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Thierry Antinori appointed Chairman of Austrian Airlines

Three members in future on Executive Board of Austrian Airlines (AUA) / Thierry Antinori, Andreas Bierwirth and Peter Malanik to continue restructuring and develop growth perspectives

The Supervisory Board of Austrian Airlines appointed Thierry Antinori (49) as Chairman of the Airline's Executive Board at its meeting today. The new Chairman – up to now Chief Marketing Officer on the Lufthansa German Airlines Board – will take up his post, with effect from 1 April 2011.

With today's appointment, the Supervisory Board of Austrian Airlines increased the members of the Airline's Executive Board to three in future – the other two existing Board Members are Peter Malanik and Andreas Bierwirth.

Stefan H. Lauer, CEO Group Airlines and Corporate Human Resources at Lufthansa AG and Chairman of the AUA Supervisory Board: "The strengthening of the Executive Board will add further momentum to the positive development of Austrian Airlines. Peter Malanik and Andreas Bierwirth have mastered the first phase of the turnaround successfully. For the second phase of restructuring facing Austrian Airlines, our aim is to strengthen its Executive Board and we are accordingly pleased to have as Chairman for the new challenge Thierry Antinori, an airline manager of great experience, expertise and the highest international prestige."

Alongside resolute continuation of the restructuring measures and rigorous cost management, it is imperative for Austrian Airlines to harness growth opportunities again and further develop the Vienna hub.

"The challenge now is to open up and utilise new perspectives for a leaner and more efficient Austrian Airlines," Stefan H. Lauer emphasised. "Thierry Antinori is the right man to strengthen the team on the Executive Board. He can draw on years of experience in the airline business and look back on a successful term in charge of marketing and sales on the Lufthansa passenger airline board. Moreover, he has demonstrated his exceptional expertise in restructuring during the Lufthansa Climb 2011 cost-cutting programme designed to safeguard the airline's earnings."

Austrian Airlines

Austrian Airlines is Austria's largest carrier and offers a global route network of round 130 destinations. In Central and Eastern Europe, the route network is particularly dense: With 44 destinations Austrian Airlines is the market leader throughout the region. Thanks to its favourable geographical location at the heart of Europe, the company's hub at Vienna International Airport is the ideal gateway between East and West. Austrian Airlines is part of the Lufthansa Group, Europe's largest airline group, and a member of the Star Alliance, the first global alliance of international airlines.

For further information:

Corporate Communications AUSTRIAN AIRLINES GROUP: Martin HEHEMANN / Patricia STRAMPFER / Michael BRAUN / Ursula BERGER; Tel: +43 (0) 51766 11231. <u>martin.hehemann@austrian.com</u>. <u>patricia.strampfer@austrian.com</u>. <u>michael.braun@austrian.com</u>. <u>ursula.berger@austrian.com</u>;

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