

London, Gatwick
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Air Partner flies leading European football team on pre-season tour

Air Partner, a leading provider of air charter services to governments, corporates, tour operators and high net worth individuals, recently flew a leading European football team to Australia and Asia for its pre-season tour and two exhibition tournaments.

The team has used Air Partner's services on numerous occasions previously but it is believed that this is the first time the players have been flown on a privately-chartered Airbus A380, the largest passenger airliner in the world. The A380, which can seat up to 494 people (eight in First class, 66 in Business and 420 in Economy), was chosen on account of the number of flatbeds and space available, since the trip involved extremely lengthy flights.

Air Partner worked closely with Malaysia Airlines, the operator of the flight, to ensure that the players received a truly VIP flying experience with a first class service throughout. The team also enjoyed private and secluded VIP channels in the airports throughout their trip, keeping them away from the public eye.

Clive Chalmers, Air Partner's Director of Commercial Jets UK, said: *"Air Partner has been organising charter flights for the sports industry for years and we have an excellent understanding of the travel needs of high profile individuals. We were delighted to once again use our expertise to provide a bespoke service for this extremely valued client and we hope to continue the relationship long into the future. We could not have asked for a better partner than Malaysia Airlines, whose team of dedicated staff worked tirelessly to ensure that the players enjoyed a truly VIP flying experience for the duration of the tour."*

Air Partner's Commercial Jets division organises bespoke charters and aviation solutions for groups of every size on airliners seating 20 or more passengers. Clients include the sports sector, conference and incentive industry, Oil & Gas, tour and cruise operators, international conglomerates, governments, and humanitarian aid organisations. Private charters are used for a wide variety of reasons such as product launches, country evacuations, global sporting events, troop movements, crew rotations, emergency replacements and package holiday travel.

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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. 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. 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. 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

Media Enquiries:

Temple Bar Advisory

Tom Allison
Alycia MacAskill

T. 020 7002 1080

M. 07789 998 020

M. 07776 253 482