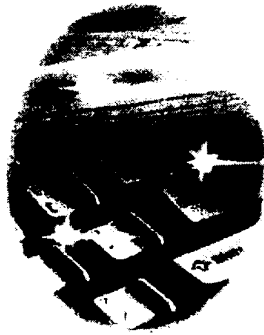




Corporate Information

ATTACHMENT 1

News Center



Northwest Airlines Announces New Service to Asia

MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL -- (Feb. 10) -- Northwest Airlines has announced that it will inaugurate daily flights from Osaka, Japan to Taipei, Taiwan effective April 5, 1998. The service will be an extension of Northwest's Seattle-Osaka service and mark the second Asian city Northwest will serve beyond Osaka.

Beginning April 5, Northwest flight 95 will depart Seattle at 1 p.m. and arrive at Osaka's Kansai International Airport at 4 p.m. the following day. The flight will depart Osaka at 5:30 p.m. and land in Taipei at 7:10 p.m. Return flight 96 will depart Taipei at 9:40 a.m. and arrive in Seattle at 7:55 a.m. after a short stop in Osaka. The service will operate with Northwest DC10-30 equipment in a World Business Class and economy class configuration.

"Taiwan's economy has remained relatively unscathed by the economic crisis in Asia," said John Dasburg, Northwest president and chief executive officer. "We project good passenger loads for Northwest's new flights."

The recently announced U.S.-Japan aviation agreement removes all restrictions on Northwest's "Fifth Freedom" rights to carry passenger and cargo traffic between any city in Japan and any city in the Asia/Pacific region. Northwest also provides daily service beyond Osaka to Manila and beyond Tokyo to Seoul, Beijing, Shanghai, Manila, Taipei, Hong Kong, Singapore, Bangkok, Guam and Saipan.

Northwest is also planning to inaugurate service to Jakarta, Indonesia and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in the future. Japan's Ministry of Transport had blocked these flights under the previous U.S.-Japan aviation agreement.

Northwest has 316 weekly slots (take-off and landing

positions) at Tokyo's Narita Airport and 142 slots at Kansai. Northwest holds more slots at Narita than any carrier other than Japan Air Lines and provides the most service between Osaka and the United States. Northwest briefly operated service between Osaka Itami and Taipei in the mid-1980s.

"Northwest is well positioned to remain the leader in the trans-Pacific market," said Dasburg. "With our extensive U.S.-Japan route network, large hub at Tokyo and 50 years of Asia experience, Northwest has an excellent portfolio of assets to carry us into the next century."

Northwest operates 145 weekly flights between the United States and Japan and carries about one of every ten passengers who departs Japan by air. The airline boarded 1.6 million passengers in Japan during 1997.

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For more information, contact Northwest Media Relations at 612-726-2331.

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