

## PRESS RELEASE

Issue 2017: 16

Tuesday, 24 October 2017

*For Immediate Release*

September 2017 / Traffic / Preliminary

**Association of Asia Pacific Airlines**

(Reg.No. 587)

Level 27-1, Menara Prestige

1 Jalan Pinang

50450 Kuala Lumpur

MALAYSIA

Tel +603 2162 1888

Fax +603 2162 6888

[www.aapairlines.org](http://www.aapairlines.org)

### Asia Pacific Airlines Traffic Results – September 2017

**Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia** – Preliminary traffic figures for the month of September released today by the Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA) showed international air passenger demand expanded at a healthy pace, whilst international air cargo markets continued to enjoy double-digit growth in traffic volumes.

Underpinned by robust business and consumer activity, the region's airlines registered a 5.6% increase in the number of international air passengers carried to a combined total of 25.2 million in September. Demand as measured in revenue passenger kilometres (RPK) increased by 7.5%, underscoring continued strength in long haul travel markets. The average international passenger load factor edged 0.5 percentage points higher to 78.4%, on a 6.8% expansion in available seat capacity.

International air cargo demand, in freight tonne kilometres (FTK) increased by a solid 11.4% compared to the same month last year, reflecting the on-going pick-up in global trade across major advanced and emerging market economies. Offered freight capacity grew by 5.7%, resulting in a 3.4 percentage point rise in the average international freight load factor to 66.0% for the month.

Commenting on the results, Mr. Andrew Herdman, AAPA Director General said, "The global economy is in pretty good shape, with encouraging growth in both international air passenger and cargo demand seen this year."

Mr. Herdman added, "Overall, Asia Pacific airlines carried a combined total of 235 million international air passengers during the first nine months of the year, with passenger traffic in RPK terms growing by 7.9% compared to the same period last year. During the same period, Asian airlines recorded a firm 10.7% increase in international air cargo traffic volumes."

24 October 2017

Issue 2017: 16

Mr. Herdman concluded, "The impressive growth seen in both international air travel and air cargo demand this year provides an encouraging backdrop as Asia Pacific airline leaders are gathering this week in Taipei for the 61<sup>st</sup> AAPA Assembly of Presidents meeting, where topics to be discussed include the state of the industry, future growth opportunities and various regulatory challenges."

### TRAFFIC UPDATE – PRELIMINARY

#### *International Scheduled Services of Asia Pacific Airlines*

<b>International</b>	<b>Sep-17</b>	<b>Sep-16</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>Jan-Sep 2017</b>	<b>Jan-Sep 2016</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Passengers (Thousand)	25,189	23,844	+ 5.6%	235,360	223,516	+ 5.3%
RPK (Million)	96,329	89,625	+ 7.5%	881,863	817,644	+ 7.9%
ASK (Million)	122,834	115,060	+ 6.8%	1,102,812	1,036,796	+ 6.4%
Passenger Load Factor	78.4%	77.9%	+ 0.5 pp	80.0%	78.9%	+ 1.1 pp
FTK (Million)	6,033	5,415	+ 11.4%	51,668	46,689	+ 10.7%
FATK (Million)	9,144	8,647	+ 5.7%	80,321	76,985	+ 4.3%
Freight Load Factor	66.0%	62.6%	+ 3.4 pp	64.3%	60.6%	+ 3.7 pp

Effective May 2017, the dataset comprises aggregated traffic data from the following 32 Asia Pacific based carriers: 5J, 6E, 9W, AI, AK, BI, BR, CA, CI, CX, CZ, GA, HU, JL, JQ, KA, KC, KE, MH, MU, NH, NZ, OZ, PG, PR, SG, SQ, TG, TR, QF, VA and VN.

- Previous year data adjusted for comparison purposes
- RPK = revenue passenger kilometres
- ASK = available seat kilometres
- FTK = freight tonne kilometres
- FATK = available freight tonne kilometres
- All figures, including estimates for missing data, are provisional

**ENDS**

#### **Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA)**

The AAPA is the trade association for scheduled international airlines based in the Asia-Pacific region. The AAPA permanent secretariat is headquartered in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia with international representation in Brussels and Washington, D.C. Collectively, the region's airlines carry 1,341 million passengers and 21 million tonnes of cargo, representing one-third of global passenger traffic and two-fifths of global air cargo traffic respectively, and thus play a critically important role in the ongoing development of global aviation.

For further information, please contact:

Office of the Director General

Tel +603 2162 1888 Fax +603 2162 6888

Email: [odg@aapa.org.my](mailto:odg@aapa.org.my)

Website: [www.aapairlines.org](http://www.aapairlines.org)

Twitter: @aapairlines