

MEDIA RELEASE

EMERALD AIRLINES CHOOSES SWISSPORT AS GROUND HANDLING PARTNER

Ireland's newest regional airline, Emerald Airlines, has selected Swissport as its ground services provider for several key airports across the UK. As the exclusive operator of Aer Lingus Regional, Emerald Airlines recently accelerated its commencement of operations in the UK, with services commencing from 16th March 2022.

Emerald Airlines, Ireland's newest regional airline, has appointed Swissport as its ground services partner for several major airports in the UK including Northern Ireland and Jersey. The five-year contract will see Swissport provide ground handling, de-icing, lounge and cleaning services for the airline's domestic UK services as well as flights from Ireland. As the exclusive franchise operator of Aer Lingus Regional, Emerald Airlines operates on behalf of the Irish flag carrier at Belfast City Airport, Birmingham, Bristol, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Jersey, Leeds Bradford, and Newcastle.

Under the agreement with Emerald Airlines, Swissport is expected to support approximately 12,500 flights annually. Passengers also benefit from the ease of connecting to more than 60 UK to US routes on Aer Lingus' transatlantic network via Dublin Airport, where they can take advantage of the US Immigration Pre-Clearance facility.

"We are delighted that Emerald has chosen Swissport as its ground handling partner in the UK," says Jude Winstanley, Managing Director for the UK and Ireland at Swissport. "We're very proud to see a new brand come to the market and to have their trust in our expertise and world-class team."

Commenting on the announcement, Choorah Singh, Director of Operations at Emerald Airlines, says, "We're very pleased to be entering a partnership with Swissport and look forward to working together to ensure the safe, secure and efficient ground handling of our passengers and aircraft in the UK."

In the UK and Ireland, in addition to growing its business with new and existing aviation partners, Swissport is getting ready to support its customers across 27 airports. As pandemic restrictions continue to ease, the world's leading provider in airport ground services is preparing for the expected accelerated recovery of global air traffic.

In 2021, Swissport International AG provided best-in-class airport ground services for some 97 million airline passengers (pre-Covid 2019: 265 million) and handled roughly 5.1 million tons of air freight (2019: 4.6 million) at over 100 air cargo centers worldwide. Several of its air cargo centers have been certified for pharmaceutical logistics by IATA's CEIV Pharma and by the British MHRA. The world's leader in airport ground services and air cargo handling, with currently around 45,000 employees, was active at 285 airports in 45 countries on six continents at the end of 2021.

Based out of Dublin, Emerald Airlines is Ireland's newest regional airline and exclusive operator of the Aer Lingus Regional route network. Offering a range of solutions including Franchise, wet lease, and Private Charter flying, Emerald Airlines' dedicated team of aviation specialists will provide customers with the fleet solutions to meet specific needs. The airline recently commenced Aer Lingus Regional flights from Dublin Airport, and by June 2022, Emerald Airlines will fly over 430 flights per week across 18 routes. Tickets on sale now at www.aerlingus.com

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