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CONTACT: Air France Corporate Communications
Tel: +33-1-41565600

Alitalia Corporate Communications
Tel: +39-06-65638950

Delta Corporate Communications
Tel: +1-404-7152554 (U.S.)
Tel: +44-208-8676295 (Europe, Africa, Middle East)

KLM Corporate Communications
Tel: +31-20-6494545

Alitalia Joins Air France-KLM Group, Delta Air Lines in Industry’s Leading Trans-Atlantic Joint Venture

ROME, July 5 2010 – Alitalia, Italy’s largest airline, today joined the Air France-KLM Group (OTC: AFLYY) and Delta Air Lines (NYSE: DAL) as a member of the airline industry’s leading trans-Atlantic joint venture. Launched in April 2009, the multi-party agreement created a single, coordinated network for customers flying across the Atlantic, allowing the member airlines to share revenues and costs on their trans-Atlantic routes.

Through the four-way joint venture, passengers have convenient access to the world’s largest trans-Atlantic network, which offers almost 250 flights and approximately 55,000 seats each day, now including 20 daily trans-Atlantic flights to 5 U.S. destinations from Rome and Milan Malpensa airports. With Alitalia’s addition, the joint venture represents approximately 26 percent of total trans-Atlantic capacity, with annual revenues estimated at more than $10 billion USD.

Rome joins Amsterdam, Atlanta, Detroit, Minneapolis, New York-JFK and Paris-CDG as the core hubs of the joint venture, with additional trans-Atlantic service from Cincinnati, Milan Malpensa, Memphis and Salt Lake City. Wherever traffic rights permit, the airlines offer customers codeshare service between the United States and the European Union, and in many cases beyond, creating one network for seamless airline-to-airline connections between points in North America and the European Union.

Through the joint venture’s geographic scope includes all flights between North America and Europe, between Amsterdam and India and between North America and Tahiti.

“Today marks an important milestone in Alitalia’s development plan” said Alitalia’s CEO Rocco Sabelli. “Trans-Atlantic traffic is the most strategic and competitive marketplace. We are proud to be partnering with the world’s leading airlines in a joint venture which the whole industry looks at as the benchmark. Such an achievement highlights the valuable results obtained so far by Alitalia, and further opens-up opportunities for our industrial and commercial growth”.

“Delta’s partnership with Europe’s leading airlines has been a great success and has enabled us to add new destinations and convenience for customers across the United States and Europe,” said Delta CEO Richard Anderson. “The addition of Alitalia to our joint venture will further bolster
our ability to optimize resources, protect revenues and provide more benefits for our employees and shareholders.”

"The trans-Atlantic joint venture has been strengthened by the arrival of Alitalia, which adds the Italian market, the third biggest in Europe, to the JV and also gives it access to the Rome-Fiumicino hub,” said Air France-KLM CEO Pierre-Henri Gourgeon. “The Italian airline, a SkyTeam member, is a strategic partner of Air France-KLM with which it already has joint venture agreements on its Italy-France and Italy-Netherlands routes. It is therefore natural that this successful partnership should continue with Alitalia’s participation in the trans-Atlantic JV.”

“The inclusion of Alitalia is an important step for the joint venture and will strengthen the position of the other JV partners in the very important Italian market,” said KLM President and CEO Peter Hartman. “Our customers can now choose between multiple gateways in the U.S. as well as in Europe, via Amsterdam Schiphol, Paris Charles de Gaulle and Rome Fiumicino.”

Governance of the joint venture will be equally shared between Alitalia, the Air France-KLM Group and Delta. Alitalia representatives will immediately join the joint venture’s 11 working groups responsible for implementing and managing the agreement in the areas of network, revenue management, sales, product, frequent flyer, advertising/brand, cargo, operations, information technology, communications and finance. Alitalia also will be included in all joint venture initiatives, including joint sales contracts, which launched in January 2009.

Alitalia's addition to the joint venture is effective April 1, 2010 as part of a long-term agreement effective until at least March 31, 2022.

The long history of cooperation among Air France, KLM and Delta dates to 1997, when KLM signed a joint venture agreement with Northwest Airlines. Delta, which merged with Northwest in 2008, signed its own joint venture agreement with Air France in 2007 following eight years of close trans-Atlantic cooperation. In 2009, both joint ventures were combined into one following the Delta-Northwest and Air France-KLM mergers.

The alliance of the four airlines, which is enabled by trans-Atlantic antitrust immunity granted by the U.S. and European governments, has delivered a number of benefits to consumers over the last decade. Dozens of new routes have been created as a result of the airlines' cooperation, including Delta’s first service to London-Heathrow from Atlanta, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Detroit and New York-JFK. New nonstop service has also been launched between mid-sized cities such as Portland, Ore. and Amsterdam; Pittsburgh and Paris; and Salt Lake City and Paris.

Key facts and figures on the expanded joint venture
- Nearly 250 daily trans-Atlantic flights
- Almost 500 destinations in Europe and in North America
- Annual revenues estimated at more than US$10 billion
- More than 100,000 employees at Air France-KLM
- More than 70,000 employees at Delta
- More than 14,000 employees at Alitalia

About Alitalia
Alitalia - Compagnia Aerea Italiana started operations in January 2009, following the acquisition of assets from Alitalia - Linee Aeree Italiane, and of Air One. Today Alitalia is Italy's leading airline, serving 22 million passengers with its 158 aircrafts fleet, and operating more than 700 daily flights across a network of 83 destinations. In 2010 Alitalia positioned Air One as a low
fares, yet high quality carrier operating from the Milan Malpensa airport. Alitalia is a member of the SkyTeam alliance. Further information is available on www.alitalia.com.

About Air France-KLM
The Air France-KLM Group was set up in 2004 and comprises a holding company and two airlines that have retained their separate brands and identities. Together, Air France and KLM serve an extensive global network structured around their hubs at Paris-Charles de Gaulle and Amsterdam-Schiphol. Currently, the group has a workforce of over 104,000, carries 71.4 million passengers annually to 244 destinations worldwide, and operates a fleet of 594 aircraft. This ranks it first worldwide by turnover, which stood at 21 billion euros in IATA 2009/2010. Air France and KLM are members of the SkyTeam Alliance, whose services span the world. Air France was founded in 1933, KLM in 1919. Full information on corporate.airfrance.com and www.klm.com

About Delta
Delta Air Lines serves more than 160 million customers each year. With its unsurpassed global network, Delta and the Delta Connection carriers offer service to 369 destinations in 67 countries on six continents. Delta, headquartered in Atlanta, employs more than 70,000 employees worldwide and operates a mainline fleet of more than 700 aircraft. A founding member of the SkyTeam global alliance, Delta participates in the industry’s leading trans-Atlantic joint venture with Air France-KLM and Alitalia. Including its worldwide alliance partners, Delta offers customers more than 13,000 daily flights, with hubs in Amsterdam, Atlanta, Cincinnati, Detroit, Memphis, Minneapolis-St. Paul, New York-JFK, Paris-Charles de Gaulle, Salt Lake City and Tokyo-Narita. The airline’s services include the SkyMiles frequent flier program, the world’s largest airline loyalty program; the award-winning BusinessElite service; and more than 45 Delta Sky Clubs in airports worldwide. Customers can check in for flights, print boarding passes, check bags and review flight status at delta.com.

About the Joint Venture
With nearly 250 daily trans-Atlantic flights and a fleet of 144 aircraft, the joint venture between Air France-KLM, Alitalia and Delta Air Lines provides customers with the benefits of a vast route network offering more frequencies, competitive fares and harmonized services on all trans-Atlantic flights. The JV network is structured around seven main hubs: Amsterdam, Atlanta, Detroit, Minneapolis, New York-JFK, Paris-CDG and Rome Fiumicino, together with Cincinnati, Lyon, Milan, Memphis and Salt Lake City. The JV offers customers access to 300 destinations beyond the 26 North American gateways and 200 destinations beyond the 33 European gateways throughout Europe, Asia and Latin America. The JV represents 26% of total trans-Atlantic capacity and generates $10 billion in expected annual revenues. Under the terms of this agreement, the partners jointly operate their trans-Atlantic routes, thereby sharing revenues and costs. For more information on Air France-KLM, Alitalia or Delta go to the respective corporate websites.