



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 7, 2013

Southwest Airlines to Increase Service to New Orleans

Non-stop Service to Austin to Begin

(NEW ORLEANS, LA) – Southwest Airlines is increasing air service from the New Orleans Market with new non-stop service to Austin, Texas beginning in November 2013.

Southwest currently operates 51 flights from New Orleans. Air Tran Airways, a wholly owned subsidiary of Southwest, operates 5 daily flights. Southwest, the largest carrier at Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport, began non-stop service to Key West and Newark, N.J. earlier this year.

New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu stated, "This additional air service is great news for our city. I believe it shows that the demand for service to New Orleans continues to grow. Demand is the key in gaining new air service to a community."

"We are pleased with Southwest's decision to invest in the New Orleans market by adding this new service. Southwest has long been our largest air carrier and this shows their commitment to our community," stated Iftikhar Ahmad, Director of Aviation for Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport. "The new Austin destination brings the number of non-stop destinations from New Orleans on all of the airlines to a total of 41, putting us even closer to the pre-Katrina mark of 42.

New Orleans has seen a number of destinations added by several air carriers in recent months. New Orleans recently welcomed Spirit Airlines to the market and Vacation Express begins later this month with seasonal service to Cancun. Frontier Airlines also added service to Trenton, NJ.

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