



NEWS RELEASE

For more information contact:

Michael J. Kraupp

Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

St. George, UT 84790

Telephone: (435) 634-3203

Fax: (435) 634-3205

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 27, 2012

SkyWest, Inc. Announces Additional Stock Repurchase Authorization and Regular Quarterly Dividend

St. George, Utah—SkyWest, Inc. (“SkyWest”) (NASDAQ:SKYW) today announced that its Board of Directors has authorized the repurchase of up to an additional 5 million outstanding shares of SkyWest common stock. This is in addition to the remaining 1.51 million shares previously authorized under SkyWest’s existing stock repurchase program, for a total of 6.51 million shares authorized. The authorization gives SkyWest management authority to repurchase outstanding shares of SkyWest common stock in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions as deemed appropriate by management. Depending on market conditions and other factors, these purchases may be commenced or suspended from time to time without prior notice. SkyWest also announced its regular quarterly dividend of \$.04 per common share that will apply to shareholders of record on September 28, 2012 and is payable on October 5, 2012. This is the 69th consecutive quarterly dividend SkyWest has paid.

SkyWest is the holding company for two scheduled passenger airline operations and an aircraft leasing company and is headquartered in St. George, Utah. SkyWest’s scheduled passenger airline operations consist of SkyWest Airlines, also based in St. George, Utah, and ExpressJet Airlines, based in Atlanta, Georgia. SkyWest Airlines operates as United Express and Delta Connection carriers under contractual agreements with United Airlines, Inc. (“United”) and Delta Air Lines, Inc. (“Delta”). SkyWest Airlines also operates as US Airways Express under a contractual agreement with US Airways, Inc., and operates flights for Alaska Airlines under a contractual agreement. ExpressJet Airlines operates as United Express and Delta Connection carriers under contractual agreements with United and Delta. System-wide, SkyWest serves markets in the United States, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean with approximately 4,000 daily departures and a fleet of approximately 725 regional aircraft. This press release and additional information regarding SkyWest can be accessed at www.skywest.com

In addition to historical information, this release contains forward-looking statements. SkyWest may, from time to time, make written or oral forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements encompass SkyWest's beliefs, expectations, hopes or intentions regarding future events. Words such as “forecasts”, “expects”, “intends”, “believes”, “anticipates”, “should”, “likely” and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. All forward-looking

statements included in this release are made as of the date hereof and are based on information available to SkyWest as of such date. SkyWest assumes no obligation to update any forward-looking statement. Readers should note that many factors could affect the future operating and financial results of SkyWest, SkyWest Airlines and ExpressJet Airlines, and could cause actual results to vary materially from those expressed in forward-looking statements set forth in this release. These factors include, but are not limited to, the ability of ExpressJet Airlines to realize potential synergies and other anticipated financial impacts of the consolidation of its operations, the possibility that future financial and operating results of ExpressJet Airlines may not meet SkyWest's forecasts and the timing of ongoing consolidation of the operations of ExpressJet Airlines, if achieved.

Actual operational and financial results of SkyWest, SkyWest Airlines and ExpressJet Airlines will also vary, and may vary materially, from those anticipated, estimated, projected or expected for a number of other reasons, including, in addition to those identified above: the challenges of competing successfully in a highly competitive and rapidly changing industry; developments associated with fluctuations in the economy and the demand for air travel; ongoing negotiations between SkyWest, SkyWest Airlines and ExpressJet Airlines and their major partners regarding their contractual obligations; the financial stability of those major partners and any potential impact of their financial condition on the operations of SkyWest, SkyWest Airlines, or ExpressJet Airlines; the resolution of current litigation with a major airline partner of SkyWest Airlines and ExpressJet Airlines; fluctuations in flight schedules, which are determined by the major partners for whom SkyWest's operating airlines conduct flight operations; variations in market and economic conditions; labor relationships; the impact of global instability; rapidly fluctuating fuel costs; the degree and nature of competition; potential fuel shortages; the impact of weather-related or other natural disasters on air travel and airline costs; aircraft deliveries; and other unanticipated factors. Risk factors, cautionary statements and other conditions which could cause SkyWest's actual results to differ from management's current expectations are contained in SkyWest's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission; including the section of SkyWest's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, entitled "Risk Factors."