



AWAS announces delivery of first of two new A320 aircraft to Virgin America

Dynamic US low-cost carrier continues expansion plan

Dublin, 30th January 2012

Dublin based global aircraft lessor, AWAS, announced today that it has delivered an A320 passenger aircraft to Virgin America. This is the first of two scheduled A320s to be delivered to the expanding U.S. based airline this quarter.

David Cush, President and CEO of Virgin America said, "As our airline continues to expand into new markets and win awards for our unique service, AWAS has played a key role as a strategic and flexible partner that has enabled our growth. This is the fifth aircraft we have received on operating lease from AWAS, and we hope to continue to grow with them."

"We are very proud to deliver this aircraft to Virgin America," said Ray Sisson, President & CEO AWAS. "Their low cost, high service business model has helped to drive its successful growth and expansion."

Walter Valarezo, AWAS' Managing Director Americas commented, "Virgin America is an important, longstanding AWAS customer, and we are very pleased to continue to build on our five year business relationship."

Since its 2007 launch, Virgin America has experienced record-setting growth – with 2,200 new jobs created, more than 14 million guests flown and a sweep of the major reader-based travel awards, including "Best Domestic Airline" in both *Condé Nast Traveler's* Readers' Choice Awards and *Travel + Leisure's* World's Best Awards. As one of the few growing U.S. airlines,

Virgin America continues to expand its fleet, growing from 28 aircraft in service in the first quarter of 2010, to 52 aircraft by the end of 2011. In the past year alone, the carrier has introduced its unique, low-fare service to Chicago, Los Cabos, Cancun, Palm Springs and Puerto Vallarta.

EDITORS NOTE: Virgin America is a U.S. controlled and operated airline and an entirely separate company from Virgin Atlantic. Sir Richard Branson's Virgin Group is a minority share investor in Virgin America.

About Virgin America

Headquartered in California, Virgin America offers guests attractive fares and a host of innovative features aimed at reinventing air travel. In just over four years flying, Virgin America was named "Best Domestic Airline" in the Condé Nast Traveler 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 Readers' Choice Awards and "Best Domestic Airline" in Travel + Leisure's 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 World's Best Awards. The airline's base of operations is San Francisco International Airport (SFO). In April 2011, the airline became an anchor tenant at SFO's new sleek and sustainable Terminal 2. Virgin America flies to San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, Washington D.C., Seattle, Las Vegas, San Diego, Boston, Fort Lauderdale, Orlando, Dallas-Fort Worth, Los Cabos, Cancun, Chicago, Puerto Vallarta, Palm Springs and Philadelphia (as of April 4, 2012). For more, visit: www.virginamerica.com For photos/video of the airline's new aircraft and high-tech interiors, visit: <http://www.virginamerica.com/about/airline-photos/virgin-america-pictures.html>

About AWAS

AWAS is one of the world's leading aircraft leasing companies. The company is managed by a highly experienced and dedicated team of commercial aviation industry professionals serving markets in The Americas, Europe, Middle East, Africa and Asia/Pacific.

AWAS owns a portfolio of more than 200 modern aircraft with a further 100+ aircraft on order from Airbus and Boeing including a number of next generation aircraft. The aircraft portfolio is on lease to over 90 airline customers in 48 countries. The AWAS fleet features a full range of the most popular aircraft types which includes both narrow-bodied and wide-body aircraft, as well as passenger and dedicated freighter variants.

AWAS is headquartered in Dublin, with offices in New York, Miami, and Singapore.

www.awas.com

For more information please contact:

Mark Tender

Vice President Marketing and Communications



Direct: +1 212 782 3375
Mobile: +1 917 345 7231