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SkyWest, Inc. Reports Combined March 2016 Traffic for SkyWest Airlines and ExpressJet Airlines

ST. GEORGE, UT, PRNewswire/ -- SkyWest, Inc., (NASDAQ: SKYW) ("SkyWest") today reported 171,643 block hours in March 2016, compared to 183,823 block hours in March 2015, a decrease of 12,180 or 6.6%. The net decrease was consistent with SkyWest's fleet transition plan to improve the mix of aircraft in its fleet by adding new dual class aircraft to its fleet, while reducing its 50-seat and 30-seat aircraft.

The year-over-year net change was primarily driven by approximately 8,000 additional block hours from its dual class aircraft (E175s, CRJ700s and CRJ900s) and a decrease of approximately 20,200 block hours from fewer 50-seat jet (CRJ200s and ERJ135s/145s) and 30-seat turboprop (EMB-120) aircraft.

In March 2016, SkyWest's dual class aircraft represented approximately 42% of SkyWest's total block hour production for the month compared to approximately 35% for the month of March 2015.

SkyWest reported 486,872 block hours for year-to-date March 2016, compared to 516,774 block hours year-to-date March 2015, a decrease of 29,902, or 5.8%. This net change was primarily driven by approximately 24,400 additional block hours from its dual class aircraft and a decrease of approximately 54,300 block hours from fewer 50-seat jet and 30-seat turboprop aircraft.

SkyWest had 101,895 departures in March 2016 compared to 109,265 in March 2015, a decrease of 7,370, or 6.7%. SkyWest generated 3.01 billion available seat miles (ASMs) for March 2016, compared to 3.14 billion ASMs for March 2015, or a 4.1% decrease. Additional flight statistics for March, including passengers enplaned, revenue passenger miles, and passenger load factors, are included in the accompanying table.

SKYWEST, INC. MARCH FLIGHT STATISTICS

Block Hour Summary:

-	Month	Month	Month	YTD	YTD	YTD
By Fleet:	March 2016	March 2015	% Change	March 2016	March 2015	% Change
CRJ200	55,422	59,411	(6.7)	156,758	165,946	(5.5)
CRJ700	37,482	37,967	(1.3)	106,981	108,504	(1.4)
CRJ900	18,226	18,294	(0.4)	52,325	50,526	3.6
ERJ135/145	44,728	58,274	(23.2)	127,694	161,825	(21.1)
E175	15,785	7,261	117.4	43,114	19,000	126.9
EMB-120	-	2,616	(100.0)	-	10,973	(100.0)
Total Block Hours	171,643	183,823	(6.6)	486,872	516,774	(5.8)
	Month	Month	Month	YTD	YTD	YTD
By Airline:	March 2016	March 2015	% Change	March 2016	March 2015	% Change
SkyWest Airlines	95,573	89,749	6.5	271,536	255,396	6.3
ExpressJet Airlines	76,070	94,074	(19.1)	215,336	261,378	(17.6)
Total Block Hours	171,643	183,823	(6.6)	486,872	516,774	(5.8)
Other Flight Statistics:						
	Month	Month	Month	YTD	YTD	YTD
	March 2016	March 2015	% Change	March 2016	March 2015	% Change
Departures	101,895	109,265	(6.7)	286,475	304,599	(6.0)
Available Seat Miles	3,007,549,167	3,136,026,987	(4.1)	8,506,354,926	8,692,116,453	(2.1)
Revenue Passenger Miles	2,459,785,015	2,587,486,590	(4.9)	6,721,215,508	6,967,911,196	(3.5)
Passengers	4,670,754	4,896,859	(4.6)	12,668,546	13,190,537	(4.0)

82.5

(0.7) pts

79.0

80.2

(1.2) pts

81.8

About SkyWest

Load Factor

SkyWest, Inc. is the holding company for two scheduled passenger airline operations and an aircraft leasing company and is headquartered in St. George, Utah. SkyWest's airline companies provide commercial air service in cities throughout North America with more than 3,000 scheduled daily flights carrying nearly 57 million passengers annually. SkyWest Airlines operates through partnerships with United Airlines, Delta Air Lines, American Airlines and Alaska Airlines. ExpressJet Airlines operates through partnerships with United Airlines to set the standard for excellence in the regional industry with unmatched value for customers, shareholders and its nearly 20,000 employees. This press release and additional information regarding SkyWest can be accessed at inc.skywest.com.