



## Virgin Atlantic renews contract with AFI KLM E&M

**Paris, Amstelveen, 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2009 – On 17 December 2008, UK carrier Virgin Atlantic extended its component support and pool access contract with Air France Industries (AFI) and KLM Engineering & Maintenance (KLM E&M).**

KLM E&M has been providing maintenance services for Virgin Atlantic's fleet of B747-400s since 1994. The pool access component covers door-to-door delivery of B747-400 parts.

As a sign of excellent relations between the two partners, on 1 July 2008, Virgin Atlantic had already signed an airframe contract running through to 31 December 2010.

Steve Griffith, Director of Engineering at Virgin Atlantic Ltd said: *"Virgin Atlantic are extremely pleased to be continuing our relationship with AFI KLM E&M on the B747-400 airframe maintenance and component support. In a very demanding and competitive environment AFI and KLM E&M consistently deliver to our exacting high standards, on-time and with exceptional quality and technical expertise. This is a partnership built on trust that delivers value to both Virgin Atlantic and AFI and KLM E&M."*

Peter de Swert, Executive Vice President KLM E&M added: *"It is a great honor for AFI KLM E&M to have been chosen by this successful airline by continuing the services it requires for maintaining and enhancing its position in a very competitive passenger market both at London Gatwick and London Heathrow. These long-term contracts enable Virgin Atlantic and AFI KLM E&M to work on streamlining the processes between the organizations for on-time delivery of aircraft from heavy maintenance and the daily release of aircraft in operation. AFI KLM E&M are proud to be among Virgin Atlantic's main supply chain vendors."*

### **About Virgin Atlantic**

Since it was founded in 1984, Virgin Atlantic has become Britain's second largest carrier serving the world's major cities. Now based at both London's Gatwick and Heathrow airports, it operates long haul services to 30 destinations world-wide as far apart as Las Vegas, Sydney and Shanghai. Virgin Atlantic currently has a fleet of 38 aircraft which includes thirteen 747s and six A340-300s and nineteen A340-600s.

### **About AFI and KLM E&M**

Air France Industries and KLM Engineering & Maintenance, which joined forces following the Air France KLM merger, are world-leading multi-product MRO (Maintenance, Repair, Overhaul) providers with a joint workforce of 15,000, offering comprehensive repair capability, integration expertise, component pool operational support and a powerful logistics network. Together they support more than 900 aircraft and serve upwards of 150 major international airlines.

For more information please contact:

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