



Media release

London, 27 April 2009

SWISS appoints Harry Hohmeister as new CEO

Predecessor Christoph Franz appointed to the Deutsche Lufthansa AG Executive Board

SWISS has appointed new chief executive officer Harry Hohmeister. Hohmeister was appointed on 23 April 2009 by the SWISS board of directors to succeed CEO Christoph Franz on 1 July 2009.

Harry Hohmeister, 45, has been a member of the company's management board for more than four years where, as chief network and distribution officer, he has been a major architect of the company's recent success. He will now serve as deputy CEO to Christoph Franz, who will familiarise him with his new duties over the next few weeks.

"Our choice of Harry Hohmeister as new CEO was not a difficult one to make," said Rolf Jetzer, chairman of the SWISS board of directors. "He has been instrumental in the successes of our company over the past few years. The choice of an in-house successor is also a reflection of our airline's strength and independence. This change at the top will be good for our company, good for its personnel and good for Switzerland."

"SWISS will continue to follow its chosen path and will remain Switzerland's national airline," added CEO-designate Harry Hohmeister. "I am greatly looking forward to this new challenge, and to leading our SWISS team to further positive development. The global economy is in the midst of its biggest-ever crisis," he continued. "We will continue to flexibly align our capacities to changed and changing demand, and we'll continue to work hard on our costs. And in these crisis times more than ever, we'll be keeping a firm and constant focus on our customers in everything we do."



The Lufthansa supervisory board today appointed SWISS CEO Christoph Franz to its executive board and also named him deputy chairman of Deutsche Lufthansa AG. He will assume a new position as CEO of Lufthansa Passenger Airlines on 1 June 2009. He will remain involved with SWISS, however, as he will also become a member of the SWISS board of directors.

"Harry Hohmeister is the ideal choice as my successor and I look forward to continuing my collaboration with him in our new capacities," Franz commented. "I would also like to offer my warmest thanks to everyone at SWISS for the tremendous support they have given me over the past few years. I have enjoyed working together with colleagues from various corporate divisions to shape the future of our company. Working together, we've achieved an immense amount for our company."

Harry Hohmeister: extensive airline experience

Harry Hohmeister, who is 45, is currently chief network and distribution officer and a member of the SWISS management board. He is married and has a son. Having trained to become a commercial air transport officer, Hohmeister joined Deutsche Lufthansa in 1988. After initially serving in timetable planning and development, he spent two years heading the company's Short-Haul Planning unit. From 1992 onwards he also became increasingly involved in the restructuring of the company's distribution and marketing organisations within broader efforts to turn the company around, and was appointed vice president planning with responsibility for the entire Lufthansa network in 1996.

He left Lufthansa at the beginning of 2000 to join Thomas Cook Airlines, for whom he held various executive management functions in Germany and the UK over the following five years.

Harry Hohmeister came to SWISS in 2005, initially as a member of the management board and head of network, and assumed additional charge of the company's sales and distribution one year later. The amalgamation of its



fleet planning, scheduling, revenue management and distribution management functions has facilitated the fully-integrated marketing of SWISS's seating capacity, and the resulting strengthening of revenue flows has been a major factor in our company's current success.

Christoph Franz appointed to the Deutsche Lufthansa AG executive board

Christoph Franz will take charge of Lufthansa Passenger Airlines within Deutsche Lufthansa AG, with responsibility for the company's passenger business segment.

"I would like to congratulate Christoph Franz on his appointment on behalf of all SWISS employees," said Rolf Jetzer. "Under his leadership, SWISS achieved its turnaround and has now reached cruising altitude. Our company is today one of Europe's leading airlines and can face the present crisis from a position of genuine strength. The appointment of Christoph Franz to his new position at Lufthansa is a tribute to the excellent performance that SWISS and its people have delivered over the past few years," he continued. "I am delighted that he will continue to work towards our company's further development as a member of our board of directors."

For further information and bookings please visit SWISS.COM/UK call SWISS on 0845 601 0956 or contact your travel agent.

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Notes to editors:

From the UK and Ireland alone Swiss International Air Lines, the national airline of Switzerland, offers 28s daily flights, serving **Basel, Geneva** and **Zurich** from **London City** and **Manchester**, and **Zurich** from **London Heathrow, Birmingham** and **Dublin**. For flights from the UK and Ireland SWISS offers two classes, Economy and Swiss Business, and the flexibility to book a different class in each direction.

From its Zurich hub and from Basel and Geneva international airports, SWISS's 73-aircraft fleet serves 90 destinations in 42 countries around the world. As part of the Lufthansa Group and as a member of the global Star Alliance, SWISS remains true to its mission of providing quality air services that link Switzerland with Europe and the world.



All SWISS flights offer value for money, SWISS's quality in-flight service, including free food and drink, and Miles and More frequent flyer mileage-earning opportunities.

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