



ASSOCIATION OF FLIGHT ATTENDANTS-CWA, AFL-CIO

*Northwest Master Executive Council
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March 4, 2010

The Honorable Ray LaHood
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: OST-2010-0018 US-Tokyo (Haneda) Combination Services Allocation Proceeding

Dear Secretary LaHood:

I am writing on behalf of the Association of Flight Attendants, Northwest Airlines Master Executive Council, representing approximately 7,500 pre-merger Northwest Airlines flight attendants. I write in support of the Delta Air Lines application to provide new non-stop service from points within the United States to Tokyo's Haneda Airport. We hope that you will give strong consideration and ultimate approval to Delta's application for these new route authorities.

The Haneda Airport routes are important for attracting vital business passengers because of the airport's close proximity to Tokyo's business district. Northwest and Delta have invested considerable resources over the years to build the Company's market share in Japan and throughout Asia. Now that the Japanese government has opened up Haneda Airport for direct service from U.S. cities to be operated by U.S. carriers, it is vital that Delta Air Lines receive approval for these new slots.

Access to Haneda levels the playing field among U.S. and foreign carriers who are competing for passengers to that facility. We firmly believe that Delta Air Lines and its flight attendants are best positioned to operate flights to Haneda because of our history in the Pacific marketplace.

Approval of Delta's new slots would benefit several communities with new non-stop service by Delta from Seattle, Detroit, Los Angeles, and Honolulu. The new flights to Haneda will also increase healthy competition among U.S. carriers who already have access to Haneda through marketing alliances, such as One World and Star Alliance.

I should also note, that unlike many of the crews working the flights that will be provided by the alliance partners of many of the U.S. carriers with existing service to Haneda, the jobs on the flights provided by Delta will be worked by U.S. citizens. During a time of sustained unemployment, this would ensure additional flying opportunities for U.S. citizens, rather than foreign nationals on International code share arrangements.

On behalf of the Association of Flight Attendants, Northwest Master Executive Council, I again urge you to approve Delta Air Lines' application for four slots. This would not only allow healthy competition for service into Japan's Haneda Airport, but would also provide for jobs for U.S. flight attendants.

Sincerely,

Janette Rook
NWA Master Executive Council President
Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, AFL-CIO

JR:kjc

INFLIGHT SAFETY PROFESSIONALS