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Southwest Airlines Reports October Traffic

DALLAS, Nov. 4 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Southwest Airlines Co. (NYSE: LUV) announced today that the Company flew 6.2 billion revenue passenger miles (RPMs) in October 2008, compared to 6.0 billion RPMs flown in October 2007. Available seat miles (ASMs) increased 2.9 percent to 8.8 billion from the October 2007 level of 8.6 billion. The load factor for the month was 70.4 percent, compared to 70.5 percent for October 2007.

For the ten months ended October 31, 2008, Southwest flew 62.4 billion RPMs, compared to 60.8 billion RPMs for the same period in 2007. Available seat miles increased 4.4 percent to 86.6 billion from the 2007 level of 82.9 billion. The year-to-date load factor was 72.1 percent, compared to 73.4 percent for the same period last year.

This release, as well as past news releases on Southwest, are available online at <http://www.southwest.com/?src=INVRINVOCR000000081104>.

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES CO. PRELIMINARY COMPARATIVE TRAFFIC STATISTICS

	OCTOBER		
	2008	2007	CHANGE
Revenue passengers carried	7,485,486	7,458,021	0.4%
Enplaned passengers	8,562,483	8,524,011	0.5%
Revenue passenger miles (000)	6,207,500	6,034,221	2.9%
Available seat miles (000)	8,812,152	8,565,012	2.9%
Load factor	70.4%	70.5%	(0.1) pts.
Average length of haul	829	809	2.5%
Trips flown	101,224	99,781	1.4%

	YEAR-TO-DATE		
	2008	2007	CHANGE
Revenue passengers carried	75,226,662	74,414,339	1.1%
Enplaned passengers	86,508,236	85,559,121	1.1%
Revenue passenger miles (000)	62,434,010	60,847,751	2.6%
Available seat miles (000)	86,627,709	82,942,020	4.4%
Load factor	72.1%	73.4%	(1.3) pts.

Average length of haul	830	818	1.5%
Trips flown	999,983	965,110	3.6%

SOURCE Southwest Airlines Co.