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BEFORE THE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION  
DOCKETS

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Joint Application of )

ALITALIA-LINEE AEREE ITALIANE- )  
S.p.A. )

CZECH AIRLINES )

DELTA AIR LINES, INC., )

and )

SOCIETE AIR FRANCE, )

under 49 U.S.C. §§ 41308 and 41309 for )  
approval of, and antitrust immunity for, )  
alliance agreement )

Docket OST-2001-10429-3

**MOTION OF ALITALIA-LINEE AEREE ITALIANE-S.P.A. FOR  
CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT UNDER 14 C.F.R. § 302.12**

Communications with respect to this document should be sent to:

Richard D. Mathias  
ZUCKERT, SCOUTT &  
RASENBERGER, L.L.P.  
888 Seventeenth Street, N.W.  
Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20006-3309

(202) 298-8660

Attorneys for  
ALITALIA-LINEE AEREE ITALIANE-  
S.p.A.

Dated: August 15, 2001

**BEFORE THE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

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<b>DATED: AUGUST 15, 2001</b>	)	

**MOTION OF ALITALIA-LINEE AEREE ITALIANE-S.P.A. FOR  
CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT UNDER 14 C.F.R. § 302.12**

Alitalia-Linee Aeree Italiane-S.p.A. (“Alitalia”), pursuant to Rule 12 of the Department’s Rules of Practice, 14 C.F.R. § 302.12, hereby requests that the Department withhold from public disclosure the confidential, proprietary and commercially sensitive information Alitalia is filing concurrently under seal in the above-captioned proceeding. Alitalia is submitting these confidential documents to facilitate the Department’s processing of the joint application for alliance approval and antitrust immunity filed by Alitalia and its joint applicants, Czech Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Inc. (“Delta”), and Societe Air France (“Air France”).

The documents for which Alitalia requests confidential treatment are listed in the attached index. In support of this request, Alitalia submits the following:

**I. ALITALIA'S CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS ARE PROTECTED FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE**

The confidential documents and information submitted herewith in conjunction with Alitalia's joint application with Czech Airlines, Delta, and Air France for antitrust immunity are protected from public disclosure under various exemptions under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), including 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3) and 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4). The purpose of these exemptions "is to protect the confidentiality of information which citizens provide to their government, but which would customarily not be released to the public, and to facilitate citizens' ability to confide in their government." Burke Energy Corp. v. DOE, 583 F. Supp. 507, 510 (D. Kansas 1984).

Exemption (4) exempts from public disclosure "trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person and privileged or confidential." 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4). This exemption has been construed to prevent public disclosure of information that is not of the type usually released to the public, and that if released would cause substantial harm to the competitive position of the person from whom the information was obtained. See, e.g., Gulf & Western Industries, Inc. v. United States, 615 F.2d 527, 530 (D.C. Cir. 1980); American Airlines, Inc. v. NMB, 588 F.2d 863, 871 (2d Cir. 1978); National Parks & Conservation Ass'n v. Kleppe, 547 F.2d 673, 684 (D.C. Cir. 1976); Joint Application of United and Lufthansa, Order 93-12-32, December 18, 1993; Joint Application of Northwest and KLM, Order 93-1-11, January 8, 1993, p. 19; Information Directives Concerning CRS, Order 88-5-46, May 22, 1988; Carrier-Owned

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Computer Reservations Systems, ER-1385, Order 86-5-54, May 19, 1986; Information Directives Concerning CRS, Order 83-12-136, December 29, 1983.

For information to qualify for exemption (4), the information must be (1) commercial or financial in nature, (2) obtained from a person, and (3) privileged or confidential. See Public Citizen Health Research Group v. FDA, 704 F.2d 1280, 1290 (D.C. Cir. 1983). All of the confidential information submitted by Alitalia qualifies for exemption from public disclosure under the above-detailed three-part test standard. The documents and information relate to commercially sensitive, proprietary, and privileged financial and corporate matters. The information was obtained from a private citizen and is not of the type generally released to the public. The public disclosure of the information is not required to further the public interest or to promote competition. In National Parks & Conservation Ass'n v. Morton, 498 F.2d 765, 770 (D.C. Cir. 1974), the court held that information is "confidential" for purposes of exemption (4) if it would not customarily be released to the public by the person from whom it was obtained, and if disclosure is likely to have either of the following results: "(1) to impair the Government's ability to obtain necessary information in the future; or (2) to cause substantial harm to the competitive position of the person from whom the information was obtained."

Alitalia submits that public disclosure of the type of confidential information at issue here would cause substantial harm to its respective competitive position, and could impair the Government's ability to obtain similar information on a voluntary basis from individuals in the future.

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In addition, withholding the subject confidential information from public disclosure is also provided for under exemption (3). 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3). Exemption (3) pertains to information specifically exempted from disclosure by some other statute, such as 49 U.S.C. section 40115. The release of the information which is the subject of this motion may “prejudice the formulation and presentation of positions of the United States in international negotiations” with foreign governments and “would have an adverse effect on the competitive position of an air carrier in foreign air transportation,” and would therefore be inconsistent with 49 U.S.C. section 40115.

The information is being submitted to the Department so that the Department may expeditiously evaluate the public interest benefits that will result from granting approval of and antitrust immunity for the Alitalia, Czech Airlines, Delta, Air France alliance.

**II. ACCESS TO THESE CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS SHOULD BE  
RESTRICTED TO COUNSEL AND OUTSIDE EXPERTS**

Alitalia is submitting highly sensitive internal corporate documents and information that should be accorded limited access. Such access should be granted only to counsel and outside experts who file affidavits stating that the affiant will (1) use the information only for the purpose of participating in this proceeding, and (2) not disclose such information to anyone other than counsel or outside experts who have filed a valid affidavit.

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In order to minimize the risk of harmful disclosure of this competitively sensitive information, access should be strictly limited, as requested. Alitalia is separately filing, concurrently with this motion, four copies of this information, in sealed cartons labeled “Confidential Treatment Requested Under 14 C.F.R. Section 302.12; Access Is Limited To Counsel Or Outside Experts Who Have Filed Valid Confidentiality Affidavits.”

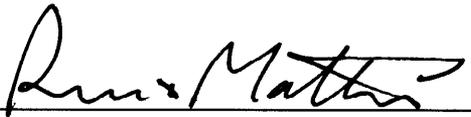
The request to limit disclosure to counsel and outside experts is fully consistent with Department precedent and policy. Thus, in United/Lufthansa, Order 93-12-32, supra, the Department granted the applicants’ request to limit access to certain confidential information to counsel and outside experts who filed appropriate affidavits. In restricting such access, the Department balanced the disclosure of confidential information against the competitive harm to the applicants that would result if access were expanded, and concluded that “the undue competitive harm to the applicants outweighs the commenters’ need for expanded access to the highly sensitive material in this case.” Id. at 5. The Department also noted that “interested parties to this proceeding can obtain adequate advice on the merits of the application through outside experts and persons authorized to review the materials.” Id. See also Joint Application of American and Canadian International, Order 96-1-6, January 11, 1996, at 3.

Access to Alitalia’s internal documents and data should be limited in a comparable manner, in light of the undue competitive harm to Alitalia that would result from a broader disclosure of such highly sensitive information.

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For the foregoing reasons, the Department should grant Alitalia's motion to withhold certain proprietary and commercially sensitive confidential documents and information from public disclosure, as requested herein.

Respectfully submitted,



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Richard D. Mathias  
ZUCKERT, SCOUTT & RASENBERGER, L.L.P.  
888 Seventeenth Street, N.W.  
Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20006-3309  
(202) 298-8660

Attorneys for ALITALIA-LINEE AEREE  
ITALIANE-S.p.A.

Dated August 15, 2001

**ALITALIA-LINEE AEREE ITALIANE-S.p.A.**  
**INDEX OF CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS**

<b><u>Documents</u></b>	<b><u>Prepared By and Date Issued</u></b>	<b><u>Bates Page Numbers</u></b>
Alitalia Continental Business Case	A. Cicala 11/23/99	AZ ATI801 000001- AZ ATI801 000042
American Airlines & Alitalia Ideas for a Co-operation London, September 2000	M. Oretti 9/13/00	AZ ATI801 000043- AZ ATI801 000050
American Airlines & Alitalia Ideas for a Co-operation Roma, September 2000	M. Oretti 9/13/00	AZ ATI801 000051- AZ ATI801 000057
American Airlines AA Positioning on NYC Airports	M. Oretti 5/7/00	AZ ATI801 000058- AZ ATI801 000074
Valuation Assumptions	A. Benassi 1/18/01	AZ ATI801 000075- AZ ATI801 000084

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 15th day of August 2001, a copy of the foregoing Motion of Alitalia-Linee Aeree Italiane-S.p.A. for confidential treatment was served by first-class mail, postage prepaid, on the following:

Joanne W. Young  
David M. Kirstein  
Counsel for America West Airlines  
and World Airways  
Baker & Hostetler LLP  
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 1100  
Washington, D.C. 20036-5304

Robert P. Silverberg  
Counsel for Airborne Express,  
and Midwest Express Airlines  
Silverberg, Goldman & Bikoff, L.L.P.  
1101 30th Street, N.W.  
Suite 120  
Washington, D.C. 20007

R. Bruce Keiner, Jr.  
Counsel for Air Micronesia,  
Continental Airlines and  
Continental Micronesia  
Crowell & Moring LLP  
1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20004

James W. Tello  
Counsel for Air Transport International  
and Miami Air International  
Roller & Bauer, PLLC  
1020 Nineteenth Street, N.W.  
Suite 400  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Russell E. Pommer  
Associate General Counsel and  
Director of Regulatory Affairs  
Atlas Air, Inc.  
901 15th Street, N.W.  
Suite 400  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Marshall S. Sinick  
Counsel for Alaska Airlines,  
Aloha Airlines and  
Florida West International Airways  
Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P.  
1201 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20004

Carl B. Nelson, Jr.  
Associate General Counsel  
American Airlines, Inc. and  
TWA Airlines LLC  
1101 17th Street, N.W.  
Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20036

William G. Doherty  
Director of Military and  
Government Affairs  
American Trans Air, Inc.  
7337 W. Washington Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46251-0609

John L. Richardson  
Counsel for Amerijet International  
Crispin & Brenner, P.L.L.C.  
1156 15<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Suite 1105  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Jonathan Blank  
Counsel for State of Maryland,  
Aviation Administration, the  
Greater Orlando Aviation Authority,  
and the Port of Seattle  
Preston Gates Ellis & Rouvelas Meeds  
1735 New York, Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Donald C. Comlish  
Counsel for the Massachusetts  
Port Authority  
7504 Heatherton Lane  
Potomac, MD 20854

Kenneth P. Quinn  
Counsel for the City of Chicago  
Department of Aviation, and the  
City and County of San Francisco  
Pillsbury Winthrop, L.L.P.  
1133 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 1200  
Washington, D.C. 20036

John J. Corbett  
Counsel for the Columbus  
Airport Authority  
Spiegel & McDiarmid  
1350 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 1100  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Michael F. Goldman  
Counsel for the Dallas/Ft. Worth Parties  
Silverberg, Goldman & Bikoff, L.L.P.  
1101 30th Street, N.W.  
Suite 120  
Washington, D.C. 20007

D. Scott Yohe  
Senior Vice President,  
Government Affairs  
Delta Air Lines, Inc.  
1275 K Street, N.W.  
Suite 1200  
Washington, D.C. 20005

Tom Lydon  
Director of Government Affairs  
Evergreen International Airlines, Inc.  
1629 K Street, N.W.  
Suite 301  
Washington, D.C. 20006

Roger Fones  
Chief  
Transportation, Energy, and  
Agricultural Section—  
Antitrust Division  
Department of Justice  
325 Seventh Street, N.W.  
Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20530

John Byerly  
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary  
for Transportation Affairs  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street, N.W.  
Room 5830  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Jean K. Oberstar  
Counsel for Detroit and Wayne County  
Simat, Helliesen & Eichner, Inc.  
4400 MacArthur Blvd., N.W.  
Suite 303  
Washington, D.C. 20007

Jed T. Orme  
Senior Vice President and  
General Counsel  
DHL Airways, Inc.  
50 California Street  
Suite 500  
San Francisco, CA 94111-4624

Lorraine B. Halloway  
Counsel for Emery Worldwide Airlines  
Crowell & Moring LLP  
1001 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20004-2595

Pierre Murphy  
Counsel for Fine Air Services  
One Westin Center  
2445 M Street, N.W.  
Suite 260  
Washington, D.C. 20037

Nicholas A. Sabatini  
Director  
Flight Standards Service  
Federal Aviation Administration  
800 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Room 821  
Washington, D.C. 20591

Nathaniel P. Breed, Jr.  
Counsel for Federal Express  
Shaw Pittman  
2300 N Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037-1128

Moffett B. Roller  
Counsel for Gemini Air Cargo  
Roller & Bauer, PLLC  
1020 Nineteenth Street, N.W.  
Suite 400  
Washington, D.C. 20036

HollyBeth Anderson  
Vice President—International  
Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce  
235 International Blvd., NW  
Atlanta, GA 30303

Robert E. Cohn  
Counsel for Delta Air Lines  
and Midway Airlines  
Shaw Pittman  
2300 N Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037

Jonathan B. Hill  
Counsel for Hawaiian Airlines  
Dow, Lohnes & Albertson  
1200 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 800  
Washington, D.C. 20036-6802

Stephen A. Alterman  
Counsel for Horizon Air  
Meyers & Alterman  
1220 19<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Rachel B. Trinder  
Counsel for the City of Houston and the  
Greater Houston Partnership  
Zuckert, Scoutt & Rasenberger, L.L.P.  
888 Seventeenth Street, N.W.  
Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20006-3309

Bradley Rubinstein  
Manager  
Air Service Development  
and External Affairs  
The Port Authority of New York  
and New Jersey  
One World Trade Center 65W  
New York, NY 10048

David Kirstein  
Counsel for North American Airlines  
Baker & Hostetler LLP  
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 1100  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Theodore I. Seamon  
Counsel for Northern Air Cargo and the  
Raleigh/Durham Airport Authority  
1220 19<sup>th</sup> Street, N.W.  
Suite 400  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Gary B. Garofalo  
Boros & Garofalo, P.C.  
1201 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 700  
Washington, D.C. 20036-2605

Keith A. Phildius, Sr.  
Director, Marketing and  
International Development  
Greater Orlando Aviation Authority  
Orlando International Airport  
One Airport Boulevard  
Orlando, FL 32827-4399

Morris R. Garfinkle  
Counsel for the City of Philadelphia  
GKMG Consulting Services, Inc.  
1530 Wilson Boulevard  
Suite 400  
Arlington, VA 22209

Jeffrey A. Manley  
Counsel for Polar Air Cargo and  
United Air Lines  
Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering  
2445 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037

Richard P. Taylor  
Counsel for Evergreen International  
and the City of St. Louis  
Steptoe & Johnson LLP  
1330 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dennis N. Barnes  
Counsel for Sun Country Airlines, Inc.  
1875 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 1100  
Washington, D.C. 20009

Mark W. Atwood  
Sher & Blackwell  
1850 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Joshua I. Romanow  
Pillsbury Winthrop, L.L.P.  
1133 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 1200  
Washington, D.C. 20036

David L. Vaughan  
Counsel for United Parcel Service  
Kelley, Drye & Warren  
1200 19th Street, N.W.  
Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20036

Donald T. Bliss  
O'Melveny & Myers LLP  
555 13th Street, N.W.  
Suite 500 West  
Washington, D.C. 20004

Edward S. Fagen  
Vice President and General Counsel  
Metropolitan Washington Airports  
Authority  
44 Canal Center Plaza  
Alexandria, VA 22314

*Kenneth C. Hines*

---

Kenneth C. Hines