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The pilot strike amounted to a loss of 350 MNOK for Norwegian

Norwegian's traffic figures for March are strongly affected by the strike among the company's Scandinavian pilots. Calculations show that the strike amounted to a loss of 350 MNOK in additional costs and loss of revenue. For the first time ever, Norwegian has had a decline in number of passengers compared with the same month the previous year. The decline is mainly in Scandinavia and due to the cancellation of almost 2,000 flights.

The strike, initiated by labour union Parat and the Scandinavian pilot union,

has affected the company's revenues this month. Cancelled flights amounted to a loss of 120 MNOK, while additional costs related to taking care of affected passengers were 110 MNOK. This includes purchasing tickets with other airlines, as well as food and accommodation for stranded passengers. The loss of income through loss of bookings ahead is estimated to be 120 MNOK. All in all, the strike cost Norwegian around 350 MNOK.

In March, 1,726,180 passengers flew with Norwegian. This is a decline of four percent compared to March 2014. However, the flights that weren't affected by the strike had a higher load factor than the same month last year. The load factor this year was 84.2 percent and contributed to a positive traffic growth (RPK) of seven percent. The total capacity (ASK) fell by one percent. The traffic figures for March have been boosted by the Easter traffic (Easter was in April last year). Negative effects from the pilot strike and non-existent Easter traffic are also expected in April's traffic figures this year. But bookings have gradually picked up again, due to several sales campaigns after the strike. However, solid booking figures during spring will not be able to compensate for loss of income during the strike.

“The strike among the Scandinavian pilots affected our company considerably and amounted to huge additional costs. Fortunately, we continue to attract many new customers in Europe and America, which offsets the fact that customers in Scandinavia were forced to fly with our competitors for a period of time. Had we not had such a large customer base outside of Scandinavia and so many hardworking employees, the situation would have been even more difficult,” said CEO Bjørn Kjos.

For more detailed information, please see pdf attached.

Media Contacts:

Chief Communications Officer Anne-Sissel Skånvik, + 47 97 55 43 44

CFO Frode Foss, + 47 91 63 16 45

airline listed on the Oslo Stock Exchange. Norwegian is the second largest airline in Scandinavia and third largest low cost carrier in Europe. The company reported its highest ever passenger figures in a single year with almost 24 million passengers in 2014. Norwegian has a route portfolio that stretches across Europe into North Africa and the Middle East, as well as long-haul flights to the US and Southeast Asia. The company has a total of 424 routes to 130 destinations and employs approximately 4,500 people in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Estonia, UK, Spain and Thailand. The company has 258 undelivered aircraft on firm order. Norwegian was founded in 1993 and its headquarter is in Fornebu, Norway. Norwegian offers better leg room than most competitors, in-flight WiFi on short haul, world-class punctuality and a fleet of 96 aircraft with an average age of only four years. In 2013 and 2014, Norwegian was voted Europe's best low-cost carrier of the year by the renowned SkyTrax World Airline Awards. In 2014, Norwegian also won three prizes at the prestigious Passenger Choice Awards for Best Airline in Europe, Best Inflight Connectivity & Communications and Best Single Achievement in Passenger Experience for its moving map on the 787 Dreamliners. In addition, Norwegian was awarded Europe's best low-cost airline by AirlineRatings.com for the second year running.

Contacts



For journalists only

Press Contact
Norwegian Press Office
press@norwegian.com
+47 815 11 816



Marketing/sponsorship requests: marketing@norwegian.com

Press Contact

Marketing/sponsorship requests: marketing@norwegian.com