

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

**PORTLAND, ORE. (June 10, 2014) – PDX-Tokyo Turns 10**

Today marks the 10th anniversary of Delta Air Lines nonstop service connecting Portland and Tokyo.

The route remains the fastest way to travel between Portland International Airport and Japan, supporting business, tourism and the local economy.

Spinning back time to June 10, 2004, the mood was festive as business and government leaders from Oregon and Southwest Washington boarded the inaugural flight from PDX to Narita International Airport. Passengers included 70 members of an Asia trade mission delegation sponsored by then Governor Ted Kulongoski.

All hailed the new flights for saving travelers three hours of round-trip travel time by eliminating stops or transfers at other airports. The route was a major win for business and government leaders, including members of the International Air Service Committee, for their collective efforts encouraging nonstop air service to Asia.

"We remain grateful to Delta for providing our community with this vital connection to Japan, with connecting flights throughout Asia," said Bill Wyatt, Port of Portland executive director. "Being the smallest of only 14 U.S. cities with year-round nonstop service to both Asia and Europe, we'll continue working hard to support these international routes."

The flights support \$95 million annually in local business revenues; 1248 jobs, and \$38.8 million in wages, according to a 2011 economic impact study conducted by Martin Associates for the Port of Portland. The route also accounts for \$3.7 million in state and local taxes.

Initially, Tokyo flights operated on Northwest Airlines DC10-30s, prior to the subsequent merger with Delta. Now, Delta flies upgraded Boeing 767s, offering passengers new lie-flat seats, plus inflight entertainment throughout the new interior.

In addition to the PDX-Tokyo route, Delta provides year-round international nonstop service connecting PDX and Amsterdam, which started in 2008. At PDX, Delta also provides domestic nonstop service to cities including: Atlanta, Detroit, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, New York and Salt Lake City. Delta will launch five daily year-round flights between PDX and Seattle on Aug. 1.