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Air Partner launches exclusive 'Rio Express' cargo service for Olympic Games

<u>Air Partner</u>, the global aviation services group, today announces that it will be launching a 'Rio Express' freight service that will operate before and after the Olympic Games this summer. In the runup to the Games, Air Partner will have exclusive freight availability on a weekly Sunday flight from Frankfurt to Rio de Janeiro, starting on 10 July and ending on 24 July. The return flights will operate on 25, 26 and 27 August. The service is offered to clients worldwide and can be booked through any Air Partner office.

The outbound flights will depart from Frankfurt Airport and arrive at Rio de Janeiro-Galeão International Airport on MD11F aircraft. Air Partner's 'Rio Express' will be one of a few scheduled European freight operators flying to Galeão; many other freighters fly into Viracopos International Airport, which is about three hours further away from the Olympic venues by truck.

All cargo will be transported in containers to enable faster handling on arrival so the shipments can be offloaded and driven to the Olympic venues as quickly as possible. The flights will also arrive first thing on Monday morning (00.05), which will make them a priority for customs, further facilitating a speedy and efficient onward journey.

Mike Hill, Director of Freight at Air Partner, said: "Freight activity at Galeão International Airport will obviously be very heavy in the run-up to the Olympics and in the immediate aftermath, so we are delighted that we have already been able to secure this availability and can offer this exclusive 'Rio Express'. This is the second time that we have operated this type of service - following on from the success of the 'Sochi Express' at the 2014 Winter Olympics — and we expect it to be just as popular with clients this time around. We know that not all our freight forwarder clients will have enough cargo to warrant a full charter, and this service will enable them to transport smaller amounts in a cost-effective way. Given the location of the airport, the early arrival time and the use of containers, we don't believe there will be a quicker way of getting cargo to the Olympic venues this summer."

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 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, Dubai, Germany, France and Turkey, who provide strength of knowledge by utilising all types of aircraft for tailored 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 is structured into four reporting divisions: Commercial Jets, Private Jets, Freight and Baines Simmons. The Commercial Jet division charters large airliners to move groups of any size. Cabot Aviation, which is formed 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. Air Partner 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 which specialises in aviation regulation, compliance and safety management. Air Partner is headquartered alongside Gatwick airport in the UK. Air Partner operates 24/7 year-round and has 20 offices globally. Air Partner is listed on the London Stock Exchange (AIR) and is also ISO 9001:2008 compliant for commercial airline and private jet solutions worldwide. www.airpartner.com