



WEDNESDAY, 25 JUNE 2008

## **ELFAA welcomes the European Commission's proposal to revise Single European Sky**

**BRUSSELS, 25 June 2008** – The European Low Fares Airline Association – ELFAA, today gave a warm welcome to the Commission's proposal for the second package of the Single European Sky (SES II).

John Hanlon, Secretary General of ELFAA said:

“As part of the so-called airline revolution in the past decade LFAs have implemented radical changes to the traditional airline business model and sought efficiencies within their operations, resulting in major cost savings being passed on to consumers in the form of low fares. The only part of the aviation supply chain that has not been affected by the airline revolution to date is Air Traffic Management (ATM), the inefficiencies of which cost airlines over €5 billion per annum, 21 million minutes of flight delays and 12 million tonnes of avoidable CO2 emissions!

Due to protective national governments and strong resistance from Air Navigation Service Providers, the EU's Single European Sky project (SES I) proved to be extremely disappointing. The lack of any real progress in bringing about the Single European Sky in the ten years since it was first proposed necessitates the reinforcement of the project.

ELFAA's recently launched Airspace Manifesto (available at [www.elfaa.com](http://www.elfaa.com)) - a high level vision statement for the future of European ATM - advocates simplification of current regulatory structures and the introduction of competition in the market for ATM provision. The current market situation of sky-rocketing oil prices makes more compelling than ever the case for an efficient ATM. This will lead to reduction in unnecessary fuel burn, resulting in lower emissions and lower operating costs.

The success of SES II will be vitally dependent on the will of all stakeholders to contribute to the vitally-needed reform. ELFAA stands willing to continue working with the European institutions to progress the achievement of the long-overdue Single European Sky to the benefit of the economy, the environment and - last but not least - European consumers.”



# news

## **NOTES TO THE EDITOR:**

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

ELFAA airline members will carry over 150 million passengers in 2008, 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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