

Media Release

March passenger and freight traffic remains depressed

- ACI concerned about impact of Swine Influenza -

GENEVA, 30 April 2009 – Global airport traffic in March and for the first quarter of 2009 remains starkly lower than in 2008, with international traffic falling by 11 percent for the month and by 10 percent for the first quarter. The decline has slowed, however, in the Asia Pacific and Africa regions, and March domestic traffic across all regions showed signs of a softening contraction, down 6 percent against 7.5 percent for the first quarter. For total worldwide traffic in March, airport reports show 8 percent fewer passengers than March 2008, and the worldwide average for the first quarter 2009 is also down by just over 8 percent.

Traffic data for freight traffic points to December 2008/ January 2009 as its lowest ebb point. Although the results remain very low, the declines have further softened in March. Total freight was down by 18 percent for the month and 20 percent for the first quarter; international traffic fell by 22.5 percent against 24.5 percent for the quarterly results. Recovery from this catastrophic slump is expected to take quite some time, but freight trends are mildly pointing up with better March results compared to Q1 results across all regions. The improvement is led by the Middle East which has registered positive growth for the first time since November 2008.

There are equally signs that the passenger traffic decline has reached the bottom of the downward trend. Data indicates that domestic travel, as well as international traffic in Asia Pacific, could lead the beginnings of an upturn. Further declines in international traffic in the rest of the world are the result of a distortion due to the fact that Easter holidays were in March last year and in April this year.

These results and analysis for March and first quarter 2009 do not yet take into account the impact of the outbreak of swine influenza now witnessed in a limited number of nations. At the time of this release, the World Health Organization (WHO) has not issued any travel advisories nor recommended border closings. ACI and its members will continue to monitor this situation closely and comply with any new directives from the WHO and national health authorities.

ACI Director of Health, Security and Facilitation, Craig Bradbrook, comments, "While the swine influenza outbreak comes at a difficult time, we remain confident that the industry will pull through this crisis, as it has in the past. Indeed, as the Director General WHO has said, the world is better prepared for an influenza pandemic than at any time in history. ACI, ICAO, IATA and WHO responded to the previous SARS and Avian Flu outbreaks by developing comprehensive contingency procedures for airports and airlines. We are seeing those being implemented in line with the WHO's global response plan. ACI is in regular communication with WHO and other industry stakeholders and will continue to provide information and assistance to airports."

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TABLE 1: SUMMARY WORLDWIDE TRAFFIC RESULTS, MARCH 2009 (% CHANGE)			
	Mar 2009 over Mar 2008	YTD Mar 2009 Over YTD 2008	Rolling 12 months, through Mar 2009
PaxFlash			
International passenger	- 10.7	- 9.7	- 2.4
Domestic passenger	- 6.2	- 7.3	- 4.4
Total passenger	- 8.3	- 8.4	- 3.6
FreightFlash			
International freight	- 22.5	- 24.4	- 10.2
Domestic freight	- 9.9	- 12.6	- 7.5
Total freight	- 18.5	- 20.4	- 9.3

Notes for editors

1. ACI, the only worldwide association of airports, is a non-profit organisation whose prime purpose is to represent the interests of airports and to promote professional excellence in airport management and operations. ACI has 597 members who operate over 1679 airports in 177 countries and territories.
2. *PaxFlash* and *FreightFlash* statistics are based on a significant sample of airports that provide regular monthly reports to ACI. They represent approximately 60% of total passenger traffic and 70% of total freight traffic worldwide.
3. Passenger traffic growth percentages are based on total passengers departing and arriving at the airport, and the freight data include uploaded and downloaded freight tonnage. Please note that international plus domestic does not equal total, as some airports only provide total traffic figures. In the regional Tables 2 and 3, where the sample reports are insufficient to provide significant comparisons, the rows are left blank.
4. For queries concerning the statistics, please contact Nancy Gautier, Director Communications at ACI World, Geneva Switzerland, email ngautier@aci.aero or tel +41 22 717 8562.
5. Advice to ACI member airports sent 29 April 2009, is posted on the ACI website at www.aci.aero in the Priorities section/Health. Key elements are:
 - Monitor the WHO website for updates (www.who.int). PLEASE NOTE: A daily report will be broadcast by the WHO Geneva, Switzerland media centre at 18:00 (GMT+2) at www.who.int/mediacentre/en/
 - Confer with your national government and local health authorities responsible for managing the response to public health emergencies. Airports in the US should also monitor the CDC website (www.cdc.gov/swineflu/), and in Europe the ECDC website (www.ecdc.europa.eu).
 - Review and practice airport contingency plans for public health emergencies. Download the recently updated "Airport Preparedness Guidelines for Outbreaks of Communicable Disease" which can be downloaded from www.aci.aero

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TABLE 2: PaxFlash Summary						
March 2009						
Regions	Mar 2009	% YOY	YTD Mar 2009	% YOY	YE Mar 2009	% YOY
International passengers						
AFR	4 070	(8.2)	11 360	(8.6)	51 484	4.4
ASP	26 392	(8.8)	76 921	(9.6)	319 133	(5.3)
EUR	49 956	(13.2)	135 038	(11.7)	692 925	(3.1)
LAC	4 801	(9.7)	14 117	(7.1)	54 696	0.2
MEA	6 911	0.8	19 999	1.5	85 049	9.0
NAM	13 859	(11.3)	38 554	(9.1)	168 866	(1.9)
ACI	105 989	(10.7)	295 989	(9.7)	1 372 152	(2.4)
Domestic passengers						
AFR	2 658	(16.7)	7 521	(15.3)	32 210	(7.8)
ASP	42 752	2.7	120 594	2.7	480 393	1.1
EUR	14 336	(9.7)	38 072	(14.5)	180 025	(8.0)
LAC	10 360	(4.7)	29 676	(5.0)	123 619	(1.7)
MEA						
NAM	70 764	(10.1)	188 224	(11.4)	853 636	(6.8)
ACI	140 870	(6.2)	384 088	(7.3)	1 669 883	(4.4)
Total passengers						
AFR	6 781	(11.8)	19 060	(11.4)	84 441	(0.8)
ASP	70 102	(2.1)	200 534	(2.5)	811 821	(1.6)
EUR	64 523	(12.5)	173 811	(12.4)	875 963	(4.2)
LAC	15 635	(6.3)	45 275	(5.5)	183 932	(1.3)
MEA	7 273	0.1	21 059	0.9	89 257	8.5
NAM	86 454	(10.3)	231 608	(11.0)	1 044 976	(6.0)
ACI	250 768	(8.3)	691 347	(8.4)	3 090 390	(3.6)

DEFINITIONS PASSENGER TRAFFIC:

INTERNATIONAL (000s). TRAFFIC (PASSENGERS) PERFORMED BETWEEN THE DESIGNATED AIRPORT AND AN AIRPORT IN ANOTHER COUNTRY/TERRITORY.

DOMESTIC (000s). TRAFFIC (PASSENGERS) PERFORMED BETWEEN TWO AIRPORTS LOCATED IN THE SAME COUNTRY/TERRITORY.

TOTAL (000s). INTERNATIONAL + DOMESTIC PASSENGERS + INCLUDING DIRECT TRANSIT PASSENGERS COUNTED ONCE (when breakdown is available). TOTAL ≠ INTERNATIONAL + DOMESTIC

YOY *Year over year*

YTD *Year to date*

YE *Year end*

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TABLE 3: FreightFlash Summary						
March 2009						
Regions	Mar 2009	% YOY	YTD Mar 2009	% YOY	YE Mar 2009	% YOY
International freight						
AFR	32.5	(13.5)	85.0	(19.2)	403.2	(12.3)
ASP	1 305.7	(25.4)	3 359.8	(27.2)	17 059.8	(11.8)
EUR	771.6	(21.8)	2 091.2	(23.6)	10 104.8	(8.9)
LAC	108.8	(24.3)	298.0	(27.7)	1 527.4	(10.7)
MEA	273.2	3.6	719.2	(2.4)	3 112.9	4.6
NAM	431.5	(27.2)	1 190.4	(27.4)	5 950.8	(14.2)
ACI	2 923.3	(22.5)	7 743.6	(24.4)	38 158.9	(10.2)
Domestic freight						
AFR	3.1	(10.0)	8.5	(12.5)	36.6	(24.9)
ASP	512.1	0.6	1 338.4	(6.3)	5 781.9	0.4
EUR	34.3	(2.9)	95.0	(8.0)	449.8	2.9
LAC	65.0	(10.8)	176.5	(14.8)	863.1	(4.1)
MEA						
NAM	927.0	(14.9)	2 753.9	(15.3)	12 197.9	(11.4)
ACI	1 541.4	(9.9)	4 372.2	(12.6)	19 329.3	(7.5)
Total freight						
AFR	65.5	(8.2)	182.3	(10.4)	780.4	(7.8)
ASP	1 817.9	(19.5)	4 698.9	(22.3)	22 848.6	(9.0)
EUR	813.6	(21.0)	2 207.5	(23.0)	10 648.6	(8.5)
LAC	173.8	(19.7)	474.5	(23.4)	2 390.5	(8.4)
MEA	273.3	3.5	719.4	(2.4)	3 113.9	4.6
NAM	1 408.7	(19.2)	4 088.8	(19.4)	18 818.9	(12.3)
ACI	4 552.8	(18.5)	12 371.4	(20.4)	58 600.8	(9.3)

Data in 000s metric tonnes

DEFINITIONS FREIGHT TRAFFIC:

INTERNATIONAL (000s). TRAFFIC (LOADED AND UNLOADED FREIGHT) PERFORMED BETWEEN THE DESIGNATED AIRPORT AND AN AIRPORT IN ANOTHER COUNTRY/TERRITORY.

DOMESTIC (000s). TRAFFIC (LOADED AND UNLOADED FREIGHT) PERFORMED BETWEEN TWO AIRPORTS LOCATED IN THE SAME COUNTRY/TERRITORY.

Note: No domestic freight traffic is reported by airports in the MEA region.

TOTAL (000s). **INTERNATIONAL + DOMESTIC FREIGHT** (when breakdown is available).

YOY *Year over year*

YTD *Year to date*

YE *Year end*

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CHART 1

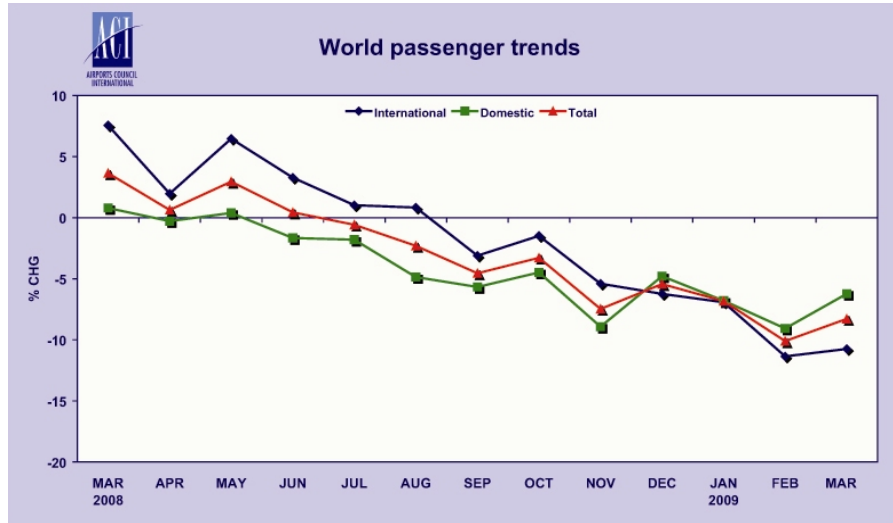


CHART 2

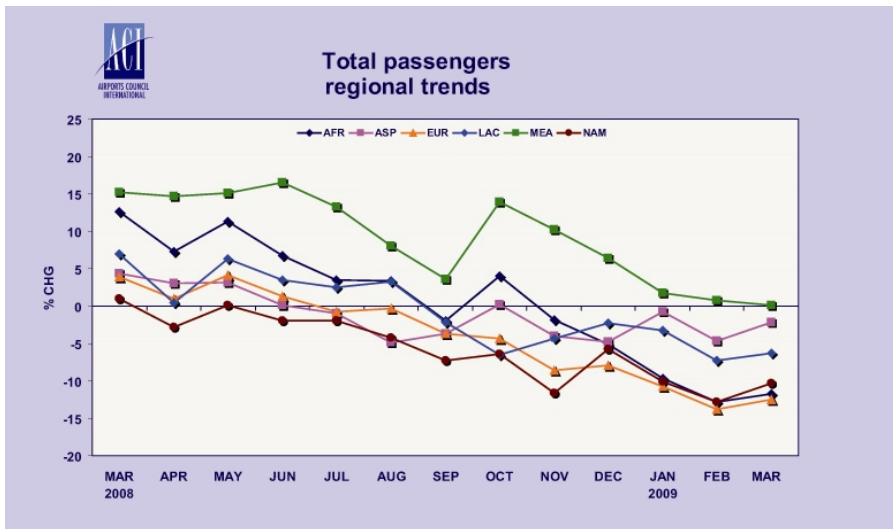
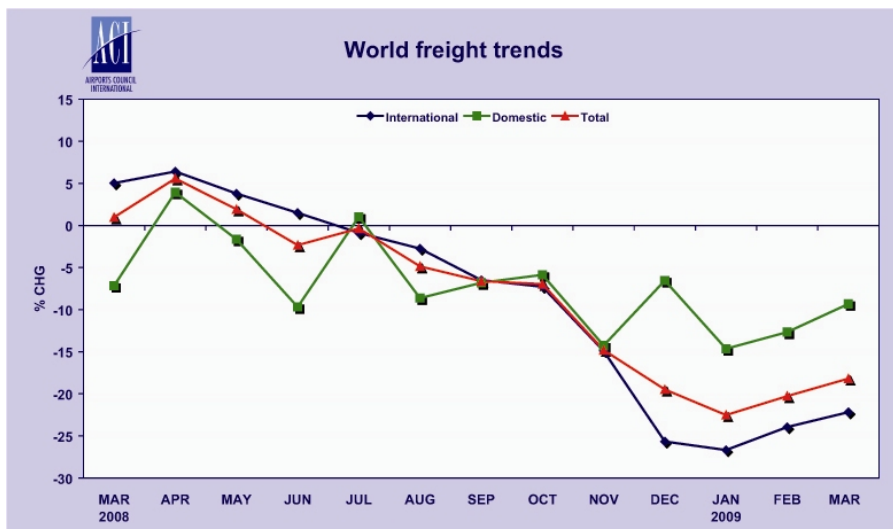


CHART 3



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