

LUFTHANSA AND AIRBUS PARTNER ON INAUGURAL A380 ROUTE-PROVING FLIGHT TO U.S.

JFK First Stop in Series of Route ‘Optimization’ Flights to U.S. Cities, Followed by Chicago, Washington, D.C.

East Meadow, NY, March 19, 2007 – Lufthansa, in partnership with Airbus, today became the first airline to bring the A380, the world’s largest aircraft, to the U.S. with passengers in the first of a series of Route-Proving flights to and within the U.S. The flight, which originated this morning in Frankfurt, Germany, one of Lufthansa’s three hubs for worldwide operations, carried more than 500 passengers to John F. Kennedy International Airport (Terminal 1).

Fitted with a full cabin interior, today’s flight enables Lufthansa, Airbus and the Port Authority of NY/NJ to optimize air, ground and airport processing procedures under real-time conditions in preparation for Lufthansa’s introduction of the megaliner to its fleet in 2009. Most of the passengers on board were Lufthansa and Airbus employees, who were there to test the aircraft’s in-flight systems and equipment – from the air conditioning, lighting, and acoustics to the galleys and new-generation in-flight entertainment systems. Airbus test pilots crewed the flight deck together with Lufthansa’s flight captains, the first line pilots qualified to fly the A380, while 23 Lufthansa flight attendants handled cabin service. A group of journalists and other guests joined official personnel on the flight.

After inaugural events at JFK today, Lufthansa and Airbus will operate a demonstration flight to Chicago O’Hare Airport tomorrow, March 20th, and a second route-proving flight from Frankfurt to Washington Dulles International Airport on Sunday, March 25th. In between visits to Chicago and Washington, the jetliner is scheduled to fly to Hong Kong with a final stop at Lufthansa’s Munich hub on March 28th in order to complete the series of optimization flights. Using the performance results from this flight circuit, Lufthansa’s goal is to match the turnaround time of the A380 – from landing to take-off – with that of the much smaller long-haul jets already in operation.

“This route-proving program is a natural extension of Lufthansa’s ongoing collaboration with Airbus to bring the A380 to market,” said Wolfgang Mayrhuber, Chairman of the Executive Board and CEO of Deutsche Lufthansa AG. “Experts from across the Lufthansa Aviation Group – from Lufthansa Technik’s Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul services to Lufthansa Systems’ state-of-the-art flight operations – have played an integral role in the development of this aircraft and we are proud to have the opportunity to put our know-how and experience to work alongside our partner Airbus in making these U.S. route-proving flights possible.”

Page 2 – Lufthansa and Airbus Bring A380 to the U.S.

For several years, Lufthansa has rigorously tested the entire ground infrastructure for the A380 at its Frankfurt hub. The Carrier was Airbus' exclusive partner in previous test and development phases of the A380, such as the crucial evacuation test in March 2006, and the new jet's Early Long Flights (ELF) in September 2006. The airline also was involved in the long-haul program leading to certification by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) last December.

"Much credit for the growing success of the A380 program goes to our customers for working as true partners in every aspect of the program. From design and development to route proving flights such as today's, Lufthansa has gone the extra mile in its work with the Airbus team," said John Leahy, Airbus Chief Operating Officer, Customers. "The airports seeing the A380 this week and next are among the key future destinations for the A380 and following these flights, these hubs will prove themselves ready, willing and able to welcome the A380 for service. The Airbus team has worked closely with many airports worldwide to make sure our product is a great fit for theirs and successful landings such as today's prove that work has paid off. The A380 isn't just coming, it's here."

Lufthansa will take delivery of 15 Airbus A380s (with an option for an additional five aircraft) between summer of 2009 and 2015, the largest order of any European airline. The investment, which Lufthansa made just three months after 9/11, when most airlines were curtailing operations in response to steep drops in international air travel, will help the carrier achieve its long-term commitment to:

- Strategic growth worldwide and continued expansion of Lufthansa's service in the North American market, which includes non-stop service from 16 U.S. and three Canadian cities to Frankfurt and Munich, Germany;
- Operating the most technologically advanced and fuel-efficient fleet in the world. Even with 500-plus passengers, the Airbus A380 burns about 12 percent less fuel than other wide-body jets: consumption is nearly 80 miles per gallon/passenger. Additionally, the new aircraft is approximately 30 percent quieter than the current generation of widebody aircraft. This investment is part of Lufthansa's decades-long commitment to environmental protection and sustainability, including its participation in the "Good Corporate Citizenship" initiative of the "2002 UN Global Compact";
- Offering passengers a full complement of high-quality travel experiences with a three-class configuration aboard the A380, Lufthansa's newly revamped and more-comfortable economy class is a move that counters the industry trend toward cost cutting. More information on Lufthansa's A380 cabin configuration and respective amenities will be announced in 2008.

Page 3 – Lufthansa and Airbus Bring A380 to the U.S.

“Lufthansa’s A380 route-proving flights will help us optimize all processes that are part of normal operations, both onboard and on the ground. This includes check-in, boarding and deboarding, maintenance checks -- and in-flight services such as meals and entertainment, to name a few,” said Jens Bischof, Vice President, the Americas for Lufthansa. “Our chief objective is to ensure that our passengers have the same high-quality experience with the A380 as they do with Lufthansa's current widebody service.”

With each new Airbus A380 added to Lufthansa's fleet, approximately 400 new jobs will be created throughout its worldwide operations. Additionally, Lufthansa and other co-owners of JFK's Terminal 1 (Air France, JAL and Korean Airlines), are spending approximately USD \$40 Million in capital improvements to Gate areas in order to accommodate the new megaliner.

ABOUT LUFTHANSA

One of the world’s largest airlines, Lufthansa flies to some 183 destinations in 78 countries, including 19 North American gateways. Together with its Star Alliance and bilateral partners, Lufthansa serves 411 destinations in more than 96 countries worldwide. An industry leader known for its investment in innovation, Lufthansa was the launch customer for the Boeing 737-700, the Boeing 747-800 and with this first A380 Route-Proving to the U.S., continues its long-standing tradition. With an order of 15 A380s and options for five more, Lufthansa will operate the largest A380 fleet in all of Europe. Every tenth A380 manufactured will be delivered to Lufthansa from 2009 until 2015. Possible U.S. destinations include Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco and Washington, D.C.

The first delivery of an A380 is scheduled for October 2007. The Aircraft received joint European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Type Certification in December 2006. Firm orders and commitments stand at 156 aircraft for 14 customers.

ABOUT AIRBUS NORTH AMERICA

Airbus North America (ANA) Holdings supports Airbus customers in the United States and Canada. Each new Airbus order means new business for American companies. In 2006 alone, Airbus spent \$10.2 billion with suppliers in more than 40 U.S. states. Using a U.S. Department of Commerce model, that dollar amount translates into Airbus support of more than 190,000 American jobs. Airbus is an EADS company.

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Contacts:

Martin Riecken
Director of Communications The Americas
Lufthansa
(516) 296-9671
corporatecommunications@dlh.de
www.lufthansa.com

Clay McConnell
VP, Communications
Airbus North America

clay.mcconnell@airbus.com
www.airbus.com