

Dear Responsible Slot Authority:

We, the undersigned [REDACTED] of airlines from around the world, are writing to urgently request a waiver from standard slot usage rules during the Northern Hemisphere winter 2020-2021 season. The drastic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on travel require us to seek continued operational flexibility over the forthcoming winter season.

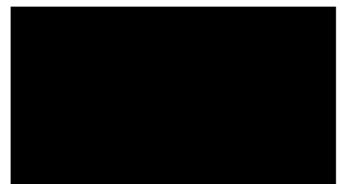
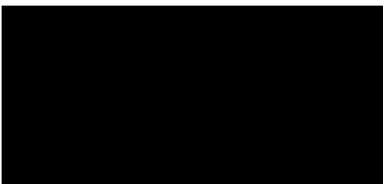
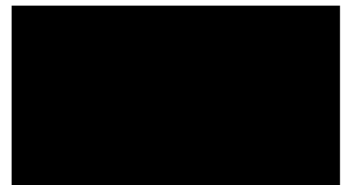
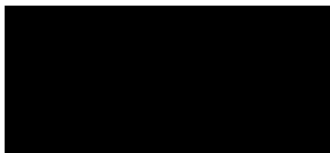
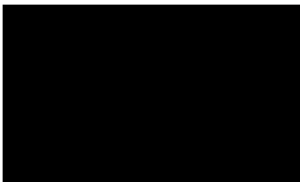
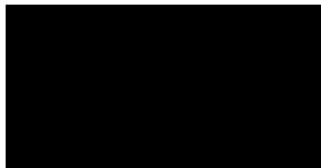
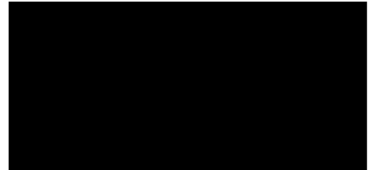
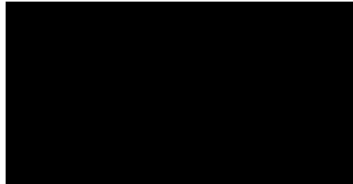
Earlier this year, we sought a waiver from slot usage rules through summer 2020. We sincerely appreciate your action, which granted the flexibility to reduce capacity in the wake of operational challenges presented by the virus. The slot waiver also allowed our airlines to redirect resources to repatriation and cargo flights, bringing citizens home and transporting critical medical supplies to areas of need.

We stand together in support of a continued winter slot usage waiver that is critical to our plans to manage through the crisis, recover, and provide the significant consumer, community, competitive, employment, and economic benefits synonymous with aviation. A waiver will help stabilize a very tenuous operational and commercial environment.

According to the International Air Transport Association (IATA), airlines would normally have sold 14% of tickets for travel in the first week of November by mid-June. That figure remains stubbornly close to zero, as travelers are exercising greater caution given the enduring nature of the pandemic. IATA has forecast airline losses of a record \$84 billion this year, 3.2 times higher than in the Global Financial Crisis, as passenger traffic is expected to decline by 54.7%. Losses are also expected to continue into 2021. Having a waiver from slot usage rules will help us plan our operations over the winter months to maximize global connectivity and efficiency.

Airlines should not have to fly empty planes in order to hold their historical slot rights – it is inefficient and irresponsible. It also contradicts industry and government efforts to work together to reduce the environmental impacts of aviation carbon emissions, by causing airlines to fly empty planes without the corresponding social and economic benefits that come from air travel.

We believe ample industry impact data and precedent exist for slot coordinators to continue offering the relief we seek through the winter season, and to issue a waiver now. We have and will continue to take decisive action to address the global drop in demand for air travel. The restoration of service can only be achieved in partnership with your support for this request.





**GOL**



**IAG** INTERNATIONAL  
AIRLINES  
GROUP



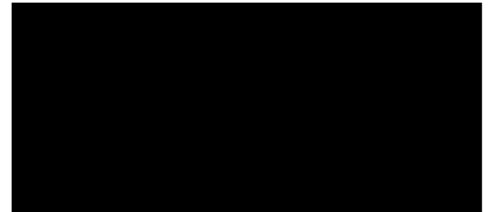
 **JAPAN AIRLINES**



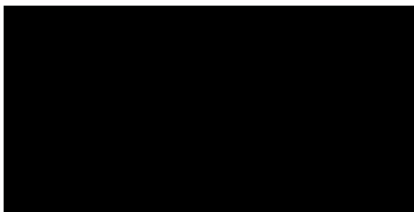
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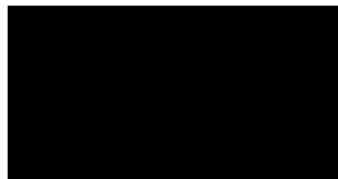
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**LOT**



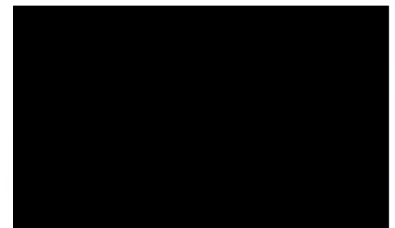
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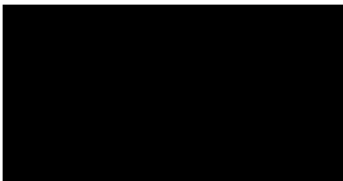
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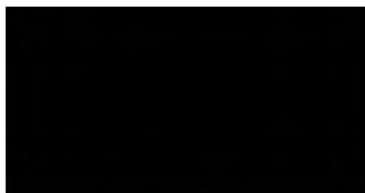
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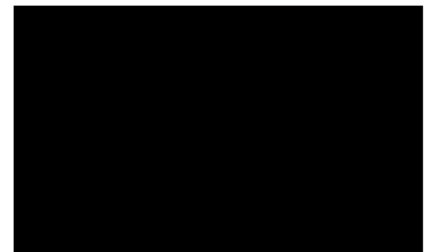
深圳航空  
Shenzhen Airlines 



**SINGAPORE**  
AIRLINES 



**TAP**  
AIRPORTUGAL



 **TURKISH AIRLINES**



**UNITED** 



