



Media Release

Immediate Use

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New Chairman of the British Air Transport Association

The trade body for UK airlines, the British Air Transport Association (BATA), has appointed a new Chairman with effect from 1st May. Dr Barry Humphreys succeeds Danny Bernstein, Chairman of Monarch Airlines, who is retiring having led BATA for the past six years.

Dr Humphreys retired at the end of February 2009 from Virgin Atlantic Airways, where he was Director of External Affairs and Route Development. Prior to joining Virgin he had a distinguished career with the UK's Civil Aviation Authority. He is a Board Member of NATS, the UK air traffic control company, Airport Co-ordination Ltd and the UK India Business Council and is Chairman of the Caribbean Britain Business Council. He is a Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society, the Chartered Institute of Transport and Logistics and the Tourism Society.

Commenting on his appointment, Dr Humphreys said:

“By any measure, these are challenging times for the air transport industry. Never has there been a greater need for the united voice of UK airlines to be heard by government and regulators.”

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“BATA has a key role to play in ensuring that the industry can prosper again and continue to service the travelling public in the way that it has done for many years. We should not forget that the UK airline industry has been a success story of which the country should be proud.

“I would particularly like to pay tribute to my predecessor, Danny Bernstein. Danny has been an excellent Chairman of BATA and will be a hard act to follow. I’m sure I can speak for the whole industry in saying that we all owe him an enormous vote of gratitude.”

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Contacts

- For more information contact Roger Wiltshire, Secretary General on 07767 660 658 or Neal Weston, Head of Policy & Communications on 07855 736 487 or 020 7222 9494.

Notes to Editors

- BATA is the trade body for UK-registered airlines with members representing all sectors of the industry.
- In 2008, BATA members employed over 71,000 people, operated two thirds of the UK commercial aircraft fleet and were responsible for over 80% of UK airline output, carrying over 88.5 million passengers.
- BATA member airlines are: Astraëus, bmi, British Airways, DHL, flybe, Jet2.com, Monarch, Thomas Cook, Thomson Airways and Virgin Atlantic.
- A biography and photograph of Dr Humphreys are available upon request from the BATA Office.