

**BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

March 20, 2000

<p>Application of DELTA AIR LINES, INC. under 49 U.S.C. §§ 41102 and 41108 for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (Atlanta/New York-South America; U.S.-Belize)</p>	}	Docket OST-97-3218
<p>Application of DELTA AIR LINES, INC. for allocation of seven weekly frequencies (Atlanta, Georgia-Bogota, Colombia)</p>	}	

**APPLICATION OF DELTA AIR LINES, INC.
FOR ALLOCATION OF SEVEN WEEKLY FREQUENCIES AND
MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE**

Delta Air Lines, Inc. ("Delta") hereby applies for an allocation of seven weekly U.S.-Colombia combination frequencies and requests immediate action on, and consolidation of this application with, Delta's previously filed application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing Delta to engage in scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property, and mail, between Atlanta, Georgia, and Bogota, Colombia, pending in Docket OST-97-3218.

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Delta applauds the U.S. Government's efforts in achieving a new agreement with Colombia. The Memorandum of Consultations between the United States and Colombia ("MOC") that was signed on March 15, 2000, provides the Department with the important new opportunity to allocate seven weekly frequencies effective immediately. Delta plans to use this frequency allocation to operate daily nonstop combination service between Atlanta, Georgia, and Bogota, Colombia, beginning on or about 120 days after the issuance of a final order granting Delta certificate authority and frequencies.

Delta has been aggressively seeking expansion opportunities in South America and rapidly developing Atlanta as a major competitive gateway for service to Latin America. The recent MOC provides the Department with a valuable opportunity to inject Delta as a strong new network competitor to Colombia and to establish Atlanta as a new competitive U.S. gateway to Colombia. Grant of authority to Delta will improve the market structure to Colombia and help improve the overall market structure to Latin America by helping Delta's efforts to achieve parity with its three larger U.S. carrier rivals.

Delta requests that it be issued a certificate and frequencies authorizing Atlanta-Colombia nonstop service as soon as possible and that such authority be granted for an indefinite term. Delta further requests route integration authority to

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permit Delta to combine its Colombia service with all other Delta services authorized by certificates and exemptions, to the extent permitted by applicable international agreements.

In support of this application and motion, Delta submits the following:

1. On March 15, 2000, the United States and Colombia signed an MOC that would amend the 1956 U.S.-Colombia Air Transport Agreement to allow, inter alia, a designated airline of the United States to operate an additional seven frequencies on authorized U.S.-Colombia routes effective immediately.

2. Pursuant to the MOC, beginning within 120 days of the issuance of a final order granting Delta certificate authority and frequencies, Delta proposes to operate daily nonstop round-trip service between Atlanta and Bogota, Colombia. Delta will operate this service using Boeing 757 aircraft or other suitable aircraft from Delta's fleet as market circumstances warrant. Updated schedules for Delta's proposed service, as well as a revised route map and aircraft fuel consumption and availability information are attached to this application.

3. On December 10, 1997, Delta filed an application for U.S.-South America certificate authority as part of its announced launch of a major service expansion into Latin America. That application includes a request for certificate

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authority authorizing nonstop service between Atlanta and Bogota. At the time that application was filed, sufficient U.S.-Colombia frequencies were unavailable under the bilateral agreement. The new MOC provides for an additional seven weekly frequencies, which can be used immediately on any route except Miami and New York/Newark. Delta hereby requests seven weekly combination frequencies to allow it to operate daily roundtrip Atlanta-Bogota service, and hereby further moves to consolidate this request with its pending Atlanta-Bogota certificate application.

4. Approval of this request is clearly in the public interest. Delta's proposed service will provide strong network competition with the services to Colombia that are operated by other U.S. and foreign flag carriers. Delta will operate its new competitive scheduled service to Colombia via Atlanta Hartsfield International Airport, the world's busiest airport both in terms of flight operations and passenger enplanements. Delta serves over 160 cities from its Atlanta hub and will be able to provide travelers throughout the United States with enhanced online service options to Colombia, building upon Atlanta's proven success as a hub gateway for service to Latin America.

5. Delta requests that its U.S.-Colombia frequency allocation be granted for an indefinite term, consistent with Department practice.

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WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, Delta respectfully requests that the Department grant Delta an allocation of seven weekly combination U.S.-Colombia frequencies so that Delta can commence daily nonstop service between Atlanta and Bogota, and that the Department grant any further relief deemed to be consistent with the public interest.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Application of Delta Air Lines, Inc. has been served this 20th day of March, 2000, by first class mail, postage prepaid, upon each of the following persons:

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