

Southwest Airlines Announces Fares and Flights to/from Minneapolis-St. Paul

Carrier Will Operate Eight Daily Nonstop Flights to Chicago Midway beginning in March 2009

DALLAS, Nov. 6 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Southwest Airlines today announced the carrier's low fares and flight schedule from Minneapolis-St. Paul beginning on March 8, 2009. During a media conference at the landmark Mall of America, Southwest Airlines Executive Vice President of Corporate Services Ron Ricks announced that the airline will begin service with eight daily nonstop flights to Chicago Midway with 21-day advanced purchase fares as low as \$69 one-way. To view a complete list of Southwest's flights from MSP, visit: http://www.southwest.com/?src=PRPRPRNGENR0000000080808.

"Southwest Airlines is famous for increasing traffic and decreasing fares when we enter a market, and it already appears that 'the Southwest Effect' is alive and well in Minneapolis-St. Paul," Ricks said. "The people of Minnesota have been asking for Southwest Airlines service for many years, and we can't wait to introduce them to our legendary Customer Service, as well as our low fares, ontime flights, and no hidden fees."

In addition to the eight daily nonstop flights to Chicago Midway, Southwest Airlines will offer direct or connecting service to more than 30 destinations, including: Las Vegas, Denver, Los Angeles, Houston, and Baltimore/Washington, just to name a few. Southwest Airlines will operate from Gate 7 in the Humphrey Terminal and will have about 35 full-time Employees.

"For over a decade we've worked diligently to attract Southwest Airlines to the Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport," said Metropolitan Airport Commission Chairman Jack Lanners. "Southwest's new service beginning March 8, 2009 will provide Minnesotans a low-cost alternative accessing the Southwest Airlines route system. For many years there has been a strong interest in having Southwest Airlines serve our community. Our airport's low-cost operating structure is one factor that helped make it possible for Southwest to enter the Minnesota market. We look forward to a successful partnership with Southwest Airlines providing new low-cost air service meeting our travel needs."

To view a blog post on this news, visit: http://www.blogsouthwest.com.

After 37 years of service, Southwest Airlines, the nation's leading low-fare carrier, continues to stand above other airlines -- offering a reliable product with exemplary Customer Service with no hidden fees. Southwest Airlines is the most productive airline in the sky and offers Customers a comfortable traveling experience with all premium leather seats and plenty of legroom. Southwest recently updated its gate areas and improved its boarding procedure to make flying Southwest Airlines even more convenient. Southwest Airlines (NYSE: LUV), the nation's largest carrier in terms of domestic passengers enplaned, currently serves 64 cities in 32 states. Based in Dallas, Southwest currently operates more than 3,400 flights a day and has more than 34,000 Employees systemwide.

Fare Rules

The \$69 fare between Chicago Midway and Minneapolis-St. Paul is available for purchase today through the end of the schedule, currently May 8, 2009. Fares are one-way and do not require an overnight stay. All tickets must be purchased 21-days in advance. When combining fares, all ticketing restrictions apply. Seats are limited. Fares may vary by day of travel and will not be available on some flights that operate during very busy travel times and holiday periods. Fares do not include a federal segment tax of up to \$3.60 per takeoff and landing. Fares do not include airport-assessed passenger facility charges (PFC) of up to \$4.50 one-way and U.S. government- imposed September 11th Security Fees of \$2.50 one-way. Fares are subject to change until ticketed. Tickets are nonrefundable but, if unused, may be applied toward the purchase of future travel on Southwest Airlines. Fares are valid on Southwest-operated published, scheduled service only and are not available through the Group Desk.

http://www.southwest.com

SOURCE Southwest Airlines