

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

Application of

DELTA AIR LINES, INC.

**for an exemption pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 40109
(United States - Chile)**

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)
) **Docket OST-2000-
7233**
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)

**APPLICATION OF DELTA AIR LINES, INC.
FOR AN EXEMPTION**

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April 11, 2000

Note: Delta Air Lines, Inc., is requesting expedited action on this application and will conduct a poll of the U.S. carrier representatives listed on the attached service list.

**BEFORE THE
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DELTA AIR LINES, INC.	}	Docket OST-2000-7233
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**APPLICATION OF DELTA AIR LINES, INC.
FOR AN EXEMPTION**

Delta Air Lines, Inc. ("Delta") hereby applies for an exemption under 49 U.S.C. § 40109, authorizing Delta to engage in scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property, and mail between the United States and Chile to the full extent permitted by the U.S.-Chile "open skies" agreement. Delta plans to begin daily nonstop service between Atlanta and Santiago on or about November 1, 2000. In order to allow Delta to plan and effectively market this new service, Delta requests that this exemption application be granted immediately.

Delta will conduct a poll of the U.S. carrier representatives listed on the attached service list to determine if there are any objections to this application and will advise the Department of the results as soon as possible.

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Delta requests that its U.S.-Chile open skies exemption authority remain in effect for a period of at least two years, or until 90 days after the Department's final determination on Delta's application for United States-Chile certificate authority, pending in Docket OST-99-6246. Delta further requests route integration authority to permit Delta to combine U.S.-Chile services with all other Delta services authorized by existing certificates and exemptions granted by the Department, to the extent permitted by applicable international agreements.

In support of this application, Delta submits the following:

1. Beginning on or about November 1, 2000, Delta plans to operate daily nonstop round-trip service between Atlanta, Georgia, and Santiago, Chile. Delta will operate this service using Boeing 767-300ER aircraft or other suitable aircraft from Delta's fleet as market circumstances warrant.

2. Delta is fully qualified to perform the proposed services. Delta requests that the Department take official notice, pursuant to Rule 24 of the Department's Rules of Practice, of all other data on file with the Department necessary to establish Delta's fitness.

3. The authority sought herein is governed by and consistent with the open skies agreement between the United States and Chile, signed on

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October 21, 1999. Pursuant to the open skies agreement, Delta seeks authority to engage in scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property, and mail between a point or points in the United States, directly and via intermediate points, and a point or points in Chile, and beyond.¹

4. Approval of this application is clearly in the public interest. Delta's proposed service will provide strong network competition with the various services to Chile that are operated by other U.S. and foreign flag carriers. Delta will operate its new competitive scheduled service to Chile 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 Chile, building upon Atlanta's proven success as a hub gateway for service to Latin America.

WHEREFORE, for the foregoing reasons, Delta respectfully requests that the Department expeditiously grant Delta an exemption authorizing it to engage in

¹ Delta will accept the following condition: "The authority granted to serve intermediate and beyond points in conjunction with Chile service is limited to countries with which the United States has signed open-skies agreements and/or countries for which the carrier holds authority to serve under certificates or exemptions issued by the Department, and for which it holds route integration

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scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property, and mail between the United States and Chile, as described herein, and that the Department grant any further relief deemed to be consistent with the public interest.

Respectfully submitted,

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authority, by virtue of either the present action or other action of the Department, and is subject to all conditions attached to that authority.”

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Application of Delta Air Lines, Inc. for an Exemption has been served this 11th day of April, 2000, by facsimile, hand delivery, or first class mail, upon each of the following persons:

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