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PrivatAir extends range of operation for fleet of BBJs

Business aviation specialist PrivatAir Group has gained both ETOPS 180 minutes^a and FAA 129 Foreign Carrier approval as a designated carrier under the US-Switzerland bi-lateral "open skies" agreement. These approvals allow the company to offer the most direct routes across the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans and unlimited operations to the US. The Group is the only commercial operator of the Boeing Business Jet and the only ad hoc commercial charter operator in the world with these approvals.

Previously PrivatAir's operating authority limited the company to private, diplomatic and a handful of commercial flights to the US a year. As one of only five carriers designated by the Swiss FOCA to fly to the US and the other approvals and with the BBJ's non-stop range of 6,000 miles, the company is able to fly directly to all but a very few places in the world.

"We'll immediately offer more direct transoceanic routes to our customers," said David Hurley, CEO PrivateAir Group. "We should also be able to cut the flying time between more city pairs across the world." The first flight following this approval will be from Fort Lauderdale to Mexico with deluxe-tour operator INTRAV who are owned by Kuoni Travel Group and offer leisure travelers unique and luxurious private-jet journeys.