



News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NORTHWEST AIRLINES AWARDED TENTATIVE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION APPROVAL FOR NEW U.S.-CHINA NONSTOP SERVICE

EAGAN, Minn. – (September 25, 2007) – Northwest Airlines (NYSE: NWA) today was notified by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) that its bid to provide new nonstop service between Detroit and Shanghai has been tentatively approved effective March 25, 2009.

“This is a great development for travelers who need convenient nonstop service between the U.S. and China. We’re pleased with the DOT’s decision which clearly serves the DOT’s stated goals of enhancing competition and providing travelers with a diversity of choices that maximize public benefits,” said Doug Steenland, Northwest president and chief executive officer. “We’re grateful to the 136,000 Northwest customers, corporate clients, partners, elected officials and employees who wrote in support of our bid. I would like to also thank the U.S. Government for its success in negotiating the new air service agreement that made today’s announcement possible.”

Northwest’s WorldGateway hub at Detroit is the largest U.S. gateway to Asia of any U.S. airline, offering a broad network of coverage from more than 100 U.S. cities. Detroit lies on the Great Circle route and is geographically well located to serve the most U.S. cities with efficient connections and shortest trip times to China.

Northwest plans to use the Boeing 787 for the new service. Northwest is the North American service launch customer for the 787, a fuel-efficient aircraft that will usher in a new era of customer comfort and convenience. The 787 will be one of the most environmentally-friendly commercial planes in the sky.

Northwest Airlines is one of the world’s largest airlines with hubs at Detroit, Minneapolis/St. Paul, Memphis, Tokyo and Amsterdam, and approximately 1,400 daily departures. Northwest is a member of SkyTeam, an airline alliance that offers customers one of the world’s most extensive global networks. Northwest and its travel partners serve more than 1,000 cities in excess of 160 countries on six continents.

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For more information pertaining to Northwest, media inquiries can be directed to Northwest Media Relations at (612) 726-2331 or to Northwest's Web site at www.nwa.com.



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STATEMENT BY LESTER ROBINSON, CEO, WAYNE COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

The Wayne County Airport Authority today issued the following statement on behalf of CEO Lester Robinson:

“The Wayne County Airport Authority applauds the U.S. Department of Transportation’s decision to award seven of the coveted U.S.-China route authorities to Northwest Airlines to allow for new, daily, non-stop flights between Detroit and Shanghai. Detroit is already a leading U.S. gateway to the Pacific Rim, and the addition of non-stop service to China will strengthen Southeast Michigan’s leadership of the global economy.

“We’re especially excited that Northwest plans to operate the new service between Detroit and China using it’s new, ultra-efficient Boeing 787, which will offer a superior level of service for passengers crossing the Pacific to or from Detroit.”

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