

June 3, 2009



Southwest Airlines Reports May Traffic

DALLAS, June 3 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Southwest Airlines Co. (NYSE: LUV) announced today that the Company flew 6.4 billion revenue passenger miles (RPMs) in May 2009, a 3.6 percent decrease from the 6.7 billion RPMs flown in May 2008. Available seat miles (ASMs) decreased 3.2 percent to 8.6 billion from the May 2008 level of 8.9 billion. The load factor for the month was 74.6 percent, compared to 74.9 percent for the same period last year. For May 2009, passenger revenue per ASM is estimated to have decreased in the nine percent range as compared to May 2008.

For the five months ended May 31, 2009, Southwest flew 29.8 billion RPMs, compared to the 30.5 billion RPMs recorded for the same period of 2008, a decrease of 2.2 percent. Available seat miles decreased 3.4 percent to 41.3 billion from the 2008 level of 42.7 billion. The year-to-date load factor was 72.3 percent, compared to 71.4 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=INVRINVMYTR000000090603>.

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES CO. PRELIMINARY COMPARATIVE TRAFFIC STATISTICS

	MAY		
	2009	2008	CHANGE
Revenue passengers carried	7,470,271	8,143,173	(8.3)%
Enplaned passengers	8,685,825	9,304,834	(6.7)%
Revenue passenger miles (000)	6,434,369	6,672,655	(3.6)%
Available seat miles (000)	8,624,950	8,914,187	(3.2)%
Load factor	74.6%	74.9%	(0.3) pts.
Average length of haul	861	819	5.1%
Trips flown	97,273	102,294	(4.9)%

YEAR-TO-DATE		
2009	2008	CHANGE

Revenue passengers carried	34,781,474	37,315,154	(6.8)%
Enplaned passengers	40,550,319	42,807,847	(5.3)%
Revenue passenger miles (000)	29,843,854	30,526,198	(2.2)%
Available seat miles (000)	41,260,136	42,733,005	(3.4)%
Load factor	72.3%	71.4%	0.9 pts.
Average length of haul	858	818	4.9%
Trips flown	472,865	497,391	(4.9)%

SOURCE Southwest Airlines Co.