

# News Release



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## **CONTINENTAL AIRLINES EXTENDS REGIONAL REACH WITH THREE NONSTOP ROUTES ABOARD NEW JETS**

HOUSTON, Nov. 1, 2002 – Continental Airlines (NYSE:CAL) today began daily nonstop service between Oklahoma City, Omaha, Neb., and Richmond, Va., and the carrier's New York and Houston hubs, marking the commercial launch of 50-seat regional jets with an extended range of more than 1,500 miles.

The new roundtrip flights link Oklahoma City and Omaha to Continental's New York hub, Newark Liberty International Airport, continuing a Midwest expansion that began with the July opening of a Continental Express station in Des Moines, Iowa. The flights between Richmond and Continental's Houston hub at Bush Intercontinental Airport restore nonstop service that was suspended after the events of Sept. 11.

"Our commitment to delivering convenient, reliable service aboard the industry's most modern jet fleet has helped make Continental Airlines a customer favorite," said Continental Senior Vice President-Scheduling Glen Hauenstein. "The new Continental Express regional jets allow us to introduce nonstop service to smaller cities that don't yet have demand for larger jets but were beyond the reach of our regional fleet."

### **New Deliveries Expand Fleet and Reach**

Continental Express operator ExpressJet Airlines, the worldwide launch customer for the new Embraer ERJ-145XR regional jet, took delivery of the first eight of its 104 firm orders in October, after aircraft certification by the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration.

The fast, quiet ERJ-145XR has the same comfortable cabin layout as other regional jets in the Continental Express fleet and features only window and aisle seating. The new model, with a cruise speed of more than 500 miles per hour, is powered by new Rolls-Royce AE-3007A1E engines, equipped with auxiliary fuel tanks and fitted with winglets, the most visible change from previous models.

The latest deliveries increase the total Continental Express operating fleet to 186 aircraft, including 178 jets. Ten more ERJ-145XR deliveries are planned through December, and the last eight turboprops are scheduled to exit the fleet by year-end, as Continental Express completes its transition to all-jet flying.

#### **Nonstop Service Started, Announced for Six Markets**

With today's inaugural service to Omaha, Richmond and Oklahoma City, Continental now offers customers a total of 111 nonstop destinations from Liberty International and 139 from Houston Intercontinental. Continental also has announced the start of additional nonstop routes in December with extended-range Continental Express jets, including daily round trips between Houston and Palm Springs, Calif., and Villahermosa, Mexico, and between Liberty International and Daytona Beach, Fla.

The launch of twice-daily service today between Oklahoma City and Liberty International represent the only nonstop flights available from Will Rogers World Airport to the New York City area. Continental now offers three daily round trips between Omaha and Liberty International – the most daily nonstops offered by any carrier between Omaha and the New York City area.

Departures from Oklahoma City and Omaha are conveniently timed to provide easy connections to domestic and international nonstop flights from Liberty International, including an extensive bank of evening flights to top transatlantic destinations.

Continental introduced two daily round trips today between Richmond and Houston Intercontinental, the airline's largest hub. Convenient morning and afternoon departures from both cities offer flexibility for business and leisure travelers, with schedules that easily accommodate connections from Houston to Latin America and destinations worldwide.

ExpressJet employs more than 5,500 people and provides Continental Airlines with all of its regional airline capacity at its hub airports in Houston, Cleveland and New York/Newark. Continental Express, operated by ExpressJet Airlines, Inc., offers advance seat assignments and OnePass frequent flyer miles, which can be redeemed anywhere in the world Continental and its alliance carriers fly. ExpressJet Airlines is owned by ExpressJet Holdings, Inc. For more information, visit [expressjet.com](http://expressjet.com).

Continental Airlines is the world's sixth-largest airline and has more than 2,000 daily departures. With 121 domestic and 90 international destinations, Continental has the broadest global route network of any U.S. airline, including extensive service throughout the Americas, Europe and Asia. Continental has hubs serving New York, Houston, Cleveland and Guam, and carries approximately 45 million passengers per year on the newest jet fleet among major U.S. airlines. With 48,000 employees, Continental is one of the "100 Best Companies to Work For in America." Fortune ranked Continental the No. 2 Most Admired Global Airline and No. 30 Most Admired Global Company in March 2002. For more company information, visit [continental.com](http://continental.com)

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