



Press Release

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FARNAIR successfully on course – Fleet expansion with a passenger ATR-72

Against the current trend, the Swiss airline FARNAIR Switzerland is not reducing, but rather expanding its fleet: in August, the fleet was increased to a total of 13 aircraft through the addition of the first passenger ATR-72. In addition, FARNAIR offers 51 more job opportunities than in 2008.

"In challenging times such as these, environmentally sustainable and economic aircraft are in demand. And this is precisely what we offer with our 13 ATRs", states Guy Girard, CEO of FARNAIR Europe. These European-made aircraft, powered by fuel-efficient, quiet turboprop engines are used as freighters with a maximum payload of 8.2 tonnes or as passenger-carrying aircraft for up to 72 passengers.

More than 50 new jobs created

FARNAIR Switzerland, based at EuroAirport Basel-Mulhouse-Freiburg, currently employs a workforce of 184, an increase of 38 per cent or 51 persons over the same time last year. According to Guy Girard, it was able to finish the 2008 financial year with an increase in turnover of 14 per cent. The fleet had already been expanded by 12 percent in 2008. This year, the FARNAIR fleet has been complemented with an ATR-72F (8.2 tonne freight payload) in April and now with the 72-seat ATR-72 in August. According to a FARNAIR statement, the significantly higher freight and passenger capacity has been successfully filled thanks to the efforts of the expanded sales team.

In operation all over Europe

Every night, the FARNAIR Europe freight aircraft convey many tonnes of urgent deliveries from various locations all over Europe on behalf of the major players in this sector. The three passenger aircraft (two ATR-42s for 46 and 48 passengers respectively plus the new 72-seat ATR-72) are used by the Swiss Confederation for flights to Kosovo as well as for charter flights throughout Europe and nearer destinations in Africa.

Picture: The latest FARNAIR Switzerland ATR-72 can carry up to 72 passengers and is in operation for charter flights all over Europe.

FARNAIR Europe (founded in 1984) is one of the leading express cargo carriers in Europe. **FARNAIR Switzerland** operates a fleet of nine ATR-72F, one ATR-72 for 72 passengers and three ATR-42 (two for 46 and 48 passengers each, one as freighter). Their subsidiary, **FARNAIR Hungary**, has five Fokker F-27 and two Beech 1900 in action. Basel employs 184 people and a further 50 work in Budapest. www.farnair.com

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