



May 2, 2003

## PrivatAir opens Düsseldorf Branch and receives German Aircraft Operator Certificate

International Business aviation specialist PrivatAir announced today the formal opening of its Düsseldorf affiliate PrivatAir GmbH, which coincides with the issue of a German Aircraft Operator Certificate (AOC) by the Luftfahrt Bundesamt (the German Civil Aviation Authority), authorizing it to operate German registered aircraft for commercial purposes.

A European Union AOC is required to operate the two German registered Airbus A319 aircraft Geneva based PrivatAir will be using to transport executives and employees of Airbus between the Group's Toulouse (France), Hamburg (Germany) and Filton/Broughton (UK) production sites, and to continue operating its regular transatlantic services on behalf of Lufthansa.

Greg Thomas, Chief Executive Officer of the PrivatAir Group, says: "This development represents a major expansion of our European operations, involving the recruitment of some 120 German-based flight deck and cabin crew. It follows on from the unprecedented success of the world's first transatlantic all-business-class service operated by PrivatAir on behalf of Lufthansa, launched on June 17, 2002 between Düsseldorf and New York's Newark airport".

Passengers on this route benefit from accelerated check-in and disembarkation facilities in both Düsseldorf and Newark, the exceptional comfort of a spacious Boeing Business Jet or Airbus A 319 cabin configured for just 48 passengers, and the unparalleled PrivatAir in-flight service. So it is no wonder that the passenger satisfaction surveys carried out by Lufthansa regularly record exceptionally high results.