



*The Voice of UK Airlines*

## Media Comment

Date of Issue: 27<sup>th</sup> January 2011

### Comment on APD & Premium Economy Parliamentary Questions

In response to two written Parliamentary Questions to the Treasury answered yesterday on the issue of Air Passenger Duty (APD) and premium economy seats, Simon Buck, BATA Chief Executive, said:

“The UK Government doubled the tax on flying from 1<sup>st</sup> November last year and I warned at the time that this sounded the death knell for many long haul premium economy services. Many airlines are now reviewing their fleet plans and the loss of this service would be very much against the consumer interest. We look to the Treasury to correct this anomaly in its review of APD in March.”

**ENDS**

### Notes to Editors

- BATA is the trade body for UK-registered airlines, with members representing all sectors of the industry.
- In 2009, BATA members employed 76,000 people, operated four-fifths of the UK commercial aircraft fleet and were responsible for some 93% of UK airline output, carrying 121 million passengers and 1 million tonnes of cargo.
- The eleven BATA member airlines are: Air Southwest, bmi, British Airways, DHL, easyJet, flybe, Jet2.com, Monarch, Thomas Cook, Thomson Airways and Virgin Atlantic.
- The Written Parliamentary Questions can be found in Hansard online at:  
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm110126/text/110126w0001.htm#11012670000024>

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