

#### **Commercial Aviation: The Brakes are On** John Heimlich, VP & Chief Economist – Air Transport Association (Oct. 31, 2008)

# Why Care?

"Aviation is the glue that keeps the global economy together. Without widely accessible and well-priced air travel, the global economy will quickly become less global."

Dr. Mark Zandi, Chief Economist & Co-Founder, Moody's Economy.com (August 2008)

## U.S. Airlines\* Greener Than Ever

Fuel Efficiency Up 24% from 2000 to 2007 and 110% from 1978 to 2007



\* U.S. passenger and cargo airlines operating worldwide – passenger and cargo revenue ton miles (RTMs) in all services Source: ATA analysis of DOT Form 41 traffic data (T2-Z240) and gallons (T2-Z921)

#### **Cost of Jet Fuel Has Sharply Outpaced Cost of Air Travel**



## Adjusted for Inflation, the Price of Domestic Air Travel is Down Sharply from 2000, Flat Since 2002



Sources: ATA analysis of data from the U.S. Department of Transportation and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

#### Jet Fuel Prices Maintaining Premium to Volatile Crude Oil

Refining Crack Spread for Jet Averaging \$20-\$25 per Barrel



#### Jet Fuel is a Drop in the Bucket: Airlines Beholden to Other Petroleum Segments, Given U.S. Refinery Configuration



\* Feedstock for high-octane gasoline, petrochemicals and solvents

\*\* Includes heavy oils used as in industry, marine transportation, electric power generation

Source: Energy Information Administration and American Petroleum Institute

#### **Potential Alternative Aviation Fuels**



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#### Airline Unit Revenue Bolstered by Non-U.S. Markets

Latin America Leads the Pack; Domestic Stable on Right-Sizing of Seating Capacity



\* 12-month rolling average for Alaska, American, Continental, Delta, Northwest, United, US Airways

#### **Economic Circumstances Sustaining Industry Contraction**

Reductions in Scheduled Domestic Air Service vs. Same Quarters in 2007



\* An available seat mile (ASM) is one seat flown one mile and is the standard unit of capacity in the passenger airline sector

Source: ATA analysis of Seabury APGDat airline schedules as of Oct. 27, 2008

#### **U.S. Airlines Paying Transatlantic Premium for Jet Fuel** USD-Euro Exchange Rate Has Boosted Fuel Price Differential to 35%-60%



#### **The Transatlantic Blues: Serious Competitive Implications**

Equity Market Capitalization at Oct. 14, 2008 Settlement



#### **U.S. Carriers Characterized by Comparatively Weak Credit**

Standard & Poor's (S&P) Corporate Credit Ratings as of Oct. 30, 2008



#### **On-Time Airport Departure Rate Much Lower From NY-Area**

Translates to Unnecessary Fuel Burn at Gate, on Tarmac and En Route





## AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION