

Press Release

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Azores Airlines joins ERA's expansive airline membership

- European Regions Airline Association (ERA) is pleased to announce its newest airline member Azores Airlines. This newest addition brings the association's airline members to 57.

Azores Airlines is a small international air carrier operating out of the Portuguese archipelago of the Azores – nine islands located in the mid-north Atlantic. The carrier provides a vast network of routes, playing an essential role in the economic and social development of the Portuguese archipelago. During quieter periods of the year, it also operates in the charter market, leasing wet and dry capacity to other regular players.

Montserrat Barriga, Director General, ERA, said: "I am delighted to welcome Azores Airlines to our ERA family, in addition to their regional arm, SATA Air Açores, that has been in membership for many years. As part of the SATA Group, Azores Airlines brings with it a long and vibrant history of more than 80 years, and in that time has been committed to overcoming the archipelago's isolation. I am delighted to be strengthening our relationship further with this unique region of Europe."

Luís Rodriguez, President, SATA Group, added: "Azores Airlines has decided to join ERA based on our experience with SATA Air Açores' valuable membership. ERA, among other benefits, provides the best way for regional organisations to be on top of the matters being discussed that have relevant implications going forward. Our two airlines, despite sharing some resources, have two totally different business models, where any issue may have very different implications. Being passive is not an option."

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* Founded in 1980, European Regions Airline Association (ERA) is a non-profit trade association representing over 55 airlines plus around other 150 companies involved in European air transport, and is the only association that bring together the entire spectrum of companies involved in European aviation. The association supports and defends the airline industry in providing safe, efficient and sustainable air connectivity to all regions of Europe. By lobbying European regulatory bodies on policy matters, ERA promotes and protects social responsibility, environmental sustainability and the development of regional economies and local communities.

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