

ASX code SXR
AIM code SKYW

7 January 2010

SKYWEST AIRLINES LTD
("Skywest" or "the Company")

DECEMBER 2009 AIRLINE PASSENGER OPERATING STATISTICS

Load Factor rises as Skywest looks to expand charter operations

Skywest, the Australian and South East Asia regional airline is pleased to announce its network operating statistics for the month of December 2009. Load Factor increased by 4.04% to 52.23% compared to the previous year. Skywest RPT traffic, measured by Revenue Passenger Kilometres increased by 14.36%, while capacity, measured by Available Seat Kilometres (ASK) increased by 5.52% over the same period.

Skywest also announces that it has commenced technical and commercial due diligence on one A320-200 for lease. This is a potential candidate aircraft for expanded charter operations for the mining sector, these potentially could involve expanded operations to and from the Pilbara region of Western Australia.

	Month of December		
	December-09	December-08	Change
RPT Passengers Carried ('000s)	27	26	5.24%
Revenue Passenger Kilometres ('000s) (RPT)	21,405	18,717	14.36%
Available Seat Kilometres ('000s) (RPT)	40,981	38,836	5.52%
Load Factor %	52.23%	48.19%	4.04%
Available Seat Kilometres ('000s) (Charter)	55,641	59,610	-6.66%
Charter Services	247	255	-3.14%
Average Aircraft in Fleet	15	15	

	Financial Year to Date		
	2009/10	2008/09	Change
RPT Passengers Carried ('000s)	182	195	-6.59%
Revenue Passenger Kilometres ('000s)	146,955	155,735	-5.64%

Available Seat Kilometres ('000s)	263,929	294,423	-10.36%
Load Factor %	55.68%	52.89%	2.78%
Available Seat Kilometres ('000s) (Charter)	324,586	277,883	16.81%
Charter Services	1,431	1,222	17.15%
Average Aircraft in Fleet	14	14	

Notes:

1. Monthly operating statistics are issued on a preliminary basis and are subject to change. Any adjustments made will flow through to the year to date results
2. Passengers Carried refers to Regular Passenger Transport (RPT) passengers and therefore excludes charter passengers
3. RPKs refers to the number of paying passengers carried multiplied by the number of kilometres flown
4. ASKs refers to the number of seats available for sale to public passengers multiplied by the number of kilometres flown
5. Load factor is RPKs divided by ASKs
6. The calculation of load factor does not include "Charter" passengers.

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