

Air Partner's Freight division continues to fly high with second year of record results

Highlights:

- Freight division delivered second year of record profits
- Gross profit for the year up 45.3% to £4.9m (FY18: £3.4m)
- Freight team successfully introduced to Fort Lauderdale office
- Cargo solutions offered by recently opened offices in Houston and Singapore

Building on its outstanding performance in 2017, the Freight division at global aviation services group Air Partner plc has delivered a second year of record results. As announced in Air Partner's recent full year results for the year ended 31 January 2019, Freight gross profit for the year was up 45.3% to £4.9m, accounting for 13.8% of the group's overall gross profit.

Over the course of the last financial year, the group invested in people across its regional offices, expanded its team in Turkey and established a new team in the US, in addition to winning sizeable mandates from a variety of new and existing clients. Cargo work has been carried out across a range of sectors, including automotive, aid, aerospace and energy, with customer requirements ranging from the transportation of a small box via Air Partner's growing on-board courier service to chartering the largest aircraft in the world, the An-225.

The introduction of a Freight offering in Fort Lauderdale has proven particularly successful, helping to push Freight gross profit and customer numbers to their highest ever level. The team there had a very busy year working on numerous projects, including the co-ordination of 30 charters carrying humanitarian aid to Guam and Saipan during the typhoon season.

Outside of the US, the Turkey office arranged the transportation of 500 tonnes of construction materials to West Africa and the UK benefited from its work supporting airlines in their aircraft on ground (AOG) recovery, as well as government flying. The German office also continued to see high levels of activity from the automotive sector and delivered its 11th consecutive year of growth.

Furthermore, Air Partner opened two new offices in Singapore and Houston in early 2019, both of which offer Freight services, thereby broadening the division's geographic reach even further.

Off the back of this strong performance, Air Partner will be attending Air Cargo Europe from 4-7 June 2019 in Munich, Germany, exhibiting at stand B1.325. Members of the Freight team will be on hand to talk about the group's extensive cargo and OBC solutions, which include part and full charter, as well as on-board courier services.

Mike Hill, Director of Freight at Air Partner, commented: *"I am delighted that the Freight team has maintained the momentum from 2017 and delivered another record year in 2018. The new offices have created a wealth of exciting cargo opportunities across a range of sectors and regions, and we look forward to capitalising on these in the coming months. As always, we remain committed to delivering unparalleled levels of service while further growing our already enviable customer base."*

Air Partner Freight charters aircraft of every size to fly cargo anywhere, at any time, whatever its weight, size or shape. Serving freight forwarders, governments, relief and humanitarian organisations, the freight team provides bespoke air charter and on board courier (OBC) solutions to meet a wide range of cargo charter needs. From urgent 'go now' requirements moving small quantities of automotive spare parts, through to the most complex project cargo shipments taking several months to plan, Air Partner Freight has the skills, experience and expertise to ensure shipments are handled securely and reliably. Air Partner Freight has cargo specialists in the UK, USA, Germany, France, Turkey and Singapore, who provide strength of knowledge by utilising all types of aircraft for tailored cargo charter services.

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About Air Partner:

Founded in 1961, Air Partner is a global aviation services group that provides worldwide solutions to industry, commerce, governments and private individuals. The Group has two divisions: Charter division, comprising air charter broking and remarketing; and the Consulting & Training division, comprising the aviation safety consultancies, Baines Simmons, Clockwork Research and Wildlife Hazard Management, as well as Air Partner's Emergency Planning Division. For reporting purposes, the Group is structured into four divisions: Commercial Jets, Private Jets, Freight (Charter) and Consulting & Training (Baines Simmons, Clockwork Research, Wildlife Hazard Management and Air Partner's Emergency Planning Division). The Commercial Jet division charters large airliners to move groups of any size. Air Partner Remarketing, which is within the Commercial Jet division, provides comprehensive remarketing programmes for all types of commercial and corporate aircraft to a wide range of international clients. Private Jets offers the Company's unique pre-paid JetCard scheme and on-demand charter. Freight charters aircraft of every size to fly almost any cargo anywhere, at any time. Baines Simmons is a world leader in aviation safety consulting specialising in aviation regulation, compliance and safety management. Clockwork Research is a leading fatigue risk management consultancy. Wildlife Hazard Management is a leading Environmental and Air Traffic Control services provider to UK and International airports. Air Partner is headquartered alongside Gatwick airport in the UK. Air Partner operates 24/7 year-round. Air Partner is listed on the London Stock Exchange (AIR) and is ISO 9001:2015 compliant for commercial airline and private jet solutions worldwide. www.airpartner.com

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