/ The Convention establishing the Customs Cooperation Council (CCC) is signed in Brussels, Belgium *(World Customs Organization)*

**18 December**

/ Harewood Aerodrome, Christchurch becomes the first international airport operating in New Zealand *(ACI & Air New Zealand)*



[1] Source: Fiji Airways

Source: JAL [2]

- ▶ U.S. CAA places the first nine DME (distance-measuring equipment) ground transponders in experimental operation along the Chicago – New York airway (FAA)
- ▶ Air Gabon is formed (Airlines Worldwide, 2000)
- ▶ BOAC (British Overseas Aircraft Corporation) becomes the major shareholder in Gulf Aviation (Gulf Air)
- ▶ DDL, DNL and ABA form the present SAS Consortium
- ▶ T.A.E., Greek Air Transport (A.M.E) and Hellenic Airlines S.A (ELL.A.S) are merged in T.A.E. (Olympic Airways)
- ▶ TransAsia Airways is established

## March

**1 March** / BOAC introduces its luxury Monarch service to New York using the Stratocruiser, which offers sleeper accommodation (British Airways)

**19 March** / Northwest service to Hong Kong begins via connecting service with Hong Kong Airways

## April

**11 April** / Annex 13 named Aircraft Accident Inquiry is first adopted by ICAO Council (ICAO)

## May

**22 May** / JAL acquires business license to provide domestic scheduled air transportation service and is merged with Japan Air Transport

**29 May** / The Standards and Recommended Practices for Aerodromes are first adopted by the ICAO Council (ICAO)

## July

**10 July** / Berlin Schönefeld Flughafen station is



opened for the public, an early example of a mainline rail station built to serve an airport (*Wikipedia*)

**14 July** / Lockheed L-1049 Super Constellation first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## August

**20 August** / First group of JAL's female flight attendants join the company

## September

**1 September** / A de Havilland Dragon Rapide takes off from Fiji's Nausori Airport to Drasa Airport near Lautoka, on the west coast of the main island. This first commercial flight is the birth of Fiji Airways [1]

## October

**1 October** / The world's airlines introduce the first Multilateral Interline Cargo Handling Agreement, adopted by the IATA Composite Traffic Conferences, held at Bermuda in May 1951 (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**8 October** / The first Royal flight by BOAC takes place. The then Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh flew to Montreal in a Stratocruiser for their Canadian tour (*British Airways*)

**25 October** / JAL launches the first private domestic airline service in Japan in the postwar period with Northwest Airlines in charge of flight operations. The Martin 2-0-2 "Mokusei" is the first aircraft to enter service [2]

## November

**1 November** / A new ICAO alphabet is implemented in the Aeronautical Telecommunications Annex 10 in civil aviation, with one year transition to this new alphabet (*ICAO*)

**11 November** / JAL begins operating regularly scheduled flights (daily flights: Tokyo – Sapporo, one round trip; Tokyo – Osaka, three round trips; Tokyo – Osaka – Fukuoka, one round trip)

**12 November** / PLUNA becomes a wholly government-owned company (*Wikipedia*)

**27 November** / ICAO Council adopts a complete revision and rearrangement of Annex 2 titled International Standards – Rules of the Air (*ICAO*)

## December

**12 December** / de Havilland Canada DHC-3 Otter first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**27 December** / First TEAL Auckland-Papeete (Tahiti) service via Suva (Fiji) and Aitutaki (Cook Islands), monthly, known as the "Coral Route" (*Air New Zealand*)

➤ The Approach Control is officially established in ATC (*CANSO*)

➤ A standard Agency Agreement was drawn up between IATA and the agencies, which sets the pattern for airline-agent relations (*IATA Wings for the World since 1945, 2009*)

➤ A Royal Decree transfers the Governmental Civil Aviation Authority from

the Ministry of Aviation to the Ministry of Transport at the level of General Division and is renamed Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority

➤ Indonesia's government establishes the Civil Aviation Djawatan (Directorate General of Civil Aviation of Indonesia)

➤ American introduces the first electronic reservations system, Magnetric Reservisor, to keep track of available seats on flights

➤ TWA, with its "Sky Tourist" Constellation service, is the first to offer low-

cost air transportation between the United States and Europe

➤ Inland Airlines merges with Western, after operating as a Western subdivision since 1944, and starts coach service (*Delta Air Lines*)

➤ Wisconsin Central Airlines moves its headquarters to Minneapolis/St. Paul and is renamed North Central Airlines (*Northwest Airlines*)

➤ Civilian use of Antigua airport commences (*ACI*) [1]

**January**

**5 January** / Using Douglas DC-6As, Pan American World Airways inaugurates the first all-cargo air service across the North Atlantic (*FAA*)

**9 January** / The first aircraft owned by JAL, the DC-4 "Takachiho," arrives at Tokyo International Airport

**14 January** / The first pre-clearance of airline passengers and baggage entering the United States from Canada—a new concept to facilitate international air travel—is inaugurated at Toronto Malton Airport (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**March**

**31 March** / Avio Linee Italiane S.A. (ALI) is absorbed by LAl (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**April**

**11 April** / The Pan American World Airways Douglas DC-4 Clipper Endeavor, operating as Flight 526A, suffers the failure of two engines and ditches in rough seas in the Atlantic Ocean. After the accident it is recommended that in the future passengers be briefed about location and usage of flotation equipment and emergency exits before over-water flights (*Aviation Safety Network & Wikipedia*)

**17 April** / Official opening of Jan Smuts International Airport — Johannesburg (*South African Airways*)

**May**

**1 May** / The first tourist class air service over the North Atlantic begin, in accordance with an

agreement between eleven International Air Transport Association member airlines (Air France, British Overseas Airways Corporation, El Al Israel Airlines, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, LAl Italian Airlines, Pan American World Airways, Sabena, Scandinavian Airlines System, Swissair, Trans-Canada Air Lines and Trans World Airlines) that had been announced on 5 December of the previous year, at fares generally about 20 to 25% below the standard first-class fares (London — New York one way tourist fare USD 270) (*FAA & Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**2 May** / BOAC flies the world's first pure jet service. The Comet G-ALYP operates from London Airport to Johannesburg via Rome, Beirut, Khartoum, Entebbe and Livingstone (*British Airways*) [2]

**20 May** / Boeing starts building the Model 367-80, the jetliner and jet tanker prototype that will be known as the Dash 80, in a closed-off area at the Renton, Wash., plant

**31 May** / The first TWA Ambassadors' Club opens at Greater Pittsburgh Airport

**June**

**3 June** / Mil Mi-4 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**17 June** / The Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (*ICAO*) adopts a recommendation that, pending development of a more suitable form of speech, English should be used as a universal language in aeronautical radiotelephony and should be available for communications involving international

[1]



Source: Antigua and Barbuda Airport Authority

[2]



Source: British Airways

air services. This recommended practice, which became applicable on 1 April 1953, is contained in an amendment to Annex 10 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Vol. II, Section 5.2.1.1.2) (FAA)

## July

/ United sells LAMSA, its Mexican airline subsidiary, to local interests

### 4 July

/ Nitto Airlines is established (JAL)

### 10 July

/ Helsinki Airport is opened (Finnair)

## August

### 16 August

/ Bristol Britannia first flight (Jane's, 1993)

### 22 August

/ Saunders-Roe SR.45 Princess first flight (Wikipedia)

## September

### 13 September

/ Fuji Airlines is established (JAL)

## October

### 3 October

/ The Presidents of Air France, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Sabena and Swissair found the Air Research Bureau (ARB), and were later joined by British European Airways (BEA) and Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS) (Compendium of International Civil Aviation)

### 7 October

/ An amended Convention on Damage Caused by Foreign Aircraft to Third Parties on the Surface is adopted and signed to unify, on an international level, the laws relating to recovery by persons who suffer damage caused on the surface by foreign aircraft, while limiting

the liabilities of those responsible for such damage. The Convention also deals with a host of related matters, such as apportionment of claims, financial security requirements, jurisdiction and enforcement of judgments (ICAO)

## November

### 19 November

/ The first trans-arctic flight with a commercial aircraft: At 8.30am SAS' first DC-6B, "Arild Viking", took off from Los Angeles. 28 hours and six minutes later it touched down in Copenhagen, following two intermediate stops at Edmonton, Canada, and Thule, Greenland

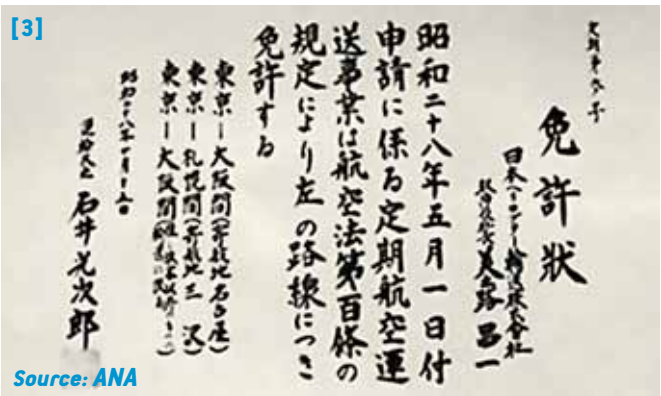
## December

### 7 December

/ Formation of JAPAN HELICOPTER & AIRPLANE TRANSPORT Co Ltd., predecessor of All Nippon Airways [3]

/ Introduction of an All-Tourist Class service by Air India on the Nairobi route on every alternate Sunday with DC-4 aircraft leased from Air India Ltd

[3]



Source: ANA

➤ Commercial air transport in Brunei begins with the establishment of air service links connecting Bandar Seri Begawan with Anduki in the Belait district

➤ Cambodia becomes a signatory nation of the International Convention on Civil Aviation

➤ U.S. FAA § 121.161 imposes the 60-minute rule on two- and three-engine airplanes (FAA)

➤ The first civil aviation rule in the Saudi Kingdom is issued (Kingdom of Saudi

Arabia General Authority of Civil Aviation)

➤ All American's route system grows and the name is changed to Allegheny Airlines (US Airways)

➤ American pioneers nonstop trans-continental service in both directions across the United States with the Douglas DC-7



- After the association with ANA (Australia) ceases, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines takes over the Australian airline's share in Air Ceylon (Sri Lankan Ministry of Civil Aviation)
- The merger of Delta Air Lines with Chicago and Southern Air Lines brings Delta its first international routes to the Caribbean and Caracas, with the airline called Delta-C&S for the next two years. Delta inherits from C&S its first customer recognition program-Flying Colonel, one of air transport's coveted awards. Lockheed Constellations join the fleet
- Indian National Airways is nationalised and merged into Indian Airlines (Wikipedia)
- Loftleidir begins its pioneering low-fare services across the North-Atlantic (Icelandair)
- A new airline is launched in West Germany as Luftag (Deutsche Lufthansa AG, Media Relations Lufthansa Group)
- South African Airways operates its first Comet Springbok service from London to Johannesburg using a BOAC Comet, and in the process becomes the first airline outside the UK to operate jet aircraft
- TAP goes from public service to a limited responsibility corporation with mixed capital but with the majority belonging to the State
- Trans Mediterranean Airways is established
- UPS resumes air operations (from 1929), offering two-day service to major cities on the east and west coasts. Once again, UPS packages fly in the cargo holds of regularly scheduled airlines
- Wardair Canada, the privately run airline, is founded by Max Ward

## January

**16 January** / Bristol Superfreighter first flight (Wikipedia)

**27 January** / Regular services of Aerolineas Argentinas between Buenos Aires and Santa Cruz de la Sierra (Bolivia), with stops in Cordoba and Salta, are inaugurated

**29 January** / Hurel-Dubois HD.31 first flight (Jane's, 1993)

**February** / United and the Radio Corporation of America launch a joint project to develop an airborne weather-mapping (C-band) radar. Fleet installation of the units in July 1955 marks an industry first

**Spring** / Aero O/Y starts to use the name Finnair in its marketing

## April

**1 April** / Based on unanimous agreement reached under the auspices of the IATA Traffic Conferences, the concept of tourist-class service is introduced within Europe and between Europe and the Near East. The tourist-class concept is extended to India, Pakistan and Ceylon, as well as between Europe and South Africa, on 1 October 1953, and across the

Pacific and to South America on 1 April 1954 (Compendium of International Civil Aviation)

**18 April** / The first turboprop airliner, the Vickers V-701 Viscount, enters scheduled passenger service with British European Airways (FAA)

## May

**15 May** / The Air Navigation Commission and the first set of Standards and Recommended Practices is adopted by the ICAO Council as Annex 15-Aeronautical Information Services to the Convention for the promulgation of information essential to the safety, regularity and efficiency of air navigation (ICAO)

**18 May** / The Douglas DC-7 airliner makes its first flight. It is the largest and most efficient of the DC series yet designed. Maximum speed is 400 mph, with a cruising speed of 375 mph [1]

**21 May** / Dan Air is founded (Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991)

**28 May** / Air Corporations Act, ratified by the President of India (Air India)

## June

**15 June** / Two Corporations – Air India International

## July

/ Transports Aériens Intercontinentaux (TAI), the commercial operator of the state-controlled Polynesia inter-island air network, Régie Aérienne Interinsulaire (RAI), asserts its entitlement to the allocation of local transport services, under agreements signed with Air France (*Air Tahiti*)

**9 July**

/ New York Airways becomes the first scheduled passenger helicopter air carrier to operate in the United States (*FAA*)

**30 July**

/ Kita Nihon Airlines is established (*JAL*)

## August

**1 August**

/ Nationalisation of Air India International Limited. Mr. J.R.D. Tata is appointed Chairman

**1 August**

/ Indian Airlines is created by the merger of eight private companies (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

**10 August**

/ Japan becomes the 61st member of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) (*JAL*)

**10 August**

/ First group of JAL male flight attendants join the company

## September

**1 September**

/ The Belgian airline Sabena opens the first international helicopter services, from Brussels to Rotterdam, Lille, and Maastricht (*FAA & Sabena*) [2]

## October

/ Reorganization of transpacific services carried out by BCPA (British Commonwealth Pacific Airlines). The British Government decides to withdraw from participation in BCPA. Qantas is awarded the transpacific service from Sydney to San Francisco and Vancouver. BCPA is liquidated and arrangements are made for three of its DC-6 Douglas aircraft to be transferred to TEAL for trans-Tasman and Hibiscus (Auckland – Nadi) services

/ JAPAN HELICOPTER & AEROPLANE TRANSPORT Co Ltd. is authorized to operate a scheduled passenger service

**1 October**

/ Establishment of the new Japan Airlines and dissolution of the former Japan Air Lines

**19 October**

/ TWA is the first airline to provide nonstop transcontinental air service. The flight from Los Angeles to New York took 8 hours. Because of prevailing head winds, westbound transcontinental service continued to stop in Chicago to refuel

## November

**16 November**

/ First nonstop Dakar – Rio flight (5,000 km) by Air France Super Constellation (11h 45 flight time)

**30 November**

/ Toa Airways is established (*JAL*)

## December

/ The Conference on Co-ordination of Air Transport in Europe (CATE), is formally constituted by ICAO (*ICAO*)

**10 December**

/ Continental signs a merger agreement with Pioneer Airlines that adds 16 new cities in Texas and New Mexico to its growing route map





**1954-1963**

**The jet era**



# 1954-1963

## The jet era

The jet age, here defined as the years from 1954 to 1963, brought a remarkable acceleration in the development of air transport, from a technological, perceptual and regulatory point of view.

From a technological point of view, the early years of this decade brought regular commercial services on jet-engined aircraft into civilian use, using a technology developed out of military necessity during the Second World War. At the same time several nations were already looking further ahead and by the end of this decade the foundations for the next quantum leap in aircraft and engine design – supersonic aircraft – were already in place.

From a perceptual point of view, this era was the dawn of mass transport by air. Replacing propeller driven aircraft by internal combustion air-breathing engines increased the range, altitude and speed abilities of these new generation aircraft. This heralded the first steps towards 'globalisation', with non-stop intercontinental travel now a reality. And, with the new aircraft also being larger with lower per-seat costs, air travel was now accessible to a much wider audience. The economics of the jet age brought new opportunities and challenges for airlines. Reading about the highlights of the decade, as detailed in the following pages, illustrates that the market dynamics and competitive forces we are all familiar with today – new market entrants, network and business model development and product innovation and differentiation - were already in force 60 years ago.

From a regulatory perspective, the fast development of this fledgling industry required an appropriate legal framework. In Europe this led to the 1954 Strasbourg Conference on Transport, and the foundation of the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) as the intergovernmental body responsible for ensuring that States should co-operate, and encourage their carriers to co-operate, towards the orderly development of European air transport. This was also the year in which the 6 founding member airlines of the Brussels-based Air Research Bureau decided to formally establish their forum for inter-airline co-operation, known today as the Association of European Airlines.

**Athar Husain Khan**

*CEO, Association European Airlines*

## INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC (SCHEDULED SERVICES)

Year	Passengers (millions)	Passenger- km (millions)	Seat-km available (millions)	Passenger load factor %	Freight tonne-km (millions)	Mail tonne-km (millions)	Total tonne-km performed (millions)	Total tonne-km available (millions)	Weight load factor %
1954		65,868	108,514	61	1,472	334	7,724	13,091	59
1955		77,268	124,225	62	1,735	374	9,030	15,305	59
1956		89,935	143,437	63	1,971	404	10,400	17,537	59
1957		103,868	169,997	61	2,155	435	11,693	20,371	57
1958		107,668	183,735	59	2,208	475	12,213	21,693	56
1959		124,135	206,548	60	2,549	526	13,989	24,542	57
1960		138,069	233,225	59	2,839	617	15,650	28,300	55
1961		148,202	268,483	55	3,259	728	17,096	33,067	52
1962	156	164,669	308,370	53	3,824	819	19,163	37,723	51
1963	174	186,241	346,173	54	4,295	870	21,520	42,530	51

Source: ICAO



[1] Source: JAL

- ▶ *The Department of Civil Aviation (DCA) is established by Federal Act 10 as a Directorate of Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland (Department of Civil Aviation of Zambia)*
- ▶ *Delta Air Lines becomes the first airline to supplement visual inspection of aircraft parts with a portable x-ray machine to examine interior structures*
- ▶ *Kuwait Airways is born*
- ▶ *Persian Air Services is formed (IranAir)*
- ▶ *First airline to introduce Tourist Class: SAS discounted ticket options, introduced in 1952, are offered on all routes*
- ▶ *Western Luxurious "Champagne Service" begins on 60-passenger Douglas DC-6B aircraft, with complimentary champagne, steaks, corsages, perfume and cigars (Delta Air Lines)*
- ▶ *Bahrain's position as the major airport in the region is further enhanced with the establishment of a new Flight Information Region based in Bahrain to cover the navigation of aircrafts in transit through Gulf airspace*

## January

**1 January** / Air Canada becomes the new official French name for Trans-Canada Air Lines

## February

**1 February** / TCA launches "Tourist class" economy fares, made possible by adopting higher-density seating arrangements. The move lowers fares by 20%

## 2 February

/ JAL begins its service to San Francisco, first international route [1]

## March

### 8 March

/ Sikorsky S-58 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

### 22 March

/ Air France grants 5th freedom rights from USA to carry passengers from New York to Mexico (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

## April

/ The Conference on Co-ordination of Air Transport in Europe (CATE), formally constituted



by ICAO in December 1953 meets in Strasbourg. As many of the recommendations being adopted at the meeting would require follow-up action by some duly authorised and competent body operating in close liaison with ICAO, the meeting proposed the establishment of a permanent European organization of high-level aviation authorities to implement its recommendations and to carry out the work it had initiated. This proposal envisaged a body that would meet periodically and that would at least at the outset, be serviced by the ICAO Secretariat. It recommend that this body which, it suggested, might be named the “European Civil Aviation Conference”, should maintain the closest liaison with ICAO as well as with other interested organizations (*ECAC*)

**25 April** / Paris—Montreal, Paris—Chicago and Paris—New York, all standard transatlantic Air France services, are equipped with beds. Each plane is endowed with a cabin with two double beds and two single beds (*Chronicles Aviation, 1991*)

## May

**4 May** / The patent for the inflatable escape chute assembly is submitted by Boyle (*Google*)

## July

**15 July** / Pilot Tex Johnston and copilot R.L. “Dix” Loesch take the Boeing Model 367-80 (Dash 80) on its first flight [2]

## August

**3 August** / The first Madrid—New York flight takes place on the anniversary of Columbus’s departure on his voyage of discovery. Five days later,

regular commercial service between the two cities begins. A Super Constellation is used on this route

## 6 August

/ CAB announces the signing of an agreement with Norway, Sweden, and Denmark for the operation of an air route by U.S. and Scandinavian airlines between Los Angeles and Scandinavia via Greenland (*FAA*)

## September

**18 September** / Romanian Air Transport, TAROM, is established

## November

**6 November** / A joint statement by Hungary and the Soviet Union announces the closure of their joint venture, Maszovlet, the Hungarian-Soviet Civil Air Transport Joint Stock Company (*Malev*)

**12 November** / Air Inter is set up (*Wikipedia*)

**15 November** / SAS is the world’s first airline to launch the world’s first Polar shortcut as the Copenhagen—Los Angeles route is open

**26 November** / Malev Hungarian Air Transport Company—as the legal successor of Maszovlet—starts independent activities

**27 November** / First nonstop commercial transatlantic service by Pan American (9 hours, 42 minutes) with a Boeing 377 Stratocruiser

**30 November** / By law (Federal Law Gazette p. 354), the Luftfahrt-Bundesamt (*LBA*), the Federal Aviation Office, is established as the supreme German Federal Authority to fulfil tasks in the field of civil aviation (*LBA*)

## December

**1 December** / TEAL share register records the transfer of Qantas and BOAC shareholding to Australian Government which gives the Australian Government 50% and the New Zealand Government 50% of the shares (*Air New Zealand*)

**9 December** / Herbert Coursin, Henri Martinet and Louis Eschembrenner, Deputy General Manager of the company, found Transpac, predecessor of Air Calédonie



Source: Kostas Iatrou



[1] Source: Kostas Iatrou

- ▶ ICAO's regulations for trans-Atlantic flights: 1,000 feet vertically, 120 miles laterally and 30 minutes longitudinally (CANSO)
- ▶ Dr. John Morrel introduces the time-based concept of collision avoidance (EUROCONTROL)
- ▶ The colonial Government of Cyprus establishes the Department of Civil Aviation
- ▶ Civil Aviation Act creates the Department of Civil Aviation of El Salvador
- ▶ With the signature of the Austria State Treaty, two separate carriers are founded, Air Austria and Austrian Airways (Austrian)
- ▶ Delta pioneers the use of the hub and spoke system. Scheduled airplanes bring passengers to a hub airport where travelers connect to other Delta flights. Delta wins Atlanta to New York route
- ▶ The government of Kuwait takes a 50% interest in Kuwait Airways (and finally takes a 100% share in Kuwait Airways)
- ▶ Surinam Airways starts its domestic activities and scheduled services are inaugurated between Paramaribo and the small bauxite town of Moengo
- ▶ The technical operations team of TCA changes industry standards again in 1955 by installing anti-skid brakes on various Viscount aircraft. Pilots can finally make turns on water or ice

## January

**1 January** / Northwest voluntarily becomes the first airline to operate without government subsidy on transpacific and United States – Alaska routes. Northwest flies its first Lockheed L-1049 Constellation

**5 January** / Commander Omar Fontana founds Sadia S.A. Transportes Aéreos Airlines (*Transbrazil*)

**10 January** / Birth of a new airline, PIA, through PIAC Ordinance 1955 as the Government of Pakistan decides to form a state-owned airline and invite Orient Airways to merge with it. Later this year (1 February), PIA launches its first scheduled international service (London, via Cairo and Rome)

**27 January** / Ariana Afghan Airlines is founded (*Ariana Afghan Airlines & Airlines Worldwide, 2000*)

## March

**14 March** / Frankfurt (Main) Airport regional station is open (*Wikipedia*)

## April

**1 April** / First flight of Lufthansa (Hamburg to Munich)

## May

**5 May** / The Paris Peace Treaties restore full air-space sovereignty to West Germany. This allows Lufthansa's flight schedule to include non-German destinations

**9 May**

/ BOAC introduces tourist class on London to Sydney weekly service, using a Constellation aircraft (*British Airways*)

**21 May**

/ The title "General Directorate of the State Airlines Administration" is changed by Law number 6623 to Turkish Airlines

**27 May**

/ The Sud-Aviation SE 210 Caravelle makes its first flight, the first short-haul jet plane to go into general use (*Jane's, 1993*) [1]

## June

**8 June** / First Lufthansa's long distance flight operated with a Super Conny leaves Hamburg for New York via Dusseldorf and Shannon

**17 June**

/ The prototype of Russia's first modern aircraft, the twin-engine jetliner TU-104, designed by Andrei N. Tupolev (1888-1972), makes its initial flight (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**25 June**

/ Scottish Aviation Twin Pioneer first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## July

**2 July** / Introduction by Air India of an all-First Class Express service "Flying Rani" Bombay – Cairo – London

## August

**7 August** / Tex Johnston does two "barrel rolls" with the Boeing Dash 80 over the Seafair hydroplane course on Lake Washington in Seattle

**25 August**

/ Handley Page Dart Herald first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## September

**21 September** / Air Koryo is founded under the name Chosonminhang

**25 September**

/ TWA is the first airline to propose and introduce an inexpensive one-way transcontinental excursion fare

## October

**13 October** / Pan American World Airways orders 20 Boeing Model 707 jet transports

**16 October**

/ The Boeing Dash 80 flies nonstop from Seattle to Washington, D.C., and back, breaking all transcontinental records for a commercial transport, at average speeds of 592 mph and 567 mph

**20 October**

/ LTU is founded

**30 October**

/ The first commercial flights begin at the new O'Hare Field, Chicago International Airport (*FAA*)

## November

/ Air Koryo's Pyongyang-Chita international flight opened

**24 November**

/ Fokker F27 Friendship first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**29 November to 16 December**

/ ECAC holds its inaugural session in Strasbourg

## December

**21 December** / Condor is founded as "Deutsche Flugdienst GmbH" by four partners, Norddeutscher Lloyd (27.75%), Hamburg-Amerika-Linie (27.75%), Deutsche Lufthansa (26%) and Deutsche Bundesbahn (18.5%)



1956



[1] Source: Qantas

- ▶ *Aeroflot launches the first jet, the TU-104, to operate on Russia's domestic and international routes*
- ▶ *Weather-avoidance radar installed in noses of all Delta aircraft*
- ▶ *Kuwait Civil Aviation Department is established (Directorate General of Civil Aviation State of Kuwait)*
- ▶ *TWA is the first to install a dynamometer-type engine test cell, resulting in greater accuracy and safety at less cost*
- ▶ *Eastern acquires a Canadian company, Colonial Airlines, that allows the airline to begin service to Canadian cities such as Montreal and Ottawa*
- ▶ *Qantas carries the Olympic flame into the Southern Hemisphere for the first time on its longest ever trip, from Athens to Darwin—a total of 13,800km [1]*

**January** / Vietnam Civil Aviation Department is established (*Vietnam Airlines*)

**1 January** / The International Air Transport Association (IATA) launches the First Edition of the IATA Restricted Articles Regulations (RAR) (renamed Dangerous Goods Regulations – DGR in 1983) (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**1 January** / Northwest leases Shemya Island in the Aleutian chain from the U.S. government for use as a fuel stop on the North Pacific route, thus becoming

the first airline to operate its own airport

**February**

**11 February** / Antonov An-8 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**18 February** / Moscow route is opened making Finnair as the first Western airline to begin a service to the Soviet capital after the Second World War

**Beginning**

/ 5 An-2 aircraft are delivered from the Soviet Union to Mongolia and the transition training

for pilots is successfully completed enabling Mongolian service with scheduled flights

## March

1 March

/ The final version of ICAO alphabet (printed in Annex 10, volume II, Chapter 5) is implemented by ICAO. It is adopted by many other international and national organizations, including the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), ITU, the International Maritime Organization (IMO), etc (ICAO) [2]

[2]



1 March

/ Turkish Airlines Inc. is established with a capital stock of 60 million TL

31 March

/ The Air Traffic Control Association (ATCA) is established as a nonprofit professional organization to promote the advancement of air traffic control (FAA)

## April

1 April

/ Seaboard and Western Airlines starts scheduled all-cargo services across the North Atlantic (Compendium of International Civil Aviation)

13 April

/ The USSR Government issues a resolution on the establishment of a special-purpose air unit (SPAU) in the Civil Air Fleet (Rossiya)

28 April

/ Restoration of Japan's international aviation rights (JAL)

30 April

/ The Multilateral Agreement on Commercial Rights of Non-Scheduled Air Services in Europe is opened for signatures. This provide liberal access for certain categories of non-scheduled operations (ECAC)

## June

30 June

/ A Trans World Airlines Super Constellation and a United Air Lines DC-7 collide over the Grand Canyon, Arizona, killing all 128 occupants. The crash triggers sweeping changes in the regulations governing cross-country flights over the United States, which would include the creation of the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA & Wikipedia)

## August

30 August

/ The Air Coordinating Committee approves a study panel's recommendation that VOR and TACAN, the separate civil and military air navigation systems, be combined. VORTAC (an acronym used to describe a short-range navigation system, using the VOR directional component and the distance component of TACAN) would become a key element of the civil-military common system of air navigation and air traffic control (FAA)

## October

10 October

/ Lockheed L-1649 Starliner first flight (Wikipedia)

20 October

/ Bell 204/205 first flight (Jane's, 1993)

## November

15 November

/ A Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS) Douglas DC-7C sets a new distance record for commercial airlines by flying 6,005 miles non-stop from Los Angeles to Stockholm, Sweden, following the Great Arctic Circle route

## December

17 December

/ The Council of Ministers of the USSR passes the Resolution of awarding, to S.V. Ilyushin, the title of General Designer, and of appointing him the Executive Officer of Plant 240 of the Ministry of Aviation Industry

1957



[1] Schiphol Duty Free - Source: Schiphol Group

- Mongolian civil aviation operation headquarters is founded under the name Air Transport Department. Until 1980, the organization was under the Ministry of Defence of the former Republic of Mongolia (Civil Aviation Authority of Mongolia)
- Department of Civil Aviation of Nepal is founded
- Aeronaves de Mexico: Permits are obtained to fly the Mexico City – New York and Acapulco – Los Angeles routes. Mexican shareholders recover the shares that had been sold to Pan American
- The world's first special facility for flight attendant training, the American Airlines Stewardess College, is built in Dallas/Fort Worth
- Ansett buys Australian National Airways (ANA), which is the biggest airline in the country, and change its name to Ansett-ANA
- AUSTRAL Compania Argentina de Transportes Aéreos Comercial e Industrial' (as it was originally named) is created under the auspices of the 'Sociedad Anonima Importadora y Exportadora de la Patagonia'
- BOAC (British Overseas Airways Corporation) becomes a partner of Turkish Airlines with a 6.5% equity share
- Forklifts and conveyer belts are installed for handling cargo and baggage in all larger cities served by Delta. A new truck lift cuts in half the time it takes to load and unload planes
- Clear air turbulence forecasting is pioneered by NWA
- Omar Fontana starts an alliance with Real/Aerovias Brasil (Transbrasil)
- S7 story begins with the first civil



flight from a military airport in Novosibirsk by the Tolmachevo united air group; Sibir Airlines was based on that group

➤ Schiphol opens the first mainland European airport tax-free shopping centre (ACI) [1]

## January

**3 January** / TWA is the first airline to offer passengers freshly-brewed coffee in flight

## February

**24 February** / Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS) is the first airline in the world to inaugurate a regular Polar service with Douglas DC-7C aircraft between Copenhagen and Tokyo via Anchorage, AK, U.S.A. (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

## March

**1 March** / SNCASE (or Sud-Est) and SNCASO (or Sud-Ouest) merge to form Sud Aviation (*Wikipedia*)

**7 March** / Antonov An-10 first flight

**11 March** / Tupolev Tu-110 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## April

**4 April** / Air Austria and Austrian Airways finally merge to form a single airline, Austrian Airlines

**6 April** / T.A.E. is purchased by Aristotle Onassis and renamed Olympic Airways

**May** / Ten years after publishing one issue of its pi-

oneering inflight magazine, Mainliner Traveler, United begins regular production of an inflight magazine and calls it simply Mainliner

## 21 May

/ A Douglas DC-7C takes off from Long Beach (Calif.) Municipal Airport for a record trans-Atlantic flight that retraces part of the route flown by Charles Lindbergh in 1927. The aircraft flies 6,148 miles to Paris in 21 hours and 52 minutes – 12 hours less than it took Lindbergh to fly 3,625 miles across the Atlantic

## June

/ Balair begins operations (*Wikipedia*)

## 1 June

/ TCA flies its first nonstop flight from Toronto to Vancouver

## 5 June

/ Mil Mi-6 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## 28 June

/ Company Chérifienne Air Transport (CCTA) is created following the merger between Air and Atlas Air Morocco and takes the new name of Compagnie Nationale Air transportation "Royal Air Morocco"

## July

**4 July** / Ilyushin IL-18 passenger aircraft first flight [2]

[2]



Source: Ilyushin

[3]



## August

## 5 August

/ The Civil Aeronautics Board adopts a rule requiring an approved Flight Data Recorder (FDR) aboard air carriers and commercial airplanes of more than 12,500 pounds maximum certificated take-off weight, with compliance by 15 July 1958 (FAA)

## September

## 1 September

/ Alitalia merges with LAI and became Alitalia – Linee Aeree Italiane with 3,000 employees, a fleet of 37 aircraft and a network of roughly 100,000 km (Alitalia & Compendium of International Civil Aviation)

29 September / TWA launches polar route service from Los Angeles to London with the L-1649A Constellation

30 September / Austrian Airlines AG is founded

## October

## 28 October

/ The first production Boeing Model 707-120 jet rolls-out at Renton, Wash.

## November

## 1 November

/ Oakes International Airport closes and Nassau International Airport at Windsor Field is brought into full operation (Bahamas Civil Aviation)

15 November / Tupolev Tu-114 first flight (Wikipedia) [3]

26 November / Piaggio P.166 first flight (Wikipedia)

## December

/ Japan Helicopter & Aeroplane Transport Co Ltd. name is changed to All Nippon Airways Co., Ltd.

6 December / Lockheed L-188A Electra first flight (FAA)

9 December / CSA enters the turbojet era by introducing TU-104A aircraft into regular operation on the Prague – Moscow route [4]

16 December / Antonov An-12 first flight (Wikipedia)

20 December / Marking a huge milestone in the annals of flight, the first Boeing 707 takes to the Seattle skies

[4]



Source: CSA



Source: Dallas Municipal Archives [2]

- ▶ This is the first year that the total number of transatlantic passengers traveling by air exceeded the number traveling by sea (FAA)
- ▶ The 'Black Box' flight recorder is developed by David Warren of the Aeronautical Research Laboratories in Melbourne (Century of Flight)
- ▶ Lockheed introduces the first FAA approved flight data recorder (black box)
- ▶ The multichannel flight recorder is pioneered by Trans-Canada Air Lines and installed on DC-8 and Vanguard aircraft. This leads to the development of the more powerful multichannel recording system, commonly known as the "black box."
- ▶ TCA introduces the radar-tracking technology which means its aircraft can avoid weather disturbances (Air Canada)
- ▶ Cooperation agreement is signed between Swissair and SAS
- ▶ Trans-Pacific Airlines is purchased locally and renamed Aloha Airlines (Aloha State)
- ▶ Jan Janssen and Martin Dekker found OLT "Ostfriesische Lufttaxi" (East Frisian Air Taxi) in Emden, the predecessor of DLT (Lufthansa CityLine)
- ▶ Luxurious Douglas DC-7 Royal Service first-class flights offer three – instead of the usual two – flight attendants, boarding music by Muzak, complimentary champagne and steaks cooked to order [1]
- ▶ Children receive Delta's first "kiddie wings" souvenir pins
- ▶ The first moving walkway in an airport is installed at Dallas Love Field in Texas (ACI) [2]
- ▶ A new northwest/southeast heading 2,529 meter runway is constructed on a promontory into Kowloon Bay. The name, Hong Kong International Airport, is officially adopted for Kai Tak Airport (Hong Kong Civil Aviation Department) [3]

[1]





## January

/ Sociedad Anonima Importadora y Exportadora de la Patagonia starts operating from Aeroparque to the Argentine South

**14 January**

/ Two Qantas Super Constellations take-off from Melbourne to inaugurate a pioneering round the world service. One travels via India along the Kangaroo Route, while the other flies eastward on the Southern Cross Route via the United States. The Super Constellations circumnavigated the globe in opposite directions, arriving back in Sydney six days later. Before long, eight round the world services were operating weekly [4]

## March

/ ANA merges with Far Eastern Airlines

**2 March**

/ Beijing Capital International Airport opens (ACI & Wikipedia)

**14 March**

/ Antonov An-14 first flight

**16 March**

/ Air Inter operates its first flight

## April

**1 April**

/ IATA Member airlines agree to launch a new type of service, called economy class, at fares some 20% lower than for tourist class (Compendium of International Civil Aviation)

**28 April**

/ The first transatlantic service of Aerlinnte Eireann leaves Dublin and Shannon for New York (Aer Lingus)

**28 April**

/ Aerolineas Argentinas purchases six Comet IV aircraft

## May

**1 May**

/ Mixed-classes, First Class and Tourist, are introduced by BEA (British Airways)

**21 May**

/ U.S. Senator A. S. "Mike" Monroney (D-OK) introduces a bill to create an independent Federal Aviation Agency to provide for the safe and efficient use of national airspace

**24 May**

/ Martinair is established by aviation pioneer Martin Schröder. At the time, the airline did not carry its present name, but was called "Martin's Air Charter" (MAC)

**30 May**

/ The Douglas DC-8 makes its first flight. It is the first of the DC line to have jet engines

## June

**9 June**

/ The 'new' Gatwick officially opened by HM The Queen. It is the world's first single facility airport accessible by all modes of transport – air, rail and road (Gatwick Airport)

## July

**4 July**

/ Ghana Airways is set up with the support of BOAC (Airlines Worldwide, 2000)



## August

- 3 August** / Air France and Aeroflot inaugurate Paris – Moscow route (*Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991*)
- 14 August** / Grumman Gulfstream I first flight
- 15 August** / Pan American World Airways takes delivery of the country's first commercial jet airliner, a Boeing 707-120, four months ahead of schedule
- 23 August** / The U.S. President signs the Federal Aviation Act, which transfers the Civil Aeronautics Authority's functions to a new independent Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) responsible for civil aviation safety

## September

- 18 September** / Interflug is set up (*Wikipedia*)

## October

- 1 October** / West African Airways Corporation Nigeria Limited starts flight operations (*Airlines Worldwide, 2000*)
- 4 October** / BOAC operates the first jet service across the North Atlantic to New York using the Comet 4. G-APDB operates the eastbound flight and G-APDC operates the westbound (*British Airways*)
- 26 October** / Commercial history is made when Pan American World Airways inaugurates trans-Atlantic 707 jet service between New York and Paris [6]



## November

- 1 November** / The Chilean airline Ladeco is founded (*Wikipedia*)
- 1 November** / KLM opens its Amsterdam – Tokyo service, flying over the North Pole using the Douglas DC-7
- 1 November** / Retired U.S. Air Force General Elwood "Pete" Quesada becomes the first U.S. FAA Administrator

## December

- December** / First Melbourne – Auckland – Nadi service by Qantas Super Constellation under charter to TEAL
- 27 December** / TACV is founded (*Airlines Worldwide, 2000*)
- 31 December** / U.S. FAA begins its operations





[1] Source: Qantas

- ▶ The federal government of Mexico acquires the shares and assets of Aerovías de México by decree
- ▶ American introduces the Lockheed Electra, the first U.S. designed turbo-prop airplane
- ▶ The red, white, and blue triangle “widget” becomes Delta’s logo, resembling the swept-wing appearance of a jet. First airline to offer complimentary meals on discounted coach flights
- ▶ Air France puts into service the Caravelle and SAS enters the jet age with the introduction of the Caravelle
- ▶ With plans to expand its services, SATA acquires the Trans World Airways equipment at Santa Maria Airport. It then merges its land services (workers and equipment) with Pan Am’s at the same airport
- ▶ An extension of the passenger boarding bridge system is introduced at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX)
- ▶ Hilton opens its first airport hotel (San Francisco Airport Hilton) and pioneers the airport hotel concept

## January

- 8 January** / Armstrong Whitworth AW.660 Argosy first flight (*Jane’s, 1993*)
- 20 January** / The first flight of a Vickers-Armstrong Vanguard aircraft, prototype G-AOYW, takes place (*British Airways*)
- 25 January** / American Airlines starts Boeing 707 service from New York to Los Angeles for the first transcontinental jetliner route
- 27 January** / First flight of Convair 880 (*FAA*)

## February

- 25 February** / In a special conference at Montreal, the International Civil Aviation Organization (*ICAO*) approves the distance-measuring element (DMET) as a complement of the very high frequency omnidirectional radio range (VOR) (*FAA*)

## March

- 11 March** / Sikorsky S-61 first flight (*Jane’s, 1993*)
- 31 March** / Britannia 312 G-AOVT leaves London for New York and Tokyo to inaugurate BOAC’s round-



the-world service. The following day, Comet 4 G-APDH inaugurates the eastward round-the-world service (*British Airways*)

## April

/ Air Koryo's Pyongyang – Beijing international flight opened

/ Operation of IL-18 in a configuration for 75 passengers (and, later, for 100 passengers) begins at Aeroflot

## 2 April

/ FAA announces the adoption of a new “mobile lounge” concept of transporting airline passengers between the terminal building and parked aircraft at Washington’s planned jet airport at Chantilly, Va. (*FAA*)

## 8 April

/ CAB rules that foreign airlines could not carry commercial traffic moving only between U.S. cities (*FAA*)

## May

/ Cuba’s revolutionary government decides to take over Cubana, expropriating all its investors. The private passenger airline Aerovias Q and private cargo carriers, Cuba Aeropostal and Expreso Aéreo Interamericano, are merged into Cubana, which is rebranded as Empresa Consolidada Cubana de Aviacion and has an initial state investment of 80% (*Wikipedia*)

## 4 May

/ Pilatus PC-6 Porter first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## June

### 1 June

/ Northwest’s New York – Anchorage – Tokyo polar service is inaugurated

### 8 June

/ Continental’s first true jet flight (a Boeing 707-120) take place

### 17 June

/ The first flight from OLT start at airport Emden (*Lufthansa CityLine*)

## July

### 5 July

/ The first air shuttle service in the world is inaugurated between Santos Dumont airport in Rio de Janeiro and Congonhas airport in Sao Paulo by the airlines Varig, Cruzeiro do Sul and VASP (*Wikipedia*)

### 29 July

/ The first jet bridge in the United States is in-

stalled at San Francisco International Airport (*Wikipedia*)

### 31 July

/ Effective this date, FAA requires that one pilot at the controls of a turbine-powered airliner operating above 25,000 feet wears and uses an oxygen mask, and that the other cockpit crew members have masks ready for immediate use (*FAA*)

## July-September

/ Ahead of every other airline outside the U.S., Qantas takes delivery of seven Boeing 707-138 jet aircraft [1]

## August

/ Sheremetyevo Airport opens with the primary task of accommodating international flights

## September

### 10 September

/ To aid in the control of civil and military air traffic, FAA puts into operation in the New York area a 64-code air traffic control radar beacon system, commonly known as secondary radar (*FAA*)

### 18 September

/ The Douglas DC-8 enters airline service simultaneously with United Air Lines and Delta Airlines [2]

### 30 September

/ Croydon Airport is closed. The final service is a de Havilland DH.114 Heron flight to Rotterdam Captained by Geoffrey Last (*Croydon Airport Society*)

## October

### 6 October

/ Spanish Air Taxi Lineas Aéreas S.A. (Spantax) is founded (*Wikipedia*)



Source: Delta Flight Museum

# 1959

- 20 October** / Antonov An-24 first flight
- 20 October** / Official opening of Wellington Airport (*Air New Zealand*)
- November**
- 16 November** / Canadair CL-44 first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 23 November** / Boeing 720 first flight (*FAA*)

## December

- 12 December** / In Saint-Louis, Senegal, the Heads of State and Government of the autonomous states from the former Federations AEF, AOF and Madagascar sign the Convention which will give birth to ASECNA
- 16 December** / China Airlines is founded
- 17 December** / Hawker Siddeley absorbs de Havilland (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

# 1960

## Early 1960s:

- *Secondary Surveillance Radar (SSR) - identification/altitude reader (CANSO)*

## Late 1960s:

- *Computers come into play, taking over many of the human functions*

- *The calculation, distribution and printing of paper strips to the appropriate sectors.*
- *Other software takes over the radio transmission and ground messages connection (CANSO)*

- *The State of Kuwait becomes a signatory to the International Civil Aviation Chicago Agreement (Directorate General of Civil Aviation State of Kuwait)*
- *Nepal attains ICAO membership (Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal)*
- *Aer Lingus enters the jet age, with Boeing 720s covering the routes from Dublin and Shannon to New York and Boston*
- *Air France puts into service the Boeing 707*
- *Alitalia is the official carrier of the Rome Olympics and for the first time in its history, carries more than 1 million passengers in one year. The first jets enter service*
- *Avianca begins operating its first jet, the Boeing 707-120*
- *Delta Air Lines becomes the first airline to launch Convair 880 jet service*
- *Lufthansa acquires 100% of Condor's capital*

- *Olympic Airways adds the first three jets (Comet 4) to its fleet*
- *SAS opens its first hotel, the SAS Royal Hotel Copenhagen*
- *Swissair's first DC-8 long-haul jets are delivered [1]*



Source: Swissair

- *Salvadoran Ricardo Kriete takes control of TACA*
- *Thai Airways International is founded as a joint venture between Thailand's domestic carrier, Thai Airways Company (TAC) and Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS), with the Scandinavian carrier initially providing a 30% share capital of two million Baht*
- *Los Angeles Air Service (founded in December 1948) is renamed Trans Interna-*

- tional Airlines (Airlines Remembered, 2000)*
- *MisrAir merges with Syrian Airlines forming a new identity "United Arab Airlines-UAA". UAA enhances the fleet with Comet 4 jets becoming the first carrier in the Middle East to use these jets (Egyptair)*
- *A new terminal is added in Montreal Dorval (ACI) [2]*



Source: Aéroports de Montréal

- *Opening of Tahiti Faa'a International Airport*
- *The first Semi-Automated Business Research Environment (Sabre) system is installed on two IBM 7090 computers, located in a specially designed computer center in Briarcliff Manor, New York, NY*



The Tax Free Shop - Source: Copenhagen Airport

## February

- 21 February** / Finnair takes delivery of its first Caravelle A and becomes the first airline in the world to operate a jet passenger aircraft with a flight deck crew of two, instead of the normal three
- 21 February** / Arrival of first Air India's Boeing 707-437 (VT-DJJ "Nandadevi") in Bombay, after a record breaking nonstop flight from London to Bombay in 8 hours and 5 minutes
- 22 February** / Official opening of Christchurch International Airport (*Air New Zealand*)
- 26 February** / COCESNA is created

## March

- / PIA launches its first Boeing 707 jet service on the London – Karachi – Dacca route
- / The Jet Age begins at KLM with the introduction of the Douglas DC-8
- 29 March** / Tupolev Tu-124 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## April

- 1 April** / The tripartite partnership between BOAC, Air India and Qantas is formed (*British Airways*)
- 1 April** / Cooperation between JAL and Air France on operation of code share flights on the Polar route between Tokyo and Paris via Anchorage (*JAL & Chroniques de l'Aviation, 1991*)



**4 April**

/ FAA places in effect the first of a series of regulations designed to minimize aircraft noise at major airports by procedural methods while retaining safety as the primary objective

**5 April**

/ BEA introduces de Havilland Comet 4B aircraft on the Nicosia, Athens, Rome, and London routes. Cyprus Airways with the introduction of the Comets becomes the first airline in the Middle East to have jet airplanes (*Wikipedia*)

**22 April**

/ The 'Multilateral Agreement relating to Certificates of Airworthiness for Imported Aircraft' to cover the import of spare parts, engines, etc. All-weather operations, mutual recognition of private pilot licences and the performance characteristics of airborne navigation and communications equipment are amongst other issues considered opened for signatures (*ECAC*)

**May****14 May**

/ Inaugural flight of Air India to New York via London with Boeing 707 on a once-a-week frequency

**27 May**

/ BOAC commences flights using Boeing 707 aircraft (*British Airways*)

**June****24 June**

/ Hawker Siddeley HS 748 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**July****4 July**

/ With one of the five Comet 4Cs bought in England, Mexicana enters into the era of the jetliner with service between Mexico City and Los Angeles

**August****14 August**

/ CSA opens the flight to Jakarta

**September****8 September**

/ FAA adopts the British RAE visual glide path indicator landing lights as a national standard for use at U.S. airports

**October****1 October**

/ The quadripartite partnership between BOAC, SAA, EAAC and CAA is launched (*British Airways*)

**16 October**

/ The last scheduled transatlantic service to be operated by a BOAC Comet 4 service between London – New York takes place (*British Airways*)

**November****1 November**

/ JAL's first jet, a DC-8, enters service on the Seattle route

**December****13 December**

/ EUROCONTROL International Convention relating to Cooperation for the Safety of Air Navigation is signed by the 6 founding States

- *The International Register of Civil Aircraft (IRCA) is created as a result of a joint decision of the then UK Air Registration Board (now the UK CAA), RAI (now ENAC) and BUREAU VERITAS to gather in one common format the national registers of various countries*
- *American continues into the jet age with the introduction of the turbo-fan engine, another industry first for American*
- *Arkia begins international flights for EL AL, which are terminated soon afterwards due to the condition of the aircraft*
- *Delta flies first nonstop service from Atlanta to Los Angeles and also links California and the Caribbean with the first jet service from California to Montego Bay and Caracas*
- *Eastern Air Lines sets innovative standards with the introduction of Air Shuttle service between New York – Washington and New York – Boston (Airlines Remembered, 2000)*
- *Ethiopian inaugurates a new east-west service, linking Addis Ababa with Monrovia in Liberia, via Khar-toum and Accra. This is the first direct air link between east and west Africa operated by any airline*
- *Finnair founds a charter-flight subsidiary, Polar-Air Oy*
- *Sadia breaks its alliance with Real/ Aerovias Brasil, when the latter is acquired by VARIG Airlines (Trans-brazil)*
- *TAM-Taxi Aéreo Marília is created by five charter flight pilots*
- *The Wild Goose emblem designed by Mesut Manioglu wins first place in a competition and becomes Turkish Airlines' logo*
- *Deutsche Flugdienst GmbH acquires "Condor Luftreederei Hamburg", which was founded by the Oetker Group in 1957, and changes its name to Condor Flugdienst GmbH*
- *Atlanta Municipal Airport is ushered into the "Jet Age" with the opening of the largest single terminal in the country. The new \$21 million structure accommodates 6 million travelers a year (ACI)*
- *AVID is asked to produce the world's first IFE headset by TWA*

## January

**15 January** / "Leonardo da Vinci" International Airport open

**24 January** / First flight of Convair 990 Coronado (FAA)

## February

/ Cyprus becomes a member of ICAO (*Department of Civil Aviation Republic of Cyprus*)

**15 February** / Instrument landing system begins operation at Tokyo International Airport (JAL)

**24 February** / Iranian Airways and Persian Air Services merge to form a new airline, IranAir, with the acronym of HOMA, a griffin of Persian mythology which symbolizes the mythical Bird of Happiness

## March

**13 March** / The Civil Aeronautics Board, rendering a decision in the Southern Transcontinental Service Case, awards Delta Air Lines and National Airlines additional route segments that allow both airlines to begin transcontinental services on 11 June 1961 (FAA)

**14 March** / Inex-Adria Aviopromet (Inex-Adria Airways) is founded [1]



DC-6B and first Adria Airways cabin crew members - Source: Edi Selhaus

- 28 March** / Air Afrique is founded (*Wikipedia*)
- April**
- 1 April** / VIASA – the flag carrier of Venezuela – commences operations (*Wikipedia*)
- 1 April** / All aircraft of IATA member airlines have to fly on IFR (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)
- 28 April** / New Zealand Minister of Civil Aviation, Mr McAlpine, announces that New Zealand has agreed to purchase Australia's half share in TEAL for \$1,622,800, the par value of Australia's interest, making New Zealand the sole owner of the airline. The sale is backdated to 1 April, 1961, Australia agrees to take progressive payments over a four-year period to 31 March, 1965. The two governments decide that from 1 October, 1961, Qantas would receive trans-Tasman rights
- May**
- 1 May** / Antulio Ramirez Ortiz perpetrates the first hijacking of a commercial airliner to Cuba (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)
- 25 May** / A Special Civil Air Regulation effective this date bans the use of portable FM radios on U.S. civil aircraft (*FAA*)
- 29 May** / Iberia takes delivery of its first three jet airliners, DC-8's, for use on its long haul routes from Spain to New York, Caracas, San Juan, Mexico City, Havana, and Buenos Aires
- June**
- / The merger of Sociedad Anonima Importadora y Exportadora de la Patagonia with ALA (Aerotransportes Litoral Argentino) begins and 'Ala y Austral S.A.' is created as the firms start operating jointly
- / The new Republic of Congo begins its own airline: Air Congo (*Sabena*)
- / EL AL operates the first nonstop New York – Tel Aviv flight with a Boeing 707
- 1 June** / United merges with Capital Airlines, absorbing 7,000 new employees and all of Capital's routes to become the world's largest commercial airline
- 6 June** / JAL begins independent service on polar routes to Europe (DC-8) and begins freight pool operations with Air France
- 29 June** / FAA commissioned the first Doppler VOR system for service at Marquette, Mich. (*FAA*)
- 30 June** / Scanair is set up (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)
- July**
- 7 July** / Mil Mi-8 first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 19 July** / TWA is the first to provide in-flight movies. The first film ever shown in-flight was "By Love Possessed," with Lana Turner
- 25 July** / The bilateral air services agreement between the Australian and New Zealand Governments, a sequel to the sale of Australia's shares, is signed in Wellington
- August**
- 10 August** / For the first time, the U.S. Federal government employs armed guards on civilian planes (*FAA*)
- 21 August** / A Canadian Pacific Air Lines Douglas DC-8 sets two world records during a single test flight. First, it reaches 50,000 feet (15,240 meters) at a weight of 107,600 pounds (48,807 kg), a new altitude record for a loaded transport jet. Then, in a dive from that altitude, it reaches Mach 1.012 with a true air speed of 662.5 mph (1,066.8 km/h) at an altitude of 39,614 feet (12,074 meters), becoming the first airliner to break the sound barrier (*Wikipedia*)
- September**
- / Mil Mi-2 first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 5 September** / U.S. President Kennedy signs an amendment to the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, which makes it a crime to hijack an aircraft, interfere with an active flight crew, or carry a dangerous weapon aboard an air carrier aircraft (*FAA*)
- 7 September** / U.S. FAA approves in principle the use of Doppler radar and other flight deck nav aids to guide airliners across the North Atlantic (*FAA*)
- 21 September** / Boeing CH-47 Chinook first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)



## October

/ ANA is listed on the Second Section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange and the Second Section of the Osaka Securities Exchange

### 3 October

/ Effective date of new scheduling arrangement between TEAL and Qantas arising from inter-governmental negotiations and new ownership arrangements for TEAL

### 19 and 20 October

/ The International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers' Association (IFATCA) is constituted in Amsterdam as a result of the efforts of a group of air traffic controllers to federate and further the interests of the air traffic control profession at the international level [2]

### 29 October

/ TWA is the first to become an all-jet airline in international service

## November

### 1 November

/ After lengthy negotiations with BOAC, the Gov-



Source: IFATCA

ernment of Trinidad and Tobago purchases BWIA with BOAC re-purchasing a 10% holding

## December

### 1 December

/ Euravia (London) Ltd is formed to operate inclusive tour flights (Royal Air Force Museum)

### 15 December

/ MADAIR, the national air transport company is born from the merger between the private airline Air Madagascar and the local Air France network

# 1962

➤ American introduces Convair 990

➤ CAAC begins operating international services, initially to other countries in the Communist bloc (Wikipedia)

➤ China Airlines inaugurates domestic scheduled flights from Taipei to Hualien

➤ CSA introduces the first trans-Atlantic flight from Prague to Havana

➤ With the imposition of the U.S. em-

bargo on Cuba, Cubana is forced to cancel all its U.S. services (Wikipedia)

➤ Delta activates the electronic SABRE system for "instant" reservations and modifies cabin configurations to offer both First Class and Economy Class on all four-engine aircraft [1]

➤ Korea National Airlines is bankrupt (Korean Air)

➤ Kuwait Airways enter the jet age by leasing a Comet 4

➤ MADAIR is renamed Air Madagascar

➤ Northwest originates wind shear

forecasts to warn of sudden changes in wind direction

➤ Pan American develops a global computer reservations system, named PANAMAC

➤ Philippine Airlines enters the jet age with the introduction of DC-8 jetliners

➤ Sadia acquires Transportes Aéreos Salvador Ltda., and expands its services to the Northeastern Region of Brazil

➤ Finnish-American architect, Eero Saarinen, designs the futuristic building, the TWA Terminal. It opens for Trans World Airlines (ACI) [2]



[1] Source: Delta Flight Museum

**January**

**9 January** / Hawker Siddeley Trident first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**February**

**26 February** / BEA introduces its electronic reservations unit (*British Airways*)

**March**

/ Saudi Arabian Airlines introduces Boeing 720 into service

/ Attorney General Robert Kennedy swears in FAA's first "peace officers," as special U.S. deputy marshals

**1 March**

/ Los Angeles Airways begins the world's first airline service by a multi-engine turbine-powered transport helicopter (*FAA*)

**Spring**

/ Caravelle charter flights begin to Tenerife, Palma de Mallorca and Rimini. In this way Finnair, via Polar-Air, moves European charter flight traffic into the jet age

**April**

/ IranAir officially commences its activities

**2 April**

/ Luxair starts operations

**10 April**

/ The first commercial plane to land at Maldives airport is an Air Ceylon Flight (*ACI*)

**May**

/ Pakistan International becomes the first non-US carrier showing a regularly scheduled film onboard (*White, 2012*)

/ Sterling Airways is set up (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)



**8 May** / Howard Hughes becomes associated with Northeast when the Hughes Tool Company purchases controlling interest in the line from Atlas Corporation, Northeast's owner since 1938

## June

**8 June** / Name of Air India International abbreviated to Air India by an amendment to the Air Corporations' Act

**11 June** / Air India becomes an all-jet carrier

**29 June** / Vickers VC10 first flight (*FAA*)

**July** / TAP receives the first VI-R Caravelle and enters into the jet era

**Summer** / World Airways becomes the first U.S. charter airline to enter the jet age with the acquisition of new Boeing 707s

**August** / Boeing Vertol CH-46 Sea Knight first flight

**30 August** / NAMC YS-11 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**30 August** / The Surinaamse Luchtvaart Maatschappij is officially established (*Surinam Airways*)

## September

**6 September** / Indonesia government founds Merpati Nusantara Airlines (*Airlines Worldwide, 2000*)

**19 September** / Aero Spacelines Pregnant Guppy first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## October

**1 October** / TWA is the first to fly the Atlantic in scheduled service using the Doppler radar system, a fully automated system of navigation

**29 October** / East Anglian Flying Services officially changes its name to Channel Airways (*Wikipedia*)

## November

**5 November** / FAA announces acceptance of a design concept for a standard air traffic control tower. Prepared by the New York architectural firm I. M. Pei and Associates, the concept features a free-standing tower providing greater visibility from the cab, improved space for operating radio and radar equipment, and a better environment for air traffic control personnel

**17 November** / Ceremonies mark the opening of Dulles International Airport. Scheduled airline service began two days later (*FAA*) [3]

[2] JFK TWA Terminal - Courtesy "Airports in the first 100 years of flight" (2003)







[3] Courtesy "Airports in the first 100 years of flight" (2003)



[3]



[3]

**27 November** / The first production 727-100 rolls-out [4]

**30 November** / Finnair acquires a 27% controlling interest in another Finnish airline, Karair

**December** / The new runway and control tower at Bole International Airport are operational and two

Boeing 720Bs arrive on their delivery flights. Ethiopian is the first airline in Africa to order the Boeing 720B

**8 December** / Bell 206 first flight (Wikipedia) [5]

**24 December** / Aérospatiale N 262 (Jane's, 1993)



[4]

Source: Boeing



[5]

Source: Kostas Iatrou





Photographer: Cees Timmers, [www.tvc-advertising.com](http://www.tvc-advertising.com) [2]

- ▶ *Kuwait becomes a full member of ICAO (Directorate General of Civil Aviation State of Kuwait)*
- ▶ *Timatic, the database containing cross border passenger documentation requirements, is first established (Wikipedia)*
- ▶ *Air Inter offers the world's first travel saver cards*
- ▶ *Alia is established (Royal Jordanian)*
- ▶ *LOT launches its first post-war flights beyond Europe, initially establishing a route to Cairo, followed by Baghdad, Beirut, Benghazi, Damascus and Tunisia*
- ▶ *With the formation of Malaysia, Malayan Airways Limited changes its name to Malaysian Airlines Limited*
- ▶ *Merger of MEA with Air Liban. MEA adds new European, Middle Eastern and West African destinations*
- ▶ *Northwest becomes the nation's first all fan-jet operator*
- ▶ *TCA becomes the world's first major airline with an all-turbine fleet when it retires its last piston-engined aircraft (Air Canada) [1]*
- ▶ *Juancho E. Yrausquin Airport opens. The airport has the shortest commercial runway in the world, only 400 meters long, flanked on one side by high hills, with cliffs that drop into the sea at both ends (ACI) [2]*
- ▶ *Cairo International Airport replaces the old Heliopolis Airport (ACI)*

## January

- 2 January** / First flight of Ilyushin IL-62
- 15 January** / Ethiopian inaugurates its first jet service, from Bole to Nairobi
- 17 January** / Short SC.7 Skyvan first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)
- 23 January** / ReserVec, the world's first computerized reservation system, changes the ticketing game [3]

## February

- 9 February** / Boeing 727-100 makes its first flight



Source: Air Canada



**19 February** / Saudi Arabian Airlines is established as a corporation by Royal Decree No. 45 signed by King Faisal. The airline become an autonomous entity, run by a Board of Directors and chaired by the Minister of Defense and Aviation

**20 February** / Inauguration of Austrian's first jet, a Caravelle

**25 February** / Transall C-160 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

### March

**1 March** / The International Convention relating to Cooperation for the Safety of Air Navigation enters into force and EUROCONTROL Agency is created

**29 March** / Alisarda is set up by Prince Karim al-Hussayn Aga (*Meridiana*)

### May

/ Beechcraft King Air first flight (*Wikipedia*)

### July

**1 July** / An FAA safety rule requiring distance-measuring equipment (DME) on all airline turbojets and on all other civil aircraft flying in-

strument flight rules (IFR) above 24,000 feet in the contiguous 48 States goes into effect

**29 July** / Tupolev Tu-134 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

### August

**20 August** / BAC One-Eleven first flight (*FAA*)

### September

**14 September** / The Tokyo Convention on Offenses and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft was signed in Tokyo, Japan covering internationally accepted principles as to the immediate release of all aircraft, passengers and crew in the event of unlawful interference of aircraft (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation & FAA*)

### October

**1 October** / UTA is formed as a result of a merger between Union Aéromaritime de Transport (UAT) and Transports Aériens Intercontinentaux (TAI) (*Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991*)

### November

**3 November** / A Boeing 727 completes a 76,000-mile world tour to 26 countries

### December

**8 December** / A lightning-induced fuel tank explosion causes the crash of a Pan American Boeing 707 near Elkton, Md., with the loss of all 81 persons aboard. FAA's response includes an 18 December telegram to air carriers and aircraft operators requiring installation of static dischargers on aircraft using turbine fuels

**13 December** / Aero Transporti Italiani (ATI) is established (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

**24 December** / Idlewild Airport is rededicated John F. Kennedy International Airport (*The Port Authority of NY & NJ*)





**1964-1973**

**Getting wider,  
getting bigger**

## 1964-1973

### Getting wider, getting bigger

As we left 100 years of commercial aviation behind, the world now knows that its presence can change a region's socio-economic conditions remarkably. Aviation became a sector providing about 3.5% of world GDP (ATAG) and significant amount of employment. With the vital task of linking the world in a fast and reliable way, aviation boosts the connectivity and trade, widens markets by encouraging investments, and improves the efficiency and productivity as well as it brings families and friends together ignoring the long distances. Today daily air passenger number exceeds 9 million and more than 16000 city pairs are connected with air links (IATA). 100 years ago, commercial aviation started in the US and expands to other regions in the world. Nature of the business, aircraft and technology used as well as the volume and gravity of business has been being evolving greatly since then.

The era from 1964 to 1973 is an important period when the growth of aviation gained a momentum. It got wider and bigger. Passenger, passenger kilometers and cargo carried increased ambitiously and continuously in this period. In 10 years, with more than 10% annual average growth rate, passenger volume grew more than 2.7 times, passenger kilometers grew 3.3 times and freight ton kilometers became more than 4 times larger. Led with the increasing demand trend, the first production of bigger jets (B737) and wide body jumbo jets (B747) contributed the capacity increase in the decade.

Aviation worldwide got more public and governmental attention and became the shining star that started forming vast transportation links. Besides traffic, infrastructure, resources and scientific attention to the area were greatly improved. Details of which will follow in the section, new airlines and aircraft manufacture companies were founded, new airports were opened and different aircraft models entered the market, new airline associations formed. Also in this decade, some events such as Olympics with high public attention involved air travel boosted the fame and evolution of aviation, maybe prepared and strengthened the sector to the oil crises just after this decade.

**Dr Temel Kotil**  
*CEO, Turkish Airlines*

## INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC (SCHEDULED SERVICES)

Year	Passengers (millions)	Passenger- km (millions)	Seat-km available (millions)	Passenger load factor %	Freight tonne-km (millions)	Mail tonne-km (millions)	Total tonne-km performed (millions)	Total tonne-km available (millions)	Weight load factor %
1964	200	216,598	387,475	56	5,192	920	25,093	49,009	51
1965	228	250,821	447,096	56	6,630	1,112	29,760	57,562	52
1966	258	290,200	503,819	58	7,877	1,547	34,908	65,989	53
1967	300	345,918	606,874	57	9,027	1,911	41,401	81,659	51
1968	341	400,573	750,137	53	11,491	2,406	47,735	98,019	49
1969	377	445,037	862,475	52	13,513	2,548	54,991	115,286	48
1970	400	484,200	880,364	55	14,635	2,780	60,655	121,311	50
1971	430	520,031	963,020	54	16,040	2,619	64,719	132,080	49
1972	472	589,195	1,033,676	57	17,516	2,509	72,939	140,267	52
1973	513	650,471	1,121,502	58	19,775	2,599	81,108	153,033	53

Source: ICAO





[1] Source: *The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey*

- ▶ U.S. FAA exempts three-engine airplanes from the 1953, § 121.161 60-minute rule leaving the restrictions only on two-engine airplanes based on the lack of satisfactory engine reliability in operations
- ▶ Delta's Deltamatic reservation system starts with IBM 7074 computers
- ▶ Euravia becomes Britannia Airways
- ▶ Pan American is the first airline to relay in-flight messages via satellite
- ▶ SLM's international activities start as a pool agreement is made between KLM, ALM and SLM to jointly operate the route between Paramaribo and Curacao, with stops at Georgetown (Guyana) and Port of Spain (Trinidad) (Surinam Airways)
- ▶ The first air traffic computers are installed in the United States by IBM Federal Systems/Unisys (Lockheed Martin)
- ▶ Zambia Airways is founded as a subsidiary of Central African Airways (Airlines Remembered, 2000)

## January

4 January

/ Pope Paul VI, visiting the Holy Land, disembarks from an Alitalia DC-8. This is the first time a pope uses a plane for an official visit (*Chronique de l' Aviation, 2000*)

5 January

/ Short Belfast first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## February

7 February

/ The Beatles arrive at JFK on their first tour to the United on a flight from London Heathrow (*ACI & Wikipedia*) [1]

## April

**9 April** / de Havilland Canada DHC-5 Buffalo first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**15 April** / Japan Domestic Airlines Co, Ltd. is established by merging Nitto, Fuji and Kita Nihon Airlines

**20 April** / Lockheed L-100 Hercules first flight

**21 April** / Hamburger Flugzeugbau HFB-320 Hansa Jet first flight (*FAA*)

**29 April** / PIA earns the distinction of becoming the first airline from a non-communist country to fly into the People's Republic of China. PIA's first service to China was from Karachi to Shanghai via Canton with a Boeing 720B

## June

/ Evangel 4500 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**1 June** / La Guardia Airport opens to scheduled air carrier jet operations (*FAA*)

**26 June** / FAA issues a rule requiring Cockpit Voice Recorders to be installed in certain aircraft used by air carriers or commercial operators. The rule applies to large turbine-powered aircraft and to large pressurized aircraft with four piston-type engines

## July

/ ANA's Computerized seat reservations start

**1 July** / JAL begins using electronic seat reservation systems on international routes. Establishes fee for cancelling reservations

## 21 July

/ Pan American World Airways announces that inertial navigation systems will be installed on most of its jet aircraft (*FAA*)

## August

### 6 August

/ An FAA rule effective this date requires the closing and locking of crew compartment doors of scheduled air carriers and other large commercial aircraft in flight to deter passengers from entering the flight deck either intentionally or inadvertently

### 14 August

/ JAL operates a charter flight between Athens and Naha to transport the Olympic Torch for the Tokyo Olympic Games

## September

### 30 September

/ Piper PA-31 Navajo first flight (*Frawley, 2001*)

## October

### 1 October

/ Derby Airways changes its name to British Midland Airways (*bmi & Wikipedia*)

### 2 October

/ Taking another step toward the goal of all-weather landing, FAA announces qualifying criteria for Category II landing operations

## November

/ FAA commissions the first distance-measuring equipment (DME) combined with an instrument landing system (ILS) at John F. Kennedy International Airport

## December

### 8 December

/ A United Air Lines Caravelle jet makes the first computer landing (automatic touchdown) at Dulles International Airport (*FAA*)



[3] Source: Kostas Iatrou

➤ IATA association membership pass the hundred-mark. Over 140 million passengers and more than three million tonnes of freight were carried by IATA this year (IATA Wings for the World since 1945, 2009)

➤ AAPA: Asian airline executives propose establishing a forum for regional cooperation

➤ Air Canada helps make history by assisting Midas and Royston Instruments, an English electronics company, to develop the multichannel flight recorder, the world's first black box [1]

[1]



Source: Air Canada

➤ Air Canada is the first airline to install covered passenger walkways linking terminals and aircraft

➤ Britannia and sister tour operation Universal Sky Tours become part of the International Thomson Organization (now called the Thomson Travel Group)

➤ Ethiopian changes its legal status

from a corporation to share company. At the same time, the name is changed from Ethiopian Air Lines to Ethiopian Airlines

➤ Flight routes by Garuda Indonesia to European countries start with Amsterdam as the final destination

➤ With the separation of Singapore from Malaysia, Malaysian Airlines Limited become a bi-national airline and is renamed Malaysia-Singapore Airlines (MSA)

➤ Chicago O'Hare becomes the first Airport to reach 20 million passengers (ACI)

## January

1 January / TCA is renamed Air Canada

4 January / Under a rule effective this date, FAA requires approved survivor lights on all life preservers and life rafts carried by U.S. air carriers and other large commercial aircraft flying more than 50 miles from shore, to assist in the rescue of passengers in the event of a night ditching

## February

/ SAS becomes the first to introduce a Europe-wide instant booking system

25 February / The Douglas DC-9 twinjet airliner makes its first flight [2]

27 February / Antonov An-22 "Antei" first flight is the world's largest turboprop-powered aircraft to date [3]

## March

/ Los Angeles Airways become the first heli-



copter air carrier certificated by FAA to conduct instrument flight rules (IFR) operations

## April

- 1 April** / TEAL changes its name to Air New Zealand
- 5 April** / Boeing receives the largest commercial order by an airline to date: United Air Lines orders 66 jetliners with options for 39 more and leases another 25
- 15 April** / Aérospatiale SA 330 Puma first flight (*Frawley, 2001*)
- 21 April** / FAA eliminates the rule requiring a three-man crew on all transports with a take-off weight over 80,000 pounds, and substitutes a rule that sets forth workload criteria as the standard for determining the size of an air transport cockpit crew
- 24 April** / By Decree No. 194, Romania becomes ICAO Contracting State (*Romanian CAA*)

## May

- 3 May** / Howard Hughes liquidates his TWA share holdings selling 6,584,937 shares and netting \$546.5 million
- 20 May** / de Havilland Canada DHC-6 Twin Otter first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## June

- 7 June** / FAA new rules governing the rapid evacuation of passengers from aircraft became effective
- 10 June** / BEA's Trident 1 G-ARPR flight number BE343

[2]



Source: Boeing

arrives at Heathrow from Paris Le Bourget making the world's first fully-automatic landing of a commercial airliner carrying fare paying passengers (*British Airways*)

## 12 June

/ The Brazilian Aeronautics Minister Brig. Eduardo Gomes signs a document sanctioning the IPD 6504 twin-engine Bandeirante Project. Under new guidelines, the project development and construction begins

## 13 June

/ Britten-Norman BN-2 Islander first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## July

- 1 July** / U.S. President Johnson announces that the SST project is moving into the next stage, an 18-month detailed design phase (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)
- 9 July** / Hawker Siddeley Andover first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 20 July** / Arrival of first Air New Zealand's DC-8 ZK-NZA after a 6,510-mile, nonstop flight from Long Beach to Auckland [4]

## August

- 25 August** / AACO is launched (*AACO & Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)
- 31 August** / Aero Spacelines Super Guppy first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## September

- / ANA's YS-11s are introduced
- / Libyan Airlines begins operations flying regional routes (*Wikipedia*)

## October

/ United is the first airline to qualify for the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA's) all-

[4]



Source: Air New Zealand

weather program, allowing DC-8s to land at specified airports with as little as 100-foot ceilings and quarter-mile visibility. In addition, United launches its "Fly the Friendly Skies" slogan which becomes the industry's longest-running marketing message [5]

## November

**24 November** / First commercial services through new Auckland International Airport. An Electra from Nadi was the first international arrival. A DC-8 flew out to Sydney (*Air New Zealand*)

## December

**8 December** / The Douglas DC-9 makes its first in-service airline flight for Delta Airlines [6]



[5]



### The Natives are friendly

We know you don't fly just to be smiled at. So we add efficiency. We have schedules that are convenient for you. We fly more jets to more U.S. cities (and carry more passengers) than anybody else. And United Air Lines is the only airline that connects with every other U.S. airline. We add extra care for your creature comforts, too. "Extra care" is doing things nobody tells us to do, or maybe even expects us to do. We prepare your meals ourselves, coast to coast, which is something no other airline does. We pay top prices for steak, and we have European-trained chefs with a proper respect for beef like that. And we never forget that you like to be smiled at, too.



- China Airlines inaugurates international service from Taipei to Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City)
- The first Condor long-haul flights go

to Thailand, Sri Lanka, Kenya and the Dominican Republic

- Delta is first airline with Lockheed L-100 Hercules all-cargo planes
- TAROM operates its first flight across the Atlantic
- Martin's Air Charter change its name to "Martinair Holland"

➤ TAROM aircraft IL-18 flies around the world in 80 hours over a 47,000 km distance departing from Bucharest to Delhi, Bangkok, Tokyo, Honolulu, Los Angeles, Ciudad de Mexico, New York, Las Palmas, Rome, Istanbul, Bucharest

➤ SITA: The first computer adapted for message switching opens in Frankfurt

## January

- 1 January** / SAVAG and TAC are bought and merged into Cruzeiro do Sul (*Wikipedia*)
- 27 January** / Fairchild FH-227 first flight (*Frawley, 2001*)
- 28 January** / FAA publishes a rule requiring a life preserver or some other approved flotation device for

each occupant of large aircraft used by air carriers or other commercial operators in all overwater operations

**29 January** / Official opening of new Auckland International Airport at Mangere with three-day pageant (*Air New Zealand*)

## February

/ Freddie Laker unveils his airline –Laker Airways– to the press (*Wikipedia*) [1]

[1]



## April

13 April

/ Boeing announces it will build a 490-passenger 747 transport. Construction will begin in June on a new plant to build the huge jets in Everett, Wash.

## May

20 May

/ A \$2.50 charge for in-flight motion picture entertainment on international flights receives the approval of the Civil Aeronautics Board. The charge, covering the audio portion of the entertainment, had been put into effect by U.S.-flag carriers on 1 April 1966 (*FAA*)

## July

/ Beechcraft Model 99 first flight (*Frawley, 2001*)

## September

12 September

/ NLM (“Netherlands Airlines”) is founded. This was later renamed NLM Cityhopper

30 September

/ Four Asian airlines, namely Philippine Airlines, China Airlines, Korean Airlines and Malaysian Airlines, join together to form the Orient Airlines Research Bureau. The primary objective is to undertake research studies, surveys, statistical comparisons and other projects, in close collaboration with its member airlines to assist in the development of the regional airline industry (*AAPA*)

## October

15 October

/ President Johnson signs the Department of Transportation Act (Public Law 89-670), bringing 31 previously scattered Federal elements, including FAA, under the wing of one Cabinet Department. The DOT Act also creates within the new Department a five-member NTSB (*FAA*)

21 October

/ Yakovlev Yak-40 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*) [2]

## November

1 November

/ Montreal to Moscow. Air Canada launch the first direct air link between North America and the USSR

1 November

/ Sabena stops helicopter flights. More than 400,000 passengers flown in thirteen years (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

4 November

/ The United States and the Soviet Union sign an agreement authorizing commercial airline services between New York and Moscow (*FAA*)

16 November

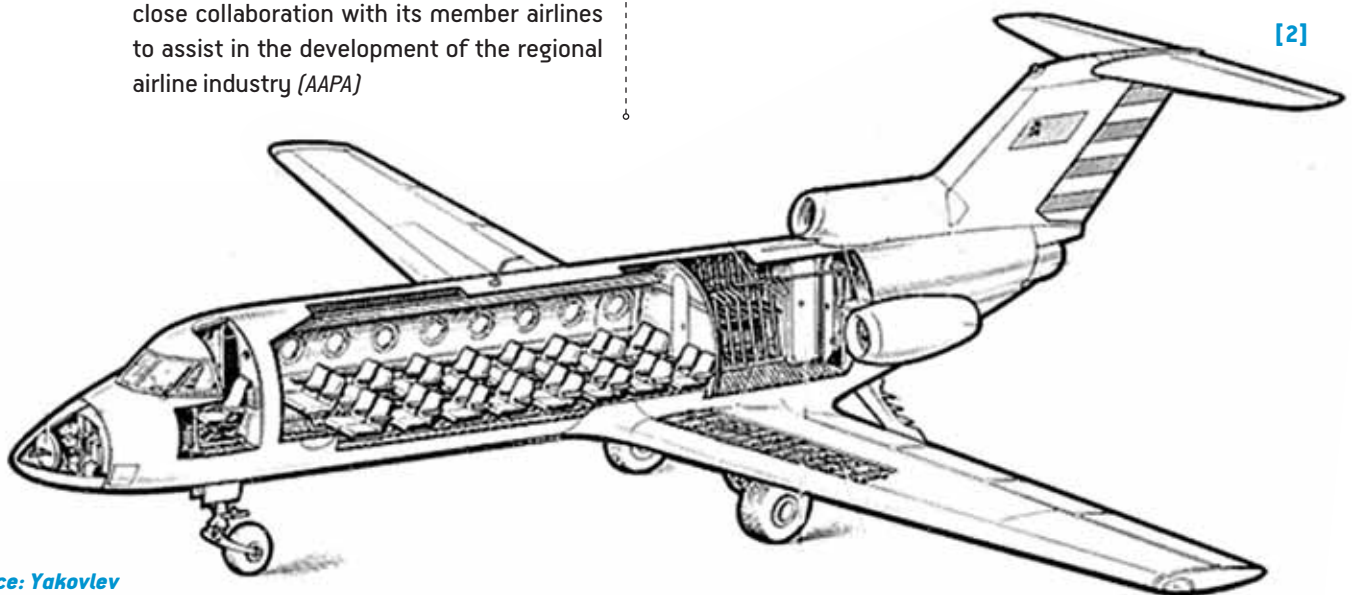
/ Transavia operates first commercial flight (*Wikipedia*)

## December

/ American's last piston airplane flight is operated with a DC-6

31 December

/ The FAA declares the Boeing Company and the General Electric Company winners of the SST development program competitive design and study phase (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)



Source: Yakovlev



# 1967



[1] Source: Boeing

- ▶ *Air Mauritius is created*
- ▶ *Compania Aeronautica Uruguay S.A. (CAUSA) ceases operations (Wikipedia)*
- ▶ *DNL is listed on the Oslo Stock Exchange (SAS)*
- ▶ *Eastern absorbs Mackey Air Lines (FAA)*
- ▶ *Lufthansa introduces electronic reservations*
- ▶ *Pacific Northern Airlines merges with Western, bringing routes from Seattle and Portland to Alaska (Delta Air Lines)*
- ▶ *Pan American is the first airline to make fully automatic approach and landing in scheduled service*
- ▶ *PIA installs Pakistan's first computer, an IBM1401*
- ▶ *TAP operates exclusively with jet airliners*
- ▶ *Trans World Airlines acquires Hilton International*

## January

/ AirCal begins flying as an intrastate carrier called Air California

13 January

/ Douglas Aircraft and the McDonnell Company merge to form the McDonnell Douglas Corporation, with headquarters in St. Louis, MO, U.S.A. (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

## February

7 February

/ Tyumen Civil Aviation Division is created by a Decree of the Minister of Civil Aviation of the USSR (*UTair*)

16 February

/ MBB Bo 105 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## March

3 March

/ Beriev Be-30 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

15 March

/ Air Southwest Co. is incorporated

29 March

/ FAA participates in NASA's first public demonstration of a new data-link system using an orbiting satellite for transmitting navigation data from aircraft to ground stations. A Pan American World Airways cargo jet beamed the data to NASA's ATS I satellite, which relayed the signals to an antenna at the Mojave Desert Ground Station in California

## April

1 April

/ U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) begins full operations. At the same time, FAA ceases to be the independent Federal Aviation Agency and becomes the Federal Aviation Administration

**1 April** / The NTSB is established as the federal government's primary accident investigation agency for all modes of transportation – aviation, highway, rail, marine and pipeline (*Wikipedia*)

**6 April** / The last TWA Constellation is retired from passenger service. TWA becomes the first U.S. airline to go all-jet

**9 April** / The Model 737 makes its first flight [1]

**18 April** / First Japan-Soviet code sharing flight arrives from Moscow at Tokyo International Airport

**28 April** / McDonnell and Douglas companies merge to form the new McDonnell Douglas Corp., with headquarters in St. Louis, Mo. James S. McDonnell is Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and David S. Lewis is President. Donald W. Douglas is named honorary Chairman of the board and serves as "Founder-Consultant." Donald W. Douglas Jr. is corporate Vice President for administration

**29 April** / President Johnson announces that the U.S. SST development program will proceed into the prototype development phase (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

## May

**9 May** / Fokker F28 Fellowship first flight (*Jane's, 1993*) [2]

**24 May** / Aero Spacelines Mini Guppy first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## June

**5 June** / Monarch Airlines is formed (*Wikipedia*)

**Mid** / Yakovlev Yak-18T first flight (*Frawley, 2001*)

## July

**7 July** / A Pan American World Airways Boeing 707 makes the first fully automatic approach and landing by a four-engine jet aircraft with passengers on board (*FAA*)

**10 July** / The "International Agreement on the Procedure for the Establishment of Tariffs for Scheduled Air Services" is opened for signatures (*ECAC*)

## August

**1 August** / The airline changes its name to Qantas Airways Limited

**18 August** / Handley Page (BAe) Jetstream first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**25 August** / Antonov An-30 first flight

## September

**1 September** / The first Turkish Airlines international jet flight has been realized on the Ankara – Istanbul – Brussels route

**15 September** / IL-62 opens the transatlantic route Moscow – Montreal

**20 September** / Citing the rapid growth of commercial and private flying, U.S. President Johnson asks Secretary of Transportation Alan Boyd to develop a long-range, comprehensive plan for the facilities, equipment, and personnel required for a substantial expansion and improvement of the air traffic control (ATC) system (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

**20 September** / FAA publishes new safety rules designed to improve crashworthiness and passenger evacuation standards in transport airplanes. The new rules require air carriers, other commercial operators, and aircraft manufacturers to demonstrate that airplanes with more than 44 seats are capable of permitting the evacuation of a full load of passengers through only half the aircraft's exits in 90 seconds. FAA's regulation of carry-on bags begins with a requirement that passengers could take to their seats only items that could be securely stowed under a seat

## October

/ Air New Zealand purchases 20% shareholding in Polynesian Airlines Limited

## November

**3 November** / Pan American World Airways becomes the first airline to receive FAA approval for full Category II operations

[2]



Fokker F28 prototype PH-JHG - Source: fokker.com

# 1968



[1] Source: Geneva Airport

- ▶ ICAO's work on machine readable travel documents begins with the establishment, by the Air Transport Committee of the Council, of a Panel on Passport Cards (ICAO)
- ▶ U.S. Congress vests in FAA's Administrator the power to prescribe aircraft noise standards
- ▶ Allegheny merges with Indianapolis – based Lake Central Airlines (US Airways)
- ▶ Bangkok Airways begins air transportation services established as "Sahakol Air", it becomes the first private aviation company in Thailand
- ▶ Continental's Pacific experience during the Vietnam war leads to the formation of Air Micronesia. Its first flight covers more than 4,000 miles with seven stops from Saipan to Honolulu on the 727-100 nicknamed Ju Ju
- ▶ Cooperation agreement between Swissair and SAS renewed and extended to include KLM (KSS Group)
- ▶ TABSO is rebranded to Balkan Bulgarian Airlines (Airlines Worldwide, 2000)
- ▶ TAT is founded (Airlines Remembered, 2000)
- ▶ Geneva Main Terminal is inaugurated (ACI) [1]
- ▶ First air bridges for widebody doors. Paris-Orly demonstrates its ability to adapt to the arrival of jet aircraft (ACI) [2]

## January

/ New York controllers form an employee organization, the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization, or PATCO (FAA)

/ Pan Am-owned stock is reclaimed and Mexicana Airlines become a 100% Mexican-owned company

## 1 January

/ TRANSPAC becomes AIR CALEDONIE, and is the property of the New Caledonian Government (50,28%), Loyalty Island Province (43,31%), private owners (4,32%) and Air France (2,09%)

## April

## 4 April

/ The African Airlines Association (AFRAA) is



established in Accra, Ghana as a Trade Organization open to membership of airlines of African States (*AFRAA & Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**17 April** / Bonanza Air Lines merges with Pacific Air Lines and West Coast Airlines to form Air West on 1 July (*Wikipedia*)

**25 April** / Air West is incorporated, combining the previous operations of Pacific, Bonanza and West Coast Airlines (*Northwest Airlines*)



[2] Courtesy "Airports in the first 100 years of flight" (2003)



## June

**25 June** / Finnair becomes the company's official name

## July

**3 July** / PATCO proclaims "Operation Air Safety", a strategy by which controllers would maintain air safety by strictly observing the existing separation standards (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

**15 July** / Aeroflot Soviet Airlines and Pan American World Airways inaugurate twice-weekly scheduled passenger service between Moscow and New York (*FAA*)

**21 July** / U.S. President Johnson signs into law the Jet Noise Abatement Act (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

**31 July** / Cook Islands Airways Limited is formed with all shares held by Air New Zealand

## September

**28 September** / Under provisions of a rule effective this date, FAA requires an approved altitude alerting system to be installed on all U.S. civil turbojet aircraft by 29 February 1972

**30 September** / The first Boeing 747-100 is rolled-out during ceremonies at the new assembly facility in Everett

## October

**4 October** / Tupolev Tu-154 first flight (*Wikipedia*) [3]

**26 October** / The first Bandeirante prototype, painted in the colors of the Brazilian Air Force (FAB), maiden flight



UTair - Source: Kostas Iatrou

## November

**6 November** / Polish air transport enters the jet age as the first of five Tu-134s purchased by LOT lands in Warsaw

## December

**28 December** / The first aircraft to be certified to CAT III standards is the Sud Aviation Caravelle (*Wikipedia*)

**31 December** / Tupolev Tu-144 first flight (*Wikipedia & Compendium of International Civil Aviation & FAA*) [4]

[4]



Tu 144 prototype being accompanied by analog-aircraft "21-11" performing the first flight - Source: Tupolev

➤ *Conroy Skymonster first flight (Wikipedia)*

➤ *Hungary is admitted as a member of the ICAO (Malev)*

➤ *To encourage the development of business aviation, the Indonesian Government establishes the Directorate General of Civil Aviation*

➤ *Alitalia becomes the first European*

*airline to fly with an "all jet" fleet. It modified its logo and aircraft livery: the "Winged Arrow" is replaced by the tri-color "A"*

➤ *Ansett-ANA changes its name to Ansett Airlines of Australia*

➤ *CSA introduces IL-62 aircraft into operation for long-distance flights*

➤ *Delta begins the use of enclosed baggage carts with shelves and side curtains to protect luggage*

➤ *Safair Freighters is conceived by the Chairman of Safmarine, Dr. G.S. Kushke*

➤ *Abu Dhabi International Airport is opened in the heart of Abu Dhabi Island (ACI)*

➤ *George Bush Intercontinental Airport / Houston is open (Houston Airport System)*

➤ *SITA's High Level Network is implemented. This leads to the development of the world's first worldwide packet switching network dedicated to business traffic. This is the second generation of the world's largest communications network*

## January

**17 January** / The African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) is conceived by the Constitutive Conference convened by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) held at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and the constitution is adopted (*ICAO*)

**22 January** / By Cabinet Decree No. 13, the Directorate of Civil Aeronautics of Panama is created as an

autonomous entity of the state (*Autoridad Aeronautica Civil of Panama*)

## February

/ Maersk shipping line sets up Maersk Air (*Airlines Worldwide, 2000*)

**9 February** / The Boeing 747-100 makes its first flight [11]

**21 February** / To keep pace with the growth of the U.S. civil aviation fleet, FAA expands the aircraft



Boeing 747 first flight - Source: Boeing [1]

identification numbers available. The identification numbers continue to consist of the prefix letter "N", followed by not more than five symbols. These symbols could consist of all numerals (e.g., N10000), or of one to four numerals with a suffix letter (e.g., N1000A)

### March

/ Korean Air is established as a private airline

2 March

/ The first flight of Concorde 001 (F-WTSS) from Toulouse, France takes place (*British Airways*) [2]

### April

9 April

/ Concorde 002 (G-BSST) makes its first flight from Filton ([www.concordesst.com](http://www.concordesst.com))

16 April

/ Let L-410 Turbolet first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

### May

/ Northeast switches to Minuteman, an all-computer IBM-Cathode Ray tube reservations system

15 May

/ Finnair flights from Helsinki via Copenhagen and Amsterdam to New York begin

21 May

/ Antonov An-26 first flight

28 May

/ Saunders ST-27 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

### June

5 June

/ Tupolev Tu-144 reaches for the first time 1 Mach

### July

1 July

/ Effective this date, CAB selects "commuter air carrier" as its name for certain scheduled air taxi operators (*FAA*)

22 July

/ Final flight of Saab 90 Scandia take place in Sao Paulo

### August

8 August

/ Liquidation of Handley Page (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

19 August

/ Embraer is founded as a mixed capital company, controlled by the Union. That same year, the Aeronautics Ministry signs a contract for production of 80 Bandeirante aircraft

29 August

/ Fairchild Swearingen Metroliner first flight (*Wikipedia*)



[2] Concorde first flight - Source: BAC



# 1969

## September

**15 September** / Cessna Citation I first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**25 September** / Adrian Dalsey, Larry Hillblom and Robert Lynn (the D, H and L in our company name) incorporate DHL

## October

**1 October** / Concorde 001 (F-WTSS) on its 45th test flight exceeds Mach 1 for the first time. At an altitude of 36,000 feet and 75 miles from Toulouse it held Mach 1.05 for 9 minutes from 11:29 hrs ([www.concordesst.com](http://www.concordesst.com))

**15 October** / CHEFAIR Flight Kitchen opens at Bombay Airport

## November

/ BEA becomes the world's first airline to publish an entirely computer-produced timetable (*British Airways*)

## December

/ Eastern Air Lines puts into operations at its terminal at Kennedy International Airport the first computerized system for issuing seat assignments and boarding passes to airline passengers as they check in at the airport (*FAA*)

## 4 December

/ The Tokyo Convention (Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft) enters into force (*ICAO*)

# 1970

➤ *KSS (KLM, Swissair and SAS) is extended to include French carrier UTA, resulting in the KSSU Consortium (Swissair)*

➤ *The Algerian State raises its participation to 83% of Air Algerie*

➤ *American, Alitalia and Air France add 747 to their fleets*

➤ *American gains its first Caribbean routes through a merger with Trans Caribbean Airways*

➤ *CSA opens new flights to Montreal and New York*

➤ *Delta becomes an all-jet passenger airplane fleet. Boeing 747 jets offer Del-*

*ta's first audio in-flight entertainment*

➤ *Howard Hughes, Jr. purchases Air West, creating Hughes Airwest (Northwest Airlines)*

➤ *LAN begins flights to Europe*

➤ *OLT is renamed Ostfriesische Lufttaxi GmbH (Lufthansa CityLine)*

➤ *Creation of the Office des Ports Aériens Tunisiens (OPAT) (OACA)*

## January

**2 January** / Embraer begins operations

**21 January** / The Boeing 747 makes its first commercial flight from New York to London for Pan American

## February

**18 February** / A commuter airlines terminal officially open at Washington National Airport to facilitate the operations of the 13 commuter airlines serving the airport (*FAA*)

## March

**4 March** / Loftleidir, Salén, Luxair and some private interests found Cargolux

## 30 March

/ Lufthansa become the first European airline to receive the Boeing 747 (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

## April

/ FAA establishes the Central Flow Control Facility at its Headquarters

/ Gulf Air London services begin using the VC10

## May

/ Finnair enters the computer age, when the Finnload check-in system is introduced at Helsinki Airport

## 21 May

/ The Airport and Airway Development Act of 1970 places the FAA in charge of a new airport aid program funded by a special aviation trust

fund and makes the FAA responsible for safety certification of airports served by air carriers

**25 May** / Partenavia P.68 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**26 May** / The Soviet Tupolev Tu-144 exceeds Mach 2 in level flight, the first commercial aircraft to do so (*Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991*)

## June

**26 June** / Continental flies its first widebody aircraft, a Boeing 747

## July

**1 July** / JAL's Boeing 747 enters service on the Pacific route

**1 July** / TWA is the first airline to offer non-smoking sections aboard every aircraft in its fleet

**16 July** / Aérospatiale Corvette first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**17 July** / New Orleans' Moisant International Airport becomes the first U.S. airport to subject all passengers to the FAA-developed anti-hijacking screening system (*FAA*)

**29 July** / FAA establishes the Air Traffic Control Systems Command Center to integrate the functions of the Central Flow Control Facility, Airport Reservation Office, the Air Traffic Service Contingency Command Post, and Central Altitude Reservation Facility

**30 July** / Stockholders of UAL, Inc. approve acquisition of Seattle-based Western International Hotels, Inc. (WIH) as a subsidiary

**31 July** / FAA issues to Pan American World Airways the first aviation war risk insurance premium policy under a new coverage plan

## August

/ Part of the Finnair's cabin is reserved for non-smokers on the London route

**2 August** / The first hijacking of a wide-bodied airliner occurs as a Pan American 747 bound from New York to San Juan with 388 passengers is diverted to Havana (*FAA*)

**29 August** / The Douglas DC-10, the first "jumbo jet" from Douglas, makes its first flight [1]

**September** / Cargolux's first flight goes to Hong Kong [2]

**11 September** / To provide for the protection of persons and property aboard American air carriers, Nixon designates the Department of Transportation to lead the government's anti-hijacking program (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

**11 September** / Britten-Norman BN-2 Trislander first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**October** / TEA is founded (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

**11 October** / First flight of the 747-200

**22 October** / Iberia takes delivery of its first Boeing 747

**November** / British Caledonian (BCal) comes into being when the Scottish charter airline, Caledonian Airways, takes over British United Airways (BUA) (*Wikipedia*)

[1]



Source: Boeing

[2]



Source: Cargolux

**16 November** / Lockheed L-1011 TriStar first flight (FAA) [3]



**26 November** / ATLAS consortium of airlines in the repair and maintenance of aircraft and other equipment is born: comprising Air France, Alitalia, Lufthansa/Condor, Sabena (Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991 & Deutsche Lufthansa AG, Media Relations Lufthansa Group)

## December

**16 December** / The Hague Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft is signed (ICAO)

**18 December** / Creation of Airbus Industrie. The Airbus Industrie GIE (Groupement d'Interet Economique, or Grouping of Economic Interest under French law) is officially formed between Aerospatiale for France and a group of Germany's leading aircraft manufacturing firms, later part of Deutsche Aerospace. The Dutch firm VFW-Fokker and Hawker Siddeley of Britain is also associated with the programme. Airbus Industrie is to provide a single sales, marketing and support network for Airbus customers

➤ The International Air Carrier Association (IACA) is founded with the objective of promoting and protecting the interests of the charter mode air transportation (Compendium of International Civil Aviation)

➤ Resolution No. 2931 of 1971 establishes the Egyptian General Authority for Civil Aviation (Egyptian Ministry of Civil Aviation)

➤ Air Florida is formed (Wikipedia)

➤ Congo is renamed Zaire and the airline from Air Congo to Air Zaire (Airlines Remembered, 2000)

➤ Sociedad Anonima Importadora y Exportadora de la Patagonia with ALA

(Aerotransportes Litoral Argentino) merger is completed under the name "AUSTRAL LINEAS AEREAS S.A."

➤ Condor is the first leisure airline to use the Boeing 747

➤ MisrAir and Syrian Airlines splits which results in the new identity "Egyptair"

➤ Federal Express Corporation is founded in Little Rock, Arkansas

➤ Sabena's Boeing 747-200 is introduced on the transatlantic routes

➤ SAS puts its first Boeing 747 jumbo jet into service

➤ Swissair's first Boeing 747B wide-body aircraft is delivered

➤ New Orleans International in Louisiana becomes the first airport to use

magnetometers to detect weapons – or anything made of metal – together with behavioral profiling of passengers (ACI)

➤ The first commercial jet lands in the Seychelles (ACI) [1]

➤ Tampa Airport boasts the first airport AMP (Automated People Carrier) (ACI)

➤ Interactive data exchange between terminals becomes available. SITA implements its first satellite processor

➤ Trans Com develops the 8mm film cassette. Flight attendants could now change movies in-flight and add short subject programming (Wikipedia & White, 2012)





Source: Seychelles Civil Aviation Authority [1]

## January

/ Air Afrique starts flights to New York in its own right using DC-8-63 (*Wikipedia*)

/ The Aeroflot Central Administration of International Air Traffic is established within the framework of the International Airline Transportation Administration, and becomes the industry's sole enterprise authorized to operate international flights. Abroad, the airline is known as "Aeroflot Soviet Airlines"

22 January

/ WAAC (Nigeria) is rebranded as Nigeria Airways (*Airlines Worldwide, 2000*)

## February

15 February

/ KLM: The widebody Age begins with the advent of the Boeing 747-206B (*KLM & Wikipedia*)

21 February

/ ANA's non-scheduled international service begins (Tokyo – Hong Kong) [2]



[2] Source: ANA

## March

/ United activates "Apollo", its new-technology reservations system

2 March

/ The Civil Aeronautics Board approves the merger of Trans Caribbean Airways into American Airlines, effective this date (*FAA*)

25 March

/ First flight of IL-76 transport

26 March

/ CASA C-212 Aviocar first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

29 March

/ Air Southwest Co. changes its name to Southwest Airlines Co.

## April

2 April

/ The resulting complex study of the effects of aircraft noise leads ICAO to the adoption of Annex 16: Environmental Protection. The effect of aircraft engine emissions on atmospheric pollution is also examined (*ICAO*)

14 April

/ BOAC operates its first commercial Boeing 747 flight, flying from London to New York (JFK) on G-AWNF (*British Airways*)

18 April

/ Arrival of Air India's first Boeing 747-237B aircraft (VT-EBD "Emperor Ashoka") in Bombay

- 23 April** / Northeast and Delta Air Lines announce an agreement in principle to merge
- May**
- 13 May** / Concorde 001 (F-WTSS) makes its first automatic landing (*www.concordesst.com*)
- 15 May** / Toa Domestic Airlines Co., Ltd. is established by merging Japan Domestic Airlines Co, Ltd. and Toa Airways Co., Ltd. (*JAL*)
- 25 May** / U.S. President Nixon signs a supplemental appropriations bill, which, among other things, kills the U.S. SST program, allowing phase-out funds for the project's prime contractors (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)
- 28 May** / The prototype of the Mercure 100 makes its maiden flight from Mérignac (Gironde, France) (*Dassault*)
- June**
- 2 June** / MSA's first transcontinental flight takes off for London (*Singapore Airlines*)
- 18 June** / Delivery of Austrian's first DC-9-32
- 18 June** / Southwest Airlines inaugural flight
- July**
- 1 July** / The Airport's name is again changed, this time to William B. Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport, when Eastern Airlines introduces flights to Mexico and Montego Bay, the Airport's first international service (*City of Atlanta*)
- 14 July** / VFW-Fokker 614 first flight (*Wikipedia*)
- 23 July** / GAF Nomad first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)
- 26 July** / Creation of Cameroon Airlines (*Airlines Worldwide, 2000*)
- 27 July** / FAA puts into operation two mobile lounges that could be raised and lowered to accommodate varying aircraft floor heights at Dulles International Airport
- 29 July** / American and United airlines take delivery of the first two production Douglas DC-10 jetliners, and American puts its new DC-10 into regular service just eight days later
- August**
- / The IATA Multilateral Control Agreement for Interline ULD Handling becomes effective (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)
- / Olympic Aviation is founded (*Olympic Airways*)
- 4 August** / AgustaWestland AW109 first flight (*Frawley, 2001*)
- September**
- / The first Qantas Boeing 747-238B aircraft goes into service
- 3 September** / The Concorde makes its first transatlantic crossing (*AIAA*)
- 9 September** / Formation of Air India Charters Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Air India
- 23 September** / The Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, Supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation is signed in Montreal (*ICAO*)
- November**
- / Air France officially becomes Airbus's first customer, placing an order for six A300B2s with six options
- 30 November** / First flight of the 747-200 Freighter
- December**
- Last week** / Aviation activities in independent Bangladesh start under the Ministry of Defence



Source: Airbus [1]

- ▶ *Secrétariat Général à l'Aviation Civile et Commerciale of Gabon is created*
- ▶ *Allegheny acquires Mohawk Airlines (US Airways)*
- ▶ *Delta's aircraft cabins have separate areas for smoking and non-smoking. In addition, this year Sky in-flight magazine appears*
- ▶ *DHL International is founded with the opening of an office in Hong Kong*
- ▶ *LOT's first long-haul Il-62s are introduced into the fleet, and charter flights inaugurate the first transatlantic routes in the history of Polish air transport*
- ▶ *Saudi Arabian Airlines adopts new livery and takes the name Saudia*
- ▶ *Sadia changes its corporate identity to TransBrasil S.A. Linhas Aéreas*
- ▶ *2 DC-10 airplanes join Turkish Airlines' fleet, the first widebodies*
- ▶ *Night ban is introduced at Swiss airports (Swissair)*
- ▶ *The first ticketing revolution occurs with automation. The IATA Billing and Settlement Plan (BSP) for travel agents begins in Tokyo that year. This leads to the birth of the IATA neutral paper ticket. For the first time the IATA logo appears on the cover of tickets that can be used by any travel agent to ticket journeys on almost any airline in the world (IATA)*

## January

- / CASA joins Airbus
- / The A300B4, a longer-range version of the A300, is launched

## 21 January

- / FAA commissions the first operational Category IIIa instrument landing system at Dulles International Airport

## 31 January

- / FAA institutes mandatory screening of all airline passengers as anti-hijacking measure (U.S. Department of Transportation)

## February

## 29 February

- / Channel Airways operates last flight (Airlines Remembered, 2000)



**March**

**4 March** / Biman begins its operations

**22 March** / U.S. President Nixon signs into law the International Air Rates Act, which amends the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, to authorize the CAB to end unreasonable or discriminatory rates or practices by air carriers in foreign air transportation (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

**April**

/ Eastern Airlines begins scheduled service of the Lockheed L-1011, with a flight from Miami to New York

/ Korean Air commences transpacific passenger service to USA (SEL-TYO-HNL-LAX)

**26 April** / SkyWest Airlines is founded when Ralph Atkin buys Dixie Airlines

**May**

/ The Boeing Dash 80 is retired and donated to the Smithsonian Institution

**13 May** / The last of 556 DC-8 is delivered marking the end of 15 years of production, at which time there were 48 operators in 28 nations

**June**

**15 June** / Effective this date, FAA lowers the number of flight attendants required on airliners with certain seating capacities. One flight attendant is now required for planes with 10-50 passenger seats, while on larger aircraft the ratio will be one attendant for every 50 passenger seats or additional fraction of 50 seats

**19 June** / A 24-hour worldwide stoppage of airline traffic declared by the International Federation of Air Line Pilots Associations takes place. This action, intended to dramatize the need for sterner measures against hijackers, brought to a standstill domestic and international airline operations in more than 30 countries. The strike officially began at 2:00 a.m. (EST) and was supported by more than 40 of the Federation's 64 units in 62 countries; in the United States, however, following a Federal restraining order on June 18, only 10% of the Air Line Pilots Association's members joined in the job action. In addition, pilots in Australia, Japan, the Philippines, and most Arab and Communist countries refused to participate in the protest (*FAA*)

**29 June** / Hapag-Lloyd Flug is founded (*TUIfly*)

**July**

**2 July** / Air Botswana is founded

**August**

/ NAC acquires 100% shareholding in Safe Air Limited

**1 August**

/ Northeast Airlines merges with Delta. Delta now becomes a major carrier in Boston and New York, with direct routes from NYC and New England to Florida, Canada, Bahamas and Bermuda

**9 August**

/ Maiden flight of the serial aircraft EMB 110 Bandeirante, and Embraer announces the first sales of the EMB 110 Bandeirante passenger aircraft

**September**

/ Trans World Airlines receives FAA's first authorization to operate at Category IIIa weather minimums

/ A300 roll-out

**1 September**

/ The British Airways Group is established, which would eventually result in BOAC and BEA being dissolved on 31 March 1974 upon the formation of British Airways

**8 September**

/ Air Canada buys a third of rival airline Wardair Canada

**October**

**1 October** / Malaysia-Singapore Airlines is split and Malaysia introduces Malaysian Airline Limited, which subsequently is renamed Malaysian Airline System, and takes to the skies

**27 October**

/ Beechcraft Super King Air first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**28 October**

/ The A300, the first Airbus aircraft and first widebody twin engine jetliner, takes off at 10:30 local time from the Toulouse airport for a mission lasting for one hour and 23 minutes [1]

**December**

**5 December** / FAA amends Air Carriers' Security Programs to request 100% inspection of carry-on luggage to prevent hijacking effective 6 January 1973 (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

- Radar data processing gets a new upgrade (CANSO)
- The Air Research Bureau name is subsequently changed to Association of European Airlines (AEA)
- Canada and the U.S. reach a major bilateral agreement, giving Air Canada the right to operate 18 new trans-border routes
- Chautauqua Airlines founded in Jamestown, NY, by Joel and Gloria Hall to operate under a code share agreement with Allegheny Airlines operating as Allegheny Commuter (Republic Airways)
- Merger of Flugfélag Islands and Loftleidir under a new holding company, Flugleidir (Icelandair)
- Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Oman, and Qatar governments purchase BOAC's shares on Gulf Aviation
- TAAG changes designation to Trans-  
portes Aéreos de Angola, operating domestic flights and launching regional flights to Sao Tomé and Príncipe and Windhoek
- Northwest goes "online" with computerized ticketing and reservations service to and from Asia
- North Central is the first regional airline stock to be traded on the New York Stock Exchange (Northwest Airlines)
- AGIV assumes sole ownership of OLT (Lufthansa CityLine)

## January

- 26 January** / The Montréal Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation come into force (ICAO)
- 29 January** / Antonov An-28 first flight
- 29 January** / Emily Howell Warner becomes the first woman employed as a pilot for a scheduled commercial airline since Helen Richey's brief career with Central Airlines in 1934-35 (Frontier Airlines & FAA)

## February

- 15 February** / The United States and Cuba sign an anti-hijacking agreement calling for the two nations to extradite or punish any person "who seizes, removes, appropriates or diverts from its normal route or activities an aircraft or vessel" of one country and takes it to the other (FAA)

## March

- 21 March** / Air Malta is set up by a Resolution of Malta's House of Representatives and registered as a limited liability company on 30 March 1973
- 30 March** / The first Hapag-Lloyd Boeing 727-100 takes off from Hamburg bound for Ibiza with 124 passengers on board (TUIfly)

## April

- / On the first night of continuous operation, 389 Federal Express employees and 14 Das-

sault Falcon jets deliver 186 packages overnight to 25 U.S. cities – and the modern air/ground express industry is born

## 16 April

- / LOT establishes regular flights between Warsaw and New York

## 27 April

- / An FAA rule imposing a virtual ban on civilian supersonic flights over the United States comes into effect

## May

- / Lufthansa becomes the second customer for Airbus aircraft

## 10 May

- / The Civil Aeronautics Board publishes the first rule regulating smoking on aircraft for reasons of consumer comfort and protection. The Board requires airlines to provide separate sections for smokers and nonsmokers (FAA)

## End

- / Inception of the National Airline of Papua New Guinea, Air Niugini

## June

### 18 June

- / Bahamasair operates its first flight to Freeport, Grand Bahama Island, Bahamas

### 19 June

- / The U.S. and USSR sign an agreement on joint cooperation in the field of transportation calling for exchanges of information in areas that include the safety and efficiency of civil aviation

**28 June** / A300B3 makes first flight from Toulouse

## September

**20 September** / A Concorde prototype, in its first visit to the United States, lands at the Dallas-Ft. Worth International Airport (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

## October

**17 October** / The Arab-dominated Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries unites to impose an oil embargo on the United States, Western Europe, and Japan that remains in effect until 18 March 1974 (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

**17 October** / Cargolux takes delivery of a DC-8-61 freighter

## December

**6 December** / Air France's first Concorde, Concorde 201 (F-WTSB), the first production type aircraft, carries out a flight lasting 2 hrs 50 minutes (*Air France & www.concordesst.com*)

**14 December** / The civil aviation organization of Latin American States (LACAC) is founded. The primary objective of this Commission is to provide the civil aviation authorities of the Member States with a suitable framework to discuss and plan all the necessary measures for cooperation and co-ordination of civil aviation activities (*ICAO*)





1974-1983

# The oil crises and the early years of deregulation

*Source: Kostas Iatrou*

**1974-1983**

## **The oil crises and the early years of deregulation**

The aeronautics sector was affected, throughout the twentieth century, by various crises of all kinds that upended the way it was organized and operated. Each of those crises dealt the sector a shock that it was able to transform into an opportunity.

The ten-year period 1974-1983, for example, stands out for two major events. These were a series of successive oil shocks and the first years of deregulation, both of which marked a major turning point in the history of commercial aviation.

The first years of deregulation, during which the airlines faced stiff competition, were played out against the backdrop of successive oil shocks, with the price of a barrel of oil skyrocketing and their profit margins plummeting. Those ten years were also marked, however, by a spectacular rise in traffic, the number of carriers and the number of airports worldwide.

The competition born of deregulation obliged the airlines to revisit their business model and develop a number of synergies. The oil crisis, for its part, obliged the sector to find innovative solutions in order to reduce or offset its energy bill.

In that respect, the ten-year period 1973-1984, no doubt the most significant in commercial aviation history, is representative of what the sector has proven itself to be capable of throughout its first hundred years.

The combination of sector liberalization, heightened competition between stakeholders and the economic difficulties resulting from higher fuel prices led to the emergence of new business models, including low-cost carriers; this has now resulted, in a virtuous circle, in reconsideration of the practices of incumbent operators.

During the ten-year period 1973-1984, the aviation world managed to reinvent itself. It thus forged a culture of change and innovation that has allowed it to contemplate developments at the end of its first hundred years of existence with serenity. Better yet, it gave itself the means of anticipating the challenges on the road ahead, in terms of energy in particular, on both the economic and the environmental level.

**Robert Deillon**

*CEO Genève Aéroport*

*and Vice President Hermes Air Transport Club*

## INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC (SCHEDULED SERVICES)

Year	Passengers (millions)	Passenger- km (millions)	Seat-km available (millions)	Passenger load factor %	Freight tonne-km (millions)	Mail tonne-km (millions)	Total tonne-km performed (millions)	Total tonne-km available (millions)	Weight load factor %
1974	540	690,801	1,170,848	59	20,804	2,604	86,380	159,962	54
1975	560	733,630	1,243,441	59	20,949	2,617	90,785	168,121	54
1976	604	803,325	1,338,875	60	23,296	2,735	99,864	181,570	55
1977	640	861,164	1,411,745	61	25,555	2,866	107,553	192,059	56
1978	711	985,172	1,515,650	65	28,060	2,947	121,535	205,991	59
1979	790	1,115,215	1,689,720	66	30,304	3,091	135,755	226,258	60
1980	784	1,145,326	1,817,977	63	31,789	3,323	140,099	241,550	58
1981	788	1,176,250	1,837,890	64	33,411	3,426	144,862	249,762	58
1982	802	1,200,951	1,876,486	64	34,112	3,498	148,049	255,257	58
1983	836	1,251,391	1,955,298	64	37,967	3,613	156,488	260,813	60

Source: ICAO





[3] Source: Airbus

- ▶ *The Algerian State buys out the 17% shares still retained by Air France and becomes a 100% owner of Air Algérie*
- ▶ *American introduces One-Stop-Automated check-in*
- ▶ *OLT is renamed DLT Luftverkehrsgesellschaft mbH (Lufthansa CityLine)*
- ▶ *Hapag-Lloyd launches the first long-haul charter flights to Mombasa (TUfly)*
- ▶ *Qantas establishes a world record for carrying the most passengers when it evacuates 673 people on a 747 flight from Darwin after the city was devastated by Cyclone Tracy*
- ▶ *All of Cypriot airline's operations have to be suspended following the end of hostilities because the Nicosia International Airport, the only airport of the island, has to be closed (Wikipedia)*
- ▶ *Brunei International Airport becomes operational. Its inauguration marks an important date in the history of civil aviation in Brunei. The airport opens Brunei to the world*

## January

- / Airbus Industrie moves its headquarters from Paris to Toulouse, France
- / Philippine Airlines becomes a monopoly in domestic air travel after President Ferdinand Marcos (by virtue of his powers under Martial Law) orders the foreclosure of two other airlines – Filipinas Orient Airlines (FOA) and Air Manila Inc. (AMI) – due to the fuel crisis arising from a war in the Middle East
- / British Airways and Air New Zealand finalise an aircraft interchange agreement. An Auckland – Los Angeles Air New Zealand service connects with a Los Angeles – London British Airways flight with an Air New Zealand-owned DC-10 aircraft operating both services

## 1 January

/ The Foundation Treaty is signed and the Gulf Aviation Company becomes Gulf Air, the national carrier of the four states. Gulf Air starts service to Beirut from 1 April with a VC10 aircraft

## 13 January

/ Dallas-Fort Worth Airport officially opens for commercial flights (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

## 30 January

/ H.R.H. Queen Elizabeth II officially opens Rarotonga International Airport

## March

- / ANA's first widebody jets, Lockheed L-1011 Tristars, are introduced
- / Nippon Kinkyori Airways (later Air Nippon Co., Ltd.) is established

**8 March** / Inauguration of Paris-Charles de Gaulle Airport, revolutionary with its terminal composed of a central cylindrical body and seven satellites, by the Prime Minister Pierre Messmer. Operations start a few days later, on 13 March. Air France and UTA move into the new airport [1]

**15 March** / The A300B2 receives certification from French and German aviation authorities

**22 March** / ICAO Council adopt SARPS in Annex 17 on Security: Safeguarding International Civil Aviation against Acts of Unlawful Interference (ICAO)

**31 March** / BOAC and BEA are dissolved following the formation of British Airways

## April

**1 April** / Air Malta starts flights with scheduled services to London, Birmingham, Manchester, Rome, Frankfurt, Paris and Tripoli [2]

**20 April** / Signing of civil air transportation agreement between Japan and China in Beijing. With the suspension of air routes between Japan and Taiwan by Taiwanese authorities, China Airlines (Taiwan) discontinues operations to Japan and changes its Pacific routes from via Tokyo to via Guam (JAL)

## May

**10 May** / The first A300B2 is delivered to Air France [3]

**30 May** / FAA certifies the Airbus A300

## June

**27 June** / Eurocopter AS350 first flight (Airbus Helicopters)

[1]



Source: Aeroports de Paris

## July

/ Arrival of Philippine's first McDonnell Douglas DC-10 three-engine jet ushers in the era of the widebody jet

## August

**5 August** / U.S. President Nixon signs the Anti-Hijacking Act of 1974 into law (FAA)

## 22 August

/ Short 330 first flight (Jane's, 1993)

## September

/ United adopts a new corporate identity program featuring a stylized "U" logo, new color scheme and a two-word signature (United Airlines), marking the company's first departure from the three-word name adopted in 1931

/ Korean Airlines becomes the first non-European airline to place an order with Airbus, for four A300B4s

## November

### Early

/ Iberia launches Europe's first walk-on air shuttle service, between Madrid and Barcelona

### 18 November

/ Royal Brunei Airlines, the country's flag carrier, is established

## December

/ Air Austral is created, known as Réunion Air Services (RAS) (Wikipedia)

### 24 December

/ FAA publishes a rule requiring installation of the Ground Proximity Warning System (GPWS) on large turbojet and turboprop airliners

### 27 December

/ A300B4 first flight

[2]



The Deputy Prime Minister, Dr A. Buttigieg, addressing guests present at the inauguration of Air Malta on the 31st March 1974. Looking on from left to right are Albert Mizzi, Chairman of Air Malta, Sir Anthony Mamo, Governor General, Mgr Gonzi, Archbishop of Malta, and Air Marshal Nur Khan, Chairman of PIA - Source: Air Malta



[1] Yak-42. MChS Rossii, Russia Ministry for Emergency Situations - Source: Kostas Iatrou

- ▶ *Civil Aviation Department is renamed the Directorate General of Civil Aviation State of Kuwait*
- ▶ *American acquires other Caribbean routes from Pan American World Airways Inc.*
- ▶ *Braniff is the first airline to offer video games in-flight (Atari) (www.braniffpages.com)*
- ▶ *Delta is the first airline to offer its own air express service, a new high priority, guaranteed cargo service called Delta Air Express*
- ▶ *Minerve begins operations (Wikipedia)*
- ▶ *Founding of TAM-Transportes Aéreos Regionais by Capitan Rolim Adolfo Amaro*
- ▶ *TAP is led into the wave of nationalisation transforming itself into a public company by Law by Decree 205-E*

## January

**12 January** / British Airways launches the British Airways Shuttle, Europe's first walk on, no-reservation, guaranteed seat service from Heathrow to Glasgow

**24 January** / Eurocopter AS365 Dauphin first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## February

**8 February** / Cyprus Airways restarts limited operations from Larnaca Airport (*Wikipedia*)

**26 February** / Cessna 404 Titan first flight (*Frawley, 2001*)

## March

/ Korean Air begins Seoul – Paris passenger service and takes delivery of three A300B Airbus aircraft

**7 March** / Yakovlev Yak-42 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*) [1]

**27 March** / de Havilland Canada Dash 7 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**April** / Air Burundi is created with decree No 1/99

**1 April** / The National Transportation Safety Board becomes a completely independent agency (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

**4 April** / A regulation governing the installation and safe operation of X-ray devices for screening carry-on luggage at airports becomes effective (*FAA*)

**May** / First UNWTO General Assembly meets in Ma-



drid at the invitation of the Spanish Government

**7 May**

/ An agreement between British Airways and Air New Zealand (ANZ) enables ANZ's DC-10 aircraft to be flown by BA crew for use on the Heathrow to Los Angeles route, in place of BA's Boeing 707 aircraft (*British Airways & Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

**June**

**26 June**

/ Bahamas becomes a Contracting State of the International Civil Aviation Organization

**July**

**4 July**

/ First flight of the 747SP; attains top speed of Mach 0.92

**September**

/ RAA is founded (*RAA & Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**15 September** / First flight of Japan Asia Airways from Tokyo to Taipei

**November**

**2 November**

/ The proud free bird of Surinam Airways roars into the sky, using a leased KLM DC-8-63 in Surinam Airways' bright colors

**December**

**19 December**

/ Air France takes delivery of its 1st Concorde F-BVFA (205) ([www.concordesst.com](http://www.concordesst.com))

**26 December**

/ The Soviet Union inaugurates the world's first regular supersonic airline service, with the departure of a Tupolev-144 from Moscow for Alma-Ata in the Kazakh Republic. The plane carried only mail and cargo over the 2,500-mile route (*FAA*)

**30 December**

/ Harbin Y-11 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**1976**

*gramme (UNDP), carrying out technical co-operation with Governments*

➤ *Cargo Air Lines is founded*

➤ *Garuda Indonesia operates its first widebody aircraft, a Douglas DC-10*

➤ *KLM introduces a Full Fare Facilities*

*(FFF) service for its full fare economy class passengers, which allows them to sit at the front of the economy cabin immediately behind first class (Wikipedia)*

➤ *Launch of TAM services in Brazilian cities, especially Mato Grosso and Sao Paulo*

➤ *The agreement is signed for UNWTO to become an executing agency of the United Nations Development Pro-*

**January**

**14 January**

/ British Airways takes delivery of its 1st Concorde G-BOAA (206) ([www.concordesst.com](http://www.concordesst.com))

**21 January**

/ The Concorde aircraft of both Air France and British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC) launch scheduled supersonic passenger services. Air France's Concorde flew from Paris to Rio de Janeiro in 7 hours and 25 minutes, including a one-hour refuelling stop in Dakar, Senegal. BOAC's Concorde made the flight from London to Bahrain in 3 hours and 37 minutes (*AIAA & Compendium of International Civil Aviation & Air France*)

**February**

**4 February**

/ U.S. Secretary of Transportation William T. Coleman, Jr., announces his decision to permit the Anglo-French supersonic transport Concorde to land in the U.S. on a temporary, restricted basis (*FAA*)

**March**

/ Responding to public and congressional concern about near collisions in the air, Administrator John L. McLucas announces a five-point separation assurance program: continued enhancement of ground-based air traffic control; consideration of increased use of Instrument Flight Rules and radar beacon surveillance; possible additional require-

# 1976

ments for carriage of radar beacons (transponders) with altitude reporting capability; development of the Beacon Collision Avoidance System (BCAS) (FAA)

**1 March** / A rule published requires removal of side-facing flight attendant seats from all airliners by 1 May (FAA)

## May

**1 May** / Pan Am's "Liberty Clipper," one of the new 747 SP's, leaves New York and travels east on a record breaking around the world trip. With ninety-six passengers and only two re-fueling stops—at Delhi and Tokyo—the flight arrived back in New York only forty-six hours from departure, besting the previous mark by some fifteen hours (University of Miami Libraries)

**24 May** / Following a 3-hour 35-minute flight from London, the first Concorde supersonic commercial airliner lands at Dulles Airport. The French Concorde arrived from Paris approximately two minutes later (U.S. Department of Transportation)

## July

**1 July** / Northwest is the first airline approved by FAA to install coordinated flight crew training

**9 July** / Antonov An-32 first flight (Wikipedia)

## September

**6 September** / Airbus launches A300 freighter conversion

## October

**13 October** / Midway Airlines is founded (Wikipedia)

## December

**22 December** / First flight of IL-86, USSR's first widebody and the world's second four-engine widebody (Compendium of International Civil Aviation) [1]



# 1977

➤ The name of the Presidency of Civil Aviation has been amended into the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia General Authority of Civil Aviation

➤ The United Republic of Tanzania establishes the Directorate of Civil Aviation (DCA) by the Civil Aviation Act (Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority)

➤ SkyWest Airlines makes its first Interline agreement with American Airlines, followed by one with United Airlines, Texas International and Hughes, allowing passengers interline check-in and baggage transfers

➤ After two years of lobbying led by Federal Express, Congress passes Public Law 95-163 enabling FedEx and other cargo airlines to use larger aircraft with no geographic restrictions on routes. At the same time, Federal Express purchases seven Boeing 727 aircraft

➤ A company is formed by the Government of Seychelles to purchase several small aircraft operators and rationalise the inter-island routes

➤ The Reef Runway opens at Honolulu International Airport. It is the first major runway in the world built entirely offshore on an underwater fringing coral reef (ACI) [1]

➤ Jomo Kenyatta International Airport takes over operations from the old airport, Embakasi Airport (ACI)

➤ Sharjah Airport opens (ACI)



[1] Honolulu runway construction - Source: Hawaii Department of Transportation

## January

/ Kenya Airways is established following the breakup of the East African Community and subsequent disbanding of the jointly-owned East African Airways

## 10 January

/ FAA publishes a rule raising the maximum number of transport aircraft passenger seats per main (Type A) emergency exit from 100 to 110, effective 10 February 1977. The change clears the way for certification of Boeing 747s seating over 500

## February

### 1 February

/ The A300 becomes the first aircraft to be equipped with the Cat IIIA autoland system

## 15 February

/ Air New Zealand operates first day-trip to Antarctica

## 17 February

/ THY, which had been open for foreign capital investments 20 years ago, has again been nationalized with the decision of the Ministry of Finance and numbered 53315/6967 when the share of the BOAC company is bought by the Ministry of Finance

## March

/ Helsinki Airport is renamed Helsinki-Vantaa Airport (*Finnair*)

/ Comair begins regional services (*Airlines Worldwide, 2000*)



**27 March**

/ The world's worst aviation disaster occurs at Los Rodeos airport, Tenerife, when a KLM Boeing 747 making its take-off run collides with a Pan American 747 still clearing the runway. All 234 passengers and the 14 crew members of the KLM aircraft, and 317 passengers and nine members of the cabin crew aboard the Pan Am aircraft, are killed. Nine of the 70 survivors from the Pan Am aircraft later die from their injuries (*AIAA & Wikipedia*)

**April****1 April**

/ After a 17 year capital participation partnership with SAS, the Thai Government buys out SAS's remaining 15% holding and THAI becomes fully owned by the Thai people

**13 to 26 April**

/ A Special Air Transport Conference—the first one of its kind—is held in Montreal under the auspices of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), to consider a wide range of economic and regulatory issues concerning international civil aviation. The ICAO Conference formulated numerous recommendations for use by governments in establishing a basic framework and policies relating to international air transport services (First Air Transport Conference) (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**18 April**

/ The Moscow Machine Building Plant "Strela", in accordance with a Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the RSFSR No.228-16, changes its name to Ilyushin Moscow Machine Building Plant

**24 April**

/ American introduces the most popular fare in its history, the Super Saver

**June****1 June**

/ Creation of Air Gabon (*Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991*)

**10 June**

/ U.S. Senate confirms Alfred E. Kahn as Chairman of the CAB. A former economics professor at Cornell, Kahn's policies at the CAB help to pave the way for legislation that virtually ends the economic regulation of airlines in the U.S. (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

**July****23 July**

/ The United States and the United Kingdom

sign the "Bermuda II" agreement governing civil air services between the two countries. The resulting compromise: places limits on American carriers' fifth-freedom rights; restricts situations in which more than one U.S. carrier serves the same U.S.-U.K. route; and establishes a procedure that governments might use to control capacity. On the other hand, the treaty opens new routes for airlines of both countries, allows the entrance of new carriers into the U.S.-U.K. market, and results in lower fares (*FAA*)

**August**

/ Cargolux, together with a Uruguayan group and with the blessing of the Uruguayan Government, forms a new airline, Aero Uruguay, to fly between South America and Europe

**31 August**

/ Antonov An-72 first flight

**September****23 September**

/ At the end of the 16-month trial of the Anglo-French Concorde supersonic transport at Dulles International Airport, U.S. Secretary of Transportation Brock Adams announces proposed permanent rules for civil supersonic transport (SST) operations in the United States (*FAA*)

**26 September**

/ Laker Airlines' low-cost "Skytrain" transatlantic service makes its first flight from New York to London, signalling the start of a revolution in international air fares

**October****17 October**

/ The U.S. Supreme Court lifts the ban by New York's JFK Airport on the Concorde SST, clearing the way for immediate trial flights (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

**28 to 30 October**

/ A Pan American World Airways Boeing 747SP sets a speed record for a round the world flight, via both Poles, covering a distance of 42,970 km (26,706 sm) in 54 hours and 7 minutes (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**November****9 November**

/ U.S. President Jimmy Carter signs into law amendments to the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, one of which entitled the Air Cargo Deregulation Act substantially exempts all-

cargo aircraft operations from CAB regulation  
(U.S. Department of Transportation)

**22 November** / Concorde passenger service from New York to London and Paris begins (FAA)

**December**

**9 December** / Concorde services start to Singapore. The operation is an extension of the Bahrain service and is operated in conjunction with Singapore Airlines. Concorde G-BOAD wore Singapore Air-

lines' livery on its port side with the BA livery on the starboard side for use on that route

**13 December** / The Malaysian government bans the Concorde from its airspace, thus causing the London to Singapore service to be suspended after only 3 return flights ([www.concordesst.com](http://www.concordesst.com))

**14 December** / Mil Mi-26, the largest and most powerful helicopter ever to have gone into production, makes its first flight (Frawley, 2001) [2]

[2]



UTair - Source: Kostas Iatrou

- ▶ The government company is renamed "Air Seychelles", and is officially created, initially as a domestic airline
- ▶ Delta during the year begins transatlantic service: Atlanta to London, introduces Business Class (called Medallion Service) and motion picture film entertainment
- ▶ Introduction of the Douglas DC-10-30, the first widebody aircraft, in the JAT fleet (Air Serbia)
- ▶ Interchange services of Western begins with Braniff between Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas, and Calgary and Edmonton, Canada and with Continental Airlines between Houston and Calgary

## January

**10 January** / JAL's B747F enters service on Tokyo – Hamburg – Frankfurt route (code share flight with Lufthansa Airlines)

## March

**10 March** / The United States and the Netherlands sign a new international aviation agreement, based on the principle of free competition (FAA)

**17 March** / The United States announces a new agreement with the United Kingdom within the context of the Bermuda II treaty, making possible a range of lower fares between the two nations (U.S. Department of Transportation)

## April

**1 April** / Air New Zealand and New Zealand National Airways Corporation (NAC) merge to form the new limited liability company, Air New Zealand

**26 April** / Under altered terms of Air New Zealand/British Airways interchange agreement, Air New Zealand's DC-10s will make five return trips a week London – Miami and three London – Montreal through the peak northern season until 30 September

## May

/ Narita Airport is opened (ANA)

## June

**1 June** / The Tu-144 Aeroflot service from 1 November 1977 is interrupted after 102 flights, as a result of an occurrence of a non-commercial flight accident (Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991)

## July

/ Yemen Airways takes a big step forward and new Company, Yemenia (Yemen Airways) is formed with a 51% share owned by Yemen's government and 49% by the Saudi Arabian government

## 7 July

/ A310-200 launch [1] Source: Airbus



## 14 July

/ Boeing begins production of the 767

## August

**31 August** / Boeing begins production of the 757

## September

/ Nippon Cargo Airlines Co., Ltd. is established (spun off in August 2005)

**13 September** / Eurocopter AS332 Super Puma first flight (Airbus Helicopters)

**23 September** / The Protocol to Amend the Convention on Damage Caused by Foreign Aircraft to Third Parties on the Surface is adopted and signed (ICAO)

## October

/ British Airways introduces "Club Class," a separate premium cabin with numerous amenities (Wikipedia)

**24 October** / U.S. President Carter signs the Airline Deregulation Act of 1978 allowing immediate fare reductions of up to 70% without CAB approval and the automatic entry of new airlines into routes not protected by other air carriers. CAB's authority over fares, routes, and mergers is to be phased out entirely before 1983, and, unless Congress acts, CAB itself will shut down by 1 January 1985. It also authorizes the use of larger aircraft by commuter airlines (FAA)

## November

/ Pan American is one of first airlines to introduce a new class of service for business and full-fare economy passengers, called Pan Am's "Clipper Class." (Delta Air Lines & Wikipedia)



- ▶ *Air Lanka is launched (SriLankan Airlines)*
- ▶ *Control of Ansett passes to The News Corporation Limited and TNT Limited*
- ▶ *Atlantic Southeast Airlines acquires its first aircraft (Express Jet)*
- ▶ *Crossair is born*
- ▶ *Jersey European Airways is formed and begins operating regional services from Jersey (Flybe)*
- ▶ *An all-female Hawaiian Airlines' crew operates a certified U.S. scheduled flight; the first all-female crew to do so*
- ▶ *Takeover of Bavaria and Germanair airlines from the Josef Schörghuber construction group (TUIfly)*
- ▶ *Lufthansa introduce its Business Class*
- ▶ *PrivatAir is launched using the aircraft fleet owned by the Latsis Group*
- ▶ *Qantas launches a Business Class service*
- ▶ *TNT starts air transport activities and becomes the first express carrier in Europe providing direct delivery services by air*
- ▶ *Trans International Airlines changes its name to Transamerica (Airlines Remembered, 2000)*

## January

**1 January** / British Aerospace, which has taken over Hawker Siddeley, rejoins Airbus as a full partner with a 20% share

**1 January** / Trans World Corporation is formed. Subsidiary companies include Trans World Airlines, Canteen Corporation, Hilton International, Spartan Food Service and Century 21 Real Estate

**14 January** / Braniff Airlines begins flying leased Concorde supersonic airliners between Washington Dulles and Dallas-Fort Worth airports under the terms of a unique interchange agreement with British Airways and Air France (FAA) [1]



**24 January** / The British Airways and Singapore service from London to Singapore via Bahrain is resumed (www.concordesst.com)

**25 January** / Southwest's MSY service begins with one daily HOU roundtrip. This marks Southwest's first scheduled interstate flight, the first time Southwest flies outside the State of Texas

**30 January** / Cargolux firmly underlines its dedication as a

major all-cargo airline, when the first Boeing 747 freighter, LX-DCV, is delivered [2]

## March

**15 March** / Swissair becomes the first A310 customer

**31 March** / Northwest enters the transatlantic passenger market, launching service to Copenhagen and Stockholm from the Twin Cities, Detroit and New York

## April

**9 April** / By decree N° 808 of the Executive Power, Aerolineas Argentinas becomes a State Society

**28 April** / The first airberlin jet, a Boeing 707, takes off from Berlin-Tegel for Palma de Mallorca

## May

**4 May** / Air Europe begins operations (Airlines Remembered, 2000)

[2]



Source: Cargolux

# 1979

**June** / Finnair establishes a subsidiary, Finnaviation, with Finnair having a 60% holding

**7 June** / All DC-10s worldwide grounded following United States Federal Aviation Administration withdrawal of DC-10 type certification (*Air New Zealand*)

## July

**1 July** / North Central Airlines and Southern Airways merge operations. The new company is called Republic Airlines, Inc. (*Northwest Airlines*)

**14 July** / FAA DC-10 grounding order lifted allowing flights to the USA to resume

## August

/ Delta is the first airline in the world to board one million passengers in one city in one month (Atlanta in month of August)

## October

/ Flugleidir assumes all operating responsibilities of its two "parents" (Flugfélag Islands and Loftleidir ), and decides to use Icelandair as its international trade name, only retaining the Flugleidir name in the Icelandic domestic market

**3 October** / Eurocopter AS355 first flight (*Airbus Helicopters*)

**18 October** / The Douglas DC-9 Super 80 twin-engine jetliner, sixth basic model and largest of the popular DC-9 series, makes its first flight [3]

**28 October** / Allegheny Airlines changes its name to USAir, reflecting the growing route system of this former local-service carrier (*FAA*)

## November

**1 November** / Midway Airlines begins service from Chicago's Midway Airport. The new airline is the first all-jet air carrier created to take advantage of the new era inaugurated by the Airline Deregulation Act (*FAA*)

[3]



Source: Boeing

# 1980

➤ *The Short-Term Conflict Alert (STCA) becomes available (CANSO)*

➤ *The specifications and guidance material developed by ICAO's Panel on Passport Cards is published as the first edition of Doc 9303, titled A Passport with Machine Readable Capability, which become the basis for the initial issuance of machine readable passports by Australia, Canada and the United State (ICAO)*

➤ *ERA is founded in Switzerland with 5 airline members*

➤ *ABX Air is formed*

➤ *Aeroflot is named the general carrier of participants for the XXII Olympic Games held in Moscow*

➤ *Austral (AU) is nationalised*

➤ *Copa Airlines withdraw from the domestic market to focus on its international reach. This year a Boeing 737-100 is added to the fleet*

➤ *Delta Air Lines become the first airline to make a major move from film to video in-flight entertainment, equipping its entire transatlantic L-1011 fleet*

➤ *Flying Tiger Line merges with Seaboard World Airways (Airlines Remembered, 2000)*

➤ *Iran Aseman Airlines is established*

## January

**1 January** / Air UK is incorporated after the merger of British Island Airways and Air Anglia (*Wikipedia*)

**7 January** / National Airlines acquisition is completed with Pan American taking over the National Airlines fleet and route network (*Wikipedia*)

**25 January** / Saab and Fairchild Industries of the USA announce their decision to go ahead with a joint definition of a twin-turboprop regional airliner seating about 30 passengers, the Saab-Fairchild SF-340

**February** / Sale of Arkia to private owners

### 12 to 28 February

/ The Second ICAO Air Transport Conference, held in Montreal, formulates common and multilateral approaches to solving worldwide capacity regulation of international commercial air services and the mechanisms for establishing international fares and rates. This Conference, inter alia, calls for the continuance of multilateral (albeit, more liberalized) solutions in response, primarily, to an open skies policy then being introduced by the United States (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**15 February** / U.S. President Carter signs into law the International Air Transportation Competition Act of 1979, designed to reduce regulation and increase competition in international air transportation and to strengthen the position of the United States in its dealings with foreign states that were discriminating against American airlines. Section 29 of the law, named the "Wright Amendment" for House Majority Leader James C Wright, Jr. (D-TX), limits scheduled airline operations at Love Field, Dallas, Texas, to aircraft seating fifty-six passengers or fewer, except for service within Texas and states bordering Texas (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

**15 February** / FAA announces improved standards for the seats of airline crew members. The new rule requires the flight attendant seats to be equipped with combination seat belts and safety harnesses, and for the seats themselves to have energy-absorbing backs

## March

**28 March** / British Aerospace Jetstream first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## April

**8 April** / ALTA (Latin American and Caribbean Air Transport Association) formerly AITAL (Latin American International Air Transport Association) is founded in Bogota, Colombia upon the initiative of 11 flag carriers to jointly coordinate efforts to solve air transportation problems within the region and strengthen existing cooperation and communication among these companies for the benefit of the air transport of the region, the users and the companies themselves

## June

**1 June** / Airbus introduces the use of composite materials on secondary structures in a trial using an A300

**1 June** / Braniff Airlines discontinues Concorde flights between Washington Dulles and Dallas/Fort Worth airports (*FAA*)

**7 June** / The first transpolar flight of a commercial airline. It is accomplished by an Aerolineas Argentinas Jumbo 747. Departs from Buenos Aires, makes a stop in Rio Gallegos, goes over the South Pole and reaches Auckland (New Zealand)

**13 June** / The last Concorde to be produced, number 16, is delivered to British Airways (*Wikipedia*)

## September

**26 September** / Shanghai Y-10 (*Wikipedia*)

## October

**1 October** / Republic Airlines acquires Hughes Airwest for \$38.5 million, adding 53 cities to the Republic system (primarily in the western and southwestern United States) (*Northwest Airlines*)

## November

**1 November** / The British Airways and Singapore Airlines Concorde service to Bahrain and Singapore is discontinued (*www.concordesst.com*)

**9 November** / Dan-Air registers the last commercial flight



# 1980

by a de Havilland Comet. The plane flies enthusiasts on a round-trip flight from London *(Wikipedia)*

**19 November** / By Government Decree 8/80 DETA is changed to LAM-Mozambique Airlines

**25 November** / Bilateral agreement with USA signed in Wellington gives Air New Zealand the opportunity to fly to additional U.S. destinations and points beyond

**December** / The 500th Boeing 747 rolls-out at Everett, Wash., and the original Boeing manufacturing building, the "Red Barn," is moved to its final site at the Museum of Flight at Boeing Field in Seattle

/ The IL-86 begins its operations in domestic and international air routes. Thanks to its design features, such as "luggage in hand"

plus containers", installation of three entrance doors with built-in stairs, and a special landing gear, the IL-86 was placed in regular operation without the costly reconstruction of existing airports and their runways intended for taking lighter passenger airliners

**7 December** / The Pan American World Airways Boeing 747 China Clipper arrives in Beijing, China, from John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York after a stop in Tokyo, Japan. It marks the first time since 1949 that a commercial flight between the United States and mainland China is completed *(Wikipedia)*

**11 December** / First flight of A300 with digital autopilot

**19 December** / New York Air begins airline operations *(FAA)*

**20 December** / Aero Lloyd is set up *(Airlines Worldwide, 2000)*

# 1981

➤ Air France introduces its Business Class

➤ American introduce the AADVANTAGE travel awards program, a revolutionary marketing program to reward frequent fliers. Also that year it unveils "AAirpass," a concept that guar-

anteed fixed personal and business air travel costs with a five-year to lifetime range of options

➤ ATA is certified as a common-air carrier

➤ Corsair is founded

➤ Delta launches Frequent Flyer program

➤ Federal Express opens its SuperHub

adjacent to Memphis International Airport

➤ Malmö Aviation is founded *(Wikipedia)*

➤ UPS purchases its first aircraft for use in air delivery service

➤ The SITA network expands with the introduction of the Data Transport Network. This is the third generation of the world's largest network

## January

**3 January** / Pan American World Airways makes its final Boeing 707 flight (*Wikipedia*)

**7 January** / A Boeing 747 of CAAC lands at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York City marking the first flight from the mainland of China to the United States since 1949 (*Wikipedia*)

**February** / Airbus officially names the A320 – its new medium-range airliner

**March** / The labor contract between FAA and PATCO expires

**2 March** / Japan Air Lines is the first airline to use a computerised flight simulator to train its crews (*Wikipedia*)

**28 March** / Dornier Do 228-100 first flight (*Dornier, 1983*)

**April** / South African Airways introduces a three-class service for an Australian flight: Blue Diamond First class, Gold class for Business passengers and Silver class for Economy class travellers

**30 April** / PeopleExpress begins flights with a route from Newark to Columbus (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

**May**  
**6 May** / United launches its Mileage Plus frequent flier program

**June**  
**1 June** / Short 360 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**10 June** / Air France: launch customer of the A320

**11 June** / American establishes its Dallas/Fort Worth hub

**23 June** / Administrator Helms announces FAA's decision to adopt the Threat Alert and Collision Avoidance System, soon renamed the Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) (*FAA*)

**26 June** / ICAO adopts Annex 18 on The Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air (*ICAO*)

## July

**1 July** / Opening of Singapore Changi Airport (*Singapore Airlines*) [1]

**August** / American retires all its Boeing 707 aircraft, including freighters

**3 August** / Approximately 12,300 members of the 15,000-member PATCO go on strike, grounding about 35% of the US's 14,200 daily commercial flights. Approximately four hours after the strike began, U.S. President Reagan issues the strikers a firm ultimatum – return to work within 48 hours or face permanent dismissal. After expiration of the grace period, FAA fires approximately 11,400 controllers. PATCO disbands and the controllers remain without a union

[1]



Source: Changi Airport Group

# 1981

## September

**3 September** / British Aerospace 146 first flight (*Jane's*, 1993)

**26 September** / The Boeing 767-200 makes its first flight [2]

[2]



Source: Boeing

## October

**7 October** / The first A300 with a two-man crew – Garuda Indonesian Airways' first Airbus aircraft – makes its initial flight. This A300 is equipped with a Forward Facing Crew Cockpit (FFCC), which allows a two-pilot flight crew to operate the aircraft without need for a flight engineer

## November

**1 November** / Finnair introduces the Executive Class for business travellers

**4 November** / Aerospaciale and Aeritalia (the predecessor to Alenia Aeronautica) merge their two separate, but similar, regional aircraft designs into a single effort. The Cooperation Agreement launching the ATR program is signed in Paris, launching the ATR 42 by the Aeritalia and Aerospaciale respective chairmen, Renato Bonifacio and Jacques Mitterrand

# 1982

➤ Air France moves into the state-of-the-art terminal at Paris-Charles de Gaulle terminal 2

➤ Air Canada becomes an industry leader in providing inflight medical

*emergency kits – they go above and beyond the first-aid kits carried by other airlines.*

➤ Early 1982 brings American its first 767

➤ Austral is acquired by Cielos del Sur S.A'

➤ Gulf Air is the first international airline permitted to land at Riyadh

➤ Resort Air is established in Missouri (Trans State Airlines)

➤ A group of pilots and flight attendants from defunct Braniff International band together to form their own airline with the help of businessmen in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis – St. Paul, MN. This group names their venture, Sun Country Airlines

## January

**28 January** / The FAA issues the National Airspace System Plan, outlining its blueprint for updating and modernizing over the next two decades its ATC and navigation systems, including, among other components, the Advanced Automation System for air traffic, Doppler weather radar, and the Microwave Landing System (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

## February

**6 February** / Freddie Laker's Laker Airways flies for the last time (*Wikipedia*)

**19 February** / The Boeing 757-200 makes its first flight [1]

## April

/ American begins interchange service with Alaska Airlines, linking Anchorage and Fairbanks with Houston and DFW via Seattle with 727s





Source: Airbus [2]

3 April

/ A310-200 first flight [2]

May

/ First ECAC-U.S. Memorandum of Understanding on North Atlantic pricing. Combining flexibility in the form of automatic approval zones for fares, with stability in the shape of assurances of antitrust immunity for inter-carrier tariff co-ordination, the experimental MoU turns into a formidable instrument

/ American returns to Europe with service between London's Gatwick Airport and DFW

/ British Airways launches into the Concorde charter market

12 May

/ Braniff Airlines becomes the first scheduled airline to file for protection under Chapter 11 of the bankruptcy code in the history of American civil aviation (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

19 May

/ Stockholders approve a plan of reorganization and a new holding company is formed, AMR Corporation, which becomes the parent company of American Airlines, Inc.

June

24 June

/ The Boeing 747-236B City of Edinburgh, operating as British Airways Flight 9 with 263 people on board, flies through a cloud of volcanic ash south of Java. All of its engines shut down, but the crew is able to restart them and make a safe landing at Halim Perdanakusuma Airport in Djakarta, Indonesia (*Wikipedia*)

July

2 July

/ PATCO files a request for liquidation under Chapter 7 of the Federal Bankruptcy Act (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

[1]



Source: Boeing

# 1982

**14 July** / Harbin Y-12 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## August

**25/26 August** / Air New Zealand commences twice weekly (Wed/Sat) B747 service to United Kingdom – Auckland – Papeete – Los Angeles – London and return

## September

**2 September** / JAL issues JAL Card

**3 September** / Beechcraft 1900 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## October

**4 October** / Formal air services agreement signed in London between New Zealand and Britain replaces Memorandum of Understanding

**5 October** / First flight of the 747-300

**20 October** / Air New Zealand enters into a 12 months agreement to operate Auckland – Norfolk Island – Auckland services on behalf of Qantas with F27 aircraft

**29 October** / Air France discontinues its Concorde service to Washington, making New York its only Concorde service destination (*www.concord-esst.com*)

**31 October** / Continental merges with Texas International led by Frank Lorenzo (retaining the Continental name), offering service to four continents (North and South America, Asia and Australia) with a fleet of 112 aircraft

## November

/ A new designation system for McDonnell Douglas commercial aircraft combines the “M” of McDonnell and the “D” of Douglas. The first aircraft to use the designation is the DC-9 Super 80, which now becomes the MD-80

## December

**7 December** / Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority is formed (*Wikipedia*)

**9 December** / Cessna 208 Caravan first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**24 December** / Antonov An-124 Ruslan first flight [3]

[3] An-124 first flight - Source: Antonov



# 1983

➤ The (then) Commercial and Aeropolitical Committee is divided in recognition of the growing involvement of the EU in air transport matters

➤ First Common Use Terminal Equipment (CUTE) check-in desks are installed in LAX for the 1984 Summer Olympic Games (ACI)

➤ AIRCALIN, New Caledonia's international airline, is founded

➤ Aliadriatica (Air One) is established in Pescara

➤ Delta introduces computer-generated boarding passes and automates advance seat selection, greatly improving boarding process in gate areas. First major U.S. carrier to meet new federal standards reducing fly-over noise in airport neighborhoods

➤ Hawaiian Frequent Flyer program begins as Travel Plus

➤ Tower Air begins its services

➤ Constitution of Linea Aerea Nacional – Chile Limitada, through CORFO

➤ The second ticketing revolution occurs with the addition of a magnetic stripe on the ticket back. This allows all of the ticketing information to be stored electronically on the ticket itself, so it can be used as the boarding pass as well (IATA)



Helsinki Airport - Source: Finavia Corp [1]

## January

**25 January** / First prototype of the Saab-Fairchild SF-340 makes its maiden flight

## April

**22 April** / Finnair begins nonstop flights from Helsinki to Tokyo using a DC-10-30 which is equipped with extra fuel tanks. Finnair's Tokyo flight is the world's only nonstop flight between Western Europe and Japan [1]

## May

**23 May** / The first aircraft (Rockwell International Sabreliner) to navigate across the Atlantic entirely by use of the Global Positioning System (GPS) lands at Paris

**26 May**

/ PeopleExpress starts flights from Newark to London (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

## June

**2 June**

/ Air Canada Flight 797, a McDonnell Douglas DC-9-32, experiences an in-flight fire and makes an emergency landing at Cincinnati/

Northern Kentucky International Airport in Hebron, Kentucky. When the plane's doors are opened on the ground, a fire flashover occurs, killing 23 and injuring 16 of the 46 people on board. The accident prompts the installation of smoke detectors and emergency lighting leading to exits aboard airliners, as well as increased firefighting training and equipment for airline crews (*Wikipedia*)

**20 June**

/ Bombardier Dash 8 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

## July

**1 July**

/ Japan Air Commuter Co., Ltd. is established as a joint venture with 14 local municipalities of Kagoshima Prefecture (*JAL*)

**8 July**

/ The A300-600 makes its maiden flight [2]

**11 July**

/ Through an agreement with CBS, American Airlines offers its passengers the retransmission of a program of 30 minutes of the daily news (*Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991*)

**22 July**

/ The FAA announces that the Boeing 757 and 767 models share so many common features



that a pilot who qualifies in one model is automatically qualified on the other

**25 July**

/ The EMB 120 Brasilia turboprop makes its maiden flight [3]  
*Source: Embraer*



**August**

**1 August**

/ America West Airlines begins operations in Phoenix *(US Airways)*

**26 August**

/ CAAC bans smoking on domestic flights in China *(Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991)*

**October**

**18 October**

/ Pan American World Airways and American Airlines announce they will trade aircraft; Pan Am will send 15 McDonnell Douglas DC-10s to American in exchange for eight Boeing 747s. It

is the first time in history two airlines agree to a swap *(Wikipedia & Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991)*

**26 October**

/ Air Seychelles acquires a Douglas DC-10 through a wet lease agreement with British Caledonian Airways opening of the first weekly flight to Europe : Mahe – Frankfurt – London

**November**

/ TWA becomes a public company

**1 November**

/ Air France introduces Air France Le Club

**11 November**

/ CASA CN-235 first flight *(Wikipedia)*

**December**

**5 December**

/ Air New Zealand increases its shareholding in The Mount Cook Group to 30%

**12 December**

/ AMR Services is formed as a subsidiary to provide aviation services to other airlines

[2]



*Source: Kostas Iatrou*





1984-1993

**Building  
the "air bridges"  
for the future**

**1984-1993**

## **Building the “air bridges” for the future**

Aviation progress in the 1980's might not be the greatest that the industry has witnessed in comparison to previous decades or to modern-day aviation. In the late 80's, the economics of the industry has witnessed its greatest challenge ever. The Gulf crisis and economic recession caused the airlines to lose billions of dollars and between 1989-1992, the industry had lost about \$10 billion - more than had been made since its inception. In the United States, great airlines like Pan American and Eastern disappeared, while others, such as TWA and Continental Airlines, filed for Chapter 11.

Nevertheless and in fairness, it was the decade of the aviation maturity. Above all, the 1980's marked the ascendancy of electronics in aviation. The Airbus A320 fly-by-wire technology was not only a way of improving flight controls and reducing weight, it also took safety of air travel to a new level. The A320 was officially launched in 1984 and remains until today the World's most sought after commercial jet. The 1980's have also brought efficiency for engines; the focus was on reliability and on squeezing more mileage or weight-lifting out of each gallon of fuel. The decade has also seen the deregulation of the industry, mainly in North America and Europe, which was followed by new entrants and the start of the low fare environment. We have seen today's most successful low cost carriers such as Ryan Air and Easy Jet founded in the mid-80's & 90's, to be followed a decade later in Asia by the likes of Air Asia and Air Arabia. Today, the domestic Aviation in the United States is built around low cost, low fare structure. This fact is now spreading to the rest of the world.

100 years ago, in January 1914, the first ever-scheduled flight took off to the skies with a paying passenger. It is fascinating to see how far the industry has come. With billions of people using air travel every year, the world is a small place. I can only imagine, 100 years from now, the state of the industry! We won't be there to witness it, but I'm certain, it will exceed our imagination!

**Adel Ali**  
*CEO, Air Arabia*

## INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC (SCHEDULED SERVICES)

Year	Passengers (millions)	Passenger- km (millions)	Seat-km available (millions)	Passenger load factor %	Freight tonne-km (millions)	Mail tonne-km (millions)	Total tonne-km performed (millions)	Total tonne-km available (millions)	Weight load factor %
1984	889	1,343,994	2,067,682	65	42,903	3,895	170,102	283,504	60
1985	942	1,438,073	2,178,899	66	43,074	3,977	179,118	298,529	60
1986	1,006	1,527,234	2,349,590	65	46,692	4,104	190,939	318,232	60
1987	1,077	1,670,794	2,493,722	67	52,249	4,248	209,842	344,004	61
1988	1,134	1,792,762	2,675,764	67	57,578	4,367	226,630	371,524	61
1989	1,173	1,871,643	2,752,416	68	61,839	4,576	238,868	391,587	61
1990	1,232	1,998,915	2,939,581	68	63,632	4,819	252,006	420,009	60
1991	1,200	1,946,943	2,949,914	66	63,378	4,583	247,218	419,013	59
1992	1,212	2,034,555	3,082,660	66	67,814	4,638	259,331	447,123	58
1993	1,208	2,056,936	3,164,516	65	74,121	4,726	268,408	462,772	58

Source: ICAO





[1] Source: [airliners.net](http://airliners.net) / Author: Steve Fitzgerald, 17 May 1985

- ▶ *UK and the Netherlands sign their first bilateral open skies agreement (IATA Wings for the World since 1945, 2009)*
- ▶ *Delta strengthens ties to regional airline partners through its new Delta Connection program. Begins service to Hawaii. Installs air-to-ground telephones—two wall-mounted phones in cabin of domestic L-1011 jets*
- ▶ *USAir introduces its Frequent Traveler program, which provides travel benefits to USAir's most loyal customers (US Airways)*
- ▶ *Atlantic Southeast becomes the first Delta Connection carrier (Express Jet)*
- ▶ *SITA's first air-ground service, VHF AIRCOM, is introduced. SITA's Common Use Terminal Equipment (CUTE) system launches – enabling airlines to share check-in terminals*
- ▶ *The Saab-Fairchild SF-340 goes into service with Crossair of Switzerland*
- ▶ *Swissair Business Class is introduced on all aircraft systemwide*

## February

/ The decision to use side-stick controllers on the A320 is revealed by Airbus Industrie's flight test team

## March

/ Virgin Atlantic Airways is born. Licence granted for London (Gatwick) to New York (Newark) [1]

/ British Airways Concorde services to Washington are extended to Miami three days a week

## 2 March

/ Airbus launches A320

## April

### 1 April

/ British become British Airways plc.

## May

### 10 May

/ The 25th Session (Extraordinary) of the ICAO Assembly approves unanimously in Resolution A25-1 an amendment to the Convention on International Civil Aviation, incorporating

an explicit recognition that the use of weapons against civil aircraft is prohibited (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**21 May** / Northwest shareholders approve the creation of NWA Inc., a Delaware corporation, as the holding company for Northwest Airlines

## June

**16 June** / Frontier Airlines pilot Warner and co-pilot Barbara Cook make history by directing the first all-female commercial airline crew, on a flight from Denver, Colorado, to Lexington, Kentucky (*Wikipedia*)

**20 June** / The Civil Aeronautics Board publishes additional rules regulating smoking on aircraft. The provisions include a ban on smoking in commercial aircraft with fewer than 30 passenger seats, except for on-demand air taxis, and a total ban on smoking in airliners while on the ground (*FAA*)

**22 June** / Virgin's inaugural flight from London Gatwick to Newark takes place

**22 June** / Rutan Voyager first flight (*Wikipedia*)

## July

**3 July** / Air Florida suspends all its flights after going bankrupt (*Wikipedia*)

**22 July** / PZL M28 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**25 July** / Xiamen Airlines Co. Ltd is established jointly by Civil Aviation Administration of China and Fujian Provincial Government

[2]



Source: Airbus Group

## August

**16 August** / The ATR 42 makes its first flight [2]

## October

**4 October** / U.S. President Reagan signs into law the Civil Aeronautics Board Sunset Act of 1984, which transfers to DOT, among other things, CAB's consumer protection functions and its authority to approve consolidations, mergers, and antitrust exemptions for airlines (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

**14 October** / The first telephone system, allowing passengers to call during a flight, begins operations by six companies (*Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991*)

**26 October** / FAA publishes two rules to increase the survival chances of airline passengers encountering fire and smoke: First seat cushions must possess an outer layer of highly fire-resistant material and second a rule requiring an emergency escape path marking at or near floor level

**30 October** / U.S. President Reagan signs into law the Commercial Space Launch Act of 1984, which gives DOT's Office of Commercial Space Transportation the responsibility for promoting private sector commercial space endeavors (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

## November

**1 November** / American introduces the American Eagle system, a network of regional airlines offering high-level service from small communities to large cities through connections to and from American Airlines (*American Airlines & Wikipedia*)

## December

**1 December** / Northwest and Mesaba Airlines announce a regional airline marketing partnership, the first Northwest Airlink agreement

**1 December** / FAA and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration conduct a Controlled Impact Demonstration (CID) in which a Boeing 720 was remotely piloted to a prepared crash site at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif.



[2] Source: Kostas Iatrou

- *The first EMB 120 Brasilia enters into service with ASA – Atlantic Southeast Airlines in the United States*
- *The Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh forms the Civil Aviation Authority, Bangladesh (CAAB) via Ordinance No. XXXVIII of 1985, titled The Civil Aviation Authority Ordinance*
- *Alaska Air Group is formed as a holding company for Alaska Airlines*
- *Hawaiian’s first widebody L-1011 aircraft added to fleet, as well as scheduled service between the U.S. west coast and Hawaii*
- *LAN becomes a joint stock company*
- *Nippon Cargo Airlines is established*
- *Ryanair is set up by the Ryan family*
- *UPS starts international airservice between U.S. and six European countries*

## March

**29 March**

/ FAA publishes a rule to improve cabin fire protection for passengers aboard aircraft operated by major airlines under Federal Aviation Regulations Part 121. The rule requires that each lavatory be equipped with a smoke detector, or equivalent, and that each lavatory trash receptacle be equipped with an automatic fire extinguisher

## April

**28 April**

/ Continental Inaugurates first nonstop service to Europe with flights from Newark and Houston to London

## May

/ Hong Kong Dragon Airlines is established as a wholly owned subsidiary of Hong Kong Macau International Investment Co.

## June

/ U.S. FAA issues AC 120-42. This AC provides guidance on one means of obtaining deviation authority from § 121.161 to allow two-engine airplanes to operate on routes up to 120 minutes from an adequate airport after demonstration of specific levels of in-service experience and systems reliability (FAA). TWA is the first U.S. airline to offer to fly the Atlantic using twin-engine aircraft (Boeing 767s), thus introducing ETOPS, or extended-range twin-engine operations, to the industry

**12 June**

/ Instituto de Aeronautica Civil de Cuba is created as a result of Decree Law 85 (Wikipedia)

**25 June**

/ Southwest Airlines and Muse Air consummate the acquisition whereby Muse Air becomes a wholly owned subsidiary of Southwest



## July

/ Air Operators Certificate (AOC) is issued to Dragonair by the Hong Kong Government. The airline's first flight departs Hong Kong for Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia

9 July

/ A310-300 first flight. As well as its advanced forward facing crew cockpit, the A310-300 is the first sub-sonic civil airliner to have a trim tank for extra fuel in the tail and, through the fuel transfer system, to control the centre of gravity to reduce fuel consumption and drag. It also features weight-saving carbon brakes and advanced aluminium alloys. The A310-300 is also the first commercial airliner to feature drag reducing wingtip devices and composites in primary structures, with an all-composite fin

9 July

/ The EMB 120 Brasilia receives its certification from the Aerospace Technical Center (CTA), a Brazilian aeronautical certification authority and its U.S. certification from the FAA

18 July

/ Air New Zealand is given approval to purchase 77% share of the Mount Cook Group Ltd

## August

12 August

/ A Japan Air Lines 747 crashes into a mountain about 70 miles northwest of Tokyo after wandering out of control for more than 30 minutes. All but 4 of the 524 persons aboard are killed, a fatality toll higher than in any previous single-plane accident (FAA)

## September

18 September

/ DOT issues a rule prohibiting deceptive airline code sharing. The rule requires airlines sharing the same two-letter designator code to notify passengers of the arrangement and identify the airline actually providing the transportation (FAA)

26 September / Carl Icahn acquires control of TWA

## October

22 October to 7 November

/ The Third ICAO Air Transport Conference, held in Montreal is devoted to major economic issues in air transport and the application of national competition laws. The main issues dealt with centered on the varying approaches of governments to the regulation of air carriers, particularly regarding such issues as the number of flights and seats that the carriers may offer, the rules governing charter flights, the prices that may be charged by the carriers and rules applied in conjunction with these prices, such as baggage limits and compensation for denied boarding. Another important topic that was considered involved those efforts taken by governments and airlines to enforce passenger fares and cargo rates (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

25 October

/ Emirates flies its first routes out of Dubai with just two aircraft – a leased Boeing 737 and an Airbus 300 B4 [1]



Source: Emirates

## November

7 November

/ U.S. Secretary of Transportation Dole approves United Airlines' acquisition of Pan American World Airways' Pacific routes (U.S. Department of Transportation)

## December

3 December

/ Air Littoral (France) takes delivery of the first ATR 42

28 December / Fokker 50 first flight (Frawley, 2001) [2]





[1] Source: Kostas Iatrou

- ▶ *Bombardier purchases Canadair*
- ▶ *The USSR formally opens its airspace to international airlines and, as a result, most services between Europe and the Far East are now operated nonstop via Siberia, which reduces travel time by about 6-7 hours (Compendium of International Civil Aviation)*
- ▶ *Air Europa is established*
- ▶ *Alaska Air Group acquires Horizon Air and Jet America Airlines*
- ▶ *American sells its Sky Chefs subsidiary and completes the acquisition*
- ▶ *of Air California (Air Cal)*
- ▶ *After a change of airline management, the name Trans-Australia Airlines is dropped in favour of Australian Airlines (Wikipedia)*
- ▶ *Bangkok Airways officially begins its operations as Thailand's first privately-owned domestic airline*
- ▶ *Founding of Germania Fluggesellschaft mbH*
- ▶ *Piedmont acquires Empire Airlines and its Syracuse, NY hub (US Airways)*
- ▶ *Alia changes its trade name to Royal Jordanian*
- ▶ *Spanair is founded (SAS)*
- ▶ *Acquisition by TAM of Lapsa airline from the Paraguayan government and creation of TAM Mercosur*
- ▶ *Chicago O'Hare Airport is the first airport to surpass 50 million passengers (ACI)*
- ▶ *Copenhagen Airport Pier B transit hall is expanded and modernised – among other things it includes the world's first "real" airport shopping centre (ACI)*

## January

- ▶ **23 January** / Northwest announces an agreement with Republic Airlines for Northwest to acquire Republic for \$884 million

## February

- ▶ **13 February** / Muse Air officially changes its name to Trans-Star (Southwest)

## March

- ▶ / ANA begins scheduled international service with the start of a Tokyo – Guam route

/ Texas Air buy Eastern for \$615 million

## 1 March

/ Trans World Airlines acquire Ozark Airlines (FAA)

## April

/ The European Court of Justice rules that air transport agreements are subject to the competition rules of the Treaty of Rome. This judgment, coupled with airline deregulation developments in the United States and elsewhere, puts considerable pressure on the Eu-

European Community (EC) to develop and agree upon an air transport policy after years of uncertainty as to whether European Community rules apply to air transport. As a consequence, the European Commission agrees to develop a general framework to liberalize air transport regulations within the European Community (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**4 April** / British Airways long haul flights at Heathrow move from Terminal 3 to Terminal 4 together with selected short haul routes

## July

**1 July** / New Zealand Government allows up to 50% foreign ownership of domestic airlines in New Zealand (*Air New Zealand*)

## August

**6 August** / British Aerospace ATP first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**15 August** / AeroGal begins operations

**15 August** / In the aftermath of the Challenger disaster, U.S. President Reagan announces that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration would no longer be in the business of launching commercial payloads, giving the green light to private manufacturers to enter the commercial launch market (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

**15 August** / Pursuant to an agreement with Japan and the Soviet Union, a new communications link provides a dedicated voice circuit between ATC centers in Tokyo and Khabarovsk, USSR. American controllers at Anchorage could also communicate with Khabarovsk by patching through the Tokyo center (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

## September

**19 September** / Sichuan Airlines is established

**30 September** / Transamerica ceases operations (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

## October

**1 October** / Northwest completes the acquisition of Republic Airlines

**2 October** / U.S. President Reagan signs into law the Air Carrier Access Act of 1986, which requires commercial airlines to provide nondiscriminatory service for passengers with disabilities (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

## November

**30 November** / Fokker 100 first flight (*Frawley, 2001*) [1]

## December

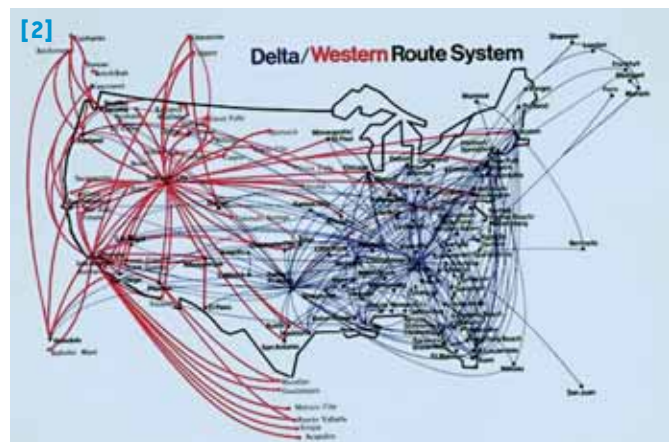
British Airways and United Airlines announce a worldwide marketing partnership

**4 December** / Air New Zealand and Cathay Pacific introduce weekly service between Auckland and Hong Kong

## 14 to 23 December

Dick Rutan and Jeana Yeager become the first aircraft pilots to circle the globe without landing or refueling when their experimental airplane Voyager touches down at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., after covering 25,000 miles in nine days. The aircraft had a propeller at each end of its fuselage and was equipped with a main wing nearly 111 feet long, as well as a smaller forward wing. Voyager took off on 14 December with 1,200 gallons of fuel and landed with only eight gallons of usable fuel remaining (*FAA*)

**19 December** / Western becomes a wholly-owned subsidiary of Delta [2]





[1] A320 first flight - Source: Airbus

- Turkish Civil Aviation Department is established (SHGM)
- Birth of Air Tahiti, in its current form
- CAAC's airline operations split into 6 separate airlines, each named after the geographic region of the location of their headquarters and main operation areas: Air China, China Southwest Airlines, China Eastern Airlines, China Northwest Airlines, China Southern Airlines and China Northern Airlines (Wikipedia)
- MIAT Mongolian Civil Air Transportation Corporation starts its international operations with Tu-154 aircraft wet leased in from the Soviet Union
- Transat is created and an initial public offering raises \$8.25 million.
- It acquires Vacances Multitour. Air Transat makes its inaugural flight
- BAA is privatized (ACI)
- Swissair, British Airways, KLM and United Airlines (Covia) launch the Galileo computerised global distribution system
- SABRE becomes available via the personal computer

**February** / British Airways is finally privatised in a hugely oversubscribed flotation

**1 February** / Continental becomes the third largest U.S. airline with the consolidation of Frontier, People Express and New York Air

**22 February** / A320 roll-out and first flight. The A320 becomes the first airliner to fly with full digital, computer-driven fly-by-wire controls and side-stick controller, replacing the traditional complex cables and pulleys system [1]

**March** / Canadian Airlines is launched, CP Air, EPA, Nordair and PWA are amalgamated to form the new airline

**18 March** / The first revenue flight of an airplane equipped with an operational TCAS II version of the Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System occurs (FAA)

**April**  
**1 April** / Operations of Western and Delta officially merge

**11 April** / Air 2000 starts operations (*Wikipedia*)

**30 April** / UAL, Inc. changes its name to Allegis Corporation

**May**

**19 May** / Pacific Southwest Airlines of San Diego becomes a wholly-owned subsidiary of USAir Group (*US Airways & FAA*)

**26 May** / A new FAA regulation requires airline operators to equip all large passenger aircraft with protective breathing equipment (PBE) for flight attendants

**31 May** / First landing by a DHC-7 of Brymon Airways at London City Airport (*London City Airport Consultative Committee*)

**June**

The Continental's OnePass Frequent Flyer Program is created

**5 June** / Launch of a new family of aircraft: the A330-300, the A340-200 and the A340-300

**5 June** / FAA publishes a rule requiring airlines to develop and use approved programs to control the amount and size of carry-on baggage with compliance by 1 January 1988

**7 June** / Washington National and Dulles International airports are transferred from the FAA to the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

**16 June** / The "International Agreement on the Procedure for the Establishment of Tariffs for Intra-European Scheduled Air Services" and The "International Agreement on the Sharing of Capacity on Intra-European Scheduled Air Services" are opened for signatures (*ECAC*)

**19 June** / The National Air Traffic Controllers Association becomes the exclusive representative of terminal and center controllers in the US

**20 June** / Air France, Iberia, Lufthansa and DAS jointly developed a new global distribution system (GDS) – Amadeus (*Chronique de l' Aviation, 1991*)

**20 June** / Southwest introduces "The Company Club," a frequent flyer program

**July**

Air France introduces in-flight video on all its long-haul Airbus A300s, then on all its Boeing 747s

A merger of British Airways with financially troubled British Caledonian is announced and implemented in December after an agreement to drop some of BCAL's slots had been reached

**1 July** / AirCal merges into American Airlines (*FAA*)

**August**

**9 August** / TranStar (Southwest's wholly owned, but independently operated, subsidiary) permanently ceases all airline operations

**September**

**3 September** / The Allegis board approves the sale of Hilton International (*United Airlines*)

**November**

Piedmont Airlines, the dominant carrier throughout the mid-Atlantic region of the United States, becomes a subsidiary of USAir Group (*US Airways*)

**18 November** / JAL is completely privatized with the Law to Repeal the Japan Airlines Law taking effect

**December**

The EU first "package" of measures are adopted to relax the established rules. For intra-EU traffic, it limits the right of governments to object to the introduction of new fares. It also gives some flexibility to airlines concerning seat capacity sharing

A300-600R first flight

Air Vanuatu is formed

**19 December** / Effective this date, FAA requires a positive baggage/passenger match on all international flights by U.S. airlines. FAA had placed the same requirement on select international flights since the summer of 1985





[2] Source: Kostas Iatrou

- ▶ ICAO's New Technologies Working Group of the TAG/MRTD begins work on establishing the most effective biometric identification system and associated means of data storage for use in MRTD applications, particularly in relation to document issuance and immigration considerations (ICAO)
- ▶ Air Outre Mer (AOM) is founded (Wikipedia)
- ▶ Blue1 based in Helsinki is established
- ▶ LOT becomes the first carrier in the countries of Central and Eastern European to operate using American airliners (Boeing 767)
- ▶ PSA is merged into USAir (US Airways)
- ▶ Swissair acquires holdings in Crossair (38%), Covia (11.3%) and Austrian Airlines (3%)
- ▶ UPS receives authorization from the FAA to operate its own aircraft, thereby officially becoming an airline

## January

**26 January** / Dual ceremonies celebrate the simultaneous roll-out of the Boeing 737-400 and the 747-400

## February

**11 February** / Burnley announces Departmental approval of the nation's first commercial space launch license to Conatec, Inc., of Lanham, Maryland (U.S. Department of Transportation)

**17 February** / Asiana is founded

**19 February** / The first Boeing 767-300ER (extended range) is delivered to American Airlines

**20 February** / Organized by the agency Kuoni, a tour around

the world on the Concorde is conducted in 31 hours and 45 minutes (*Chronique de l'Aviation, 1991*)

**22 February** / The New Zealand Government allows an Australian airline (Ansett) to buy 100% control of a New Zealand domestic airline (*Air New Zealand*)

**26 February** / A320 receives joint European certification

**March** / KLM takes over NetherLines European Com-muter service

**28 March** / Air France, launch customer, takes delivery of the first A320

**29 March** / Spantax ceases all operations (Wikipedia)

## April

/ Air Liberté begins operations (*Wikipedia*)

1 April

/ Toa Domestic Airline changes its name to Japan Air System Co., Ltd. (*JAL*)

1 April

/ Thai Airways International merges with Thai Airways Company (TAC)

23 April

/ A ban on smoking on U.S. airline flights of less than two hours comes into effect (*U.S. Department of Transportation*). Northwest bans smoking on all North American flights, the first major U.S. airline to do so

29 April

/ First flight of the first 747-400 [1]

## May

26 May

/ Allegis name is dropped and the holding company is named UAL Corporation

## June

2 June

/ Finnair direct flights from Helsinki to Beijing begin. The flights represent the first direct connection between Europe and China by a Western European airline

13 June

/ Austrian Airlines shares are introduced at the Vienna stock exchange

## July

1 July

/ Air China Limited ("Air China") is founded (*Air China & Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

1 July

/ Deregulation of the European air transport industry

1 July

/ Japan Air System introduces its first international scheduled flights on the Narita – Seoul route

14 July

/ Sichuan Airlines officially commences operations

25 July

/ Portugalia is incorporated

## August

9 August

/ Mesaba Aviation is selected as an Airlink carrier serving the Detroit hub (*Northwest Airlines*)

18 August

/ Air Canada's Privatization Act, Bill C-129, receives royal assent allowing the government to sell 45% of its holdings in the airline

## September

7 September

/ At a special meeting, TWA stockholders approve Carl Icahn's proposal to take the company private. The privatization takes \$610.3 million out of TWA —of which \$469 million goes to Icahn— and adds \$539.7 million to TWA's debt

9 September

/ Air France and Lufthansa establish Euroberlin (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

16 September

/ Air New Zealand takes a 50% shareholding in the regional carriers Eagle Aviation Ltd (Eagle Air) and Air Nelson Ltd (Air Nelson)

21 September

/ Northwest Flight Operations begins tests of new Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System (TCAS)

22 September

/ FAA issues a rule requiring that all turbine-powered airliners seating 30 passengers or more carry equipment to warn pilots when they encounter low-altitude wind shear

28 September

/ First flight of IL-96-300 S/N USSR-96000

## October

1 October

/ Aerovias de Mexico, S.A. de C.V. is created using the trading name Aeromexico and the emblem of the Eagle Warrior

3 October

/ Smoking banned on all Air New Zealand domestic flights

4 October

/ Continental forms first global alliance with Scandinavian Airline Systems

27 October

/ First flight of the ATR 72



747-400 first flight

## December

**20 December** / NZ Government announces the sale of 100% of Air New Zealand to a consortium headed by Brierley Investments Ltd. Brierley will take 65% of the shares, with 30% of its stake to be sold to the N.Z. public, staff and institutional investors. Qantas 19.9%, Japan Airlines 7.5%, American Airlines 7.5% and a New Zealand Government "Kiwi" share make up the balance. This share has special powers to ensure that the majority shareholding is held by New Zealanders

**21 December** / Antonov An-225 Mriya first flight (*Jane's, 1993*) [2]

**28 December** / Let L-610 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**30 December** / FAA amends this AC in 1988 (AC 120-42A) to permit two-engine airplanes to operate up to 180 minutes from an adequate airport. These ACs introduce the term "ETOPS" for those specific Extended Operations (*FAA*)

# 1989

▶ *Bombardier launches the 50-seat Canadair Regional Jet (CRJ) program*

▶ *CAA of Mongolia becomes a member of ICAO*

▶ *Antonov Airlines is founded*

▶ *BinterCanarias operations starts in the Canary Islands*

▶ *Futura International Airways is es-*

*tablished as a joint venture between Aer Lingus and Spanish investors (Airlines Worldwide, 2000)*

▶ *The Chilean government sells a 51% stake of LAN to local investors and Scandinavian Airlines*

▶ *Piedmont is integrated into USAir. The merger brings with it Piedmont's international routes as well as its Charlotte, Baltimore, Dayton and Syracuse hubs. Baltimore and Charlotte remain hubs. The merger also brings USAir's its first widebody jets, the Boeing 767-200ERs, to be used on its transatlantic routes, as well*

*as some transcontinental routes* [1]

▶ *Resort Air Inc. changes its name to Trans States Airlines*

▶ *Scandinavian Airlines (SAS) purchases a 24.9% stake in British Midland*

▶ *Swissair cooperation agreements concluded with three partner carriers: Delta Air Lines (March), SAS (September) and Singapore Airlines (December)*

▶ *Wardair Canada is folded into Canadian Airlines*

## January

**2 January** / Tupolev Tu-204 first flight (*Frawley, 2001*)

**10 January** / FAA publishes a rule requiring the Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System (TCAS II) on all airliners with more than 30 passenger seats operating in U.S. airspace

**15 January** / The Surface Movement Guidance and Control System (SMGCS), a red-and-green traffic light system for runways and taxiways, begins a one-year test at New York Kennedy airport (*FAA*)

**31 January** / Federal Express acquires the Flying Tiger Line (*FAA*)

**31 January** / Northwest is launch customer of the world's largest commercial airliner, the Boeing 747-400. Although the aircraft is destined for



transpacific service, the maiden revenue flight is from the Twin Cities to Phoenix [2]

## February

**21 February** / Tradewinds, a Singapore Airlines subsidiary, becomes Singapore's second airline

## March

/ Evergreen Group Chairman and Founder Dr. Chang Yung-Fa establishes EVA Air

## April

**17 April** / Air New Zealand's sale to the Brierley-led consortium completed with the formal handing over of cheques to the Government for \$660 million

## May

/ Virgin Atlantic becomes the first airline to offer business class passengers individual TVs with the introduction of Sony Video walkmans and a library of films

## 1 May

/ The FAA and the National Air Traffic Controllers Association conclude their first collective bargaining agreement (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

## June

/ KLM introduces the Boeing 747-400

## 1 June

/ Northwest Boeing 747-400 enters international service on the New York – Tokyo route

## 12 June

/ Airbus announces it has delivered 500 aircraft since its inception

## 19 June

/ NWA Inc. and Wings Holdings agree to the acquisition of NWA Inc. by Wings at a price of \$121 per share, or approximately \$3.5 bil-

lion. Wings Holdings is an investment group organized by Al Checchi and Gary Wilson, and includes KLM Royal Dutch Airlines, Frederic V. Malek, Richard Blum Associates, Bankers Trust New York Corporation and other investors

## July

/ KLM acquires a 20% interest in the U.S. carrier Northwest Airlines, an important step toward the creation of a worldwide network

## August

### 7 August

/ The first Croatian air carrier, called Zagal –actually Zagreb Airlines– is registered (*Croatia Airlines*)

### 17 August

/ The first Qantas 747-400, VH-OJA "City of Canberra", touches down at Sydney Airport after a nonstop flight from London to Sydney. The 18,001km flight, under the command of Captain David Massy-Greene, took 20 hours, nine minutes and five seconds and established a new world distance record for a commercial aircraft.

## September

### 12 September

/ Extraordinary General Assembly of Swissair Shareholders votes to increase share capital to CHF 709,171,750 to allow 5% cross-equity investment with Delta Air Lines

### 13 September

/ American opens its seventh hub in Miami

### 14 September

/ U.S. Congress passes smoking legislation for domestic passenger flights

## October

/ Bombardier acquires Short Brothers plc

/ SunExpress is founded as a subsidiary of Turkish Airlines and Lufthansa

### 6 October

/ Air Liberté Tunisie is created as a subsidiary of the French carrier Air Liberté (*Nouvelair*)

### 29 October

/ Under a joint service agreement between Air New Zealand and Qantas, 10 weekly Tasman flights will be code shared – six to be operated by Qantas aircraft and crew, and four by Air New Zealand aircraft and crew

## November

**29 November** / Weekly B747-200 service Christchurch –

[2]



Source: Delta Flight Museum



Auckland – Narita – Christchurch becomes the first joint service between Air New Zealand and Japan Airlines, and operates under dual flight numbers

### December

/ An agreement is reached for British Airways to acquire a 20% shareholding in Sabena World Airlines. The other partners in the joint

venture are Sabena and KLM. The proposal is eventually approved by the UK Monopolies and Mergers Commission in July 1990, but the European Commission had already issued a statement of objection, requesting further information in June 1990. In December 1990, the three partners eventually decide not to proceed with the plan

## 1990

### Early 1990s:

- Modern “intelligent” ATC – the same number of controllers handling more traffic (CANSO)

### Early 1990s:

- Centralisation of flow manage-

ment is an impressive development (CANSO)

### Mid 1990s:

- Air traffic management (ATM) is introduced in the world of aviation (CANSO)

- Air Transport Action Group (ATAG) is formed (Wikipedia) [1]



- Creation of The International Air Cargo Forum Association
- The second EU “package” opens up the market further, allowing greater flexibility over the setting of fares and capacity-sharing. It also gives all EU carriers the right to carry an unlimited number of passengers or cargo between their home country and another EU country
- Estonian Civil Aviation Administration is formed (Wikipedia)
- Austrian Airlines, Finnair, SAS and Swissair announce the formation of their European Quality Alliance (EQA)

- Delta, Northwest Airlines and TWA combine reservation systems to form WORLDSPAN Travel Information Services

- American expands its Latin American service with routes acquired from Eastern Air Lines, with Miami as the focal point of the expansion

- CITIC Pacific, the Swire Group and Cathay Pacific purchase an 89% stake in Dragonair

- Delta introduces onboard recycling: attendants collect aluminum cans on flights into Atlanta, Cincinnati, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Los Angeles and Salt Lake City

- Delta participates in the Civil Reserve Air Fleet (CRAF) during Desert Storm/Desert Shield from 1990-1991 flying military charters

- Cooperation agreement between DLT

and Lufthansa: DLT becomes an independent company (Lufthansa CityLine)

- Lufthansa and Japan Airlines acquire a 5% share each in the express courier service DHL

- The Ryan family invests a further £20m. in the company, and copying the Southwest Airlines’ low fares model, Ryanair is re-launched under new management as Europe’s first low fares airline

- Brasil Central is renamed TAM-Transportes Aéreos Meridionais

- Pegasus Hava Tasimaciligi A.S. is founded as a joint venture company by Aer Lingus Group, Silkar Yatirim ve Insaat Organizasyonu A.S. and Net Holding A.S.

- The Volga-Dnepr joint stock company is registered in Ulyanovsk, Russia

## January

**10 January** / The McDonnell Douglas MD-11 makes its first flight [2]



**N111MD rotating at Long Beach first flight - Source: photo's courtesy of Douglas Aircraft Company via Geoffrey Thomas**

**12 January** / Air France, UTA and Air Inter merge to form the Air France Group (after Air France acquires stakes in UTA)

**30 January** / The Department of Transportation (DOT) issues an order inviting applications from eligible foreign airlines wishing to serve U.S. cities having no single-plane service to the applicant's home countries. On 27 March, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines becomes the first of several carriers that received route awards under this program (FAA)

## February

**25 February** / In response to a congressional mandate, prohibition of smoking comes into effect on virtually all scheduled U.S. domestic airline flights (FAA)

## March

**2 March** / FAA issues a final rule requiring air carriers to restrict seats in exit rows to persons capable of activating emergency exits

**28 March** / The Boeing 737 becomes the world's best-selling jetliner when United Airlines accepts delivery of the 1,832nd 737

**29 March** / First flight of IL-114 regional aircraft [3]



**Source: Ilyushin**

## April

/ The European Air Traffic Control Harmonisation and Integration Programme launched (EUROCONTROL)

## 1 April

/ Air New Zealand and British Airways sign a commercial alliance effectively giving both airlines daily round-the-world services. "Streamlined" connections offers flights from the UK to NZ and vice versa on either airline via the east or west, changing to the other carriers flights at Singapore, Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur or Los Angeles

## 10 April

/ The 6,000th Boeing jetliner, a 767, is delivered to Britannia Airways

## May

/ Virgin becomes first airline to introduce automatic defibrillators and trained staff to aid in flight cardiac arrest victims

## 15 May

/ United launches its first scheduled transatlantic services with flights to Frankfurt, Germany, from both Chicago and Washington, D.C.

## 22 May

/ Civil Aviation & Meteorology Authority (CAMA) is the Entity that is formed on the historic date of Yemen Unity Day

## June

### 1 June

/ The U.S. Secretary of State and Soviet Foreign Minister sign an agreement providing for expanded air service between their two countries (FAA)

## July

### 23 July

/ Following the first democratic elections in Croatia, Zagal changes its name to Croatia Airlines

## August

### 2 August

/ Iraq invades and seizes control of Kuwait. President Bush's response includes immediate restrictions on air transportation between the U.S. and Iraq (FAA)

### 9 August

/ Scandinavian Airline System buys Lorenzo's interests in Continental Airline Holdings (FAA)

## September

### 25 September

/ The United Nations votes to ban virtually all air traffic with Iraq, with the exception of certain humanitarian flights (FAA)

### 27 September

/ United Air Lines is the first airline to introduce satellite communications for its aircraft (Wikipedia)

**October**

/ All flights of Air Canada between North America and Europe become non-smoking, a world first

**1 October**

/ Through an auction, the VOE/Canhedo consortium, comprising the Group and employees Canhedo VASP, acquires for U.S. \$ 44,000,000 (forty-four million dollars), 60% of common shares of VASP, and shall have control of the company

**1 October**

/ JAL bans smoking on 13 routes with flight times under two hours

**5 October**

/ JAL establishes Japan Air Charter

**11 October**

/ Air India completes evacuation of stranded Indian nationals from the Gulf. Air India, in association with Indian Airlines, Indian Air Force and Aeroflot, operated 488 special flights to airlift 111,711 stranded Indian nationals. With such a large number of people having never been airlifted before, Air India adds a new chapter to the annals of World Civil Aviation history

**22 to 26 October**

/ The 28th Session (Extraordinary) of the ICAO Assembly, held in Montreal, adopts a comprehensive policy with regard to noise issues, including specific provisions concerning operating restrictions on subsonic jet aircraft which exceed the noise levels (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**23 October**

/ United announces the purchase of Pan American Airways' routes between the United States and London

**28 October**

/ First scheduled flight of Lufthansa to Tegel Airport in Berlin after German reunification

**29 October**

/ The formal go-ahead is given for the Boeing 777 jet transport with an initial order of 34 airplanes and 34 options by United Airlines

**30 October**

/ Alliance between Air New Zealand and Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS) to promote each other as a preferred onward carrier with connecting points at Los Angeles, Singapore, Bangkok and Tokyo

**31 October**

/ Australian domestic airline deregulation starts (*Ansett & Wikipedia*)

**November****21 November**

/ A consortium headed by Iberia begins operating the company, which changes its firm name to Aerolineas Argentinas S.A.

**December**

/ Alliances announced between Air New Zealand, Qantas and Canadian Airlines to become effective 1 April 1991. Major impact will be rationalisation of long-haul Pacific and trans-Tasman flights

**7 December**

/ The first of four Finnair's MD-11 (launch customer) passenger aircraft arrive in Helsinki

**10 December**

/ Northwest signs an agreement with Hawaiian Airlines establishing a wide range of cooperative programs, including the transfer to Northwest of Hawaiian's route authority to Australia and a 25% ownership in Hawaiian Airlines



sky express - Source: Kostas Iatrou [1]

- The ACI is established from the merger of Airports Operators Council International (AOCI) and the International Civil Airports Association (ICAA) (ACI)
- ACI EUROPE is founded
- European Cockpit Association (ECA) is created
- The Civil Aviation Authority of Uganda (CAA) is established through CAA Ordinance number 2 of 1991
- Air Dolomiti starts its operations
- American flies its billionth passenger
- Estonian Air is founded
- Delta purchases substantially all of Pan Am's transatlantic routes and the Pan Am Shuttle, making this the largest acquisition of flights in airline history
- KLM-Northwest Airlines begins operating code share flights on the North Atlantic
- Tyumen Civil Aviation Division is reorganized into the company OJSC Tyumenaviatrans (UTair)
- Singapore Airlines and Swissair conduct an equity cross-purchase: Swissair acquires 0.62% of SIA, while SIA obtains a 2.77% holding in Swissair
- Swissair acquires majority voting rights in regional carrier Crossair and becomes the world's first airline to produce a full-scale environmental audit
- SITA: The Mega-Transport Network becomes operational. This forms the fourth generation of the world's largest network

**January** / UK CAA opens the door to Heathrow for Virgin's operations

**18 January** / Eastern Air Lines ceases operations as the airline runs out of operating cash (*Eastern Air Lines & FAA*)

**23 January** / The U.S. Department of Transportation announces that it would relax restrictions on foreign investment in U.S. airlines. Under the new policy, investments up to 49% of total equity obtained from foreign sources will generally not be considered an indicator of foreign control (*FAA*)



**February**

/ U.S. FAA replaces the NAS Plan with the more comprehensive Capital Investment Plan

**3 February**

/ The Albanian Directory General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) is established

**12 February to 1 March**

/ The Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection is adopted by the International Conference on Air Law, held in Montreal under the auspices of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). This Convention is aimed at contributing to the prevention of unlawful acts involving the use of plastic explosives (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**March****8 March**

/ Air Europe bankrupt (*Wikipedia*)

**11 March**

/ The United States and the United Kingdom reach an agreement on airline service which includes permission for United and American Airlines to succeed Pan American and Trans World Airways in serving London Heathrow. In return, British airlines receive supplementary rights involving increased access to U.S. airports (*FAA*)

**April****1 April**

/ Air New Zealand's new alliances come into effect with Qantas, Canadian Airlines and American Airlines

**1 April**

/ KLM merges NLM Cityhopper and NetherLines to create KLM Cityhopper

**2 April**

/ Northwest and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines begin their first joint service, twice-weekly flights between Minneapolis/St. Paul and Amsterdam, launching their airline alliance

**3 April**

/ Northwest is first U.S. airline to fly over the Soviet Union since World War II

**18 April**

/ Air New Zealand acquires 100% interest in the Mount Cook Group

**30 April**

/ The 1,010th Boeing 707 rolls-out of the Renton, Wash., plant, ending a 35-year-old production line

**30 April**

/ Interflug last commercial flight (on the Berlin – Vienna – Berlin route using a Tu-134) takes place (*Wikipedia*)

**May****3 May**

/ Alisarda name is changed to Meridiana

**10 May**

/ Bombardier CRJ100 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**21 May**

/ Air New Zealand domestic airline operations move under the banner of Air New Zealand National, and regional carriers Eagle Air and Air Nelson use the name Air New Zealand Link

**24 May**

/ An EL AL Boeing 747 airlifts a record-breaking 1,087 passengers – Ethiopian Jews flying from Addis Ababa to Israel as part of Operation Solomon

**31 May**

/ Finnair gains the right to fly direct to Tokyo over Siberia. The first flight is on this date. The flight route adjustment cuts the flying time by around three hours

**31 May**

/ Pilatus PC-12 first flight (*Frawley, 2001*)

**June****1 June**

/ Virgin Atlantic becomes the first airline operating widebodied aircraft to offer individual TV screens and a choice of channels to passengers in all classes

**1 June**

/ Mandarin Airlines is established

**20 June**

/ Airbus Industrie enters the International Bond market for the first time with the launch of a major Eurolira bond issue as part of its campaign to finance the development costs of the new A321 single-aisle stretched aircraft

**20 June**

/ Skinner announces a further liberalization of the law regarding foreign investment in U.S. air carriers, raising the maximum foreign ownership of voting stock in U.S. air carriers from 25% to 49% (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

## July

/ Deregulation of domestic air routes within South Africa (open skies) comes into effect (*Safair*)

/ An agreement is signed to begin work on creating a new international airline based in Moscow to be known as Air Russia. British Airways will have a 31% stake

/ The Gambia Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) is established as an autonomous body

**1 July**

/ EVA Air makes its maiden flight

## August

**12 August**

/ A Federal bankruptcy judge approves a deal under which Delta Air Lines will acquire major Pan American assets and also own 45% of a downsized PAA (*FAA*)

## September

**25 September**

/ British Aerospace Jetstream 41 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*) [1]

## October

/ Following the independence of Namibia, the company is re-christened, adopting the name of Air Namibia (*Wikipedia*)

/ KLM increases its interest in charter carrier Transavia from 40% to 80%.

/ Air Outre Mer (AOM) merges with Air Minerve (*Wikipedia*)

**22 October**

/ Northwest pioneers the first satellite navigation and communication link

**25 October**

/ A highly successful first flight for the A340 [2]

## November

**1 November**

/ Delta begins operating Pan Am's transatlantic routes

**3 November** / TAE is bankrupt (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

**5 November** / Transaero Airlines is born and is the first private airline in the history of Russia

**5 November** / "Connoisseur Class" service, United's new international business class, is introduced

**13 November** / Midway ceases operations (*Wikipedia*)

**22 November** / The code sharing agreement between Air New Zealand and American Airlines is discontinued

## December

/ KLM introduces Flying Dutchman, making it the first airline on the European continent to create a frequent flyer loyalty program

**4 December** / Pan Am ceases operations

**6 December** / Dornier 328 first flight (*Jane's, 1993*)

**9 December** / United acquires Pan Am Latin American operations for \$135 million

[2]



A340 first flight - Source: Airbus



[1] A340-200 first flight - Source: Airbus

- *The de Havilland division of Boeing, based in Canada, joins the Bombardier family*
- *The Republic of Armenia becomes ICAO member*
- *Aegean Aviation becomes the first private airline with an air operator's certificate in Greece*
- *Airlink officially commences operations*
- *American introduces American Flagship Service, a premium three-class transcontinental service for domestic travellers*
- *Copa Airlines begins operating from the first Panamanian headquarters for flights connecting within Latin America, creating the Hub of the Americas at the Tocumen International Airport*
- *CSA is transformed into a joint stock company in the second part of the year, with Air France as a shareholder*
- *EVA Air and Virgin Atlantic Mid Class (May) introduce two of the very first premium economy services*
- *Delta introduces new in-flight technologies including seat-back telephones, live radio news broadcasts;*
- *first U.S. airline with moving maps in the cabin showing aircraft's position and route*
- *Lufthansa Cargo, Japan Airlines and Nissho Iwai increase their interest in DHL to 57.5%*
- *The LOT Voyager loyalty programme is created and introduced for the airline's frequent flyers*
- *Mahan Air is established as the first Iranian private airline*
- *Ukraine International Airlines (UIA) is established*

## January

End / Adria Airways resumes its activities

## February

/ American Airlines sells its stake in Air New Zealand

## March

/ Volga-Dnepr commences international operations under its own flag

/ DLT is renamed Lufthansa CityLine

## 26 March

/ First flight of Saab 2000 (Frawley, 2001)

## 28 March

/ Chosonminhang is renamed Air Koryo by the decision of the Government

## April

/ MAS AIR begins operations

- / Virgin is first airline to provide child safety seats
- / Deutsche BA, the company formed by a consortium of German banks and British Airways, announces the acquisition of the German regional airline, Delta Air
- 1 April** / A340-200 first flight [1]
- 1 April** / Jet Airways is founded
- 1 April** / Tradewinds is renamed SilkAir
- 3 April** / By order of the Director, Air Transport Dept. of the RF Ministry of Transport, the Leningrad United Air Unit is renamed Pulkovo Airlines (*Rossiya*)
- 10 April** / Sabena signs an industrial and commercial cooperation agreement with Air France
- 14 April** / Onur Havayollari Tasimacilik A.S. is established
- May** / Finnair introduces the Finnair Plus frequent-flyer award scheme
- 1 May** / Carl Icahn sells TWA's route authorities from Philadelphia and Baltimore to London to US-Air for \$50 million. TWA retains St. Louis – London route
- 17 May** / Munich Airport commences operations, moving from the former site at Munich-Riem Airport, which was closed shortly before midnight on the previous day
- June**
- 3 June** / The Guinness Book of Records recognizes Air India's historic and Herculean effort of airlifting over a lakh of stranded Indian nationals from Amman during August-October 1990 as a record and includes it in the 1993 edition
- July**
- / The Olympic Torch Reaches Spain with Iberia [2]
- / British Airways and USAir Group Inc announce an agreement to forge links through an investment by British Airways of U.S. \$ 750m in convertible preferred shares in USAir. The agreement is terminated in December of the same year after the U.S. Government indicates the transaction would not be approved without concessions by the UK Government under the two countries' bilateral air services agreement
- 1 July** / Reno Air begins services (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

1992 Summer Olympics, Barcelona - Source: Aeroport de Barcelona el Prat [2]





- 17 July** / The United States and the European Economic Community sign an agreement placing certain limitations on government subsidies for the development and production of large civil aircraft *(FAA)*
- 28 July** / "Aeroflot Soviet Airlines" Commercial Production Alliance is transformed into the open stock company "Aeroflot Russian International Airlines"
- August**
- 10 August** / The Civil Aviation Amendment Act 1992 passes into law, and the stand-alone CAA of New Zealand comes into being
- September**
- / Qantas acquires Australian Airlines *(Wikipedia)*
- / British Airways announces that it intends to acquire 49.9% share in TAT European Airlines for £17.25
- 4 September** / DOT announces that the United States and the Netherlands have signed the first aviation agreement under the liberalized "open skies" initiative *(U.S. Department of Transportation)*
- 9 September** / Northwest Airlines and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines agree to create what they called "a unified global airlines system" *(FAA)*
- 29 September to 8 October**
- / The 29th Session of the ICAO Assembly held in Montreal endorses a blueprint for a global satellite-based Communications, Navigation and Surveillance – Air Traffic Management (CNS/ATM) systems concept to replace existing line-of-sight systems *(Compendium of International Civil Aviation)*
- October**
- / A new era in the history of civil aviation in Ukraine begins with the creation of the state regulator of aviation *(State Aviation Administration of Ukraine)*
- November**
- / Shenzhen Airlines Co., Ltd, is founded
- / British Airways acquires for £1 the assets of the holding company for Dan-Air
- 2 November** / The A330-300, the world's largest twin-engine widebody, flies for the first time **[3]**



A330-300 first flight - Source: Airbus

**7 November** / New "beyond rights" agreement between New Zealand and Australia come into effect. Air New Zealand's begins services to/from Taipei via Brisbane, and also services to/from Bangkok via Brisbane

**December** / LOT Polish Airlines is transformed into a sole shareholder Treasury company

/ Australian Government announces that Brit-

ish Airways has successfully bid A\$665 million for 25% of Qantas

**22 December** / After more than 2,400 test flights, both versions of the long range A340, the A340-200 and the A340-300, receive certification from the European Joint Airworthiness Authorities. It is the first time that approval had been granted simultaneously for two different aircraft versions

## 1993

- *The Republic of Belarus becomes a full member of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)*
- *Air Europa starts operating scheduled domestic flights, breaking Iberia's monopoly in Spain*
- *Atlas begins operations*
- *Eurowings is founded following a merger of Nürnberger Flugdienst (NFD) and Reise – und Industrieflug (RFG) (Wikipedia)*
- *Jersey European Airways Business Class service is launched, marking the first UK domestic airline to offer two classes (Flybe)*
- *Interair South Africa is established (AFRAA)*
- *Miles & More loyalty program is introduced by Lufthansa*
- *Lufthansa CityLine becomes a wholly owned subsidiary of Deutsche Lufthansa AG*
- *Mahan Air takes off on its maiden voyage and begins domestic service between Tehran and Kerman*
- *Norwegian is established. The airline starts operating flights on the west coast of Norway with Fokker F-50s in cooperation with Braathens S.A.F.E.*
- *Oman Air, the flagship company of the Sultanate of Oman's Civil Aviation sector, commences operations*
- *Precision Air is established*
- *Swissair merges Balair with the other Swissair subsidiary CTA to form BalairCTA*
- *Launch by TAM of TAM Fidelidade, Brazil's first frequent flyer program*
- *Transaero is the first in Russia to receive Boeing aircraft*

**January** / British Airways announces a new alliance with USAir, including an immediate investment of US\$300m (£198m) by British Airways in new convertible preferred shares in USAir, for an initial 19.9% voting interest

/ The EU "third package" of measures is applied. This package introduces the freedom to provide services within the EU

/ Hainan Airlines Co Ltd is founded and formally begins its operations with its first flight from Haikou to Beijing

**1 January** / Cruzeiro do Sul ceases to exist as it is fully absorbed into Varig (Wikipedia)

**11 January** / U.S. Department of Transportation approves Northwest/KLM commercial cooperation and integration agreement under a grant of antitrust immunity. KLM and Northwest now are free to join together in creating a unified global airline system, the first of its kind in the world

**12 January** / Air Moldova is founded by the decree of the President of the Republic of Moldova

**14 January** / TWA inaugurates "Comfort Class" service

**16 January** / Bosnia and Herzegovina becomes member of ICAO

**20 January** / Northwest and KLM announce first major steps toward integrating operations, including creation of a Seal of Partnership logo [1]

[1]



## February

**2 February** / Lufthansa takes delivery of the first A340-200

**22 February** / The McDonnell Douglas MD-90 commercial transport makes its first flight [2]

## March

/ Aegean Airlines is established

/ British Airways purchases a 25% stake in Qantas

**11 March** / A321 flies for the first time from Hamburg, Germany [3]

**15 March** / DOT approves British Airways \$300 million investment in USAir (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

**16 March** / Northwest and KLM begin to expand code share service to more than 30 Northwest destinations in North America and more than 30 KLM destinations in Europe, the Middle East and Africa

**25 March** / The first A340-300 delivered to Air France. It also is the 1,000th Airbus aircraft to be handed over in the consortium's history

[2]



Source: Boeing

## April

/ Vietnam Airlines is officially established as the country's national flag carrier

**4 April**

/ Fokker 70 first flight (*Frawley, 2001*)

**13 April**

/ Northwest and KLM coordinate their frequent flier plans, creating the most expansive free travel program in the airline industry

## May

/ Ukraine becomes a member of ICAO (*State Aviation Administration of Ukraine*)

**4 May**

/ First flight of the 747-400 Freighter

**5 May**

/ Jet Airways commence operations

## June

/ British Airways launches daily flights between Gatwick and Pittsburgh using a USAir Boeing 767 in British Airways livery and staffed by USAir crews in British Airways uniforms

**8 June**

/ Joel R. Goheen invents electronic ticketing in the airline industry (<http://www.google.com/patents/US5724520>)

**16 June**

/ An A340-200 dubbed the "World Ranger" sets a series of records by flying round the world with only one stop. The aircraft takes off from the Paris air show on 16th June and arrives in Auckland, New Zealand, the next day after a flight lasting 21 hours and 32 minutes. The aircraft takes off again five hours later, landing at Le Bourget after 21 hours and 46 minutes. Among the world records set by the A340 World Ranger: the first non-stop flight between Europe and New Zealand and the longest non-stop flight by an airliner

## July

/ British Airways announces a new marketing agreement with CityFlyer Express

**1 July**

/ Japan's "Southwest Airlines" changes its name to Japan Trans Ocean Air (*JAL*)

**14 July**

/ Aeroflot starts passenger operations on "Moscow – New York" route with IL-96-300

## August

**12 August**

/ MIAT Mongolian Airlines begins as self-dependent state owned enterprise



First flight - Source: Airbus [3]

- 12 August** / Autonomous Romanian Civil Aviation Authority is established by Government Decision no. 405
- 25 August** / Air Zarco (euroAtlantic) is founded and the company adopts the trade name Air Madeira
- September** / Airzena is established (*Georgian Airways*)
- / KLM and Northwest Airlines start operating all their flights between the U.S. and Europe as part of a joint venture
- 11 September** / Ansett Australia's first international flights commence to Bali
- 13 September** / United announces the sale of 15 of its 17 flight kitchens to Dobbs International, ending an era of all-in-house catering launched in December 1936
- 17 September** / Shenzhen Airlines Co., Ltd, starts operations
- 22 September** / Sterling Airways ceases operations (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)
- October** / Air Services agreement is signed by the governments of the Peoples Republic of China and New Zealand, opening the way for international service between the two countries (*Air New Zealand*)
- 21 October** / The A330-300 becomes the first airliner to achieve simultaneous European and American certification
- 26 October** / ValuJet first commercial flight occurs between Atlanta and Tampa (*airTran*)
- November** / Start of Program A mileage service for international routes (currently ANA Mileage Club)
- / Midway Airlines begins operations
- / Cargolux takes delivery of the world's first



747-400 freighter to go into revenue operation

## December

- 1 December** / Air New Zealand acquires full 100% shareholding in Eagle Aviation Limited
- 7 December** / Wings Holdings, parent corporation of Northwest Airlines, is renamed Northwest Airlines Corporation
- 17 December** / The first FAA-approved use of the Global Positioning System (GPS) for non-precision airport approaches begins by Continental Express between Aspen and Steamboat Springs, Colorado (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)
- 22 December** / UAL Corporation board of directors approves, in principle, United's Employee Stock Ownership Plan
- 29 December** / Compania Aeronautica Uruguay S.A. (CAUSA) is founded by the Uruguayan banker Luis J. Supervielle and Coronel Tydeo Larre Borges (*Wikipedia*)
- 30 December** / Colombia's Congress passes Law 105 of 1993 which creates the Administrative Department of Civil Aeronautics (*Wikipedia*)
- End** / Finnair decides on a full merger with Karair (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)



**1994-2003**

# **Forging links and the low cost evolution**

**1994-2003**

## **Forging links and the low cost evolution**

By the mid-1990s, globalization was an established economic trend and placed new demands on the aviation industry. Companies looked beyond their traditional trade partner nations, shifted production offshore to cut costs, and set up sales and management subsidiaries in strategic locations world-wide.

The formation of Star Alliance in May 1997 was a direct and ground-breaking response to the growing demand for easy and seamless global business travel. Legal and regulatory obstacles, but also sheer practicalities, made it impossible for any one airline to offer the network reach provided by five global players working together. The model worked: oneworld was launched in 1999, SkyTeam in 2000 and all three global alliances went on to steadily expand their membership.

The image of commercial aviation changed. The aura of wealth and glamor was supplanted by the vision of the hard-working executive who flew across the ocean and went straight into a business meeting. Cabin products upgraded accordingly, offering more space and lie-flat beds for First and Business Class travelers. Cabins became smoke-free. Sales methods changed as internet commerce grew, allowing direct selling to the customer and increasingly competitive pricing of services. Codeshare arrangements and other commercial tie-ups between airlines became more widespread.

A new breed of airline emerged, the "low-cost" carrier, offering a no-frills service that flew customers from A to B at a low price and put pressure on the traditional carriers to reduce their fares to compete. Many millions of families suddenly found air travel was within their vacation budget. Passenger numbers grew by nearly 50%, from 1.3 billion in 1994 to almost two billion in 2004. Load factors moved gradually higher as well, from 66% in 1994 to 73% in 2004.

But two events overshadowed these largely positive developments. The crash of Concorde in July 2000 – marking the beginning of the end for supersonic travel – and the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, when commercial airliners were used as missiles to bring down the World Trade Center in New York City. A fourth plane crashed when passengers overcame its hijackers. The shock to the industry of being used as a weapon of destruction lives with us. Its legacy lives on in the enhanced security measures adopted worldwide to keep our industry safe.

**Mark F. Schwab**  
*CEO, Star Alliance*

## INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC (SCHEDULED SERVICES)

Year	Passengers (millions)	Passenger- km (millions)	Seat-km available (millions)	Passenger load factor %	Freight tonne-km (millions)	Mail tonne-km (millions)	Total tonne-km performed (millions)	Total tonne-km available (millions)	Weight load factor %
1994	1,305	2,215,320	3,356,545	66	83,608	4,886	292,833	488,055	60
1995	1,380	2,372,607	3,541,205	67	90,046	5,087	314,795	524,659	60
1996	1,473	2,567,161	3,775,237	68	96,619	5,239	339,664	566,107	60
1997	1,542	2,716,056	3,936,314	69	111,402	5,412	368,536	604,157	61
1998	1,557	2,773,094	4,078,079	68	110,288	5,206	373,327	622,211	60
1999	1,654	2,953,345	4,280,210	69	117,678	5,170	396,846	661,410	60
2000	1,753	3,183,706	4,484,092	71	127,798	5,470	429,784	704,565	61
2001	1,720	3,089,899	4,464,679	69	119,874	4,803	413,153	710,100	59
2002	1,718	3,105,591	4,355,201	71	129,655	4,134	422,701	703,839	60
2003	1,773	3,162,758	4,418,693	72	136,060	4,098	433,930	724,582	60

Source: ICAO





[4] A300-600 Super Transporter - Source: Kostas Iatrou

- ▶ *International Air Cargo Forum Association is reorganized and registered in the Cayman Islands as The International Air Cargo Association (TIACA), a not-for-profit corporation*
- ▶ *Civil Aviation Authority in FYROM is founded (Civil Aviation Agency FYROM)*
- ▶ *Air France withdraws from Sabena's ownership and Air France's share in CSA is sold to Konsolidacni banka*
- ▶ *AirTran Holdings purchase a start-up 737 operator named Conquest Sun and renames the airline AirTran Airways*
- ▶ *American launches its first non-smoking transatlantic flight*
- ▶ *Avianca establishes a strategic alliance linking together the three most important companies in the Colombian aviation sector: Avianca, SAM (Sociedad Aeronautica de Medellin) and HELICOL (Helicopteros Nacionales de Colombia), which brought the Avianca System to life*
- ▶ *BH Airlines is been established under the name Air Bosna*
- ▶ *Delta's Rapid Redemption, the airline industry's first program allowing frequent flyers to instantly redeem mileage for free tickets or upgrades*
- ▶ *Federal Express officially adopts "FedEx" as its brand for recognition as the worldwide standard for fast, reliable service*
- ▶ *Privatization of LAN is completed*
- ▶ *Ladeco is taken over by LanChile (Wikipedia)*
- ▶ *A code share agreement is signed between LOT and American Airlines*
- ▶ *LAX, Atlanta and Heathrow surpass 50 million passengers (ACI)*

**January** / CityJet starts operations

**18 January** / Southwest and McCaw Cellular's Claircom Communications unveil the world's first broadly available air-to-ground commercial fax and data service through the AirOne Communications Network

**27 January** / Lufthansa takes delivery of the first A321

**February**

**15 February** / Northwest and KLM introduce World Business Class, a roomier and enhanced international

business class service offered at a regular business class price. They are the first airlines from two different countries to offer a joint international service product

**18 February** / Notification issued by the Ministry of Civil Aviation & Tourism, Department of Civil Aviation, Government of India states "In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 3 of the Air Corporations (Transfer of Undertakings and Repeal) Ordinance, 1994 (4 of 1994), the Central Government hereby appoints the first day of March 1994 as the date on which the under-

takings of Indian Airlines and Air India shall be transferred to, and vest in Indian Airlines Limited and Air India Limited, respectively”

## March

**4 March** / Scandinavian Airlines and Air New Zealand sign a three year commercial agreement

**25 March** / South African Express Airways is granted a license to operate domestically, and South African Airways becomes a shareholder

## April

/ Canadian Airlines has the distinction of being the first airline in the world to have a website on the Internet (www.cdnair.ca). The website is recognized in the Canadian Internet handbook, 1994 and 1995 editions. It is given recognition for not only being the first airline website in the world but also the first with transactional capabilities such as flight arrival/departure and fare information (*Wikipedia*)

/ Air New Zealand increases capacity on the Tasman route following a review of the Tasman Air Share Agreement with Qantas

/ British Airways and Loganair announce plans to protect loss-making Scottish routes with British Airways redeploying resources on strengthening cross-border routes

/ Ilyushin Enterprise is converted into a joint stock company

**3 April** / Air New Zealand and Lan Chile form a new marketing alliance improving connections between Australia, New Zealand and South America

[1]



Roll-out - Source: Boeing

**9 April** / The Boeing 777 twinjet, the newest member of the Boeing jet family, rolls-out [1]

**30 April** / Qantas closes Australian Airlines (*Wikipedia*)

## May

**23 May** / Air Nostrum is constituted

## June

**12 June** / Boeing 777 first flight [2]

**23 June** / Antonov An-38 first flight (*Frawley, 2001*)

## July

**5 July** / Frontier Airlines operations begin with two Boeing 737-200s

**12 July** / UAL Corporation shareholders approve the Employee Stock Ownership Plan, creating the largest majority employee-owned corporation in the world

## August

**15 August** / FAA issues a regulation which, for the first time, sets length of duty and rest requirements for airline flight attendants. Under the rule, attendants could remain on duty for as many as 14 hours within a 24-hour period, but would get a rest period of at least 9 hours after that duty period

## September

**4 September** / Kansai International Airport is inaugurated, serving metropolitan Osaka, Japan's second largest city, and nearby Kobe and Kyoto. It is the world's first airport located 4 km (2.5 sm) offshore on a man-made island, covering some 500 hectares in Osaka Bay (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*) [3]

**13 September** / A300-600 Super Transporter first flight (*Airbus & Wikipedia*) [4]

[2]



First flight - Source: Boeing

**13 September** / Air Macau is established

**16 September** / The ATR 42-500 makes its maiden flight

## October

**1 October** / United launches its low-cost, no-frills "Shuttle by United" service on the U.S. West Coast

**24 October** / Montenegro Airlines is founded

**29 October** / Dissolution of Euroberlin (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

## November

/ Safair Freighters changes its name to Safair (Pty) Ltd.

/ British Airways Concorde services to Washington are discontinued after 18 years of operation

/ Aero Trasporti Italiani operations terminated as the airline merges back into Alitalia (*Wikipedia*)

**1 November** / United launches E-Ticket on Shuttle by United routes

## 23 November to 6 December

/ The Fourth ICAO Worldwide Air Transport Conference on the theme of International Air Transport Regulation: Present and Future is held in Montreal. This Conference's principal focus is on the future development of a full range of arrangements for the economic regulation of international air transport (*Com-*

*pendium of International Civil Aviation*)

## December

/ Korean Air signs a commercial agreement with Air China

/ Zambia Airways bankrupt (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

/ GB Airways, 49% owned by British Airways, announces that from February 1995 it will operate scheduled services as a franchisee in the British Airways livery

## 7 December

/ Embraer is privatized and the financial institutions Cia Bozano Simonsen, Wasserstein and Perella acquire majority shareholding in the company, together with the PREVI and SISTEL pension funds. In April 1996, the Wasserstein and Perella group decides to withdraw as Embraer shareholders, and the Bozano Simonsen group purchases its participation

**16 December** / Antonov An-70 first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**19 December** / Recognizing a need for ETOPS diversion authority between 120 and 180 minutes, the U.S. FAA reinstates the 138-minute provision by issuing EPL 95-1

**21 December** / Japan Airlines (JAL) sells its shareholding in Air New Zealand to Brierley Investments Ltd. JAL has been a shareholder in Air New Zealand since April 1989

[3] Source: Kansai International Airport







Denver Airport Aerial View, Jeppesen Terminal - Source: Denver International Airport [2]

- ▶ *Air Transport Research Society (ATRS) is launched (under previous name, Air Transport Research Group) as a special interest group of the World Conference on Transport Research Society (WCTRS) during the 7th Triennial WCTR Conference at Sydney*
- ▶ *Air France is the launch carrier for the Airbus A340*
- ▶ *Alaska Airlines becomes the first U.S. carrier to offer online ticketing via the Internet*
- ▶ *Aliadriatica changes its name into «Air One»*
- ▶ *American announces its World Wide Web site*
- ▶ *British Midland becomes the first airline to offer a booking service with payment over the internet, CyberSeat (bmi)*
- ▶ *Delta is named the official airline of the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games. Delta also introduces the airline industry's first seasonal menus and finally, is the first U.S. airline to voluntarily ban smoking on all flights [1]*
- ▶ *PLUNA is transformed into a public-private partnership and the government sells 51% of the shares (Wikipedia)*
- ▶ *Condor expands its shareholdings. Alpha Holding GmbH (30%), Kreutzer Touristik GmbH (37.5%), Fischer Reisen GmbH (100%) and Öger Tours GmbH, with 10%, are now all part of the Condor Tourism Group. Condor also acquires Lufthansa's 40% holding in the Turkish charter airline SunExpress, which is later increased to 50%*
- ▶ *Qamdo Bamda Airport in Tibet China holds the official title of having the world's longest runway at a staggering 5,500 metres in length (ACI)*

[1]





## January

/ Manx Airlines Europe becomes a franchise operator of British Airways

11 January

/ Northwest announces "no smoking" flights on all transatlantic routes to Frankfurt, Paris and London

31 January

/ Marking a new era in the airline industry, Southwest becomes one of the first major airlines to offer Ticketless Travel to its Customers systemwide

## February

/ AgustaWestland AW119 Koala first flight *(Wikipedia)*

10 February

/ Air New Zealand and Polynesian Airlines announce the formation of a commercial alliance

15 February

/ The new Company, BWIA International Airways Limited, is incorporated

22 February

/ The Government of Trinidad & Tobago complete the privatization of BWIA International Airways by turning over majority control of the common stock and management of the airline to a private group of U.S. and Caribbean investors

24 February

/ The Governments of Canada and the United States sign a new Air Transport Agreement reflecting the open skies concept *(Compendium of International Civil Aviation)*

28 February

/ The new Denver International Airport is inaugurated *(Compendium of International Civil Aviation)* [2]

## March

/ easyJet is founded

15 March

/ Scandinavian Airline System (SAS) launches the Boeing 737-600 with an order for 35 of the aircraft

26 March

/ The Schengen Agreement comes into force *(IATA)*

## May

/ No smoking flights introduced on Virgin Atlantic's transatlantic and Hong Kong routes

4 May

/ Swissair, Sabena and the Belgian government

sign an agreement laying the foundations for closer collaboration between the two airlines. Swissair acquires a 49.5% holding in Sabena *(Swissair & Sabena)*

12 May

/ The new Boeing 767 Freighter for United Parcel Service premieres at the Boeing Everett, Wash., factory

17 May

/ Delivery of the first Boeing 777 to United Airlines

27 May

/ Vietnam Airlines Corporation is born with the gathering of 20 aviation enterprises and the airline itself as the core business

30 May

/ The Boeing 777 becomes the first airplane in aviation history to earn U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) approval to fly extended-range twin-engine operations (ETOPS) at service entry

## June

/ PrivatAir S.A. receives its Swiss Air Operator Certificate from the Federal Office of Civil Aviation

/ UK Government reaches agreement with the U.S. Government on a new "mini-deal" annex to the Bermuda 2 air services agreement, which secured US approval for British Airways' outstanding code share requests, and confirmed that the airline could operate a double-daily service from Heathrow to Philadelphia. Under the agreement, the U.S. DOT approves applications to add 57 code share points to the 65 previously approved

1 June

/ Air Canada goes online for the first time

11 June

/ The Boeing 777 establishes a new speed record on its flight from Seattle, Wash., to the Paris Air Show at Le Bourget of 9 hours 2 minutes

12 June

/ Air Zaire declares bankruptcy *(Wikipedia)*

21 June

/ The Boeing 767 Freighter makes its first flight

29 June

/ Bell 407 first flight *(Wikipedia)*



A319 first flight - Source: Airbus [4]

**July**

/ The first purchased A330 widebody aircraft joins the Dragonair fleet

**6 July**

/ The Australian Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) is established

**11 July**

/ Northwest and KLM expand smoke-free policy on international routes

**August****1 August**

/ DOT announces the availability of a Global Positioning System (GPS) signal specification defining performance standards for civil aviation use (FAA)

**10 August**

/ IPTN N-250 first flight (Frawley, 2001)

**11 August**

/ Maiden Flight of the ERJ 145 [3]



First flight - Source: Embraer

**16 August**

/ A Concorde sets a new speed record for a

round-the-world flight. It returns to John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York, New York, after a journey lasting 31 hours 27 minutes, passing through Toulouse, France; Dubai, United Arab Emirates; Bangkok, Thailand; Guam; Honolulu, Hawaii; and Acapulco, Mexico (Wikipedia & Compendium of International Civil Aviation)

**25 August**

/ The A319 successfully completes its maiden flight [4]

**28 August**

/ airBaltic Joint Venture Agreement is signed. AIR BALTIC CORPORATION SIA Shareholders: Latvian State – 51%, SAS – 29%, Baltic International USA – 8%, Swedfund International AB – 6%, IO Danish Investment Fund for Central and Eastern Europe

**October**

/ British Airways and Qantas commence services on the 'Kangaroo routes' between Europe and Australia under the Joint Services Agreement (JSA) between the two airlines

**19 October**

/ Edelweiss Air AG is founded in Bassersdorf

**November**

/ U.S. DOT transfer the commercial space

# 1995

transportation office to the U.S. FAA

- 9 November** / Commercial inauguration of Air Macau
- 10 November** / easyJet inaugural flights, London Luton to Glasgow
- 28 November** / The McDonnell-Douglas MD-11 makes the first safe, automated landing of a transport aircraft using engine thrust (AIAA)

## December

- 1 December** / LAB is handed over to VASP
- 8 December** / Launch of Freedom Air International, a Mount Cook Group subsidiary, operating low-cost charter flights between New Zealand and Australia, using a Boeing 757
- 31 December** / Air New Zealand takes 100% stake in Air New Zealand Link operator Air Nelson (formerly 50% owned)

# 1996

- *CANSO –the Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation– is founded*
- *Orient Airlines Association changes its name to the “Association of Asia Pacific Airlines” to better reflect the geographical spread of its membership*
- *U.A.E. General Civil Aviation Authority is created by Federal Cabinet Decree (Law 4)*
- *American adds in-flight laptop computer capabilities to its aircraft, and announces that it would equip certain aircraft with defibrillators*
- *Delta carries the Olympic Flame from Athens, Greece to Los Angeles for 1996 Olympic Torch Relay to Atlanta*
- *Delta is the first airline to offer in-seat power and live broadcast television programming and launches Delta Express low-fare airline. Customers can make reservations and purchase tickets via Delta’s Web site, SkyLinks*
- *Hawaiian Airlines website launches*
- *Iberia is one of the first airlines to launch a website, and is also a pioneer in electronic commerce, selling air tickets directly on the site*
- *Kanfei HaEmek changes its name to Israir Airlines (Wikipedia)*
- *Lufthansa introduces electronic tickets*
- *Swissair, Austrian Airlines, Sabena and Delta Air Lines are granted anti-trust immunity by the U.S. authorities, enabling them to collaborate more closely without violating the country’s strict legislation on anti-competitive practices*
- *Swissair introduces non-smoking on all European flights*
- *Turkish Airlines (www.thy.com) website is established and put into service*
- *Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) technology begins to be installed over the SITA network. It enables the transport of mixed voice and data traffic. This is the fifth generation of the world’s largest network*

- January** / KLM acquires 26% share in Kenya Airways
- / The first A300-600 Super Transporter enters into service with Airbus, replacing the Super Guppy
- 19 January** / The ATR 72-500 makes its maiden flight
- February** / Air New Zealand and Japan Airlines announce a Strategic Partnership Agreement covering services between Japan and New Zealand

- 1 February** / Electronic ticketing now an option to passengers traveling on any of Northwest’s 33 daily Chicago O’Hare – Minneapolis/St. Paul flights
- 5 February** / Northwest extends smoke-free policy between Japan and Micronesia as well as to one additional flight between United States and Asia
- 29 February** / WestJet, a Canadian airline, begins operations

**29 February** / As part of a continuing “open skies” initiative, DOT announce a U.S.-German agreement relaxing limitations on air travel between the two countries (*FAA*)

**March** / The Central Flow Management Unit (CFMU) becomes fully responsible for air traffic flow management across EUROCONTROL Member States. Also the Concept of the Flexible Use of Airspace (FUA) is adopted

**3 March** / Japan Air System introduces restrooms exclusively for women (Floral Room) on all aircraft, becoming the first airline in the world to provide such service (*JAL*)

**5 March** / The Belarusian Association of Civil Aviation is reconstructed that results in creation of Belavia Belarusian Airlines

**8 March** / Cebu Pacific Air (PSE:CEB) enters the aviation industry (*Cebu Pacific & Wikipedia*)

**12 March** / Travelocity.com launches (*Sabre*)

**15 March** / Fokker goes into bankruptcy (*Wikipedia*)

**28 March** / Northwest launches world web home page

**April** / easyJet goes international with flights from Luton to Amsterdam, Nice and Barcelona

**26 April** / Northwest and Air China create a marketing alliance – first of its kind between the two countries

**May** / Yemenia consolidates with DY, the former South Yemen Airlines

/ Airbus announces the establishment of a large aircraft division to develop plans for the A3XX

/ Virgin Group acquires 90% of the equity of Euro/Belgian Airlines, renamed Virgin Express and based in Brussels

**1 May** / Northwest launches first United States – China nonstop service from Detroit to Beijing

**7 May** / DOT announce that about 80% of nonstop scheduled U.S. airline flights between the

United States and foreign countries would be free of smoking as of 1st June (*U.S. Department of Transportation*)

### Beginning of summer

/ Finnair flights join the “no-smoking trend”. Smoking is only permitted on long haul flights to Japan and on European flights to France, Italy, Spain, Greece and Turkey

### June

/ The Arab Civil Aviation Commission (ACAC) is established as a regional organization for coordination and cooperation among Arab countries and with other parts of the world in the field of civil aviation (*ICAO*)

### 28 June

/ The International Air Transport Corporation (CINTRA – acronym in Spanish) is formed as a holding company for the shares of various air transport companies, but mainly for Aeromexico and Mexicana

### July

#### 5 July

/ Start of code sharing agreement between Air New Zealand with Lan Chile, with Air New Zealand providing connection from Auckland the Papeete, and Lan Chile operating between Papeete and Santiago (via Easter Island)

#### 17 July

/ Northwest and KLM announce distribution markets for Internet and online services

### August

#### 1 August

/ The European Commission approves British Airways’ purchase of the remaining 50.1% of the share capital of its French partner TAT European Airlines

/ SAS celebrates its 50th anniversary. Harmonization and name changes of SAS parent companies to SAS Danmark A/S, SAS Norge ASA and SAS Sverige AB

### September

#### 2 September

/ Air New Zealand enters into an agreement to acquire 50% of the Ansett Holdings Limited Group for a total investment of NZ\$540 million, providing Air New Zealand a stake in the Australasian aviation market. Air New Zealand will increase its asset base by raising about \$240 million through a pro-rata offer of ordinary shares. In addition, the Kiwi shareholder agrees to raising the proportion



# 1996

## October

of B shares (able to be held overseas) from 35 to 49% of total issued capital

/ Air Seychelles and Kenya Airways announce a joint venture operation which will allow HM to carry Kenya Airways passengers from Seychelles to Nairobi and vice versa

/ British Airways signs a franchise agreement with the Johannesburg-based South African regional airline Comair

/ Creation of the Air Tahiti Nui international airline company by the government of French Polynesia and local private investors

## 1 October

/ Regulatory approvals complete, the arrangement to purchase 50% of Ansett Holdings Ltd from TNT Ltd., is completed

## November

/ AIR DO is established

/ An agreement for a single market between Australia and New Zealand becomes effective (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

## 8 November

/ Croatia Airlines becomes the first European and world airline company to establish regular civil air traffic to Sarajevo

## December

/ Air New Zealand begins trial of Electronic Ticketing (ET) on domestic services, ushering in ticketless travel

## 4 December

/ Saudi Arabian Airlines website goes online

## 27 December

/ The first EMB 145 is delivered to Continental Express

# 1997

➤ *The ATM Surveillance Tracker and Server System (ARTAS) reaches its first user (NL) (CANSO)*

➤ *Bosnia and Herzegovina Directorate of Civil Aviation is established*

➤ *Austrian Airlines, Sabena, Delta Air Lines and Swissair launch "Atlantic Excellence", an extensive collaborative partnership with joint networks and operations between Europe and North America*

➤ *Air Algerie becomes a Joint Stock Company with a 2.5 billion Algerian Dinars (DA) registered capital*

➤ *All American Airlines flights become non-smoking. Also American introduce "stickerless" upgrades and becomes the first airline to expand*

*ticketless travel to all transatlantic flights*

➤ *Business Air is acquired by the British Midland group (bmi)*

➤ *China Eastern Airlines becomes the first listed company in Chinese civil aviation industry (Listed on the Hong Kong, New York and Shanghai stock exchanges)*

➤ *Delta is the first airline to board more than 100 million passengers in a year*

➤ *FedEx opens its hub at Alliance Airport near Dallas, Texas*

➤ *Name of Hainan Province Airlines is changed to Hainan Airlines Co Ltd*

➤ *LOT establishes a sister company, EuroLOT, which takes on the operations of domestic flights*

➤ *Lufthansa becomes a private company*

➤ *Relaunch of Qatar Airways*

➤ *Ryanair launches its first four European routes with services from London Stansted to Stockholm Skavsta and Oslo Torp, and with low fare flights from Dublin to Paris Beauvais and Brussels Charleroi*

➤ *SA Airlink joins South African Airways and South African Express in a powerful strategic alliance*

➤ *The Swissair Group adopts a genuine holding structure and a new corporate name: the SAirGroup*

➤ *Lineas Aéreas Costarricenses S.A. (Lacsa) of Costa Rica, Aviateca of Guatemala, Nica of Nicaragua, Sahsa of Honduras, and five other regional airlines officially join together under the name Grupo TACA*

➤ *Travel Service is founded*

➤ *SITA's first common-use kiosks de-*



Source: Star Alliance [2]

ployments take place and the first customers are Northwest Airlines and Alaska Airlines (ACI)

➤ By 1997 IATA adopts global standards for e-ticketing

- January / VIASA ceases operations (Wikipedia)
- February / British Airways and British Mediterranean Airways announce a new franchise partnership on routes between Britain and the Levant
- 9 February / The first Next-Generation Boeing 737, a 737-700, makes its first flight [1]



[1] 737-700 first flight - Source: Boeing

- 24 February / Air New Zealand and Qantas announce the Tasman Air Share agreement will cease from 1 May 1997
- 27 February / The name US Airways is put into use officially replacing USAir
- March / Lufthansa CityLine transfers its last Fokker 50 to its Team Lufthansa partner Contact Air. This makes Lufthansa CityLine the first regional airline in Europe to operate an all-jet fleet
- 12 March / Austrian Airlines takes a share of 36% in Lauda Air
- 19 March / Qantas announces the sale to institutional investors in the USA of its 19.9% stake in Air New Zealand
- 22 March / South African Airways unveils a new corporate identity with its aircraft tail designed to

reflect the colours of South Africa's new national flag: red, blue, gold, black and green

**29 March** / USAir ends its code share and frequent flyer relationship with British Airways

**April** / Introduction in the EU of the freedom to provide "cabotage": the right for an airline of one Member State to operate a route within another Member State

/ Launch of easyJet website

**1 April** / JAL establishes JAL Express (*JEX*)

**1 April** / Air Inter, already indirectly under Air France control, is merged with the Company

**2 April** / A Boeing 777-200 sets a record for flying around the world, eastbound, in 41 hours and 59 minutes

**May** / British Airways sells its investment in US Airways

**7 May** / Montenegro Airlines operates its first flight

**14 May** / Air Canada, Lufthansa, SAS, Thai Airways International and United Airlines launch the Star Alliance network [2]

**22 May** / United discontinues its "Friendly Skies" slogan introduced in 1965 and launches a new ad campaign called "Rising." The campaign focuses on the company's new Customer Satisfaction Philosophy (CSP), which will become the basis for all of its actions in the future

**June** / Air New Zealand, Ansett Australia, Ansett International and Singapore Airlines announce a commercial alliance

**26 June** / Air New Zealand decision made to make all international flights smoke-free from 1 November, following government ratification of an international treaty

**July**  
**31 July** / The 737-800 makes its first flight, with Boe-

[4]



A330-200 first flight - Source: Airbus

ing Capt. Mike Hewett and Jim McRoberts at the airplane's controls [3]



First flight - Source: Boeing

**31 July** / The first ATR 72-500 is delivered to American Eagle

**August** / Finnair's first environmental report is published

**1 August** / The Boeing Company, along with its North American component, merges with McDonnell Douglas Corp.

**13 August** / A330-200 first flight [4]

**September** / Faucett ceases operations (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

**17 September** / Antonov An-140 first flight (*Frawley, 2001*)

**29 September** / Northwest and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines sign a ten year "Global Joint Venture" agreement. The two airlines agree to expand their current areas of cooperation for scheduling, inventory management, passenger processing, computer reservations systems and frequent flier databases. They will also streamline sales and marketing, purchasing, ground handling and catering. Each airline will also gain a seat on the other's Board of Directors

**October** / Air Seychelles and Air France launch into full Joint Venture between Paris and Seychelles

/ easyJet receives Air Operating Certificate

/ VARIG Brazilian Airlines joins Star Alliance

**1 October** / United expands E-Ticket to travel between the United States and United Kingdom, the company's first international use of electronic ticketing

**16 October** / Boeing 777-300 first flight

**26 October** / British Airways merges TAT into Air Liberté (*Airlines Remembered, 2000*)

**November** / Eastern Airways starts operations

**1 November** / Air India and Air France enter into a major global alliance

**17 November** / ValuJet, Inc., acquires Airways, Inc., and renames the holding company, AirTran Holdings, Inc.

**December**

**8 December** / The ultra-long range A340-500 and long-range A340-600 are launched

**10 December** / Austrian Airlines increases its share in Tyrolean Airways to 85.7%

**17 December** / Boeing delivers the first Next-Generation 737-700 to launch customer Southwest Airlines

**17 December** / JAL operate a charter flight to transport the Nagano Olympic torch





[1] Source: Kostas Iatrou

- *Founding of the Qualiflyer Group alliance consisting of ten airlines: Swissair, Austrian Airlines, Sabena, TAP Air Portugal, Turkish Airlines, AOM, Crossair, Lauda Air, Tyrolean Airways and AirLittoral*
- *Blue Panorama Airlines, the Italian carrier, is established*
- *Blue1 becomes part of the SAS Group*
- *Braathens becomes part of an alliance with KLM, Northwest Airlines*
- *Delta and SwissCargo forge the first international cargo alliance*
- *Delta's First and business classes on international flights become a single section of luxury seats called BusinessElite and it is the first airline to install automatic defibrillators on board all of its aircraft*
- *Ethiopian launches a twice-weekly service to Washington –the Airline's first destination in the Americas– and New York shortly after*
- *Hawaiian Airlines introduces E-ticketing*
- *Jordan Aviation is founded*
- *Singapore Airlines first to involve a comprehensive panel of world-renowned chefs, the International Culinary Panel, in developing in-flight meals*
- *Swissair introduces a general smoking ban on its entire route network*
- *TAM's first widebody, an Airbus A330, arrives and the company performs its first international flight on the Sao Paulo – Miami route*
- *TNT opens its European Air Hub in Liege, Belgium*
- *TRIP is established (Wikipedia)*
- *US Airways Inc., purchases Shuttle Inc., from a consortium of banks*
- *New name of the Office des Ports Aériens Tunisiens (OPAT) becomes the Office de l'Aviation Civile et des Aéroports (OACA)*

## January

- / KLM and Malaysian Airlines System announce investigation into commercial cooperation
- / Air UK is rebranded as KLM uk after KLM becomes the sole owner in 1997 *(Wikipedia)*
- / British Airways introduces electronic ticketing on international routes

## 8 January

- / Boeing changes the name of the MD-95 jetliner to the 717-200

## 22 January

- / The Boeing 737-600 – the smallest member of the Next-Generation 737 airplane family– makes its first flight

## 26 January

- / Northwest reaches global alliance agreement with Continental Airlines; purchases Air Partners' stock

## March

/ easyJet buys TEA Basel and launches Swiss operations

## April

/ Deutsche BA becomes fully-owned by British Airways

1 April

/ A330-200 becomes the first airliner to receive simultaneous, triple type certification by the European Joint Aviation Authorities (JAA), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Transport Canada

22 April

/ The first 737-800 is delivered to launch customer Hapag-Lloyd of Germany

30 April

/ United and Delta announce tentative seven-year global alliance, featuring code sharing and reciprocal frequent flier programs

## May

1 May

/ Northwest completes KLM stock repurchase

4 May

/ The 777-300 earns FAA type certification

15 May

/ Wexford Capital, LLC purchases Chautauqua Airlines

21 May

/ First delivery of Boeing 777-300 to Cathay Pacific

21 May

/ Lufthansa of Germany and Air New Zealand sign a code share alliance which will offer daily Air New Zealand access between Europe and New Zealand

22 May

/ Low cost airline Go, a British Airways subsidiary, opens its first "no-frills" route from Stansted to Rome Ciampino

## June

/ Joint venture between Air Seychelles and Alitalia

/ PrivatAir S.A. places an order for two Boeing Business Jets (BBJ) and becomes the first commercial operator to order the BBJ

3 June

/ Air France renamed Société Air France

26 June

/ The Convention for the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection enter into force (ICAO)

27 June

/ The new Kuala Lumpur International Airport at Sepang is officially opened. It has the first Airport Operational Database (AODB) (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation & ACI*) [1]

## July

4 July

/ The ERJ 135 makes its maiden flight

6 July

/ HKIA commences operations. The first flight landed is Cathay Pacific CX889 from New York, which touched down at 0627. The first departing flight is CX907 for Manila, which left HKIA at 07:19 [2]



Source: Airport Authority Hong Kong

## August

1 August

/ Northwest/KLM becomes smoke-free worldwide

## September

/ Skymark Airlines starts services

1 September

/ JAL implements smoking ban on all domestic flights

2 September

/ Boeing 717 first flight [3]

18 September

/ Boeing delivers the first 737-600 to SAS

22 September

/ United is the first airline to offer electronic ticketing on around-the-world flights

[3]



Source: Boeing

# 1998

## October

**8 October** / The new Oslo International Airport, located at Gardermoen, 47 km (29.2 sm) north of Oslo, is officially opened (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

## November

/ A319 Corporate Jet first flight  
  
/ Air Tahiti Nui's first commercial flight from Papeete to Los Angeles and in its wake from Papeete to Tokyo with its first aircraft

**20 November** / Continental Airlines and Northwest Airlines for-

mally announce their alliance to enhance competition and improve consumer travel options

## December

/ PrivatAir S.A. becomes Europe's first airline with a quality system that fulfills the ISO9002 certification standards for all its services

**23 December** / LAM is transformed into a Limited Company adopting the denomination of LAM – Mozambique Airlines by Decree no. 69/98

**23 December** / Sikorsky S-92 first flight (*Frawley, 2001*)

# 1999

➤ *Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) is established by decree 49 of 1999*

➤ *Société Air France successfully completes its IPO with 2.4 million individual shareholders. Its share capital reaches 3.15 billion euros. Over 72% of the staff become shareholders in their company, gaining an 11.8% stake in capital*

➤ *Airzena becomes the flag carrier of Georgia (Georgian Airways)*

➤ *Copa launches its new brand as Copa Airlines*

➤ *Delta Air Lines acquires Atlantic Southeast Airlines (Express Jet)*

➤ *Federal Express launches its EuroOne Network, opening a hub at Roissy-Charles de Gaulle airport*

➤ *LAN's expansion begins: start of operations of LAN Peru*

➤ *Lufthansa acquires a 20% stake in*

*British Midland from the 40% owned by Scandinavian Airlines*

➤ *Swaziland Airlink is formed as a joint venture company between the Swaziland Government and Airlink*

➤ *The SAS Group becomes a majority owner of Wideroe*

➤ *Richard Branson sells a 49% stake of Virgin Atlantic to Singapore Airlines*

➤ *O.R. Tambo International Airport becomes the first airport in Africa to implement fully integrated 100% hold baggage screening for international flights (ACI) [1]*

## January

**1 January** / Civil Aviation Authority of Zimbabwe (CAAZ) is established as a statutory body to replace the former Department of Civil Aviation

**7 January** / Continental Airlines and Northwest Airlines begin domestic code share flights

## February

/ JetBlue founder David Neeleman announces plans for his new airline

**1 February** / American Airlines, British Airways, Canadian Airlines, Cathay Pacific Airways and Qantas Airways implement oneworld global alliance

## March

/ Directorate of Civil Aviation of Tanzania comes to an end following the establishment of Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority

/ American Eagle completes its acquisition of Business Express

## 5 March

/ United becomes first U.S. airline to offer customers in first class a seat that converts to a bed, the United First Suites

## 23 March

/ Austrian Airlines increases its share in Tyrolean Airways to 100%





Source: ACSA [1]

**April**

- 1 April** / JAL implements total smoking ban on international flights
- 26 April** / Airbus launches the “baby” of the A320 Family, the 107-seat A318

**May**

- European Transport Ministers plan a new second-generation satellite system, Galileo (CANSO & EUROCONTROL)
- A Dragonair flight from Shanghai becomes the first scheduled flight to touch down on the new second runway at Hong Kong International Airport

**19 May** / Luxembourg Direction de l’Aviation Civile (DAC) is created

**27 May** / Bombardier CRJ700 series first flight (Frawley, 2001)

**27 May** / National Airlines initiates service with non-stop flights between its Las Vegas hub and Chicago Midway and Los Angeles

**28 May**

/ The new Montreal Convention, formally entitled Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules for International Carriage by Air, is signed. This new convention is intended to replace the above-described Warsaw System. The obvious innovation is that the Montreal Convention now presents a single legal instrument, instead of a patchwork provided under the antiquated Warsaw System (i.e. a collection of six different legal instruments) (ICAO)

**28 May**

/ The first flights of Aegean Airlines from Athens to Heraklion and Thessaloniki are performed by 2 new aircraft Avro RJ 100

**June**

**10 June** / Continental and Copa Airlines begin code sharing on more than 60 flights to 30 destinations

**22 June**

/ Air France and Delta Air Lines sign an exclusive long-term strategic agreement

**July**

/ JetBlue reveals that all its aircraft will offer 24 channels of live satellite television at



every seat, a first for the airline industry

/ Air Lanka is rebranded as SriLankan Airlines

**1 July** / Tax-free sales are discontinued on flights in the European Union area

**August** / Embraer launches a new family of aircraft composed of four models: EMBRAER 170, EMBRAER 175, EMBRAER 190 and EMBRAER 195, with seating capacity from 70 to 118 seats

**2 August** / First flight of the 757-300

**5 August** / United announces "Economy Plus", removing one row of seats from United Economy, to provide rows with additional legroom for its most frequent fliers

**26 August** / The 767-400ER (extended range) rolls-out of the Boeing factory in Everett, Wash.

**31 August** / Reno Air is fully integrated into American

## September

**1 September** / Finnair and Iberia board oneworld

**1 September** / Next-Generation 737s are certified for 180 minute ETOPS Operation

**16 September** / Alaska Airlines offers the world's first online check-in (*ACI & Alaska Air*)

## October

**1 October** / Spun off Japan Air Charter is to provide scheduled flight services. Company name changed to "JALways"

**14 October** / Continental Airlines and America West Airlines become the first two US airlines to implement interline e-Ticketing

**15 October** / ANA joins Star Alliance

**31 October** / Boeing announces the formation of three new business units to maximize growth in promising business areas: Connexion by Boeing, Air Traffic Management and Boeing Capital Corp.

## November

**14 November** / Signing of Yamoussoukro Declaration by the African ministers for liberalizing intra-African air transport services (*AFCAC*)

**18 November** / The Polish Minister of the State Treasury signs a contract for the sale of shares in LOT to the Swiss holding company, SAirGroup

**December** / KLM is the world's first airline to attain ISO 14001 certification for its Environmental Management System

/ Aegean Airlines acquires Air Greece

**3 December** / U.S. Department of Transportation grants antitrust immunity to tripartite alliance of Northwest, KLM and Alitalia

**9 December** / The last Classic 737 is rolled off the Renton, Wash. assembly line, ending a production run of 1,988 airplanes

- ▶ *European mandate for ACAS II based on MTOM (Maximum Take-off Mass) (EUROCONTROL)*
- ▶ *AMR completes the spin-off of SABRE into its own company*
- ▶ *Jersey European Airways announces a new brand name at the beginning of May; British European (Flybe)*
- ▶ *SATA starts operating regular flights to the United States and Canada, building a lasting bridge to the Azorean communities in those countries*
- ▶ *TACA expands into South America through the brand TACA Peru and its Hub in Lima*
- ▶ *TNT Airways, the airline of the group, is created*
- ▶ *SITA partners with CPS Systems to create the world's first global electronic visa system*

**January** / Formal launch of the ATM 2000+ Strategy (EUROCONTROL)

/ British Airways announces the introduction of a new cabin, World Traveller Plus. Services between London and New York JFK are to include both the Club World 'Lounge in the Sky', the world's first fully flat bed in business class, and World Traveller Plus by Summer 2000

/ British Airways launches the world's first commercial interactive TV service offered by an airline

**4 January** / Buzz Air, sub-brand of KLM uk, starts operations (Wikipedia)

**February**  
**2 February** / oneworld marks first anniversary by establishing central alliance team

**11 February** / JetBlue launches operations with its inaugural flight between JFK and Fort Lauderdale, FL

**25 February** / Xian MA60 first flight (Wikipedia)

**March** / British Airways completes its acquisition of 9% of the shares in Iberia

**21 March** / At the request of the industry, the U.S. FAA issues ETOPS Policy Letter (EPL) 20-1, 207 Minute ETOPS Operation Approval Criteria

**26 March** / Austrian Airlines join Star Alliance

**April** / Air New Zealand shareholder approval given for purchase of the remaining 50% of Ansett

Holdings Limited. Singapore Airlines purchases 8.3% of Air New Zealand and obtains New Zealand government approval to acquire up to 25%. Brierley Investments Limited announces an agreement to sell its B shares to SIA upon completion of Ansett transaction. This will leave BIL with a 30% equity stake

/ Donavia is organized as an open joint-stock company

**7 April** / Singapore Airlines joins Star Alliance

**May** / Swissair, Sabena and American Airlines granted antitrust immunity

**1 May** / Tower Air suspends all scheduled flight operations

**5 May** / British Airways sells Air Liberté to a partnership between Taitbout Antibes and Swissair (Wikipedia)

**17 May** / Air Madeira adopts its new name: euroAtlantic airways – transportes aéreos s.a.

**June** / Freebird Airlines is established as a company of Gözen Group

**1 June** / Aer Lingus and LanChile become members of oneworld and Canadian withdraws from the alliance

**14 June** / United and Air Canada launch the industry's first true interline electronic ticketing service, enabling customers to use a single electronic ticket to travel on more than one airline

- 22 June** / The CEOs of Aeromexico, Air France, Delta Air Lines and Korean Air meet in New York to announce the formation of SkyTeam **[1]**
- 27 June** / ERJ 140 maiden flight
- 30 June** / Lion Air starts operations (*Wikipedia*)
- July**
- 1 July** / British Midland and Mexicana Airlines welcomed to the Star Alliance network
- 25 July** / Air France Concorde F-BTSC crashes in Paris due to engine failure after a tyre burst, with the loss of 109 people on board and 4 on the ground (*www.concordesst.com*)
- 28 July** / Dragonair's first all-cargo service begins operations with the inaugural flight of a Boeing 747-200 freighter bound for the Middle East and Europe.
- August**
- 3 August** / First flight of the Next-Generation 737-900
- 4 August** / China Southern absorbs Zhongyuan Airlines (*Wikipedia*)
- 5 August** / Disbanding of the Atlantic Excellence Alliance (*Swissair*)
- 16 August** / CAA and DGAC officially withdraw Concorde's Certificate of Airworthiness (*www.concordesst.com*)
- 31 August** / Virgin Blue operates its first flight from Brisbane to Sydney (*Virgin Australia*)
- September** / SkyTeam extends its focus to cargo services and announces the creation of the world's largest airline cargo alliance, SkyTeam Cargo. The partnership aligned Aeromexpress, Air France Cargo, Delta Air Logistics and Korean Air Cargo
- 28 September** / Star Alliance launches StarNet
- October** / SkyTeam announces that all SkyTeam flights throughout the alliance's extensive worldwide route system would be smoke free
- November**
- 16 November** / Continental Airlines and Northwest Airlines execute definitive agreements regarding the sale to Continental of common stock held by Northwest Airlines, and an extension of their alliance agreement through 2025. The boards of both airlines approve the agreements prior to their execution
- 21 November** / Northwest and Malaysia announce that they have been granted antitrust immunity by the U.S. Department of Transportation. The approval represents the first immunized alliance between a U.S. and Asian carrier
- December**
- 1 December** / Northwest becomes the first major network carrier to offer an Internet check-in program through its website, nwa.com (Service is available for all customers flying domestically)
- 12 December** / Japan's Ministry of Transport announces the authorization of international charter flights and international business flights from Haneda Airport between the hours of 11:00 PM and 6:00 AM, effective on 1 February 2001 (*JAL*)
- 19 December** / The A380, the world's first double-decker passenger aircraft and the largest commercial airliner ever conceived, is launched after a lengthy process of consultation with major airlines, airports, airworthiness authorities and a range of suppliers and industrial partners

[1]



Source: SkyTeam



A340-600 First flight - Source: Airbus [2]

- ▶ *Aigle Azur is taken over by the GoFast Group*
- ▶ *BHAir is founded*
- ▶ *British Midland is rebranded bmi British Midland*
- ▶ *Comair launches South Africa's first "no-frills" carrier, kulula.com*
- ▶ *Delta carries Olympic Flame from Athens, Greece to Atlanta for 2002 Olympic Torch Relay to Salt Lake City as it sponsors 2002 Olympic Winter Games*
- ▶ *Emirates demonstrate its confidence in the industry's future growth by announcing the largest order in aviation history, valued at USD 15 billion. A staggering 58 new aircraft, a mix of Airbus and Boeing*
- ▶ *GOL begins its operations*
- ▶ *QantasLink begins operations, combining the former Eastern, Southern, Airlink and Sunstate regional airlines that had originally been part of the Australian Airlines Group*
- ▶ *Ryanair selects its first Continental European base at Brussels Charleroi Airport*
- ▶ *SunExpress becomes the first private airline company to offer international scheduled flights from Turkey*

## January

- / American announces that it has agreed to purchase substantially all the assets of Trans World Airlines, Inc.
- / The need to streamline the decision-making process, among other things, leads to Airbus reorganising itself into a fully integrated single company rather than a consortium
- / Air Japan Co., Ltd. begins scheduled international service

## 1 January

- / Air Canada and Canadian Airlines International Ltd. officially merge

## 31 January

- / Austrian Airlines raises its interest in Lauda Air to 54.6% by acquiring voting capital shares

## February

- / Atlas Air Worldwide Holdings forms its holding-company structure with Atlas Air as a wholly owned subsidiary

## 3 February

- / AgustaWestland AW139 first flight (*Wikipedia*)



- 5 February** / Royal Jordanian is registered as a Public Shareholding Company with a capital of JD 40 million
- 15 February** / Austrian Airlines announces the take-over of 100% of Rheintalflug shares
- 15 February** / The 757 Special Freighter makes its first flight
- March** / The PrivatAir Group is formed
- / SkyTeam opens Korean Air's new hub at Incheon International Airport in Seoul
- 14 March** / Atlasjet, established by Oger Holding A.S., carries out its first flight on 1 June
- 25 March** / CSA Czech Airlines is officially welcomed as SkyTeam's fifth member
- 27 March** / Athens International Airport Inauguration by the Prime Minister, C. Simitis, in the presence of the President of the Hellenic Republic, C. Stefanopoulos [1]
- 29 March** / Athens International Airport is in full operations as of 06:00 hrs. on 29 March, with KLM 1572 flight to Amsterdam signalling the cessation of all commercial operations at Hellinikon Airport
- 29 March** / Incheon Airport officially opens
- April** / American Airlines completes acquisition of TWA's assets
- / Air Nippon Network (currently ANA WINGS CO., LTD.) is established
- / Aegean Airlines joins forces with Cronus Airlines
- 3 April** / Iberia's privatisation process is completed. Its shares are listed for the first time on the stock exchange
- 23 April** / A340-600 first flight [2]
- May**
- 1 May** / The Multilateral Agreement on the Liberalization of International Air Transportation (MALIAT) is signed in Washington D.C. by Brunei Darussalam, Chile, New Zealand, Singapore and the United States of America
- 16 May** / The first 737-900 is delivered to launch customer Alaska Airlines
- 21 May** / Braathens becomes part of the SAS Group
- June**
- 29 June** / British Airways sells its no-frills subsidiary "Go" for £100m
- July**
- 29 June** / First flight of the ERJ 145 XR
- July** / The European Aeronautical Information Service Database (EAD) becomes operational and the inauguration of Controller/Pilot Data Link Communications (CPDLC) (EUROCONTROL)
- 27 July** / Alitalia – Linee Aeree Italiane joins SkyTeam
- August**
- 9 August** / Northwest and Alitalia reach a mutual agreement to discontinue their marketing relationship effective 28 October, the start of the winter schedule. Cooperative activities have included codeshare service and reciprocal frequent flyer and airport lounge programs
- 15 August** / Air France, Alitalia – Linee Aeree Italiane, CSA Czech Airlines and Delta file a joint application for antitrust immunity with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to allow the four carriers to expand their current marketing agreements and develop a coordinated approach to sales and marketing programs

[1]



Source: Athens International Airport

## September

**5 September** / Concorde's Certificate of Airworthiness is returned by the Civil Aviation Authority and its French equivalent, DGAC (*British Airways & www.concordesst.com*)

**11 September** / Nineteen radical Islamic extremists with the group al Qaeda penetrate security at three major airports, seizing four U.S. domestic airliners, and turning three of the aircraft into missiles that destroy the World Trade Center in New York City and damage the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia. Passengers on the fourth plane fought the hijackers, causing the plane to crash in a Pennsylvania field (*FAA*)

**14 September** / Ansett Australia is placed into voluntary administration

**21 September** / AOM and AIR LIBERTE create a new airline which is now called AIR LIB

## October

/ Singapore Airlines, first to offer audio and video on demand (AVOD) capabilities on KrisWorld in all classes

/ The Legislative Assembly of El Salvador approves new reforms DGTA including the autonomy of the institution and goes on to become officially known as the Civil Aviation Authority

**3 October** / United announces the end of its United Shuttle branded operations

**17 October** / Marsans Group makes itself responsible for Aerolineas Argentinas and Austral. Mr. Antonio Mata is named President of the Executive Committee

## November

/ SkyTeam Cargo members Air France, Delta and Korean Air launch the U.S. Cargo Sales Joint Venture to provide a centralized source for booking and service

/ InterSky GmbH is founded

/ 1000th A320 manufactured

/ Atlas Air Worldwide Holdings acquires Polar Air Cargo, Inc.

**7 November** / Air France and British Airways re-introduces scheduled supersonic Concorde services between Paris – New York and London – New York, respectively (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation & www.concordesst.com*)

**7 November** / Sabena declares bankruptcy and ceases operations (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation & Sabena*)

**16 November** / The Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and the Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters specific to Aircraft Equipment is adopted at Cape Town (*ICAO*)

**19 November** / The U.S. President signs the Aviation and Transportation Security Act, which among other provisions, establishes a new agency responsible for aviation security – the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), within DOT

## December

/ Engineer Ernesto R. Asbun buys stocks from VASP. LAB returns, once again, into national proprietorship and continues its reputation as a private enterprise valuing more than ever, LAB's human resources

/ Sun Country temporarily pauses scheduled operations

**1 December** / Afriqiyah Airways commences scheduled services (*Wikipedia*)

**2 December** / Tune Air Sdn. Bhd. buys the loss-making, debt-riddled AirAsia from HI COM Holdings Berhad (*AirAsia & Wikipedia*)

**5 December** / TWA network joins oneworld

**21 December** / MALIAT Agreement and Protocol enter into force

**26 December** / Japan Airlines Co. Ltd. and Japan Air System Co. Ltd. agree on stock exchange

**27 December** / Boeing receives FCC license for Connexion by Boeing service



[1] A318 first flight - Source: Airbus

- ▶ Kenya Civil Aviation Authority (KCAA) is established
- ▶ Balkan Bulgarian Airlines ceases operations (Wikipedia)
- ▶ BinterCanarias is acquired by a group of Canary Island investors
- ▶ bmibaby, a low-cost subsidiary of bmi, is launched
- ▶ Braathens S.A.F.E. terminates Norwegian's west coast operation
- ▶ Deutsche Post (DPWN) becomes a majority shareholder in DHL by increasing its stake to 51%
- ▶ State of Qatar withdraws from the Treaty establishing Gulf Air
- ▶ As a result of cooperation between Germania and TUI, the Hapag-Lloyd Express (HLX) is created
- ▶ A group of investors purchases Sun Country and resumes flying
- ▶ Norwegian launches domestic routes in Norway with Boeing 737-300 aircraft
- ▶ SN Brussels Airlines is formed when mother company SN Airholding is created by a group of about 40 investors
- ▶ Thomas Cook becomes the first universal international tourist brand. Condor is transformed into the new brand: "Thomas Cook powered by Condor". Condor and Condor Berlin aircraft in Germany are gradually given the new Thomas Cook design
- ▶ OJSC Tyumenaviatrans company is renamed "Utair"
- ▶ Patrick Corporation acquires a 50% share in Virgin Blue Airlines (Virgin Australia)

**January** / Reduced Vertical Separation Minima (RVSM) is introduced (EUROCONTROL)

**1 January** / Braathens alliance agreement with KLM and Northwest Airlines is closed as SAS buy Braathens

**15 January** / A318 takes off on maiden flight [1]

**15 January** / Crossair assumes commercial responsibility for most of the European routes formerly operated by Swissair (SWISS)

**17 January** / The U.S. Department of Transportation ap-

proves SkyTeam's European and U.S. members' application for transatlantic Antitrust Immunity

**23 January** / The A380 enters production on schedule at Airbus' Nantes site in France

**24 January** / Ryanair places an order for 100 Boeing Next-Generation 737-800 airplanes

## February

**7 February** / Air Afrique declares bankruptcy (*Wikipedia*)

**11 February** / The ultra-long range A340-500, Airbus' longest range airliner to date, takes off on its maiden flight at 10:25 hours local time [2]

**11 February** / Qualiflyer Alliance joint activities will be discontinued as decided at a meeting of the CEOs of Swissair, Crossair (future Swiss Air

Lines), DAT Belgian Airlines, TAP Air Portugal, LOT Polish Airlines, Volare Group and Portugalia Airlines (*SWISS*)

**13 February** / TSA takes from FAA the responsibilities for aviation security

**13 February** / SkyEurope Airlines flies its first passengers

**14 February** / Boeing delivers the 1,000th 757

**19 February** / EMBRAER 170 first flight [3]

**21 February** / Cargojet is established (*Wikipedia*)

## March

**8 March** / Continental and Amtrak launch their comprehensive code share agreement

**14 March** / SkyTeam's Asian and U.S. members, Korean

[2]



A340-500 first flight - Source: Airbus



Air, Delta Air Lines and European SkyTeam members jointly file an application for trans-pacific antitrust immunity

**31 March** / Swissair stops flying after 71 years and SWISS begins its operations

#### April

**1 April** / Normal operations using aircraft that meet ICAO "Chapter 2" noise standards cease in Europe (*ECAC*)

**10 April** / SkyTeam announces a marketing agreement with Coca-Cola, the first of its kind directly between a global airline alliance and a beverage company

#### May

/ Zoom Airlines Inc. is founded (*Wikipedia*)

**15 May** / Air Astana maiden flight

**20 May** / Avianca and SAM, together with Aces (Aerolineas Centrales de Colombia), form the Alianza Summa. In November 2003, the shareholders decide to initiate the liquidation of the Sociedad Alianza Summa and take steps to strengthen the Avianca brand

**29 May** / Southwest issues the first automated boarding pass during a test phase at Houston Intercontinental

#### June

**6 June** / Austrian Airlines raises its interest in Lauda to 100%

**7 June** / The U.S. Department of Transportation awards a contract to Boeing and Siemens Corp. to in-

stall and maintain explosives detection systems at 438 U.S. airports

#### 17 June

/ PrivatAir launches a six-days-a-week business-class-only service for Lufthansa between Düsseldorf and New York's Newark Airport

#### 24 June

/ Northwest announces an industry first – a new online self-service product that allows customers to make reservation changes and complete E-Ticket exchanges online at the airline's web site. This new functionality also includes fares purchased online

#### 28 June

/ With the U.S. Department of Transportation's approval, SkyTeam becomes the first global airline alliance with antitrust immunity for routes across both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans as Korean Air and Delta Air Lines receive antitrust immunity

#### July

/ A new beginning for the airline as British European is forced to dramatically change its business model to survive in such a highly competitive and aggressive new low cost travel era. Flybe is born and, along with it, a bright modern brand and changes to commercial, fleet and operational policies that transforms the airline

/ By Egyptian Presidential Decree number 137/2002, EGYPTAIR becomes a Holding Company with seven subsidiaries

#### 4 July

/ JAL joins WOW, an international cargo alliance

#### 17 July

/ Midway Airlines Corporation announces that it will temporarily suspend flight operations

#### 22 July

/ The first A340-600 is delivered to Virgin Atlantic

#### August

/ easyJet acquires Go

/ AIR LIB declares bankruptcy (*Wikipedia*)

#### 1 August

/ Scaled Composites White Knight first flight

#### 23 August

/ Northwest, Continental Airlines and Delta Air Lines sign a cooperative marketing agreement

[3]



Embraer 170 first flight - Source: Embraer

## October

/ Qantas launches Australian Airlines as the new low cost international carrier

/ The former Air China consolidates with China National Aviation Company and China Southwest Airlines and founds China Aviation Group Company. Based on the combined air transportation resources of the three entities, the new Air China Company is established

**1 October** / Rheintalflug is integrated into Tyrolean Airways at 100%

**27 October** / Germanwings is founded

## November

/ Bulgaria Air is established (*Wikipedia*)

**5 November** / The European Court of Justice (ECJ) rules that exclusive nationality provisions contained in existing air transport agreements concluded by the eight EU Member States are illegal and as such infringe upon the fundamental principle in EU law that there should be no discrimination on grounds of nationality. The

ECJ ruling also confirms that the EC has competence over the areas of airport slots, fares and computer reservation systems (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**6 November** / National Airlines discontinues all flights

**13 November** / Northwest adds another industry first to its self-service check-in products: Internet Check-In and E-Service Center airport kiosks by expanding self-service check-in to customers traveling with electronic tickets from the United States and Canada to Europe and Asia, including connections through Tokyo's Narita Airport

## December

**1 December** / Rwandair begins operations

**2 December** / Embraer announces a joint venture with AVIC II from China to establish an ERJ 145 aircraft assembly facility in Harbin, China

**30 December** / Yakutia operates its first flight on Tu-154 on route Yakutsk – Moscow – Yakutsk

# 2003

➤ ICAO mandates for ACAS II (Annex 6) (EU-ROCONTROL)

➤ EASA becomes operational as an independent body of the European Community (CANSO)

➤ Establishment of the Namibia Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA) (Directorate of Civil Aviation of Namibia)

➤ Air Dolomiti is acquired by the Lufthansa Group

➤ ATA announces a company name change from American Trans Air, Inc. to ATA Airlines, Inc.

➤ China Southern acquires China Northern Airlines and China Xinjiang Airlines (*Wikipedia*)

➤ Delta launches Song, a low-cost airline

➤ Iran Aseman Airlines is privatized, bought by the Civil Servants Pension Fund, to become a Public Joint Stock company

➤ Kenya Airways acquires 49% shareholding in Precision Air

➤ KLM uk is merged with KLM Cityhopper (*Wikipedia*)

➤ LAN continues its expansion plan: start of operations of LAN Ecuador

➤ Niki Lauda takes control of the bankrupt German carrier's Austrian operations, Aero Lloyd subsidiary, and forms NIKI Luftfahrt GmbH

➤ Nigeria Airways ceases operations (*Wikipedia*)

➤ Norwegian lists on the Oslo Stock Exchange

➤ TransBrazil is declared bankrupt (*Wikipedia*)

➤ TAP becomes the first European company to install a new generation of chairs in executive class

➤ McCarran Las Vegas airport announces it is implementing a baggage-tracking system that uses Radio-frequency identification (RFID) bag tags from Matrics Inc. to improve air safety. The decision to implement the tracking system makes McCarran one of the first airports to use the RFID technology airportwide (ACI)

- January** / Flugleidir becomes a holding company with 11 subsidiaries in the travel and tourist industry in Iceland with Icelandair being the largest subsidiary
- 9 January** / Continental announces a code share with French rail operator SNCF, making it the first airline with air/rail code share partners on both sides of the Atlantic
- 15 January** / Connexion by Boeing service aboard a Lufthansa 747-400 provides commercial airline passengers the chance to experience in-flight broadband Internet access for the first time
- 21 January** / Continental, Northwest and Delta Air Lines announce they will implement an alliance agreement
- 23 January** / SkyTeam announces plans to introduce an Associate Program
- February** / Jet2.com first leisure flight
- 24 February** / The 777-300ER completes its first flight [1]
- March** / Asiana Airlines joins the Star Alliance network
- 1 March** / Homeland Security Act (November 2002) moves TSA into the new Department of Homeland Security
- 17 March** / World Health Organization (WHO) issues travel advisory and implements precautionary world-wide directives in order to avoid

further spread of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) (*Air New Zealand*)

## 24 to 28 March

/ The Fifth ICAO Worldwide Air Transport Conference on the theme of Challenges and Opportunities of Liberalization is held in Montreal. The Conference reaches 67 conclusions and recommendations covering all agenda items, including market access, fair competition and safeguards, consumer interests, and product distribution dispute settlement and transparency. To create an environment in which international air transport may develop and flourish in a stable, efficient and economical manner without compromising safety and security, the Conference adopts a Declaration of Global Principles (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

## 31 March

/ Northwest, Delta and Continental receive final U.S. regulatory approval for alliance

## April

/ Ryanair acquires Buzz from KLM

## 1 April

/ Spanair joins the Star Alliance network

## May

/ ICAO adopts a global, harmonized blueprint for integrating biometric identification information into passports and other machine-readable travel documents (MRTDs) (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

## 20 May

/ SpaceShipOne first flight (*Wikipedia*) [2]





Concorde - Source: The Museum of Flight [3]

- 31 May** / Air France concludes Concorde passenger services with an AF001 flight from New York (F-BTSD), and a round the Bay of Biscay Charter (F-BVFB) ([www.concordesst.com](http://www.concordesst.com))
- June**
- 1 to 3 June** / The 59th IATA Annual General Meeting (AGM) and World Air Transport Summit (WATS), held in Washington, DC agrees to launch a global IATA Operational Safety Audit (IOSA) program from 1 July 2003 (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation & IATA Wings for the World since 1945, 2009*)
- Early** / EL AL goes public and its stocks are registered for trading on the Tel Aviv Exchange
- 14 June** / First flight of the EMBRAER 175 prototype
- July** / Etihad Airways, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates, is set up by Royal (Amiri) Decree
- 22 July** / The first A318 is delivered to Frontier Airlines
- August**
- 8 August** / Yugoslav Airlines changes its name to Jat Airways (*Air Serbia*)
- September**
- 5 September** / Northwest announces that passengers may use cellular phones onboard Northwest aircraft after landing at U.S. airports. Cellular phones may now be used after the aircraft has left the active runway and is taxiing towards the airport gate
- 16 September** / Announcement of new branding ("Austrian", "Austrian arrows" operated by Tyrolean, "Lauda Air")
- 29 September** / IATA rolls-out Worldwide Safety Audit Programme – Qatar Airways is first participant (*IATA*)
- October** / Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Ministers responsible for civil aviation sign the Agreement establishing Eastern Caribbean Civil Aviation Authority (ECCAA)
- 9 October** / Air France becomes first carrier to operate entire Airbus A320 family with delivery of A318
- 14 October** / The Concorde breaks its own record for a trans-Atlantic flight with a hop from London



to Boston that lasts just three hours, five minutes and 34 seconds (*AIAA*)

**16 October** / Boeing announces the decision to cease production of the 757 jetliner in late 2004

**16 October** / ARINC and IBM deliver world's first multiple-airline CUSS kiosks for Las Vegas Airport

**24 October** / The first A340-500, the longest range aircraft in the world, enters into service with Emirates, flying non-stop from Dubai to Sydney

**24 October** / British Airways withdraws Concorde, signalling the closure of the world's only supersonic passenger services. The last scheduled commercial flight was BA2 from JFK operated by G-BOAG. BA's fleet of seven aircraft are dispersed for preservation at Barbados (AE), Edinburgh (AA), Filton (AF), Manchester (AC), New York (AD) and Seattle (AG) with one (AB) remaining at Heathrow (*The Museum of Flight*) [3]

**26 October** / LOT becomes a member of Star Alliance

**27 October** / FAA approval is received for installation of the Jeppesen Electronic Flight Bag (EFB) on the 777

**28 October** / Launch of Air Arabia [4]

**November** / Etihad Airways commences operations

/ TUI Airlines Belgium is created (*Wikipedia*)

**4 November** / The New Montreal Convention comes into force (*ICAO*)

**26 November** / Final ever Flight of Concorde : G-BOAF departs from Heathrow shortly after 11am, heading round the Bay of Biscay for one final time. Alpha-Foxtrot flies over Bristol before returning to place of her birth, Filton Airfield, landing at 1pm under the command of Capt Les Brodie. The last Concorde built is also the final Concorde ever to fly (*www.concordesst.com*)

**December** / The Vision 100 – Century of Aviation Reauthorization Act, is signed into law endorsing the concept of a Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen)

**12 December** / Tiger Airways Singapore is incorporated (*Wikipedia*)

**16 December** / The Board of Directors gives the go-ahead to begin offering the 7E7 Dreamliner for sale

**16 December** / Embraer presents the first ERJ 145 produced by Harbin Embraer Aircraft Industry (HEAI), in Harbin, China

**End** / ELFAA is established as a non-profit making organization to represent and protect the needs of low fare airlines and their customers

[4] Source: *Kostas Iatrou*





**2004-2013**

**simplifying  
the business and  
the way forward**

2004-2013

## Simplifying the business and the way forward

Is it utopian to want to push back the frontier of what's achievable, when everything seems already to have been invented? Or to believe that we can change the world through exploration?

"Just imagine your energy reserves increasing during flight! To make this dream a reality, we, with Bertrand Piccard, co-founder of the project Solar Impulse and my team, had to make maximum use of every single watt supplied by the sun, and store it in our batteries. We tracked down every possible source of energy efficiency. By tapping into each team member's experience and using the combined potential of them all, we manage to find solutions."

This is how I believe in pioneering and innovative spirit and why looking beyond conventional wisdom is important to me. With my team's spirit and drive, coupled with Bertrand Piccard's clear vision, we have enabled an idea to be transformed into reality that no aviation specialists, apart from Dassault, believed in: "Too big, too light and impossible to control in flight", they all said.

When Solar Impulse was officially founded on 29 June 2004, a core technology team was put together. Thanks to many supporters, Solar Impulse was able to rely on the expertise and experience of partners whose advices have been as valuable as the credibility and prestige they have brought to the project. These collaborations would go on to stimulate very high level research with huge potential applications for both the environment and the quality of life. After years of technological research and accumulated flight experience, Solar Impulse has shown that the zero-fuel airplane with a gigantic wingspan can fly day and night on solar energy alone, thus demonstrating the enormous potential of clean technologies for energy saving and renewable energy production.

Now Solar Impulse 2 is moving on to the ultimate phase of the adventure: the Round-The-World Mission Flights with no fuel, taking place over five months from the beginning of March to the end of July 2015, and with focuses such as the crossing of the Pacific and the Atlantic oceans. As we now have a sustainable airplane in terms of energy, the challenge is to make the pilot sustainable as well to allow him to fly many days and nights non stop...

**André Borschberg**

*Solar Impulse Co-founder  
CEO, and Pilot*

## INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC (SCHEDULED SERVICES)

Year	Passengers (millions)	Passenger- km (millions)	Seat-km available (millions)	Passenger load factor %	Freight tonne-km (millions)	Mail tonne-km (millions)	Total tonne-km performed (millions)	Total tonne-km available (millions)	Weight load factor %
2004	1,979	3,608,707	4,917,087	73	150,482	4,143	488,606	794,828	61
2005	2,119	3,897,404	5,200,507	75	154,244	4,213	519,388	839,812	62
2006	2,238	4,140,544	5,461,374	76	164,432	4,103	551,814	880,141	63
2007	2,434	4,480,619	5,833,780	77	172,333	4,078	588,423	938,205	63
2008	2,470	4,570,132	6,019,040	76	170,677	4,537	598,137	963,385	62
2009	2,461	4,522,005	5,897,110	77	155,527	4,289	572,466	923,277	62
2010	2,675	4,881,686	6,244,946	78	186,280	4,508	639,694	957,300	67
2011	2,838	5,202,799	6,669,689	78	186,839	4,647	671,436	1,015,191	66
2012	2,970	5,481,113	6,950,237	79	184,891	4,823	694,858	1,045,721	66
2013	3,103	5,782,174	7,284,983	79	185,626	5,186	724,350	1,083,472	67

Source: ICAO





[5] Source: Kostas Iatrou

- ▶ *Hellenic Aviation Society is formed*
- ▶ *Morocco signs open skies agreement with the European Union. The liberalization results in a massive influx of low cost airlines on Moroccan routes (Royal Air Maroc)*
- ▶ *Arik Air is incorporated*
- ▶ *LAN launches new corporate image as LAN Airlines S.A.*
- ▶ *NIKI enters into cooperation agreement with German airline airberlin*
- ▶ *Transaero Airlines OJSC is officially registered in Saint Petersburg*
- ▶ *Launch of Pacific Blue (Virgin Australia)*
- ▶ *Royal Air Maroc creates a low-cost subsidiary, Atlas Blue*
- ▶ *.aero launches. SITA sponsors the .aero Top Level Domain name on behalf of the aviation community. .aero is reserved exclusively for aviation*
- ▶ *SITA introduces the first CUSS kiosks at Athens for the Olympics which are common-use kiosks for passenger self-service (ACI)*

## January

/ airberlin acquires a stake of almost 25% in the Austrian airline, NIKI

/ British Airways' first transatlantic code share flights with American Airlines to and from the UK regions open for sale on daily flights from Manchester to New York and Chicago

### 1 January

/ The Governments of Serbia and Montenegro establish the Civil Aviation Directorate of the State of Serbia and the State of Montenegro

### 7 January

/ Boeing launches the 747-400 Special Freighter program with an agreement with Cathay

### 19 January

/ Sobelair ceases operations (*Wikipedia*)

## February

### 10 February

/ Sky Asia Co., Ltd. (Nok Air) is established

### 12 February

/ The European Commission and U.S Department of Justice approve the Air France-KLM Royal Dutch Airlines intended merger. With the merger, KLM and Air France will form the first pan-European airline grouping, leading to KLM entering SkyTeam

Pacific Airways to convert at least six 747-400 passenger airplanes into freighters

## March

/ Single European Skies (SES I) legislative package is adopted (*EUROCONTROL*)

8 March

/ United Airlines announces that Chautauqua and Republic Airlines have joined United Express (*Republic Airways*)

12 March

/ EMBRAER 190 Maiden Flight [1]

31 March

/ Mexicana Airlines Star Alliance membership ends

## April

/ The ANA Group (air transportation business) is integrated under a single brand (all flight numbers use "ANA")

/ Air 2000 is renamed First Choice Airways (*Wikipedia*)

/ Jazeera Airways is established, the first non-government owned airline in the Middle East

1 April

/ JAL/JAS integration is completed

26 April

/ Boeing launches the 787 Dreamliner program with an order for 50 787s from All Nippon Airways (*ANA*)

30 April

/ The last 757-300 is delivered

## May

/ Only 19% of global tickets are electronic (*IATA*)

/ AirBridgeCargo performs its first commercial flight

/ Thomas Cook AG airline in Germany is once again flying under the brand name of Condor

1 May

/ Braathens merges with SAS Norway (*Wikipedia*)

4 May

/ US Airways becomes a full member of Star Alliance

5 May

/ The AIR FRANCE KLM Group is born. On this day Air France redeemed the conditions of its share bid, allowing for the merger between Air France and KLM. Seven months earlier, in September 2003, the airlines had decided to join forces

7 May

/ Airbus A380 Assembly Site is opened by French Prime Minister

14 May

/ With the delivery of a 737-800 to ATA Airlines, Boeing's Next-Generation 737 family reaches 1,500 deliveries in less time than any other commercial airplane family, only six years after delivery of the first model

19 May

/ Wizz Air first flight takes off from Katowice

25 May

/ Qantas's new low cost domestic airline, Jetstar, commences domestic operations

26 May

/ Republic Airways completes its initial public offering

## June

/ EL AL ceases to be a government company

6 to 8 June

/ The 60th IATA Annual General Meeting (AGM) and World Air Transport Summit (WATS), held in Singapore, adopts a Resolution on Business Simplification. The five main priority areas identified for action are: 1) electronic ticketing (ET); 2) the aggressive implementation of common use self-service (CUSS) kiosks at airports; 3) bar coding technology for boarding documents; 4) radio frequency technology for baggage management by developing standards and an industry implementation program; and 5) automated interlining of passenger and cargo traffic by restructuring essential back-office components, including automated fare quotation, posted prices, trusted prorate and machine-readable fare construction (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation & IATA Wings for the World since 1945, 2009*) [2]

[1]



E190 first flight - Source: Embraer



**Giovanni Bisignani, Director General and CEO, IATA**  
 delivering his State of the Air Transport Industry - Source: IATA

**21 June** / SpaceShipOne, a suborbital air-launched spaceplane, complete the first manned private spaceflight (*Wikipedia*)

**28 June** / Singapore Airlines inaugurates the world's longest commercial daily nonstop flight between Singapore and Newark (serving New York) – an 18-hour, 9,539 sm (15,348 km) journey over the North Pole with its first A340-500 (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**July**

**1 July** / Vueling commences operations

**8 July** / The International Leg of the 2004 Olympic Torch Relay officially is concluded after visiting 33 world cities. The Olympic flame revisited every city that has hosted the Olympic Games, reaching the continents of Africa and Latin America for the first time in history, and also cast its light on future Olympic host cities and other places of global prominence [3]

**12 July** / Chautauqua becomes the first airline in the U.S. and second regional airline in the world to be registered with IOSA (*Republic Airways*)

**28 July** / Darwin Airlines starts operations

**August** / Air Next (currently ANA WINGS CO., LTD.) is established

/ Airzena changes its name to Georgian Airways



Source: olympic.org

**10 August** / Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) is created by law no 21/2004

**September**

**13 September** / Continental Airlines, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines and Northwest Airlines become full members of the SkyTeam alliance

**October**

/ It is decided that SN Brussels Airlines and Virgin Express will join together under the general ownership of SN Airholding

**3 October**

/ Iraqi Airways operations restarts with a flight between Baghdad and Amman (*Wikipedia*)

**5 October**

/ Singapore Airlines sells its 6.3% stake in Air New Zealand

**16 October**

/ Quest Kodiak first flight (*Wikipedia*)

**21 October**

/ Jade Cargo German-Chinese cargo carrier is founded by Lufthansa Cargo and Shenzhen Airlines together with the Deutsche Investitions und Entwicklungsgesellschaft (DEG)

**28 October**

/ Boeing marks the completion of its 757 commercial airplane program as the 1,050th and final 757 rolls off the production line

**November**

/ Blue1 joins as the first regional member of Star Alliance, followed by Adria Airways and Croatia Airlines

**16 November**

/ Kick off of one of IATA's initiatives – Simplifying the Business (*IATA*)

**December**

/ Afghanistan Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation is formed



E195 first flight - Source: Embraer



**3 December** / The 500th 777 is rolled-out. The 777 will reach 500 airplanes delivered faster than any other twin-aisle airplane in history

**7 December** / The EMBRAER 195 commercial airliner makes its first flight at Embraer's Sao José dos Campos site [4]

**13 December** / Jetstar Asia's inaugural flight takes off for Hong Kong

**15 December** / DOT unveils the Integrated Plan for the Next Generation Air Transportation System, which lays out goals, objectives, and requirements necessary to create the NextGen system

**15 December** / Croatia Airlines officially becomes a regional member of the Star Alliance

**17 December** / Antonov An-148 first flight [5]

## 2005

➤ At its peak, 285 million IATA neutral paper tickets (both versions) are printed (IATA)

➤ 2D standard for paper bar code boarding passes is established (Air Transport News)

➤ Avianca change its corporate name to Aerovias del Continente Americano S.A.

➤ China Airlines launches world's first aircraft with butterfly orchid livery [1]

➤ Delta Air Lines reaches an agreement to sell Atlantic Southeast to SkyWest, Inc. (Express Jet)

➤ FedEx launches around the world flights –Eastbound and Westbound– to provide faster, better connectivity to the major markets around the world

➤ Emirate of Abu Dhabi, one of the partners of Gulf Air, withdraws its shareholding

➤ "hapagfly" is the new brand name of Hapag-Lloyd (TUfly)

➤ Air Liberté Tunisie takes the name Nouvelair Tunisie

➤ Pegasus Airlines is acquired by Esas Holding A.S. owned by Sevket Sabanci and his family

➤ Sibir Airlines operates under the brand S7 Airlines

➤ Further step in LAN's regional expansion plan: start of operations of LAN Argentina

➤ Patrick acquires a further 17% of Virgin Blue for \$346m, giving it a controlling 62.4% stake in the company (Virgin Australia)

➤ OnAir, a joint venture with SITA and Airbus, launches

Source: Kostas Iatrou [1]





**January**

/ LOT charter subsidiary, Centralwings, obtains a licence to operate as an airline

**4 January**

/ The McCarran Airport in Las Vegas airport starts offering wireless internet service at no charge. The signal is available in the boarding areas and most other public areas. At the time, this was the largest (2 million square feet (180,000 m<sup>2</sup>) free wireless Internet installation in the world (ACI)

**7 January**

/ Southwest receives DOT approval for the ATA code share agreement

**18 January**

/ Unveiling the flagship – the A380 revealed

**28 January**

/ Boeing gives the 7E7 Dreamliner its official model designation number of 787, following an offer by the People's Republic of China to buy 60 Boeing 787 Dreamliners

**29 January**

/ Nonstop flights between mainland China and Taiwan take-off for the first time since 1949 (Wikipedia)

**February****17 February**

/ Opening day of the new Central Japan International Airport (Centrair). JL3201 bound for Fukuoka is the first JAL flight to leave the new airport

**March****8 March**

/ The Boeing 777-200LR Worldliner completes its first flight

**11 March**

/ China's first private airline, Okay Airlines, has its maiden revenue flight (*Embassy of the People's Republic of China in India*)

**14 March**

/ Star Alliance network welcomes TAP Portugal as the alliance's 16th member carrier

**April****27 April**

/ A380, the 21st century flagship, successfully completes its first flight [2]

**28 April**

/ Boeing delivers its last 757 passenger airplane, concluding a 23-year production run. It is the 1,050th Boeing 757

**29 April**

/ Launch of Air India Express, Air India's budget airline

**May****9 May**

/ Republic completes the purchase of Shuttle America Corporation

[2]



A380 first flight - Source: Kostas Iatrou

- 9 May** / Kingfisher starts commercial operations *(Wikipedia)*
- 14 May** / An AS350 B3 climbs to 3,000 meters / 9,900 ft in 2 minutes 21 seconds and makes a world record landing on Mount Everest *(Airbus Helicopters & Wikipedia)*
- 23 May** / The Boeing 777 Freighter is launched, following an order from Air France for five 777 Freighters
- 24 May** / SpiceJet commences operations
- Mid June** / sky express starts operations
- June** / AIR FRANCE KLM introduces its new, combined, frequent flyer program, "Flying Blue". It is the first time in history that two European airlines have joined their loyalty programs
- / Ghana Airways is liquidated *(Wikipedia)*
- 3 June** / Royal Wings operates the first flight *(Royal Jordanian)*
- 9 June** / SkyTeam announces details regarding the Associate Program at the Governing Board meeting. The first carriers selected to take part in the process include Air Europa, Copa Airlines, Kenya Airways and TAROM
- 11 June** / Pacific Aviation Safety Office (PASO) is created
- 15 June** / Continental becomes the first U.S. passenger airline to initiate flights to mainland China in nearly 20 years as it inaugurates new daily service from its New York hub at Newark Liberty International Airport to Beijing
- 30 June** / A.P. Moeller-Maersk agrees to sell Maersk Air to Fons Eignarhaldsfélag *(Wikipedia)*
- July**
- 1 July** / VASP files for bankruptcy
- 18 July** / Spring Airlines, China's first low cost airline, starts operations *(Wikipedia)*
- September** / Fons Eignarhaldsfélag moves Maersk's assets into its other acquisition the same year, Sterling European Airlines, and changes the company's name to Sterling Airlines
- 27 September** / The merger transaction between US Airways and America West is officially complete
- 28 September** / U.S. Federal Aviation Administration issues

[2]



A380 first flight - Source: Kostas Iatrou

# 2005

## October

- 5 October** / The first 747-400 passenger airplane to be converted in the 747-400 Boeing Converted Freighter program arrives in Hong Kong for launch customer, Cathay Pacific Airways
- 6 October** / Airbus launches the new A350 aircraft
- 20 October** / Northwest Airlines joins the SkyTeam Cargo alliance

the first airworthiness certificate for a commercial unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), the General Atomics Altair (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

- 30 October** / First flight (Auckland – Apia) of Polynesian Blue, a partnership between Virgin Blue and the Government of Samoa

## November

- 10 November** / The Boeing 777-200LR Worldliner establishes a new world record for nonstop distance by a commercial airplane, flying 11,664 nautical miles in 22 hours and 42 minutes from Hong Kong to London
- 23 November** / Jetairfly acquires its current name (*Wikipedia*)

# 2006

- *Airports Council International (ACI) officially launches the Airport Service Quality (ASQ) Survey*
- *Arkia is acquired by the Nakash Group*

➤ *China Airlines acquires shares in Yangtze River Express Airlines*

➤ *CR Airways Ltd is renamed Hong Kong Airlines Limited*

➤ *Iberia move all its operations to the new Terminal 4 at Madrid-Barajas Airport. It also starts Clickair, a low cost airline based in Barcelona*

➤ *Safi Airways is founded*

➤ *FL Group buys Sterling Airlines A/S*

➤ *Madrid Terminal 4 opens with a surface area of over 750,000 m<sup>2</sup> and capacity for 35 million passengers a year and 120 flights an hour (ACI)*

- January** / British Airways CitiExpress is renamed as BA Connect

- 1 January** / Latvian Civil Aviation Administration reforms into Civil Aviation Agency

- 5 January** / Independence Air ceases operations after declaring bankruptcy (*Wikipedia*)

- 16 January** / Sky Asia Co.,Ltd. change its name to Nok Airlines Co.,Ltd

- February** / EUROCONTROL launches the new European Safety Programme (ESP)

- 8 to 11 February** / The American adventurer Steve Fossett breaks the record for the absolute longest-distance flight without landing by taking off from the Kennedy Space Center at Cape

Canaveral, Florida, on 8 February, circumnavigating the world eastbound, and, after passing over Florida, continuing across the Atlantic Ocean for a second time to land in Bournemouth, England, after a flight of 76 hours 43 minutes, covering 42,469.46 km (26,373.54 miles) (*Wikipedia*) [1]

- 22 February** / Montenegro Airlines issues the first electronic ticket

- 27 February** / Pakistan International Airlines is the first to fly the Boeing 777-200LR Worldliner [2]

## March

/ ANAC (Brazil Agência Nacional de Aviação Civil) is established

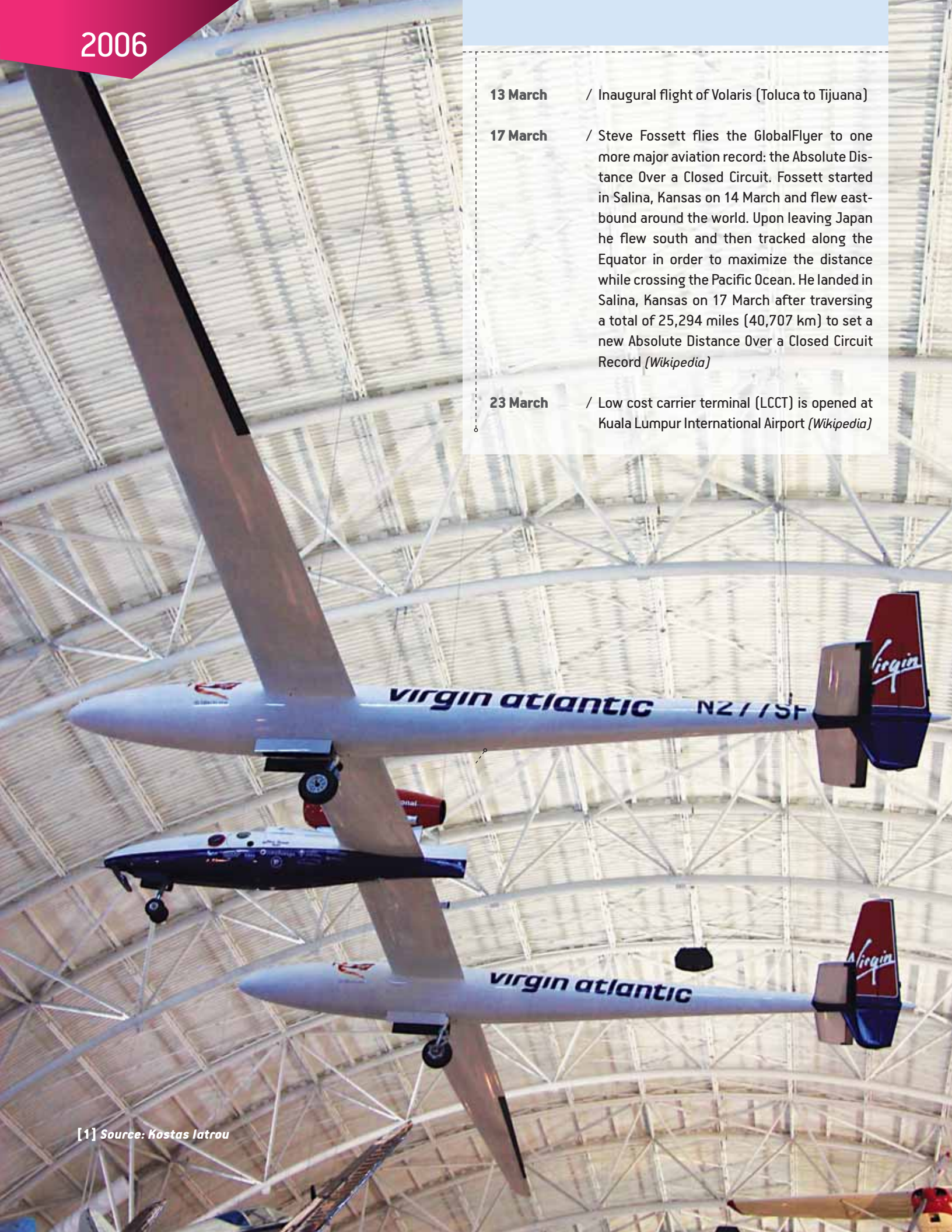
/ Emirates SkyCargo and AirBridgeCargo sign a cooperation agreement



**13 March** / Inaugural flight of Volaris (Toluca to Tijuana)

**17 March** / Steve Fossett flies the GlobalFlyer to one more major aviation record: the Absolute Distance Over a Closed Circuit. Fossett started in Salina, Kansas on 14 March and flew east-bound around the world. Upon leaving Japan he flew south and then tracked along the Equator in order to maximize the distance while crossing the Pacific Ocean. He landed in Salina, Kansas on 17 March after traversing a total of 25,294 miles (40,707 km) to set a new Absolute Distance Over a Closed Circuit Record (*Wikipedia*)

**23 March** / Low cost carrier terminal (LCCT) is opened at Kuala Lumpur International Airport (*Wikipedia*)



[1] Source: Kostas Iatrou



- April** / Hi Fly obtains its Air Operator Certificate
- 7 April** / Star Alliance welcomes SWISS as its newest member
- 10 April** / Star Alliance welcomes South African Airways
- 14 April** / Aeroflot officially joins SkyTeam
- 25 April** / The RF Government approves the Charter of Federal State Unitary Enterprise State Transport Company RUSSIA (*Rossiya*)
- May**
- 23 May** / Boeing delivers the last two of the 156 717 airplanes produced to Midwest Airlines and AirTran Airways, marking the end of commercial airplane production in Southern California, started in the 1920s by Donald Douglas
- June** / Nine SkyTeam carriers sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with British Airport Authority (BAA) to co-locate their facilities in Terminal 4 at London Heathrow International Airport (LHR)
- July** / As part of the strategy to focus on two strong and complementary brands—Qantas and Jetstar—Australian Airlines ceases operations
- August** / Insel Air starts operations (*Wikipedia*)
- airberlin announces that it has acquired 100% of the shares in German domestic airline dba
- 4 August** / IndiGo starts services with a flight from New Delhi to Imphal via Guwahati (*Wikipedia*)
- 17 August** / Boeing decides to discontinue Connexion by Boeing service because the market did not materialize
- 27 August** / Air India and Indian merger attains official status as National Aviation Company of India Ltd
- September** / White integrates the OMNI Aviation Business Group
- 1 September** / The 737-900ER makes its first flight from the Renton Municipal Airport in Renton, Wash.
- 6 September** / Airbus becomes a wholly-owned EADS subsidiary
- 8 September** / The Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, 97.188% shareholder of BWIA, approves a substantial capital injection for the creation of a new regional airline, Caribbean Airlines, based in Trinidad
- 9 September** / The 747-400 LCF makes its first flight, initiating the flight-test program that will culminate in U.S. Federal Aviation Administration certification
- 25 September** / Juneyao Airlines makes its maiden flight
- 27 September** / Caribbean Airlines is incorporated in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
- 28 September** / Suvarnabhumi Airport officially opens to replace the aging Don Muang airport (*ACI*) [3]
- 28 September** / Cathay Pacific signs an agreement that brings Dragonair into the Cathay Pacific Group as a wholly owned subsidiary. At the same time Cathay Pacific establishes a closer relationship with Air China, with each airline taking a 17.5% stake in the other
- October** / The Nicaraguan Institute of Civil Aviation (INAC) is created
- Oasis Hong Kong Airlines commences its services
- Air Canada makes history by becoming the first North American carrier to introduce lie-flat beds in all Executive Class cabins across its international fleet
- 18 October** / AirBridgeCargo receives its Air Operator's Certificate (AOC) confirming the airline's au-





[3] Bangkok Suvarnabhumi Airport - Source: Airports of Thailand

- thorization to operate Boeing 747 aircraft and offer commercial air services
- 23 October** / Porter Airlines takes flight
- 29 October** / The aircraft of FSUE State Transport Company RUSSIA formed by affiliation of Pulkovo Airlines to STC Russia starts its flights under a common flag (*Rossiya*)
- 30 October** / Arik Air welcomes first passengers
- November** / Jetstar begins international services into Asia and Hawaii (*Qantas*)
- / British Airways reaches agreement in principle to sell the regional operations of BA Connect to Flybe
- 1 November** / Air Transport News is launched [4]
- 6 November** / TAP and Portugalia's owners, Grupo Espirito Santo, announce TAP's acquisition of 99.81% of Portugalia shares (*Wikipedia*)
- 15 November** / Mango first flight takes to the skies
- End** / The brand decision is made in favour of TUIfly versus Hapag-Lloyd
- December** / KLM is the world's first airline to introduce self-service transfer kiosks at which transfer passengers at Schiphol can print their own boarding passes
- 12 December** / Airbus A380 receives joint EASA & FAA Type Certification
- 29 December** / State Civil Aviation of Republic of Azerbaijan is established by Decree No 512 of the President of the Republic Azerbaijan
- 31 December** / BWIA is shut down and Caribbean Airlines, based in Trinidad and Tobago, replaces the company

[4]







[1] A380 at Sydney gate - Source: Sydney Airport

- ▶ *AirAsia X is established*
- ▶ *Chalks International Airlines ceases operations originally begun in 1919 (Wikipedia)*
- ▶ *Delta becomes the first U.S. airline to offer customers the opportunity to help offset carbon emissions associated with air travel*
- ▶ *JSC Aeroflot – Russian Airlines becomes 100% shareholder of Donavia*
- ▶ *Flybe launches world's first Eco Labeling scheme for the airline industry*
- ▶ *The Government of Oman withdraws its shareholding from Gulf Air*
- ▶ *Malev is privatized*
- ▶ *Polar closes on a strategic transaction with DHL Express that gives DHL a 49% equity interest, including a 25% voting interest, in Polar*
- ▶ *Air France becomes the first airline in the world to offer an in-flight mobile phone service on international flights using OnAir*

**January**

/ ATR delivers to the Indian carrier Kingfisher Airlines the world's first turboprop aircraft equipped with an In-Flight Entertainment system (IFE). This aircraft is also the first turboprop equipped with Light Emitting Diodes (LED) in the whole cabin

**31 January**

/ VARIG leaves Star Alliance

**February**

**2 February** / SkyTeam signs agreements with Air Europa,

**March**

Copa Airlines and Kenya Airways, indicating that the carriers are on track for official Associate Airline status

**14 March**

/ Delivery of the first three Aegean Airbus A320's

/ Airport Management Professional Accreditation Programme (AMPAP) is formally launched. AMPAP is a formal partnership between ACI and ICAO to provide accessible, af-

fordable and universally available specialized management training to the global airport community (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**15 March** / Argentinian National Civil Aviation Administration (ANAC) is created by a presidential decree to succeed the Argentine Air Force in its functions, overseeing all aspects of civil aviation within the Argentine territory

**19 March** / A380 first touchdown in the United States as part of commercial route

**27 March** / airberlin purchases the leisure airline LTU

**28 March** / Royal Jordanian joins oneworld

**28 March** / GOL Announces Acquisition of VRG

**30 March** / Malev Hungarian Airlines joins oneworld

## April

**1 April** / JAL and Royal Jordanian officially join oneworld global airline alliance and Aer Lingus withdraws from the alliance

**24 April** / Norwegian acquires FlyNordic from Finnair

**27 April** / Decree-Law No. 145/2007, establishes the Portuguese National Institute of Civil Aviation, abbreviated as INAC

**30 April** / U.S.-EU Air Transport Agreement is signed (*U.S. Department of State*)

## June

**3 to 5 June** / Establishment of the East African Community Civil Aviation safety and Security Oversight Agency (CASSOA) (*Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority*)

**3 to 5 June** / The 63rd IATA Annual General Meeting (AGM) and World Air Transport Summit (WATS), held in Vancouver issues five main challenges to drive the air transport industry towards its vision of zero emissions (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

## July

**1 July** / SWISS becomes a fully owned subsidiary of Lufthansa (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**8 July** / The first 787 Dreamliner rolls-out at a celebration attended by 15,000 people at the Everett, Wash. final assembly factory

**25 July** / Introducing "V Australia" – Virgin Blue announces name of new international long haul airline and livery

**August** / Virgin America is launched

**14 August** / First flight of IL-96-400T

## September

**18 to 28 September**

/ The main aims of the 36th Session of the ICAO General Assembly, held in Montreal, are to enhance the safety, security, sustainability and efficiency of the global air transport system. The accomplishments of ICAO since its last General Assembly in 2004 can be summarized as follows: 1) a plan for strengthening aviation security worldwide; 2) the expansion of the Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP); 3) the streamlining and creation of air routes; 4) new standards to protect the environment; 5) progress towards the liberalization of air transport worldwide; and 6) implementing new legal instruments (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**21 September** / Air Canada becomes the first airline in North America to introduce electronic boarding passes for Mobile Check-in by customers using cell phones or smartphones

**28 September** / ERJ 145 achieves 1000th aircraft

## October

**15 October** / Airbus delivers first A380 to Singapore Airlines: New chapter in aviation history

**25 October** / The world's first A380 passenger flight takes off from Changi Airport. Singapore Airlines flight SQ380 departs for Sydney, Australia (ACI) [1]

**25 October** / easyJet plc agrees to acquire GB Airways Limited

**November** / Air Uganda starts operations



# 2007

**1 November** / Dragonair becomes part of oneworld

**15 November** / China Southern Airlines become the 11th full member of SkyTeam, making the alliance the first to welcome a carrier from mainland China

## December

**1 December** / JAL starts introducing JAL Premium Economy—a premium economy cabin—on international routes

**4 December** / Continental teams with the Transportation Security Administration to be the first U.S. carrier to launch a paperless boarding pass pilot program that allows passengers to receive boarding passes electronically on their cell phones or PDAs

**12 December** / Air China and Shanghai Airlines join Star Alliance

# 2008

➤ *Delta is the first U.S. airline to announce in-flight wi-fi for its domestic mainline fleet*

➤ *LAB operations suspended (Wikipedia)*

➤ *Nordwind Airlines is founded*

➤ *The longest runway in India is completed at New Delhi Airport. The runway, which is 4,430m long, used over 650,000 tonnes of asphalt, a load*

*which could build a 75 km long six lane expressway (ACI)*

➤ *The Butterfly Garden, a world's first in an airport, is opened in Singapore Changi Terminal 3's Departure Transit Lounge. The airport also features an orchid garden (ACI) [1]*

**January** / American introduces a mobile version of AA.com

**6 January** / Emirates notifies the Government of Sri Lanka that it will not be renewing the Shareholder's Agreement of Sri Lankan Airlines

**22 January** / Deutsche Lufthansa AG completes stock purchase transaction for a 19% stake in JetBlue

## February

**1 February** / An Airbus A380 aircraft successfully completes the world's first ever flight by a commercial aircraft using a liquid fuel processed from gas (Gas to Liquids – GTL) in the first stage of a test flight programme to evaluate the environmental impact of alternative fuels in the airline market. The flight from Filton, UK to Toulouse, France, lasted three hours

**24 February** / Boeing, Virgin Atlantic and GE Aviation conduct the first commercial aviation flight using a sustainable biomass-to-liquid fuel mixed with traditional kerosene-based jet fuel. The fuel blend includes oils from Babassu nuts extracted from indigenous Brazilian plants, and coconuts from the Philippines [2]

**March** / The tourism division of the airline's parent group, TUI AG, merges with First Choice Holidays PLC, forming the new company TUI Travel. Both Thomsonfly and First Choice Airways merge as Thomson Airways (Wikipedia)

/ Heathrow Terminal 5 is officially opened by Her Majesty The Queen (ACI) [3]

**4 March** / Republic Act No. 9497 renames the Air Transportation Office the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines headed by the Director General of Civil Aviation

**20 March** / Emirates is the first airline in the world to commercially launch an in-flight mobile telephone service. The first authorised mobile phone call from a commercial flight was made today at 30,000ft enroute to Casablanca

**26 March** / The world's largest airport terminal, Beijing Capital Airport Terminal 3, opens in time for the Olympic Games (ACI & Wikipedia) [4]

**27 March** / The first 777 Freighter, Boeing's newest cargo jet, enters a moving assembly line. The freighter is the first derivative to test the new 777 production system



Turkish Airlines, Boeing 737 - Source: Kostas Iatrou [6]



[1] Courtesy "Airports in the first 100 years of flight" (2003)

- 30 March / JetBlue begins partnership with Aer Lingus
- 30 March / U.S.-EU Air Transport Agreement is applied (U.S. Department of State)
- 30 March / Olympic Flame depart from Athens International Airport for the 2008 Summer Olympic Games [5]
- 31 March / Japan Asia Airways flies its last flight EG284, from Taipei to Nagoya (Chubu), concluding 32 years of operations
- 31 March / Aloha Airlines shuts down passenger service
- April
- 1 April / Turkish Airlines joins Star Alliance [6]
- 3 April / ATA Airlines discontinues all operations
- 9 April / Oasis Hong Kong Airlines announces that the airline has applied to the Hong Kong Court to appoint a provisional liquidator
- 11 April / The first 767-300 Converted Freighter makes its inaugural flight



[2]

Source: Boeing



[3]

Source: Heathrow Airports Limited





[4] Source: Beijing Capital International Airport

**16 April** / The partners of an Airbus-led project called CRISTAL ITP (In-trail Procedure) successfully carries out the world's first in-flight demonstration of a flexible new procedure for oceanic airspace that saves fuel and reduces emissions during cruising

**16 April** / Following an order of Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev, State Concern "Azerbaijan Airlines" is transformed into a Closed Joint-

**22 April**

Stock Company "Azerbaijan Airlines"

/ World aviation industry joins forces to act on climate change. At the global Aviation and Environment Summit, commercial aviation industry leaders today signed a declaration on climate change to lead towards carbon neutral growth and a totally sustainable industry

[5]



Departing with the flame from Athens - Source: Kostas Iatrou

**23 April** / Turkish Airlines establishes Anadolujet

**29 April** / The EMBRAER 190 jet receives ETOPS (Extended Operations) certification for 120 minutes from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

**May** / Pacific Airlines is transformed to Jetstar Pacific

**19 May** / Sukhoi Superjet 100 first flight

**23 May** / The U.S. Department of Transport grants antitrust immunity to KLM, Air France, Delta Air Lines, and Northwest Airlines

**June** / Single European Skies Second Package (SES II) is adopted (EUROCONTROL)

/ Open Skies launches its first commercial flight between Paris Orly and New York JFK (British Airways)

/ Continental Airlines and United Airlines announce a framework agreement linking their worldwide networks and services to benefit customers and creating revenue opportunities, cost savings and other efficiencies

**1 to 3 June** / The 64th IATA Annual General Meeting (AGM) and World Air Transport Summit (WATS) held in Istanbul unanimously adopt a Resolution calling for governments, airports and labour to take immediate action to help the industry survive the growing financial crisis. Also IATA announces the end of the paper ticket era with the adoption of 100% electronic ticketing worldwide

**13 June** / U.S. FAA issues regulation AC No 120-42B that allows beyond 240-minute ETOPS on a case-by-case basis

**15 June** / Jin Air is founded (Korean Air)

**July**

**8 July** / Southwest announces its first international code share agreement. By teaming with Canada's WestJet, Southwest will be able to offer code share flights and to sell WestJet space to Canada

**11 July** / Egyptair becomes 21st member of Star Alliance

**11 July** / Agence Nationale de l'Aviation Civile of Gabon (ANAC) replacing the Secrétariat Général à l'Aviation Civile et Commerciale

**14 July** / The Boeing 777 Freighter makes its first flight

**28 July** / First Airbus A380 enters Emirates' fleet

**August** / British Airways, Iberia and American Airlines file for worldwide antitrust immunity from the U.S. Department of Transportation as the carriers sign a joint business agreement

**28 August** / Zoom Airlines ceases operations

**September** / Xian MA600 first flight (Wikipedia)

**8 September** / JetBlue's flights and vacation packages are successfully auctioned on eBay – an airline first

**8 September** / Application for insolvency proceedings is presented by Futura International and Flyant

**9 September** / CANSO, EUROCONTROL and IATA agree to the Flight Efficiency Plan

**12 September** / NZ 8 to San Francisco re-named Aspire I takes part in a world first test flight to demonstrate the potential for significantly reduced carbon emissions under optimal flight conditions

**12 September** / XL Airways UK ceases operations

**15 September** / Lufthansa Group announces its purchase of a stake in Brussels Airlines

**19 September** / First A380 delivered to Qantas

**28 September** / First Airbus final assembly line outside Europe inaugurated in Tianjin, China

**October**

**21 October** / Aéroports de Paris and Schiphol Group decide to create a leading global alliance in the airport industry



# 2008

- 29 October** / Northwest merges with Delta [8]
- November** / Edelweiss is integrated into the Lufthansa Group
- 1 November** / Thomson Airways brand is launched (*Wikipedia*)
- 10 November** / Montenegro Airlines completes all proce-

[8] Source: Delta Flight Museum



- dures for privatization and is transformed from a limited liability company into joint stock company
- 13 November** / American introduces mobile boarding passes at select airports for use with mobile phones or PDAs
- 28 November** / Comac ARJ 21 first flight
- December**
- 3 December** / Lufthansa Supervisory Board approves the acquisition of Austrian Airlines
- 8 December** / Official Inauguration of the SESAR Joint Undertaking (*EUROCONTROL*)
- 15 December** / Azul Linhas Aéreas Brasileiras S.A. inaugurates its services (*Wikipedia*)
- 17 December** / KLM becomes full owner of Martinair
- 30 December** / Air New Zealand successfully completes the world's first commercial aviation flight powered by the sustainable second-generation biofuel jatroph

# 2009

- ▶ *The Department of the Air Transport of Kyrgyz Republic is transformed into the Agency of Civil Aviation under the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Civil Aviation Agency of the Kyrgyz Republic)*
- ▶ *Aerologic commences flight operations*
- ▶ *Delta becomes the only U.S. airline (since Pan Am) to serve six continents with introduction of nonstop flights between Los Angeles and Sydney, Australia*
- ▶ *Royal Air Maroc creates RAM Express subsidiary, specializing in domestic transport*
- ▶ *After a three-year trial, Sydney airport introduces SmartGate technology which uses biometric facial-recognition systems at passport control (ACI)*
- ▶ *The spectacular passenger terminal at Carrasco Airport opens resembling a giant UFO. It is able to handle 4 million passengers a year and is formed from a single, 1,000ft low arch (ACI) [1]*

- January** / airBaltic management purchases SAS shares in the airline
- 7 January** / Continental is the first commercial carrier to successfully demonstrate the use of sustainable biofuel to power an aircraft in North America
- 12 January** / Air France-KLM takes 25% minority stake in Alitalia



Source: Kostas Iatrou [2]

- 13 January** / Alitalia–Compagnia Aerea Italiana operates its first flight. The company took over the goods, infrastructures and personnel from Alitalia – Linee Aeree Italiane and absorbed Air One, creating a single airline
- 14 January** / Airbus builds eco-efficient A350 XWB final assembly line in Toulouse
- February**
- 5 February** / The rescue of the Aerolineas Argentinas stock portfolio by the National State is established in the framework of the Law No. 26.466

- March** / The Continuous Descent Approach (CDA) Action Plan is launched (*ACI Europe, CANSO, EUROCONTROL and IATA*)
- 11 March** / AirAsia X inaugurates its first low-cost and nonstop service between Kuala Lumpur and London (Stansted) (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)
- 26 March** / The Management Board of LOT Polish Airlines takes the decision to close its subsidiary, Centralwings
- April**
- / Launch of Air Arabia hub in Casablanca
- 16 April** / Boeing delivers its 6,000th 737 to ILFC and operator Norwegian Air Shuttle [2]
- 20 April to 2 May** / A Special Group on the modernization of the Rome Convention develops two draft Conventions: 1) Convention on Compensation for Damage to Third Parties, Resulting from Acts

[1]



Source: Aeroporto Internacional de Carrasco

of Unlawful Interference Involving Aircraft; 2) Convention on Compensation for Damage Caused by Aircraft to Third Parties. These two drafts are considered and adopted at the International Conference on Air Law on Compensation for Damage Caused by Aircraft to Third Parties Arising from Acts of Unlawful Interference or from General Risks, held at Montreal (ICAO)

## May

/ LOT establishes LOT Charters

18 May

/ First A320 assembled in China performs maiden flight

20 May

/ ASEAN agrees on Multilateral Agreement on Air Services

20 May

/ Air France-KLM and Delta Air Lines announce a new long-term joint venture under which they will jointly operate their trans-Atlantic businesses by coordinating operations and sharing revenues and costs

## June

/ American embarks upon a journey that aims to prove that trans-Atlantic flights can be operated a bit greener and leaner. Through the Atlantic Interoperability Initiative to Reduce Emissions (AIRE), American is the first U.S. airline to test next-generation technology and procedures that significantly reduce carbon emissions and saves fuel on trans-Atlantic routes

1 June

/ flydubai makes its inaugural commercial flight with a flight to Beirut

5 June

/ TAP becomes the first airline in the world to launch the IATA carbon offset programme

[3]



10 June

/ Jetstar's Domestic New Zealand operations are launched

15 June

/ ACI EUROPE launches Airport Carbon Accreditation, allowing for the assessment and recognition of participating airports' efforts to manage and reduce their CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. This same year Frankfurt Airport becomes the first airport to receive its accreditation status (ACI) [3]

23 June

/ Republic Airways announces the acquisition of Milwaukee-based Midwest Airlines

## July

/ Lufthansa takes control of bmi

2 July

/ The Government of Montenegro adopts the decision establishing the Civil Aviation Agency (Official Gazette of Montenegro No 45/09)

9 July

/ Vueling and clickair merge (Air Transport News)

## August

13 August

/ Republic Airways is declared the winning bidder in the auction to acquire Frontier Airlines

## September

1 September

/ Airbus delivers first A318 with "steep approach" capability to British Airways

1 September

/ Slovak airline SkyEurope suspends operations

3 September

/ Agreement is signed in Vienna with new partner, Lufthansa. Austrian Airlines becomes member of Lufthansa Group

29 September

/ Greek state-owned airline Olympic Airlines ceases operations. It is replaced by privately owned Olympic Air, which commences operations on this day (Wikipedia)

29 September

/ British Airways introduces the first ever long haul route from London City Airport to New York JFK using Airbus A318s in a special 32-seat Club World configuration

## October

/ All SkyTeam carriers serving London Heathrow operate at Terminal 4 in the brand new SkyTeam terminal showcase including a dedicated SkyTeam branded premium check-in area





787 first flight - Source: Boeing [5]

- / PAL Express operations is taken over by Air Philippines
- 13 October** / Republic Airways and Mesa Air Group announce formation of a joint venture
- 27 October** / Continental joins Star Alliance
- November**
- 5 November** / A330-200F first flight
- 10 November** / oneworld alliance welcomes Mexicana on board
- 11 November** / JetBlue and Lufthansa begin code share operations
- 12 November** / The merger of British Airways and Iberia takes an important step forward after the two oneworld partner airlines sign a binding memorandum of understanding
- 12 November** / A330 is first airliner to be certified for ETOPS "beyond 180 minutes" (*Airbus*)
- December**
- 3 December** / The first Solar Impulse aircraft, HB-SIA, the first solar-powered aircraft capable of fly-

ing both day and night thanks to batteries charged by solar power that provide it with power during darkness, makes its first flight, a short hop of 350 meters in Switzerland [4]



First flight - Source: Solar Impulse/Michel Buech

- 9 December** / Brussels Airlines becomes an official member of Star Alliance
- 15 December** / The 787 Dreamliner makes its first flight from Paine Field in Everett, Wash. under the control of Capt. Mike Carriker and Capt. Randy Neville. Takeoff occurs at 10:27 a.m. Pacific time [5]
- 31 December** / U.S. Federal Aviation Administration approves a single operating certificate for Delta and Northwest, allowing the airlines to begin fully integrating schedules, routes, airfares and reservation systems





[1] Boeing 747-8 Freighter first flight - Source: Kostas Iatrou

- ▶ *ACI World Headquarters relocates to Montreal*
- ▶ *Atlantic Southeast acquires ExpressJet Holdings, Inc., parent company of ExpressJet Airlines, and announces plans to merge the two airlines to form the world's largest regional airline*
- ▶ *Copa Airlines announces that Aero Republica will operate under the Copa Airlines Colombia brand name*
- ▶ *Delta launches industry's first social media "ticket window" allowing customers to purchase tickets directly from Facebook and other social media sites*
- ▶ *LAN acquires Colombia's Aires airline*
- ▶ *Malev is re-privatized; the Hungarian State acquires a majority, 95% ownership share in Malev Hungarian Airlines*

## January

- 26 January** / Revolutionary Air New Zealand 777-300 interiors publicly unveiled including the Economy Skycouch and Premium Economy Spaceseat
- 31 January** / Delta completes integration of the Northwest Airlines' reservation system; retires Northwest flight numbers and nwa.com. Final regularly scheduled Northwest flight, NW2470, departs Los Angeles International Airport for Las Vegas, January 30 at 8:45 p.m. PT.

## February

- 8 February** / Synergy Aerospace Corp., owner of Avianca; and Kingsland Holding Limited, owner of TACA, formalize the strategic union of their businesses
- 8 February** / 747-8 Freighter completes first flight [1]
- 13 February** / American Airlines receives tentative approval

## March

- 4 March** / The ATR 42-600 pre-series aircraft successfully takes to the sky for the first time in Toulouse

## April

- 7 April** / This morning at 10:27, the Solar Impulse HB-SIA takes off from Payerne (VD) airfield on its maiden flight. Under the eyes of thousands of spectators from all over Switzerland, Solar Impulse HB-SIA slowly climbs up to 1,200 meters

from the U.S. Department of Transportation for its trans-Atlantic antitrust immunity (ATI) request submitted in conjunction with fellow oneworld alliance members British Airways, Iberia Airlines, Finnair and Royal Jordanian, in addition to approval of a joint business agreement proposed by American, British Airways and Iberia

**8 April** / British Airways and Iberia sign a definitive merger agreement (*Compendium of International Civil Aviation*)

**15 to 22 April** / Eyjafjallajökull volcano erupts in Iceland causing widespread disruptions in European airspace

**30 April** / Durban's King Shaka International Airport opens to traffic in time for that year's FIFA World Cup (*ACI & Wikipedia*) [2]

**May** / The first airport RFID baggage handling system which stores sorting data on all luggage is installed at Aalborg Airport, Denmark (*ACI*)

/ By amending the Aviation Law, the Civil Aviation Agency of FYROM is transformed into an independent regulatory body

**3 May** / Continental and United announce a definitive merger agreement

**13 May** / TAM joins Star Alliance

**June** / Launch of Air Arabia hub in Alexandria

**10 June** / Vietnam Airlines officially joins the SkyTeam

**25 June** / TAROM Romanian Air Transport officially joins the SkyTeam

**30 June** / Aegean Airlines joins Star Alliance

**July**

**19 July** / American Airlines and JetBlue Airways launch their partnership to offer customers con-

venient connections and more travel options to and from New York and Boston. The two companies agree to begin a frequent flyer relationship later in 2010

**21 July** / Final approval by the U.S. Department of Transportation of the application for anti-trust immunity for the alliance's transatlantic carriers American Airlines, British Airways, Finnair, Iberia and Royal Jordanian, and the joint business agreement (JBA) between the U.S., UK and Spanish companies

**August**

**31 August** / Mexicana Airlines (Grupo Mexicana) suspends its operations indefinitely

**September**

**10 September** / The Diplomatic Conference on Aviation Security in Beijing adopts two international air law instruments for the suppression of unlawful acts relating to civil aviation: the Convention on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Relating to International Civil Aviation (prevailing over the above-mentioned Montréal Convention of 23 September 1971 and the Protocol done at Montréal on 23 September 1971 and signed on 24 February 1988) and the Protocol Supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft (supplementing the above-mentioned Convention signed at The Hague on 16 December 1970) (*ICAO*)

**27 September** / ICAO signs a memorandum of cooperation providing a framework for enhanced cooperation with various regional commissions and organizations, i.e. the African Union (AU), the European Union (EU), ACAC, AFCAC, the European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC), and LACAC (*ICAO*)

**27 September** / Southwest Airlines announces that it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire all of the outstanding common stock of AirTran Holdings, Inc. (NYSE: AAI), the parent company of AirTran Airways

**28 September to 8 October**

/ In the 37th ICAO Assembly, ICAO, the U.S. Department of Transportation, the European



Union and the International Air Transport Association formally agree to create a Global Safety Information Exchange (GSIE). Also ICAO Member States agree to historic agreement on aviation and climate change

**October**

/ HOLIDAYS Czech Airlines receives an air operator certificate (AOC), becoming a full-fledged airline

**1 October**

/ United Continental Holdings, Inc. (NYSE: UAL), formerly UAL Corporation, announces today that a wholly owned subsidiary has merged with Continental Airlines, Inc., and that Continental Airlines and United Air Lines, Inc. are now wholly owned subsidiaries of United Continental Holdings, Inc., creating a world-class global airline

**6 October**

/ American Airlines, British Airways, and Iberia announce the official start of their new joint business and new services as a part of their trilateral relationship

**7 October**

/ Tentative U.S. approval for American JAL joint venture

**15 October**

/ Scheduled international flight services begin at Haneda Airport (ANA)

**28-31 October**

/ Leaving in the early evening from Amsterdam's Schiphol airport on 28 October and arriving at the same place in the early dawn of 31 October, Dr. Kostas Iatrou, the co-founder and Managing Director of Air Transport News, just complete a Round The World trip with SkyTeam in 60 hours and 47 minutes (The actual itinerary appears as follows: Amster-

dam – Seoul – Sydney – Los Angeles – Minneapolis – Amsterdam) (SkyTeam) [3]

**31 October**

/ Shanghai Airlines terminates Star Alliance membership

**November**

/ AeroGal joins AviancaTaca Holding

**15 November**

/ JetBlue Airways and Emirates launch inter-line agreement

**16 November**

/ S7 Airlines is now part of oneworld

**24 November**

/ The government approves the creation of Czech Aeroholding (Czech Airlines)

**December**

/ Shareholders vote their approval for the British Airways/Iberia merger

**9 December**

/ According to the Decree of the President of Ukraine No1085 / 2011 "On the optimization of central authorities" the State Aviation Administration of Ukraine is established

**10 December**

/ oneworld moves head office to New York







Boeing 747-8 Intercontinental first flight - Source: Boeing [1]

- ▶ LAN and TAM sign binding agreements related to the business combination of the two airlines
- ▶ Norwegian becomes the first airline to offer in-flight wi-fi on European routes
- ▶ Copenhagen Airport becomes the first in the world to incorporate augmented reality in its iPhone application. The technology can be used as a wayfinder inside the terminals (ACI)

## January

- 12 January** / Air New Zealand announces code share agreement with Virgin Atlantic
- 20 January** / Air New Zealand acquires a substantial shareholding in Australian-based airline Virgin Blue. The move is part of a planned acquisition of a shareholding of between 10% and 14.9%
- 28 January** / Rossiya Airlines open joint stock company is established in St.Petersburg

## February

- 10 February** / Peach Aviation is established
- 11 February** / PT. Garuda Indonesia (Persero) Tbk. officially becomes a Public Company

## March

- 17 March** / UN Security Council approves "No-Fly Zone" over Libya
- 17 March** / Operations by Afriqiyah Airways are terminated (Wikipedia)
- 20 March** / Boeing 747-8 Intercontinental conducts successful first flight [1]

## April

- 1 April** / Japan Airlines and American Airlines announce the commencement of their joint business

## May

- 4 May** / Virgin Galactic's SpaceShipTwo's First "Feathered" flight marks latest Milestone for Virgin Galactic



## June

**1 June** / Sector Aviation Holdings Ltd (SAH) acquires bmi regional

**21 June** / China Eastern officially joins SkyTeam

**23 June** / AirAsia orders 200 A320neo aircraft

## July

/ Members of the Davis family of Minnesota become owners of Sun County Airlines

/ Flybe acquires Finnish Commuter Airlines (Finncomm), Finland's largest domestic air carrier, in a newly formed joint venture with Finnair

**15 July** / Lufthansa launches the world's first ever daily commercial passenger flights using biofuel. The four return daily flights between Hamburg and Frankfurt are the first in the world to use a biofuel blend using 50% Hydro-processed Esters and Fatty Acids (HEFA)

**20 July** / AMR Corporation announces largest aircraft order in history with Boeing and Airbus. Under the new agreements, American plans to acquire 460 narrowbody, single-aisle aircraft

## September

**28 September** / SkyTeam members welcome China Airlines

**28 September** / Athens International Airport's Photovoltaic

Park, the largest unified PV installation at an airport worldwide, officially launches operation [2]

## October

/ Meridiana fly completely acquires the properties of Air Italy

**27 October**

/ All Nippon Airways makes aviation history today by operating the first ever passenger flight of the Boeing 787 Dreamliner

**31 October**

/ Martinair discontinues passenger operations, a ceremonial roundtrip last flight is operated above the Netherlands using a Boeing 767

## November

**10 November**

/ South Sudan becomes the 191st member of ICAO (ICAO)

**30 November**

/ Sharklet-fitted Airbus A320 successfully completes first flight-test [3]

## December

**1 December**

/ Air Transport Association changes name to Airlines for America

**2 December**

/ VietJet Aviation Joint Stock Company launches national commercial activities

**7 December**

/ Virgin Australia group of airlines today officially launches its international airlines, V Australia and Pacific Blue, under the new brand, Virgin Australia

[2]



Source: Athens International Airport

[3] Source: Airbus



**12 December** / Boeing (NYSE: BA) announces today that it has received type-design approval from the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for up to 330-minute extended operations (ETOPS) for its 777 fleet

**13 December** / Ethiopian Airlines join Star Alliance

**19 December** / Etihad Airways announce the purchase of a 29% stake in airberlin

**23 December** / Lufthansa and IAG sign purchase agreement for the sale of British Midland Ltd.

**End** / NIKI is full integrated with the airberlin family

# 2012

➤ *Dulles International Airport becomes the first airport in the USA to introduce a video analytics system that automatically calculates wait times at security points (ACI)*

**January** / White obtains the license to operate scheduled flights

**1 January** / The new ExpressJet Airlines is created after corporate merger of Atlantic Southeast and ExpressJet is completed

**11 January** / Maldives Civil Aviation Authority is formed as an independent authority by the Parliament

**25 January** / Seychelles Government and Etihad Airways team up in new strategic partnership In Air Seychelles (*Air Transport News*)

**25 January** / Largest ever aircraft acquisition in Europe: Norwegian purchases 222 new aircraft

**28 January** / Spanair suspends operations

**February**

**3 February** / Malev ceases its operations

**14 February** / Boeing, Lion Air finalize historic order for up to 380 737s

**March**

**20 March** / NIKI becomes an affiliate member of oneworld

**21 March** / airberlin is now part of oneworld and Iberia Express will fly as affiliate member of oneworld

**April**

/ Air Nippon Co. Ltd. is absorbed by ANA

/ San Miguel Corporation (SMC) acquires 49% of PAL Holdings for US\$500 million and takes

management control of Philippine Airlines and PAL Express

**5 April** / Volotea commences operations (*Wikipedia*)

**20 April** / With the change of ownership from Lufthansa to the International Airlines Group (IAG), bmi formally exits the Star Alliance network

**29 April** / Syphax Airlines starts its operations

**May**

**1 May** / Delta purchases an oil refinery, becoming first airline to produce its own jet fuel

**3 May** / Cimber Sterling ceases operations

**3 May** / ATR delivers its 1000th aircraft to Spanish carrier Air Nostrum

**18 May** / British Airways brings the Olympic Flame to Britain on a specially liveried Airbus A319–Firefly for the London 2012 Summer Olympics [1]

**28 May** / Azul announces the acquisition of TRIP Linhas Aéreas (*Wikipedia*)

**29 May** / Saudia becomes SkyTeam's first member airline from the Middle East

**June**

**4 June** / Scoot's first aircraft –also known as Goin' Scootin – departs Singapore Changi Airport's terminal to Sydney International Airport



[1] Source: Kostas Iatrou

**21 June** / Avianca, Taca Airlines and Copa Airlines join Star Alliance

**22 June** / LAN and TAM complete their transaction and create LATAM Airlines Group

**28 June** / Middle East Airlines – Air Liban (MEA) joins SkyTeam

### July

**1 July** / Austrian's flight operations are concentrated in the 100% subsidiary Tyrolean Airways

**3 July** / Jetstar Japan takes off

**5 July** / Uruguayan government suspends PLUNA's operations following a strike that started two days earlier after failing to find new investors for the company *[Wikipedia]*

### August

**30 August** / SkyTeam welcomes Aerolineas Argentinas as its 18th member

### September

**6 September** / Qantas, Emirates announce global aviation partnership [2]

**10 September** / Airports Council International officially launches its APEX in Safety Programme

**12 September** / AirAsia to become first Airbus A320 "Sharklets" operator

**29 September** / Delta ceases Comair's operations

### October

**8 October** / Air France-KLM Group, Etihad Airways and airberlin announce new partnerships

**10 October** / Adoption of the Avianca name as a unique commercial brand for the subsidiary airlines of AviancaTaca Holding S.A., Avianca, TACA, TACA International, TACA Regional, Tampa Cargo and AeroGal

**19 October** / IATA announces that the IATA Passenger Service Conference adopts a Resolution on a

[2] Source: Emirates





Foundation Standard for a New Distribution Capability (NDC)

**20 October** / Kingfisher Airlines receives an order from the Director General of Civil Aviation suspending its scheduled operator's permit

**November** / Blue 1 formally leaves Star Alliance following its integration into Star Alliance member Scandinavian Airlines

**21 November** / Xiamen Air joins SkyTeam as the 19th member

**29 November** / Shenzhen Airlines joins Star Alliance

## December

**1 December** / OpenSkies fly begins oneworld affiliation

**10 December** / Delta and Virgin Atlantic to form strategic alliance

# 2013



Source: Dubai Airports [1]

## January

**2 January** / Dubai Airport opens the world's first A380 concourse at Dubai International. The new concourse spreads across 11 floors with a total area of 528,000 square metres (ACI) [1]

**16 January** / FAA issues an emergency airworthiness directive (AD) to address a potential battery fire risk in the 787 and requires operators to temporarily cease operations

**16 January** / Ryanair: Announces first Non-European Bases – Fez & Marrakech

**28 January** / Air France reveals the name and commercial offering of its new regional airline, HOP!, a result of the synergy between the Air France

group's three regional airlines – Brit Air, Regional and Airlinair

## February

**1 February** / Malaysia Airlines joins oneworld

**14 February** / American Airlines and US Airways announce an \$11,000,000,000 deal to merge, creating the world's largest airline, with 900 planes, 3,200 daily flights, and 95,000 employees

**25 February** / ICAO adopts Annex 19 on Safety Management. The new Annex supports ICAO's global safety strategy, which calls for improved standardization, increased collaboration among aviation stakeholders, new information-sharing initiatives, and prioritizing investments in



technical and human resources required to ensure safe operations *(ICAO)*

## March

**14 March** / Hermes Air Transport Club is founded

**18-22 March** / Increased liberalization of air carrier ownership and control, improved convergence of the myriad of consumer protection regimes applicable to passengers and airlines, enhanced air cargo liberalization, as well as renewed focus on minimizing State taxes and charges on air travel and transport are among the key long-term targets agreed to at ICAO's Sixth Worldwide Air Transport Conference (ATConf/6), held at ICAO Headquarters in Montréal

**31 March** / The partnership between Qantas and Emirates is launched and at the same time Qantas and British Airways cut joint ties

[2] Source: Guinness World Records



## April

**1 April** / Armavia announces the decision to begin bankruptcy proceedings and suspend operations

**4 April** / Spain's National Securities Market Commission (CNMV) approves International Airlines Group's (IAG) revised offer for Vueling

**27 April** / Ethiopian Boeing 787 Dreamliner is the first in the world to resume service after Boeing 787 battery system design is changed

**29 April** / Virgin Galactic's SpaceShipTwo makes first rocket-powered flight *(AIAA)*

**30 April** / The tallest airport control tower, Tower West at Kuala Lumpur International Airport, Malaysia, which measures 133.8 m (438 ft 11.71 in) is completed *(ACI)* [2]

## May

/ Norwegian's first ever long-haul flights take-off from Oslo Airport Gardermoen to New York and Bangkok

**3 May** / SAS sells Wideroe to an investor group led by Torghatten

**24 May** / ICAO and ATAG sign joint statement on sustainable approaches to emissions reduction

## June

**6 June** / Air New Zealand increases interest in Virgin Australia to 22.99%

**14 June** / First A350 XWB successfully completes flight [3]

**18 June** / Eva Air joins the Star Alliance network

**24 June** / WestJet launches WestJet Encore

**28 June** / Fiji Airways officially launches as the "Air Pacific" brand is retired

## August

**1 August** / Etihad Airways, Jat Airways, and the Government of the Republic of Serbia announce a strategic partnership. Jat Airways is rebranded as Air Serbia



A350 first flight - Source: Kostas Iatrou [3]

**5 August** / Airbus's 8,000th worldwide aircraft delivered

**8 August** / IATA announces that Air Transat has become the first airline to renew its IATA Operational Safety Audit (IOSA) registration under the Enhanced IOSA audit process

**September**

**13 September** / Embraer delivers 1,000th E-Jet

**16 September** / Bombardier's first flight for C-Series Aircraft [4]



C-Series first flight - Source: Bombardier

**16 September** / China begins flight operations at the world's highest civilian airport, at an elevation of 4,411 metres (14,472ft) above sea level, Daocheng Yading Airport (ACI & Wikipedia)

**17 September** / Boeing flies First 787-9 Dreamliner

**October**

**1 October** / LAN Colombia is now part of oneworld

**1 October** / All the companies in the Thomas Cook Group come together under a single symbol: the Sunny Heart. The Sunny Heart appears on the tails of the aircraft of Thomas Cook Group Airlines to express their common identity

**4 October** / The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) concludes a landmark 38th Assembly today receiving endorsements from its Mem-

[5] Source: oneworld





ber States on sector-wide strategic planning and exceeding many expectations when it agrees to develop a global market-based measure (MBM) for international aviation

**23 October** / Aegean Airlines completes acquisition of Olympic Air

**29 October** / Qatar Airways joins oneworld [5]

**31 October** / The U.S. Department of Transport Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Administrator Michael Huerta today announces that the FAA has determined that airlines can safely expand passenger use of Portable Electronic Devices (PEDs) during all phases of flights, and immediately provides airlines with implementation guidance

## November

**1 November** / JetBlue becomes the first U.S. Airline to implement Personal Electronic Device use Gate-to-Gate

**12 November** / Global Aviation Holdings and subsidiaries, including its two operating airlines World Airways and North American Airlines, file vol-

untary petitions for relief under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code

**17 November** / Darwin Airlines rebrands its operations as Etihad Regional following acquisition of 33.3% from Etihad

**23 November** / Singapore Airlines discontinue Flight 21, the longest regularly scheduled nonstop flight in the world (*Singapore Airlines*) making Qantas Flight 7 the longest regularly scheduled nonstop commercial flight by distance in the world, flying from Sydney Airport to Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport (*Wikipedia*)

## December

**3 December** / Republic Airways completes sale of Frontier Airlines to Indigo Partners

**23 December** / Airbus and Emirates Airlines sign a contract for 50 additional A380 jetliners, firming up a commitment originally announced during November's Dubai Airshow. The agreement is finalised during Emirates' President Tim Clark's visit to Airbus's Toulouse, France headquarters and brings the carrier's total A380 orders to 140



Solar Impulse 2 - Source: Solar Impulse/Revillard/Rezo.ch



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**All information in the timeline comes direct from the listed company, organisation, or cited source unless otherwise stated. Websites are current as of 6 November 2014**

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## About the author

**D**r Kostas Iatrou is the Managing Director of Air Transport News, Administrator of Hermes Air Transport Club and VP Public Relations of Air Transport Research Society.

He holds a PhD in Air Transport Management from Cranfield University and is co-author of the book "Airline Choices for the Future".

He has participated as both a moderator and a speaker in more than 50 air transport conferences all over the world including ICAO, IATA and ACI.

He is a Visiting Professor at the Aviation MBA of LUISS Business School and Coventry University and Visiting Lecturer at Cranfield University.

His articles have featured in numerous air transport publications, such as the Journal of Airport Management, the Annals of Air and Space Law of McGill University etc. and he is Associate Editor of the Journal of Air Transport Studies.

In 2009 he became Deputy Mayor of Ekali, Greece.

In 2013 Kostas launched Hermes Air Transport Club, with the participation of more than 100 senior executives from the air transport business.

Kostas lives in Ekali with his wife, Evgenia and his two sons, George and Yiannis.





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