



Press Release

Basel, April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2009

## **FARNAIR Europe expands its fleet**

**Despite the tight economic climate, FARNAIR Europe, the EuroAirport Basel-Mulhouse-Freiburg-based airline, continues to expand its fleet. Its ninth ATR-72F with an eight-ton cargo capacity entered into service in March; a further two are to follow.**

Every night, the FARNAIR Europe freight aircraft convey many tons of urgent deliveries from various locations all over Europe on behalf of the major players in this sector. "As a result of the tight economic climate, freight volume has declined a little just recently, yet unlike other freight airlines we have not been forced to take a single aircraft out of service", says Guy Girard, CEO of FARNAIR Europe. He added that the current demand for economical freight aircraft is greater than ever as replacements for older models.

### **Eight-ton cargo carrying capacity**

With the latest ATR-72F registered as HB-AFR, FARNAIR Europe now operates nine of these eight-ton carrying capacity turboprop freighters. A further two ATR-72 aircraft are on order. FARNAIR Europe had already expanded its fleet with a further three cargo aircraft in 2008. This has led to an increase of one third in the Basel workforce to 135 employees.

### **Large freight door**

FARNAIR has had all its existing nine ATR-72 converted from passenger aircraft into freighters. Five have been equipped with a special large freight door for loading containers. Guy Girard emphasises that the ATR-72F comply with the latest noise and pollution regulations and as turboprop aircraft are very environment friendly in operation.

In addition, FARNAIR Europe has concentrated its fleet maintenance activities in its own hangar at the EuroAirport. This is situated directly opposite the FARNAIR headquarters at EuroAirport.

*Picture: The latest FARNAIR Europe ATR-72F has been in service since March 2009.*

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**FARNAIR Europe** (founded in 1984) is one of the leading express cargo carriers in Europe. **FARNAIR Switzerland** operates a fleet of nine ATR-72F, three ATR-42 (two for 50 passengers each, one as freighter). Their subsidiary, **FARNAIR Hungary**, has five Fokker F-27 and two Beech 1900 in action. Basel employs 135 people and a further 50 work in Budapest. [www.farnair.com](http://www.farnair.com)

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