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## **JOINT PRESS RELEASE**

### **BLUE AIR, THE AIRLINE IS HERE TO STAY!**

#### **EXPANSION OF ITS AIRCRAFT FLEET AT ITS LARNAKA BASE**

On July 3rd, 2017 Smart flying airline Blue Air, welcomed its third aircraft in Cyprus, which was added to its fleet at Larnaka International Airport 'Glaucos Clerides'. The need for airline development and increase in the number of Blue Air's routes operated from Larnaka, is driving the carrier to expand and establish itself as one of the major airlines based in Cyprus.

Direct flights from Larnaka offer even more destinations, bringing them even closer to our travellers. Blue Air operates regular flights to Athens (14 times per week), Thessaloniki (5 times per week), London-Luton (4 times per week), Birmingham (3 times per week), Liverpool (2 times per week), Bucharest (7 times per week), Cluj-Napoca (4 times per week) and Tel-Aviv (4 times per week).

The event was held at '*Diner Onair*' café-restaurant at Larnaka International Airport, where guests had the opportunity to watch the water arch salutation upon the arrival of the aircraft. Addresses followed by the Chief Executive Officer of Orthodoxou Aviation, the Chief Commercial Officer of Blue Air, the Chief Executive Officer of Hermes Airports and the Minister of Transport, Communications and Works.

Blue Air's Chief Commercial Officer Mr Constantinescu, stated that «We are excited that today marks the addition of our third based aircraft at Larnaca Airport. Back in 2015 we have made our first step on the island starting to fly to Athens and Thessaloniki mostly serving Cypriots for their leisure and business travel purposes. It was just the beginning, since then we grew constantly, supported by our very professional fellow Cypriot colleagues to become a reputable brand and a model for newcomers. It is our pride to be a support pillar for the ever-growing tourism industry in Cyprus by adding further new routes to our 61 direct and indirect destinations out of Larnaca or by increasing the frequencies on the existing ones. Our value proposition for Cyprus is and remains a safe, reliable, comfortable and inexpensive product, delivered to the highest international standards as certified by IOSA (IATA Operational Safety Audit)»."

In a statement, the Chief Executive Officer of Hermes Airports, Ms Eleni Kaloyirou, congratulated Blue Air on strengthening its operational base in Cyprus and stressed the fact that "for Hermes, Blue Air is a key partner as well as a strategic partner". For nine years, she noted, «Blue Air trusts and relies on Larnaka Airport whilst Larnaka Airport trusts and relies on Blue Air, respectively»."



«From our side, as Hermes, I would like to reassure Blue Air, as well as all our business associates and partners, that we will continue to be on your side and support you with all our strength," Ms Kaloyirou concluded.

Book your tickets online on [www.blueairweb.com](http://www.blueairweb.com) , through Blue Air's telephone centre at 22755300 or through the Collaborating Travel Agents.

### **About Blue Air**

Blue Air has been operating for 12 years, now offering flights to over 100 direct routes in Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Spain and the United Kingdom. The company has eight operational bases, in Bucharest, Bacau, Cluj-Napoca, Constanta, Iasi, Larnaca, Liverpool and Turin.

Blue Air has been present in Cyprus since 2008, while in January 2015, the airline established a base in Larnaca, Cyprus. The Smart Flying airline is offering flexible flight frequencies, an excellent on board experience, affordable and convenient prices for everyone, being committed to offering a seamless and convenient travel to our Cypriot passengers, who have highly recognized Blue Air's high standards in terms of safety, security, punctuality and constant improvement.

Blue Air has received the certificate of IATA Operational Safety Audit (IOSA) from the International Air Transportation Association (IATA) for its outstanding operational standards and it is also a full IATA member.

Blue Air is operating a fleet of Boeing 737 aircrafts, with retrofitted interior with state of the art Recaro seats allowing passengers a better and more comfortable experience during their flight.

Blue Air's General sales agent in Cyprus is Orthodoxou Aviation Ltd.

### **About Hermes Airports**

- Hermes Airports Ltd is the operator of the two International Airports of the Republic of Cyprus. The consortium consists of 9 shareholders comprising of Cypriot and International investors. Overall, more than 8.5 million passengers travel through Larnaka and Pafos International Airports, annually.
- It is estimated that about 100 additional jobs are created for each additional flight arriving at Cyprus' airports. In total, more than 12,700 jobs in the tourism industry across Cyprus are sustained by the operation of Larnaka and Pafos International Airports. With an annual contribution of more than 500 million Euros to the economy of Cyprus, corresponding to approximately 3% of the Cyprus GDP, Larnaka and Pafos International Airports are justifiably considered to be among the major drivers of economic growth in the country and are acknowledged as key generators of thousands of jobs.
- For more information or high resolution photographs, please contact the Press Office, Tel. +357 24 742165. E-mail: [pressoffice@hermesairports.com](mailto:pressoffice@hermesairports.com) P.O Box 43027, 6650 Larnaka International Airport, Republic of Cyprus.

