



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**21<sup>st</sup> May 2007**

### **PRIVATAIR TO MARK 30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY AT EBACE**

PrivatAir marks its 30<sup>th</sup> year of commercial operation at the EBAA Annual Conference in Geneva, Switzerland, this year.

After three decades of providing its corporate and private customers with services of unparalleled excellence in the air and on the ground, PrivatAir now has an annual turnover of US\$ 200m. Headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, The company operates bases in Zurich, Amsterdam, Düsseldorf, Hamburg and Munich and through its US subsidiary PrivatAir Inc.

PrivatAir employs over 540 people and manages some 40 aircraft, ranging in size from a Beech King Air to an executive Boeing 767, which it operates from Europe and throughout the USA. PrivatAir aims to take the best practices of the commercial airline industry, adding the flexibility of business aviation and PrivatAir's exceptional standards of service. The Group plans grow the business organically and by acquisition and joint venture.

PrivatAir has come a long way since its inception in 1977. Originally starting out as the corporate aircraft fleet of the Latsis Group, a global conglomerate whose operations extend from oil tankers to luxury yachts, banking to construction, the airline has become a firm favourite with connoisseurs of taste and discretion.

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The company grew quickly and was granted by the Federal Office of Civil Aviation its Swiss Air Operator Certificate in 1995. Five years later PrivatAir acquired Flight Services Group (FSG) in the USA to create today's PrivatAir Group.

“There have been many changes to PrivatAir throughout the last 30 years. We’ve started new ventures, such as entering into the ground services business, private airline services as well as aircraft sales and management,” said Greg Thomas, CEO PrivatAir Group. “Whatever the next 30 years hold for our company, one thing is certain – that the high standards customers have come to expect from us will be the key to our future success.”

PrivatAir Firsts within the business aviation industry over its 30 year history:

- The first commercial operator to order the Boeing Business Jet (two BBJs were ordered in 1998 followed by a third in 1999)
- Europe's first business aviation company to meet ISO 9002 certification standards for all its services (1998)
- Following September 11<sup>th</sup> 2001, PrivatAir was the first business aviation company authorised to fly into the US by the Federal Aviation Authority
- First to build a dedicated private airport terminal offering full passenger services, ranging from check-in to police and customs, all under one roof (Geneva, 2002)
- First to launch the business-class only concept on transatlantic routes with Lufthansa in 2003
- First to make a Luxury Boeing 767-306 ER available for charter in 2007

### **Editor's Note**

PrivatAir is a leading international business aviation group with headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, operating bases in Zurich, Düsseldorf, Hamburg and Munich (Germany) and through its US subsidiary PrivatAir Inc. throughout the USA. The Group's services include Private Charter for VIPs and executives,

Private Airline Services, Ground Services and Aircraft Sales & Management. PrivatAir manages a fleet of over 50 aircraft ranging from a Beech King Air to an executive Boeing 757, operating out of bases in Europe and the USA. The Group was the first commercial operator of the new generation of Boeing ultra-long-range executive aircraft, the Boeing Business Jet (BBJ 1 and 2) and also operates 4 Airbus A319 aircraft.

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