

Aer Lingus Group plc

ISE: EIL1

LSE: AERL

Update on Maintenance Contracts

Dublin & London, 21 February, 2008: Aer Lingus Group plc (“Aer Lingus” or “the Company”) today announced that it is entering into exclusive final contract negotiations with a number of successful suppliers following the competitive tender for the provision of elements of the Company’s maintenance services.

The competitive tender process was separated into four distinct elements: line activities; base maintenance; components; and wheels and brakes. Each element was tendered separately with the objective to deliver the maximum benefit to Aer Lingus shareholders within specific compliance criteria.

Exclusive contract negotiations are being entered into with the following suppliers:

SR Technics (Ireland) Ltd. (at Dublin, Ireland) for line activities;

Sabena Technics / TAT Group (at Dinard/Bordeaux, France) for base maintenance;

Lufthansa Technik AG (at Hamburg, Germany) and Honeywell International Inc. (at Toulouse, France) for components maintenance; and

Goodrich Corporation (at Hatfield UK) for wheels and brakes maintenance and Honeywell International Inc. for the provision of certain associated materials.

On completion, contracts will be awarded for a 10 year period to 2018. All contracts will include an option for Aer Lingus to renegotiate terms at defined future dates in the event of changes in market pricing for engineering services during the contract period.

Mr Dermot Mannion, Aer Lingus Chief Executive, commented, ““We engaged in a rigorous process on each aspect of our maintenance requirements and we are pleased to confirm that the process has yielded significant and necessary cost savings for Aer Lingus over a ten year period.”

He added “We will be working with best-in-class service providers on each of the four maintenance areas. Overall, we expect more than 50% of our engineering spend to remain in Ireland over the period. The ongoing delivery of necessary cost savings is all the more important given difficult trading conditions across the industry.”

About Aer Lingus Tender Process

The entering into exclusive negotiations follows an extensive review of Aer Lingus’ maintenance needs over a four-month period and was overseen by independent management consultants Oliver Wyman. Aer Lingus’ current ten-year maintenance contract with SR Technics is due to expire in October 2008

The airline's decision was based on strict compliance criteria including approval by EASA (European Aviation Safety Agency).

Notes: About Maintenance

Line maintenance: routine maintenance of in-service aircraft covering both scheduled maintenance requirements and unscheduled maintenance e.g. pilot reported defects. Lower order checks known as 'A Checks' are included. Ground handling and de-icing of aircraft are also included in this category.

Base maintenance: aircraft removed from service for airframe, powerplant and systems inspection, testing and repair at significant scheduled maintenance intervals e.g. 20 months known as 'C Checks' and 'Structural Checks'. Such checks are carried out in a hangar facility and vary in duration from four days upwards depending on the workscope.

Components: workshop servicing, repair, overhaul, testing and certification of aircraft parts. Such parts are known as 'rotatable components' as they are rotated through the workshop cycle and reinstalled on aircraft.

Wheels and brakes: workshop servicing, repair, overhaul, testing and certification of aircraft wheels and brake unit assemblies.

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About Aer Lingus Group plc

Aer Lingus is an Irish low-cost, low-fares airline, providing both long-haul and short-haul passenger transportation services. Aer Lingus' low-cost, low-fares model is centred on maintaining low unit cost, offering one-way fares, maintaining effective fleet utilisation and developing the Aer Lingus brand. Consistent with this low-cost model, Aer Lingus' primary distribution channel is its website aerlingus.com.

For further information please visit www.aerlingus.com or contact:

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