

**BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

Application of)
)
 DELTA AIR LINES, INC.) **Docket OST-99-5574**
)
 for an exemption pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 40109(c))
 (Atlanta-Guadalajara))

**APPLICATION OF DELTA AIR LINES, INC.
FOR AN EXEMPTION**

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April 19, 1999

Note: Delta is requesting expedited action on this application and will conduct a poll of the U.S. carrier representatives listed on the attached service list. Answers to this application would otherwise be due by May 3, 1999.

**BEFORE THE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.
April 19, 1999**

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(Atlanta-Guadalajara))	

**APPLICATION OF DELTA AIR LINES, INC.
FOR AN EXEMPTION**

Delta Air Lines, Inc. (“Delta”) hereby applies for an exemption, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 40109, authorizing Delta to provide scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property and mail between Atlanta, Georgia and Guadalajara, Mexico and to combine this exemption authority with all of its existing certificate and exemption authority. Delta plans to commence service on July 1, 1999 and therefore requests that the Department grant this application, which is non-controversial and fully consistent with the U.S.-Mexico bilateral, by no later than April 23, 1999, in order to afford Delta adequate time to market and sell the new service.¹

In support of this application, Delta states the following:

¹ Counsel for Delta will poll the U.S. carrier representatives listed on the service list attached to this application and will advise the Department of the results as soon as possible.

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1. On or about July 1, 1999, Delta plans to implement daily nonstop transborder service between Atlanta and Guadalajara using Boeing 727-200 aircraft, configured with 137 economy seats and 12 first class seats.² In order to effectively market this new service, Delta requires exemption authority as soon as possible, so that Delta can load its schedules and begin selling this service in time to meet peak summer travel demand.

2. Grant of this application is in the public interest and will provide important service and competitive benefits. Delta will provide consumers with the special convenience of nonstop service between Atlanta and Guadalajara, a U.S.-Mexico route that does not currently receive any direct service. Furthermore, Delta will provide a vast array of online connections to over 130 U.S. points from Delta's extensive Atlanta hub, Delta's largest hub and the largest single airline hub in the world. Thus, grant of this application will significantly increase intergateway competition and improve service options between the United States and Guadalajara for consumers throughout the United States.

3. Grant of this application would be fully consistent with the rights available to U.S. carriers under the U.S.-Mexico bilateral agreement. Two U.S.

² This service will not involve a net annual increase in fuel consumption of 10 million gallons or more. Delta anticipates that it will have no difficulty obtaining adequate supplies of fuel for this service.

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carriers may be designated to provide service between each U.S.-Mexico city-pair. Currently, no U.S. carrier is designated on the Atlanta-Guadalajara route.

4. Delta is fully qualified to provide this U.S.-Mexico service and requests that the Department take official notice, pursuant to Rule 24 of the Department's Rules of Practice, of all data on file with the Department necessary to establish Delta's fitness. Notably, Delta operates numerous services between the United States and Mexico under various exemptions and pursuant to its certificate authority for Routes 562 and 630.

5. Delta respectfully requests that this application be granted by no later than April 23, 1999 and that the authority remain in effect until 90 days after the Department grants a related Delta application for Atlanta-Guadalajara certificate authority which Delta intends to file shortly.

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WHEREFORE, Delta Air Lines, Inc. respectfully requests that the Department grant it an exemption authorizing it to provide scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property and mail between Atlanta, Georgia and Guadalajara, Mexico and grant such other additional relief as the public interest may require.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have caused a copy of the foregoing Application of Delta Air Lines, Inc. for an Exemption to be served this 19th day of April, 1999, upon each of the following persons:

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