



THURSDAY 26 MARCH 2009

ELFAA welcomes withdrawal of Dutch ticket tax

Brussels – 26 March 2009. The European Low Fares Airline Association – ELFAA welcomes the enlightened decision of the Dutch Government to lift the discriminatory tax on airline tickets. The tax is discriminatory in that it is only levied on passengers starting their journey in the Netherlands, thus exempting cargo flights and transfer passengers.

As predicted, passenger travel to and from the Netherlands has suffered a significant fall since introduction of the tax, putting Dutch aviation at a competitive disadvantage within the EU.

The Belgian Government already abandoned a proposal to introduce a similar tax.

The Dutch Government has taken the right decision in withdrawing this unjustified and dissuasive tax and ELFAA urges the Governments of the United Kingdom, Italy and Ireland to follow their lead.

NOTES TO THE EDITOR:

ELFAA airline members include: clickair, easyJet, flybe, Jet2.com, Myair.com, Norwegian, Ryanair, Sky Europe, Sverige Flyg, transavia.com and Wizz Air.

ELFAA airline members carry approximately 150 million passengers every year, using a combined fleet of some 500 of the most technologically-advanced, environmentally-efficient aircraft.

Low fares airlines currently account for over 35% of scheduled intra-European traffic.

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