



26 March 2010

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Blue Air chooses Larnaka International Airport as its base**

It is with particular pleasure that Hermes Airports welcomes the decision by the Romanian airline Blue Air to choose Larnaka International Airport as its base. This move demonstrates Blue Air's continuing development and its intention to offer even greater choice to the travelling public. Specifically, from 28 March 2010, Blue Air will be inaugurating its new flights to Austria, Italy and Poland.

In a statement, Antonis Orthodoxou, Managing Director of Orthodoxou Aviation Ltd, noted that, "It is generally accepted that last year was quite a difficult one as the global economy went through an extremely crucial phase. Early indications suggest that this year will be even more difficult but we are here to help not only the Cypriot tourism sector but the broader economy of the country, by reinforcing the major efforts that are being made by all sides. We know that it is not enough to utter fine words – we are taking action. This year, which will be a significant one for the economy, we want to see a level of tourism that corresponds to our country's worth and needs. But to achieve our goal, we shall need every possible support and assistance from all parties involved."

For his part, Hermes Airports CEO Alfred Van der Meer welcomed Blue Air's decision to make Cyprus its base. He stressed that, "the new, modern installations at Larnaka Airport and the leading role that it can play in south-east Europe and the Middle East is something that is gradually being recognized and exploited, both by airlines and by the rest of the Cyprus tourism industry. Hermes Airports remains committed to its aim of providing high-level services to the travelling public and to its associates. It is precisely for this reason that we feel particularly proud and honoured by Blue Air's decision."

#### **HERMES AIRPORTS LTD**

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Blue Air will operate the following flights:

- 7 flights from Larnaka to Bucharest (Monday to Sunday)
- 3 flights from Larnaca to Milan (Monday, Wednesday and Saturday)
- 3 flights from Larnaca to Warsaw (Monday, Wednesday and Friday)
- 3 flights from Larnaka to Vienna (Tuesday, Thursday, Sunday)

It should be noted that Blue Air already operates routes linking Pafos with Bucharest and Thessaloniki with flights every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.

Single fares for all the above flights start from €29,00. The full Blue Air flight schedule is available online at [www.blueairweb.com](http://www.blueairweb.com).

Please note that passengers from Cyprus can make reservations with Blue Air's local agents by telephone (+357) 24 841180 or online at [blueair@orthodoxou.com.cy](mailto:blueair@orthodoxou.com.cy). Orthodoxou Aviation's specialist staff will be happy to provide useful information in English, Romanian, Bulgarian and Greek.

For the best possible passenger service, Orthodoxou Aviation, sole agent for Blue Air in Cyprus, operates an office at Larnaka International Airport (open daily: 08.00-20.00, Saturday: 09.00-18.00 and Sunday: 09.00-16.00).

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**Notes for the Media:**

- For more information, please contact the Press Office of Hermes Airports Ltd. (Tel: +357 24 742163, e-mail: [pressoffice@hermesairports.com](mailto:pressoffice@hermesairports.com), Postal Address: P.O. Box 43027, 6650 Larnaka International Airport, Cyprus.)
- Hermes Airports Ltd is an international consortium of nine Cypriot and foreign shareholders: Bouygues Batiment International (22%), Egis Projects (20%), Cyprus Trading Corporation Public Limited (11.34%), Hellenic Mining (11.33%), Vancouver Airport Services (11%), Aer Rianta International (11%), Iacovou Brothers Construction (5.665%), Charilaos Apostolides Public Limited (5.665%) and Aeroport Nice Cote d' Azur Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie (2%).