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Commission adopts a report on the efficiency of the list of banned airlines

Three years after the adoption of the EU rules governing the establishment and update of the list of airlines banned from European airspace, the European Commission adopted on Monday a report on their application. The report will be presented to the European Parliament and to the Council. According to the EC, these three years "have shown the effectiveness of this tool to keep safe Europeans travelling by air". Rather than being employed as a punitive instrument, the list of airlines banned within the EU has proven to be an efficient dissuasive measure, which seeks to identify as early as possible serious air safety deficiencies with potentially disastrous consequences. Without providing a full guarantee, it has also functioned as a strong incentive to airlines and civil aviation authorities to continuously improve safety. The report can be consulted on the [Commission's website](#).

Airbus posts mixed 2009 performance

Airbus announced this week a full-year delivery record of 498 aircraft in 2009 (up from 483 in 2008) including 402 from the A320 family, and a gross order intake of 310 aircraft, while admitting that its "biggest disappointment" in the past year was a slowdown in the A380 delivery schedule. Orders comprised 228 A320 family aircraft, 78 A330s/A340s/A350s and four A380s. Cancellations reduced the net to 271 planes valued at \$30.3 billion, compared to 777 in 2008. It claimed a 54% share of the global 100-plus-seat market and said the total order backlog of 3,488 aircraft as of Dec. 31 was worth \$437.1 billion and was equal to six years of full production. Boeing last year booked 263 gross orders and 142 net. Click [here](#) for more information.

ANA converts 787 order, leaving no shorter-range Dreamliner orders

Boeing told media that it is assessing the "market viability" of the 787-3 after ANA converted its order for 28 of the shorter-range Dreamliner variants to the standard 787-8, leaving no -3s in the manufacturer's backlog. The company already had pulled back on its development of the 787-3 in early 2008, shifting resources to the -8 as part of its effort to contend with programme delays. ANA is the launch customer for the 787, which achieved first flight last month. ANA's orders for 55 Dreamliners had been split between the -8 and the -3. Japan Airlines had also originally placed orders for 13 -3s but last year converted those to -8s.

German Defence Ministry: A400M countries agreed on view

The countries that have ordered A400M military planes have agreed on a common position at Thursday's meeting and will stick to the project although not at any price, a German defence ministry spokesman said Friday. "At yesterday's meeting of the deputy defence ministers, the contract countries have agreed to a common position regarding the future proceedings", the spokesman said. "They have agreed to maintain silence about details". Officials from the seven countries, who met in London Thursday, have also "agreed to invite EADS and Airbus to a meeting in the coming days in order to find a solution that's acceptable for all contract partners by the end of January", the spokesman told Dow Jones Newswires.

Embraer's commercial deliveries fall

Embraer announced on Tuesday that it delivered 122 commercial aircraft in 2009 compared to 162 in 2008, comprising seven ERJ-145s, 22 E-170s, 11 E-175s, 62 E-190s and 20 E-195s. The Brazilian manufacturer delivered 244 aircraft overall, a 19.6% surge from the record 204 delivered in 2008, as deliveries of executive aircraft like the Phenom 100 and Legacy 600 nearly doubled. Embraer said its firm order backlog of commercial, executive and defence aircraft was worth \$16.6 billion on December 31. Click [here](#) for more information.

NTSB amends accident reporting

The NTSB has published a final rule amending its regulations and reporting requirements regarding aircraft accidents and specifying the accidents that must be reported immediately. Incidents making the list now include specific EFIS system and PFD or PND failures, and specific collision avoidance system advisories received while operating on an instrument flight plan or in class A airspace. Also included are powerplant issues including turbine component failure resulting in debris thrown anywhere other than out the exhaust path, and propeller failure resulting from anything other than a ground strike. Air carriers will also be required to report any landing or departure from a taxiway or use of the wrong runway. The complete final rule is available online as published in the [Federal Register](#). The provisions detailed in the rule will become effective March 8, 2010.

Qatar and Airbus announce sustainable bio jet fuel initiative

Qatar Airways, Qatar Science & Technology Park (QSTP) and Qatar Petroleum (QP) have announced that they will jointly carry out engineering, economic analysis and move into the development of sustainable bio jet fuel that will also look into ways for production and supply, with the support of Airbus. The partners have agreed to establish the "Qatar Advanced Biofuel Platform" (QABP) which will lead activities in the following four areas: a detailed engineering and implementation plan for economically viable and sustainable bio fuel production; a bio fuel investment strategy; an advanced technology development programme; ongoing market and strategic analysis. Click [here](#) for more information.

BA's Walsh new AEA chairman

The Association of European Airlines (AEA) has announced that Willie Walsh, Chief Executive Officer of British Airways, will chair the Association in 2010, taking over from Dr. Ivan Mišetić of Croatia Airlines. Under Mr. Walsh's Chairmanship, the AEA said it will redouble its efforts in supporting a global solution to deal with aviation's emissions; will seek to minimise the burden of regulation on its member airlines; will continue to support the highest standards of safety and security; and seek to ensure that Europe retains a competitive and sustainable airline industry. AEA also welcomed three new members, Air Baltic, Aegean Airlines and Montenegro Airlines, and now comprises 36 major European network carriers.



Hearings of the Commissioners - Siim Kallas

This week and the next, the European Parliament is holding a series of public hearings with the 26 candidate Commissioners put forward by the Council and Commission President. In his three-hour hearing before the European Parliament's Transport Committee on Thursday, Commissioner-designate Siim Kallas set out his plans for a sustainable European transport policy that "truly benefits citizens and businesses". MEPs questioned him on the transport sector's greenhouse gas emissions, passenger rights, rail liberalisation and the use of "body-scanners" for airline security. Mr. Kallas also set out his views on climate change, balancing environmental and social standards with business competitiveness, harmonising the rail system, road safety, and the need for "strong and coherent funding systems" for European transport policy. Click [here](#) for a summary of the hearing and here for the hearing video.

Commission provides a €3 million initial aid package for Haiti

The European Union has moved to help the victims of the earthquake which struck Haiti by adopting a fast-track "primary emergency" decision of €3 million for immediate relief activities. Relief experts are on their way to Haiti to strengthen the EU's response capabilities on the ground. In addition, the European Union's Civil Protection Mechanism has been activated, with its Monitoring and Information Centre (MIC) coordinating the activities. The Commission is already one of the largest humanitarian donors in Haiti providing around €28 million since 2008. According to the EC, over 70% of Haiti's population live under the poverty threshold, subsisting on less than USD 2 a day. Click [here](#) for more information.



Imm cologne - International Furniture Fair

From 19 to 24 January 2010, imm cologne transforms the city to the centre of international furniture design. The most famous product designers and trend experts from around the world will present their ideas and create a link between design, architecture, art and business. At the two public days on 23 and 24 January, interested visitors can get information on the latest trends in the furniture world. Click [here](#) for more information.

PASSAGEN - Interior Design Week Cologne

Firmly anchored in the cultural landscape, the exhibition event PASSAGEN is opening this year's design season with projects and presentations. The parallel off-show to the International Furniture Fair is focussing on current trends in design – particularly interior design. The exhibitors are institutions and museums, including Museum Ludwig and the Museum of Applied Art, universities, design offices, as well as young initiatives and networks. About 190 shows can be discovered along a dense design route through Cologne's inner city – and since recently in the Ehrenfeld and Mülheim districts. Click [here](#) for more information.

Düsseldorf International: all-time record passenger numbers in the second half of 2009

While the first half year of 2009 was marked by a crisis-triggered drop, a growth of passenger numbers was achieved in the second six months of the year at the Düsseldorf International Airport. Some 17.8 million passengers were counted at Germany's third largest airport. This corresponds to a slight decrease of 2% in

passenger numbers and 6.3% in movements. While German domestic traffic decreased by 4.%, journeys to countries outside Europe and the intercontinental traffic rose by 2.1 percentage points last year. Particularly destinations such as Chicago (+39.5%), Miami (+38.4%), Dubai (+5.9%), New York (+5.3%), Helsinki (+17.8%), Istanbul (+9.2%) and Vienna (+4.8%) were the engines of growth. Click [here](#) for more information.

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