

Announcement no. 32/2010 9 April 2010

# TRAFFIC FIGURES – FEBRUARY/MARCH 2010

Performance in March 2010 compared with March 2009:

- The number of own passengers and the total number of passengers increased by 49% and 26% respectively.
- Own capacity (ASK) increased by 65% and by 49% in total.
- Own traffic (ASK) increased by 114% and by 79% in total.
- The load factor (RPK to ASK) increased for all four segments; by 16 percentage points for own routes and by 11 percentage points in total.

The yield dropped to DKK 0.94 (by 32%) in February, primarily due to the changed product mix, which accounted for 61% of the decline.

# Traffic performance in March 2010

Passenger numbers in March 2010 totalled 216,181, representing a 26% year-on-year increase. The number of own passengers increased by 49% relative to the prior-year period. The growth rates for Domestic and Regional were 39% and 17% respectively, and the number of leisure passengers more than doubled as a result of the fleet expansion by three Boeing 737s to a total of six.

In March 2010, capacity (ASK) increased by 49%, and own capacity increased by 65%. During the same period, traffic (RPK) increased by 79% and own traffic by 114%. Traffic increased by more than capacity in all four segments: Domestic, Regional, Leisure and Charter/ACMI.

The increase in traffic within own production as well as Charter/ACMI led to an increase in the load factor from 58% in March 2009 to 69% in March 2010.

# Yield performance in February 2010

The yield was 0.94 in February, equivalent to a 32% decline compared with February 2009. The drop in yield was due to the changed product mix (increased leisure production), the extraordinarily keen competition and falling demand. The change in product mix accounted for 61% of the yield decline.

The yield for the Domestic segment dropped by 31%, in February 2010, which was partly offset by a 10percentage-point increase in the load factor from 52% to 62%. The Regional segment recorded a 20% drop in yield. Conversely, the yield for the Leisure segment increased by 22% and the load factor increased by 20% in spite of the very competitive market conditions.

Increased leisure production is characterised by longer haul flights, which was also the primary reason for the increase in the average sector length by 25% from 407 km to 509 km.

	March 2010	March 2009	Growth	Rolling 12 mths March 09/10	Rolling 12 mths Feb 09/10	Growth
Own passengers	158,836	106,401	49%	1,647,355	1,592,560	3%
Total passengers	216,181	172,064	26%	2,340,015	2,292,263	2%
ASK ('000)1	217,645	146,479	49%	2,449,581	2,361,471	4%
RPK ('000) <sup>2</sup>	150,790	84,238	79%	1,617,848	1,549,666	4%
Load factor (%) <sup>3</sup>	69%	58%	11 p.p.	66%	66%	0 p.p.

1) ASK = Available Seat Kilometres. Number of available seats multiplied by the distance covered, measured in kilometres.

2) RPK = Revenue Passenger Kilometres. Number of revenue passengers multiplied by the distance covered, measured in kilometres.

3) Load factor = Ratio of RPK to ASK.

 	Feb 2010 <sup>2</sup>	Feb 2009	Growth	Rolling 12 mths Feb 09/10	Rolling 12 mths Jan 09/10	Growth
Yield (DKK) <sup>1</sup>	0.94	1.40	-32%	0.95	0.96	-4%
Avg. sector length (km)	509	407	25%	507	493	3%

(1) Yield = Total revenue from passenger transport, charters and ACMI relative to revenue passenger kilometres (RPK) for the total production.

(2) The yield is announced a month later than the other traffic figures since Cimber Sterling as a network carrier can only release its yield with a one-month lag.

<b>Operating performance</b>	in March 2010
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In March, 99% of all planned flights were operated and 86% of them were on time. The operating performance was satisfactory in view of the difficult winter weather and Cimber Sterling's high flight frequency.

	March 2010	March 2009	Growth	Rolling 12 mths March 09/10	Rolling 12 mths Feb 09/10	Growth
On-time departures <sup>1</sup>	86%	91%	-5 p.p.	87%	88%	-1 p.p.
Flights operated	99%	99%	0 p.p.	99%	99%	0 p.p.

On-time departure = Departure within 15 minutes of scheduled departure.

## Performance by segment in March 2010

**Domestic:** Increased competition on the Danish domestic market and the related fall in fares led to a significant increase in the number of leisure passengers. In March 2010, the number of passengers increased by 39% year on year, and all Danish domestic routes recorded double-digit growth in passenger numbers. The load factor increased from 53% to 66% during the period, equivalent to 13 percentage points.

**Regional:** The number of passengers increased by 17% year on year. The traffic growth exceeded capacity growth to the effect that the load factor for the Regional segment rose from 48% in March 2009 to 50% in March 2010. Capacity was reduced on a number of routes through the deployment of smaller aircraft at the end of March in order to better match demand.

Leisure: In March 2010, the load factor for the Leisure segment was 76%, up from 58% in the same period of 2009. Excluding the Copenhagen-London Gatwick service, which was closed down at the end of March, the load factor would have been 79%. This service has been replaced by a Copenhagen-London City service.

	March 2010	March 2009	Growth	Rolling 12 mths March 09/10	Rolling 12 mths Feb 09/10	Growth
Passengers						
- Domestic	84,194	60,648	39%	789,427	765,875	3%
- Regional	31,230	26,672	17%	317,663	312,464	2%
- Leisure	43,412	19,081	128%	540,265	514,221	5%
Own passengers	158,836	106,401	49%	1,647,355	1,592,560	3%
- Charter/ACMI1	57,345	65,663	-13%	692,660	699,703	-1%
Total passengers	216,181	172,064	26%	2,340,015	2,292,263	2%
ASK ('000)						
- Domestic	25,821	23,440	10%	271,196	268,846	1%
- Regional	40,753	38,594	6%	415,594	412,168	1%
- Leisure	112,124	46,440	141%	1,319,625	1,251,398	6%
Own production	178,698	108,474	65%	2,006,415	1,932,412	4%
- Charter/ACMI1	38,947	38,005	3%	443,166	429,059	3%
Total	217,645	146,479	49%	2,449,581	2,361,471	4%
RPK ('000)						
- Domestic	17,134	12,439	38%	161,367	156,679	3%
- Regional	20,540	18,506	11%	211,119	208,709	1%
- Leisure	85,612	26,796	219%	938,365	878,377	7%
Own production	123,286	57,741	114%	1,310,851	1,243,765	5%
- Charter/ACMI1	27,504	26,497	4%	306,997	305,902	0%
Total	150,790	84,238	79%	1,617,848	1,549,667	4%
Load factor						
- Domestic	66%	53%	13 p.p.	60%	58%	2 p.p
- Regional	50%	48%	2 p.p.	51%	51%	0 p.p
- Leisure	76%	58%	18 p.p	71%	70%	1 p.p.
Own production	69%	53%	16 p.p.	65%	64%	1 p.p.
- Charter/ACMI1	71%	70%	1 p.p	69%	71%	-2 p.p
Total	69%	58%	11 p.p	66%	66%	0 p.p.
1) Charter/ $\Delta CMI = \Delta in$	oraft Crow Mainton	anco Insuranco	Elights operator	d for other custon	nore using pircraft	on full

1) Charter/ACMI = Aircraft Crew Maintenance Insurance. Flights operated for other customers using aircraft on full charters or on wet leases.

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#### Market developments

- New routes: The summer programme was implemented on 28 March 2010, involving the launch of a number of new services, including from Copenhagen to Madrid, Sofia, Belgrade, Bordeaux, Corsica and Thessaloniki. Moreover, services have been launched out of Billund to Mallorca, Prague and Dublin. Furthermore, Cimber Sterling has, as the first Danish scheduled carrier, obtained traffic rights to Antalya, Turkey, which means that Cimber Sterling now offers direct scheduled flights from Billund, Aalborg and Copenhagen to Antalya.
- Fleet: In late March 2010, two aircraft were returned to Cimber Sterling from ACMI production. It is expected that these two aircraft will be returned to the charterer in April 2010 as planned.
- Partnership agreement: As part of the desire to have the broadest possible channel of distribution, Cimber Sterling in March initiated and implemented a number of strategic partnership and distribution agreements with a number of loyalty and bonus programmes.
- **Products:** Cimber Sterling regularly implements steps to improve its product for leisure passengers, including commuters and business travellers. In March, a new option was launched allowing passengers to book one or more specific seats in advance against a service fee.

## Traffic figures – March/April

Cimber Sterling will release its traffic figures for March/April on 7 May at 11.00 am.

## For further information, please contact:

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The interim report has been prepared in Danish and translated into English. In the event of any discrepancy between the Danish interim report and the English translation, the Danish interim report shall prevail.

Cimber Sterling is a Danish-based airline with more than 850 employees, offices at five Danish airports and a fleet of 28 large and small aircraft. Cimber Sterling operates more than 1,000 flights per week and carries some 2.2 million leisure and business passengers per year. In addition to flights to domestic and holiday destinations and to a number of selected European destinations, Cimber Sterling is engaged in aircraft maintenance, development and sale of software for logistics relating to aircraft maintenance, and leasing of aircraft on wet and dry leases. For more information, go to cimber.dk.