



20 March 2008

EU-US Open Aviation Area: Effective 30th March 2008

Negotiations started in 2003, lasted 5 years and took 11 rounds of talks to finally reach an OAA between the EU and the US which went into effect on 30th March 2008. This first stage agreement lifts some of the traffic restrictions of the former bilaterals and is expected to bring more traffic and competition to this market of 55 million passengers annually .

Compared to 2007 the OAG for April 2008 shows an increase of 10% in the number of flights scheduled (an additional 1032 monthly flights), which is twice the growth of 1 year earlier. US carriers are responsible for the larger share of additional capacity, adding 646 flights compared to 329 by EU carriers, spread across all players with the notable exception of American Airlines. The Americans thus increase their share of the EU-US market by 1.5%-pts to 49.9%, whilst EU carriers' share remains stable at 48.4% .

London Heathrow shows the highest number of additional flights, although many have been transferred from Gatwick and the two airports are considered jointly below. Ireland is also benefiting, with Dublin set for an additional 192 flights, carried on high expansion by Aer Lingus. The US carriers' additional flights are predominantly out of New York, whilst EU carriers are increasing frequencies on existing destinations with just a handful of new carrier/destination combinations. In terms of the 'Community carrier' provisions, the only new service noted is Air France from LHR to Los Angeles, whilst British Airways' 757 service between Brussels or Paris and New York's JFK is yet to be firmed up. [SL]

[OAG schedule EU-US for April, 1-way]	4/2007	4/2008	Var.	4/2007	4/2008	Var.
	London (LHR+LGW) ¹			Paris (CDG+ORY)		
N° of US airports served	25	25	0	14	16	+2
N° of airlines operating	12	14	+2	10	10	0
... airlines	AA, CO, DL, NW, UA, US & BA, VS, First Choice Airways & Air India, Air New Zealand, Kuwait Airways <u>New additions 2008:</u> AF, Zoom Airlines (UK)			AA, CO, DL, NW, UA, US & AF, L'Avion & Air India, Air Tahiti Nui.		
N° of flights (1-way)	2945	3255	+310	1104	1174	+70
...operated by EU airlines	1605	1728	+123	572	594	+22
...operated by US airlines	1255	1441	+186	480	530	+50
N° of flights to New York (1-way)	821	905	+84	357	400	+43
...operated by EU airlines	484	506	+22	177	192	+15
...operated by US airlines	295	356	+61	150	178	+28

¹ In view of high rate of transfers from Gatwick (-214 flights) to Heathrow (+524 flights) data are combined.



	2007	2008	Var.	2007	2008	Var.
	Amsterdam			Frankfurt		
N° of US airports served	16	18	+3,-1	20	20	+1,-1
N° of airlines operating	7	7	+0	10	10	0
... airlines	CO, DL, NW, UA, US & KLM, Martinair Holland.			AA, CO, DL, NW, UA & US; LH & Condor Flugdienst; Air India; Singapore Airlines.		
N° of flights (1-way)	880	1050	+170	1186	1277	+91
...operated by EU airlines	334	357	+23	640	708	+68
...operated by US airlines	546	693	+147	486	509	+23
N° of flights to New York (1-way)	177	205	+28	228	206	-22
...operated by EU airlines	83	60	-23	138	116	-22
...operated by US airlines	94	145	+51	60	60	0

Source: Derived from dataset prepared by OAG.

Disclaimer

Any views or opinions presented here are solely those of the Association of European Airlines and do not necessarily represent those of individual member airlines.

© Association of European Airlines, 2008