Case 50616 Atlantic Joint Business Agreement – Slot Release Procedure for the IATA Summer 2027 Season

On 6 August 2025, the Competition and Markets Authority ("**CMA**") adopted a decision to accept commitments from American Airlines, Inc.; International Consolidated Airlines Group, SA (including its subsidiaries British Airways plc; Iberia Líneas Aéreas de España, Operadora S.A. Unipersonal; and Aer Lingus Limited); and Finnair Oyj (together, the "**Parties**"), in order to address the competition concerns raised by the CMA in relation to the Atlantic Joint Business Agreement in Case 50616 (the "**Commitments**"). Forvis Mazars LLP has been appointed as the Monitoring Trustee (the "**Trustee**") to oversee compliance with the Commitments. The Commitments can be downloaded directly from the CMA's website using this link: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/68922cfd486754ec2887849a/Appendix_1A_-_AJBA_commitments.pdf

Pursuant to the Commitments, the Parties undertake *inter alia* to make Slots available at London (at the choice of the Applicant at either Heathrow or Gatwick), to allow a single eligible airline to operate up to seven (7) round-trips per week (direct or one-stop) on the London-Chicago Identified City Pair.

For the IATA Summer 2027 season, the Parties shall make the London-Chicago Slots available to a single Prospective Entrant for the following operations:

a. In the IATA Summer season, the Prospective Entrant shall operate a non-stop service on at least four (4) days per week (**Competitive Non-Stop Air Service**), and, to the extent relevant, a one-stop service, provided the total elapsed time is no more than four (4) hours longer than the non-stop service (**Competitive One-Stop Air Service**).
b. In the IATA Winter season, the Prospective Entrant shall operate on at least four (4) days per week and may operate a Competitive Non-Stop Air Service, a Competitive One-Stop Air Service or a combination of the two (**Competitive Split-Series Air Service**).

The same number of daily Slots must be operated in the IATA Summer season and the IATA Winter season. The complete definitions of the terms are set out in the "Definitions" section of the Commitments. Carriers operating non-stop flights between London and Chicago at the date of the Commitments are not eligible for these Slots.

The deadline for Applicants to submit a Slot request to the Trustee is **18:00 BST on 20 August 2026**.

Please see the link below for further details on the process that must be followed by airlines wishing to apply for Slots and for details of how to contact the Trustee.

https://www.forvismazars.com/uk/en/services/audit-assurance/monitoring-trustee-remedies-compliance-services/investigation-into-atlantic-business-agreement

Published: *August 2026*