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CHARTER UPDATES

STARTER VOYAGES will switch airlines for the Summer season 2003, starting in April.

Longtime partner-airline SWISS is expected lose 14 weekly charter operations to Mediterranean holiday resorts due to substantial differences in seat pricing.

New partner IBERWORLD is said to charge about 60 Euro less per seat.

Also, SWISS has to reduce its charter-fleet by three units because of this and other T/O changes of preferred airlines.

NEW WEEKLY SERVICES started on December 17 and 22 : Aeris International B-767-300 to Malé (Colombo) on behalf of **Avione Travel** (www.flieg-ab-basel.de) and Khalifa Airways B-737-400 to Tamanrasset/Djanet as dedicated charter for the **Desert Team group** (www.desert-team.ch).

SCHEDULE UPDATES

LUFTHANSA named a duty station manager at the EAP. The move is designed to bolster local LH activities. Further network expansions may be expected in the near future.

TACV CABO VERDE BOEING B-757-200 is back in the air after a two-week maintenance visit.

COACH SERVICES FROM BASEL to the EAP have been reshuffled. Important to know : the surcharge (2 Euro) on Express Line 50 has been dropped. The one-way fare amounts to 2.40 Euro.

ON NOVEMBER 18, SWISS opened its dedicated car parking facility with a storage capacity of 1'900 vehicles. The parking is serving staff, clients, and guests with sheltered access to the office and maintenance building.

LOW VISIBILITY is still adding to flight diversions. In most cases pilots in charge are not certified to perform CAT IIIa/b landings. Rarely do Chapter III aircraft lack the necessary hardware to allow CAT III approaches (a = 200m RVR, 50 ft. vertical, b = 150m RVR, 20 ft. vertical). Dense fog interrupted EC-airtraffic at Strasbourg-Entzheim on November 18. Members of Parliament attending the European Council's monthly meeting saw their flights heading for the EAP instead. Here is a list of the most prominent diversions reported by the local WAN team :

Polish Airlines	LOT 7125 SP-LMC B737-36N
SN Brussels	SN 070 OO-DWA RJ 100
Sobelair	SLR 4575 OO-SLW B-737-448
Sobelair	SLR 4577 OO-SBM B-737-429
Iberia Regional	ANS 8656 EC-IBM CRJ 200

Flights of Air France (10) Air Littoral (3), and BritAir (1) also fell victim to foggy weather conditions.

UPS & DOWNS (not confirmed but interesting)

FARNAIR EUROPE is believed to face a financial crisis. Line maintenance is expected to be scaled down at the EAP at the end of 2002. Good news may be that 14 mechanics are likely to be hired by SWISS which is facing a shortage of 200 maintenance and IT-technicians in order to arrive again at a 98%+ aircraft dispatch reliability.

The **ASSOCIATION OF EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT** (AEA) hangar has to be removed from the present location according to its owners.

The EAP is determined to go ahead with the Zone 4 site planning which is to include extra space for expresscargo and maintenance.

Unconfirmed news suggest that **NOVARTIS** is to set up a base for its corporate jet fleet of Global Express aircraft at this zone which would also include a dedicated terminal

TERMINAL EXTENSION NORTH is fully operational. December 3 marked the first day of service. Additional capacity will be added in Spring 2004 (Terminal Extension South presently under construction).

The new facility also enhances a different layout for traffic sectors holding French and Swiss traffic rights.

HALL 1 (Terminal Extension North) intra-European scheduled services

HALL 2 (old terminal) charter flights with EU- and French traffic rights

HALL 3 (old terminal) international scheduled flights (temporarily) and charter services

HALL 4 (Terminal Extension South) international scheduled services

The new terminal offers 20 check-in desks, four self-service check-in facilities, four security gates for passenger & luggage screening, two gates for aircraft boarding (one with jetway equipment) and plenty of space for commercial use.



NEWSLETTER EAP – DECEMBER 2002 No. 26

Monthly news coverage of the only tri-national airport Basel-Mulhouse-Freiburg – Regio TriRhena

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AIRPORT CHARGES AT A GLANCE for Chapter III A-320 & B-737-800 (in Euro) (source EAP, GVA, ZRH, Skyguide Berne)

passenger charges	EAP		GVA		ZRH		particular situation at airport
	Swiss	Europe	dep.	transfer	dep.	transfer	
departure tax	6.90	6.20	12.70		14.00*		*new regime planned 04/2003
security tax	2.70				6.70*	4.70*	
transfer tax	6.55	5.90		8.70		5.30*	
noise tax					3.30*	3.30*	
construction charge	1.70*	1.55*					*temporarily levied
total departure tax	16.30	12.75	12.70		24.00*		
total transfer tax	13.25	12.45		8.70		13.30*	
airport tax	5.00*	5.00*					*to be paid by passenger
ramp charges	A320	B738	A320	B738	A320	B738	particular situation at airport
full load	170 pax	180 pax					
boarding via jetway	57.95	57.95					34€/pax (A320)/32€/pax (B738)
passenger boarding (bus)	54.90*	54.90*					*limited to two busses
landing fees (MTOW)	4.90/to.		50to.218.80/5.00*	50to.271.10/6.40*			*per additional ton
A320 73 to. & B738 71 to.	357.70	347.90	333.80	323.80	418.30	405.50	

Incentives are offered by all airports. Programs may include no landing charge over a period of one year if new destinations are targeted, discounted landing charges for freighters based on amassed MTOW over a 12 month-time stretch or a full-scale marketing support kit tailored to airline requirements.

Dear Subscriber... We have entered the third year as Newsletter EAP. We also took the opportunity to sharpen our expertise when aviation matters are being tabled. The range of news has obviously inspired you to register in encouraging numbers. Presently, we are exploring an extension of scale (news, analysis, benchmarking, interviews) with other partners.

The line is always open for your feedback anytime.
(mailto:eapnews@hotmail.com)

EXTENDING THE NEWS LINE would call for broader coverage of issues beyond passenger and cargo news like:

FRENCH & SWISS ATC news
BENCHMARKING reports prepared by specialists
CARGO developments
COMPANY PROFILES
ENVIRONMENTAL issues
GENERAL AVIATION matters
INTERVIEWS with people on the job
MAINTENANCE reviews
regional MARKET REPORTS (passenger and airfreight)
special PASSENGER data

Access to news channels, data analysis, market reports has been improved over the years. Relying on English networks is giving us a global perspective on local news.

And here we stand - in order to continue as outlined above we would depend on funding from your side ! We are now working on a cost sheet which will produce a fair picture of what the costs will be when launching the extended news design.

THE BASEL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (HKBB) will consult its members concerning a planned forum which is intended to address service problems with SWISS. The inquiry ought to test member-interest. Most likely, the government, IG Luftverkehr, HKBB and the travel/cargo industry will send delegations to the forum if it should receive a go-ahead. The project may be an urgent matter as SWISS is split over how to cut losses.

LOSING OUT TO THE SKYTRAIN ? As sound data is presently missing, passenger interviews of scale may be a must to produce a clear view. Also, opinions differ regarding any impact of the rail-link BSL - ZRH Airport on direct flights ex EAP to major European business centers.

SBB figures could be of some help to identify the stakes: 600 passengers are boarding and disembarking 30 roundtrip services offered between Basel SBB and Zürich-Airport each day. Passengers are either holding a job at both ends, (non-Swiss) airline tickets or vouchers of Swiss tour operators. According to SBB press officers, SWISS has bought about 70'000 tickets in 2002 so far.

SWISS is presently reviewing the train scheme to study its value.

In 1999 a total of 235'500 passengers boarded flights on the BSL-ZRH stretch vv. marking a all-time high on this route.

TRAFFIC REPORT: JANUARY - NOVEMBER 2002

scheduled traffic			
Swiss carriers	730'211	-	7%*
transfers	504'927	-	19%
French carriers	652'791	-	4%
Transfers	5'994	-	51%
German carriers	282'990	+	8%
Transfers	12'435	+	344%
other carriers	74'909	+	48%
charter traffic			
Swiss carriers	161'711	-	34%
French carriers	38'219	+	44%
German carriers	18'347	-	69%
other carriers	365'160	-	8%
Total commercial traffic	2'865'623	-	10%

ATC France went on a 24 hour walkout. BSL-ZRH passenger volumes are not considered in the tally (-177'000 pax in 2001) to avoid a distortion of traffic figures.

CARGO FIGURES JANUARY – NOVEMBER 2002

Expresscargo airlifted	20'559 to (20'534)	+ 0%
General Cargo airlifted	5'516 to (42'593)	- 87%
Adhoc cargo airlifted	288 to (1'742)	- 83%