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# **News Release**

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# ACE AVIATION HOLDINGS INC. REPORTS THIRD QUARTER RESULTS

## THIRD QUARTER OVERVIEW

- EBITDAR of \$558 million (excluding special charge), an increase of \$7 million from the 2005 quarter.
- Special non-cash charge of \$102 million (\$70 million after tax) in connection with Air Canada's obligations for the redemption of Aeroplan miles issued before 2002.
- Operating income of \$305 million (excluding special charge) compared to operating income in the 2005 quarter of \$321 million.
- Net income (including special charge) of \$103 million compared to net income of \$271 million in the 2005 quarter.
- Fuel expense increase of \$87 million or 13 per cent over the prior year's quarter.
- Passenger revenues up \$103 million or 4 per cent, driven by a 1 per cent yield improvement and 3 per cent growth in traffic.
- Positive cash flow from operations of \$159 million, an improvement of \$171 million from the third quarter of 2005.

MONTRÉAL, November 10, 2006 – ACE Aviation Holdings Inc. (ACE) today reported operating income of \$305 million (excluding special charge) for the quarter, despite a fuel expense increase of \$87 million or 13 per cent over the third quarter of 2005.

Net income in the 2006 quarter amounted to \$103 million and included a special charge of \$102 million (\$70 million after tax) in connection with Air Canada's obligations for the redemption of Aeroplan miles issued before 2002, a gain of \$52 million (\$43 million after tax) on the sale of 1.25 million shares of US Airways and foreign exchange losses of \$3 million. Net income in the 2005 quarter of \$271 million included foreign exchange gains of \$125 million.

Passenger revenues were up \$103 million or 4 per cent reflecting revenue increases in all markets, with the exception of the Atlantic market. Passenger revenues increased 14 per cent on U.S. transborder services. The overall increase in passenger revenues in the third quarter of 2006 was due to a 1 per cent improvement in system passenger revenue yield per revenue passenger mile and a 3 per cent growth in passenger traffic, on a capacity growth of 3 per cent. Revenues were impacted by the terrorist threat in the U.K. on August 10, 2006 and the new security measures introduced subsequently across the entire network. Demand has rebounded in October as evidenced by the record load factor of 78.4 per cent announced earlier this week.

Unit cost, as measured by operating expense per available seat mile (ASM), rose 2 per cent from the same period in 2005. Excluding fuel expense, unit cost was down 1 per cent.

EBITDAR<sup>(1)</sup> for ACE amounted to \$558 million (excluding special charge), an improvement of \$7 million from the third quarter 2005.

Air Canada Services reported EBITDAR of \$430 million, a decline of \$32 million primarily reflecting the \$87 million increase in fuel costs during the quarter. EBITDA at Aeroplan amounted to \$36 million, representing an improvement of \$13 million, driven by increased redemptions, higher average revenue recognized per Aeroplan mile, and a lower average cost per mile redeemed. Jazz EBITDAR amounted to \$79 million, an improvement of \$15 million. ACTS reported EBITDA of \$13 million for the quarter.

"I am pleased to report a solid third quarter result with continued progress achieved in the implementation of ACE's business strategy," said Robert Milton, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, ACE Aviation Holdings Inc.

"Air Canada Services continued to deliver a positive revenue performance, in spite of the quarter on quarter negative impact of a strong Canadian dollar on revenues in international, U.S. transborder and domestic services, the terrorist threat in London and the resultant additional security measures during the quarter and the temporary removal of content by one of the airline's distribution providers in response to distribution model changes. Its cost performance was negatively impacted again by high fuel prices.

"Aeroplan reported another strong performance in the quarter with a sixty-one per cent increase in operating income over the previous year. The increase in distributions announced on October 16 will commence with the distribution to be declared for the month of December 2006.

"The financial performance of Jazz, ACE's regional carrier and Canada's second largest airline, has continuously improved since it became a publicly traded company in February. Jazz reported operating income of \$39.2 million for the quarter and recorded \$37 million in distributable cash to its investors. Jazz's performance is a reflection of the stability inherent in its Capacity Purchase Agreement with Air Canada and also of ongoing progress in controlling costs. As a result of its continuing strong financial performance, Jazz has today announced a 15 per cent increase in monthly distributions.

"The results reported by ACTS represent encouraging progress over the previous two quarters. While there is still more work to be done, I am confident that ACTS is on track to deliver improving financial results as a result of the strategic changes being implemented by its new management team."

#### (1) Non-GAAP Measures

EBITDAR is a non-GAAP financial measure commonly used in the airline industry to assess earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and aircraft rent. EBITDAR is used to view operating results before aircraft rent and depreciation, amortization and obsolescence as these costs can vary significantly among airlines due to differences in the way airlines finance their aircraft and other assets. For segments without aircraft rent, such as Aeroplan and ACTS, EBITDA is used to view operating results before depreciation, amortization and obsolescence as these costs can vary significantly among airlines due to display and ACTS, EBITDA is used to view operating results before depreciation, amortization and obsolescence as these costs can vary significantly among companies due to differences in the way companies finance their assets. EBITDAR and EBITDA are not recognized measures for financial statement presentation under GAAP and do not have a standardized meaning and are therefore not likely to be comparable to similar measures presented by other public companies. Readers should refer to Consolidated Highlights or ACE's Quarter 3 2006 Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) for a reconciliation of EBITDAR and EBITDA to operating income (loss).

For further information on ACE's public disclosure file, including ACE's Annual Information Form, please consult SEDAR at www.sedar.com and EDGAR at www.sec.gov/edgar.shtml

## **CAUTION REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION**

Certain statements in this news release may contain forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are identified by the use of terms and phrases such as "anticipate", "believe", "could", "estimate", "expect", "intend", "may", "plan", "predict", "project", "will", "would", and similar terms and phrases, including Such statements may involve but are not limited to comments with respect to references to assumptions. strategies, expectations, planned operations or future actions. Forward-looking statements, by their nature, are based on assumptions and are subject to important risks and uncertainties. Any forecasts or forward-looking predictions or statements cannot be relied upon due to, amongst other things, changing external events and general uncertainties of the business. Such statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements. Results indicated in forward-looking statements may differ materially from actual results for a number of reasons, including without limitation, energy prices, general industry, market and economic conditions, war, terrorist attacks, changes in demand due to the seasonal nature of the business, the ability to reduce operating costs and employee counts, employee relations, labour negotiations or disputes, restructuring, pension issues, currency exchange and interest rates, changes in laws, adverse regulatory developments or proceedings, pending and future litigation and actions by third parties as well as the factors identified throughout ACE's filings with securities regulators in Canada and the United States and, in particular, those identified in the Risk Factors section to ACE's 2005 MD&A dated February 9, 2006. The forward-looking statements contained herein represent ACE's expectations as of the date they are made and are subject to change after such date. However, ACE disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required under applicable securities regulations.

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## INFORMATION

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## Consolidated HIGHLIGHTS

	Quarter 3 2006	Quarter 3 2005		YTD Quarter 3 2006	YTD Quarter 3 2005	
Financial (Canadian dollars in millions unless stated otherwise)			\$ Change			\$ Change
Operating revenues, before the special charge for Aeroplan miles <sup>(1)</sup>	2,947	2,833	114	8,113	7,468	645
Operating revenues (1)	2,845	2,833	12	8,011	7,468	543
Operating income, before the special charge for Aeroplan miles <sup>(1)</sup>	305	321	(16)	424	489	(65)
Operating income <sup>(1)</sup>	203	321	(118)	322	489	(167)
Non-operating income (expense)	(12)	(38)	26	209	3	206
Income before non-controlling interest, foreign exchange						
and provision for income taxes	191	283	(92)	531	492	39
Income for the period	103	271	(168)	457	363	94
Operating margin, before the special charge for Aeroplan miles <sup>(1)</sup>	10.3%	11.3%	(1.0) pp	5.2%	6.5%	(1.3) pp
Operating margin	7.1%	11.3%	(4.2) pp	4.0%	6.5%	(2.5) pp
EBITDAR, before special charges <sup>(1) (2)</sup>	558	551	7	1,210	1,146	64
EBITDAR <sup>(2)</sup>	456	551	(95)	1,075	1,146	(71)
EBITDAR margin, before special charges (1) (2)	18.9%	19.4%	(0.5) pp	14.9%	15.3%	(0.4) pp
EBITDAR margin	16.0%	19.4%	(3.4) pp	13.4%	15.3%	(1.9) pp
Cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments	2,886	2,481	405	2,886	2,481	405
Cash flows from (used for) operations	159	(12)	171	726	641	85
Weighted average common shares used for computation - basic	102	101		102	97	
Weighted average common shares used for computation - diluted	121	119		121	113	
Earnings per share - basic	\$1.01	\$2.67	(\$1.66)	\$4.49	\$3.75	\$0.74
Earnings per share - diluted	\$0.95	\$2.33	(\$1.38)	\$4.11	\$3.39	\$0.72
Operating Statistics			% Change			% Change
Revenue passenger miles (millions) (RPM)	14,346	13,981	3	37,834	36,180	5
Available seat miles (millions) (ASM)	17,529	16,961	3	46,742	45,014	4
Passenger load factor	81.8%	82.4%	(0.6) pp	80.9%	80.4%	0.5 pp
Passenger revenue yield per RPM (cents)	17.8	17.6	1	18.1	17.4	4
Passenger revenue per ASM (cents)	14.6	14.5	1	14.7	14.0	5
Operating revenue per ASM (cents) (3)	16.8	16.7	1	17.4	16.6	5
Operating expense per ASM (cents)	15.1	14.8	2	16.4	15.5	6
Operating expense per ASM, excluding fuel expense (cents)	10.7	10.8	(1)	12.2	11.9	3
Operating expense per ASM, excluding fuel expense and the special charge						
for labour restructuring (cents) (4)	10.7	10.8	(1)	12.2	11.9	2
Average number of full-time equivalent (FTE) employees (thousands)	32.7	32.9	-	32.9	32.3	2
Available seat miles per FTE employee (thousands)	536	516	4	1,420	1,395	2
Operating revenue per FTE employee (thousands) <sup>(3)</sup>	\$90	\$86	5	\$247	\$231	7

Average aircraft utilization (hours per day)  $^{\rm (6)\ (7)}$ 11.1 11.3 (2) 10.5 10.8 Average aircraft flight length (miles) (7) 921 921 882 881 Fuel price per litre (cents) (8) 70.0 64.0 9 67.0 58.1 Fuel litres (millions) 1,085 1,055 3 2,906 2,786

335

309

8

335

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(3)

16

4

(1) A special charge of \$102 million was recorded to operating revenues in Quarter 3 2006 in connection with Air Canada's obligations for the redemption of pre-2002 Aeroplan miles ("Special charge for Aeroplan miles"). Refer to section 10 "Non-GAAP Financial Measures of ACE's Quarter 3 2006 MD&A.

(2) EBITDAR (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, amortization and obsolescence and aircraft rent) is a non-GAAP financial measure commonly used in the airline industry to view operating results before aircraft rent and depreciation, amortization and obsolescence as these costs can vary significantly among airlines due to differences in the way airlines finance their aircraft and other assets. EBITDAR is not a recognized measure for financial statement presentation under GAAP and does not have a standardized meaning and is therefore not likely to be comparable to similar measures presented by other public companies.

EBITDAR is reconciled to operating income as follows: (\$ millions)

Aircraft in operating fleet at period end  $^{\rm (5)}$ 

	Quarter 3 2006	Quarter 3 2005	YTD Quarter 3 2006	YTD Quarter 3 2005
Operating income	203	321	322	489
Add back:				
Aircraft rent	108	112	334	300
Depreciation, amortization & obsolescence	145	118	419	357
EBITDAR	456	551	1,075	1,146
Add back:				
Special charge for labour restructuring (3)	-	-	33	-
Special charge for Aeroplan miles (1)	102	-	102	-
EBITDAR before special charges	558	551	1,210	1,146

(3) Before the special charge for Aeroplan miles described in (1)

(4) A special charge for labour restructuring of \$33 million was recorded in Quarter 1 2006.

Operating expense per available seat mile, before fuel expense and the special charge for labour restructuring, is calculated as operating expense, removing fuel expense and the special charge for labour restructuring, divided by ASMs.

Refer to section 10 "Non-GAAP Financial Measures" of ACE's Quarter 3 2006 MD&A for additional information.

(5) Operating fleet excludes chartered freighters in 2006 and 2005.

(6) Excludes maintenance down-time.

(7) Excludes third party carriers operating under capacity purchase arrangements.

(8) Includes fuel handling and fuel hedging expenses.

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#### **Consolidated Statement of Operations and Retained Earnings**

(in millions except per share figures - Canadian dollars)	Three Months Ended September 30			Nine Months Ended September 30		
(unaudited)		2006	2005	2006	2005	
Operating revenues						
Passenger	\$	2,564	\$ 2,461	\$ 6,873	\$ 6,300	
Cargo		157	162	460	444	
Other		226	210	780	724	
		2,947	2,833	8,113	7,468	
Special charge for Aeroplan miles		(102)	-	(102)	-	
		2,845	2,833	8,011	7,468	
Operating expenses						
Salaries, wages and benefits		641	635	1,919	1,870	
Aircraft fuel		762	675	1,962	1,620	
Aircraft rent		108	112	334	300	
Airport and navigation fees		275	259	750	702	
Aircraft maintenance, materials and supplies		100	80	347	263	
Communications and information technology		70	75	217	230	
Food, beverages and supplies		93	94	255	253	
Depreciation, amortization and obsolescence		145	118	419	357	
Commissions		61	68	188	206	
Special charge for labour restructuring		-	-	33	-	
Other		387	396	1,265	1,178	
		2,642	2,512	7,689	6,979	
Operating income		203	321	322	489	
Non-operating income (expense)						
Interest income		33	20	84	47	
Interest expense		(94)	(76)	(273)	(228)	
Interest capitalized		18	2	40	8	
Gain on sale of US Airways shares		52	-	152	-	
Gain (loss) on sale of assets and provisions on assets		(4)	2	-	2	
Dilution gain		-	-	220	190	
Other		(17)	14	(14)	(16)	
		(12)	(38)	209	3	
Income before the following items		191	283	531	492	
Non-controlling interest		(19)	(9)	(53)	(16)	
Foreign exchange gain (loss)		(3)	125	117	57	
Provision for income taxes		(66)	(128)	(138)	(170)	
Income for the period	\$	103	\$ 271	\$ 457	\$ 363	
Retained earnings, beginning of period as originally reported		756	249	415	157	
Adjustment related to change in accounting policy			(16)	(13)	(16)	
Retained earnings, beginning of period as restated		756	233	402	141	
Retained earnings, end of period	\$	859	\$ 504	\$ 859	\$ 504	
Earnings per share (restated)						
- Basic	\$	1.01	\$ 2.67		\$ 3.75	
- Diluted	\$	0.95	\$ 2.33	\$ 4.11	\$ 3.39	

The notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements and are available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com and EDGAR at www.sec.gov/edgar.shtml

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(unaudited) ASSETS Current Cash and cash equivalents Short-term investments	\$	mber 30 2006	2000	nber 31, 2005
Cash and cash equivalents	\$			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$			
		1,747	\$	1,565
		1,139	•	616
		2,886		2,181
Restricted cash		51		86
Accounts receivable		824		637
Spare parts, materials and supplies		269		325
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	_	97		125
		4,127		3,354
Property and equipment		5,822		5,494
Deferred charges		122		145
Intangible assets		2,193		2,462
Investments and other assets		329		392
	\$	12,593	\$	11,847
	φ	12,353	φ	11,047
LIABILITIES				
Current				
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$	1,532	\$	1,355
Advance ticket sales		811		711
Current portion of Aeroplan deferred revenues Current portion of long-term debt and capital leases		772 285		680 265
Current portion of long-term debt and capital reases		3,400		3,011
				,
Long-term debt and capital leases		3,643		3,543
Convertible preferred shares		161		148
Future income taxes		180		221
Pension and other benefit liabilities		2,006		2,154
Aeroplan deferred revenues		978		953
Other long-term liabilities		401		446
		10,769		10,476
NON-CONTROLLING INTEREST		225		203
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY				
Share capital and other equity		714		747
Contributed surplus		26		19
Retained earnings		859		402
		1,599		1,168
	\$	12,593	\$	11,847

The notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements and are available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com and EDGAR at www.sec.gov/edgar.shtml

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#### **Consolidated Statement of Cash Flow**

(in millions of Canadian dollars)		ee Months En	Nine Months Ended September 30			
(unaudited)		2006 2005		2006	2005	
Cash flows from (used for)						
Operating						
Income for the period	\$	103	\$ 271	\$ 457	\$	363
Adjustments to reconcile to net cash provided by operations						
Depreciation, amortization and obsolescence		145	118	419		357
Gain on sale of US Airways shares		(52)	-	(152	)	-
(Gain) loss on sale of assets		4	(2)		1	(2)
Dilution gain		-	-	(220)	)	(190)
Foreign exchange (gain) loss		1	(149)	•		(94)
Future income taxes		66	125	138		161
Employee future benefit funding more than expense		(63)	(33)			(47)
Decrease (increase) in accounts receivable		(49)	(131)	• •		(330)
Decrease (increase) in spare parts, materials and supplies		12	3	47	·	(2)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable and accrued liabilities		120	(7)	175		53
Increase (decrease) in advance ticket sales, net of restricted cash		(239)	(155)			345
Special charge for Aeroplan miles		102		102		-
Other		9	(52)	62		27
		159	(12)			641
Financing						-
Issue of common shares		-	(1)	3		442
Issue of convertible notes		-	-	-		319
Issue of Aeroplan units		-	-	-		232
Issue of Jazz units		-	-	218		-
Credit facility borrowings - Aeroplan		-	(18)			300
Credit facility borrowings - Jazz		-	-	113		
Aircraft related borrowings		99	213	321		213
Reduction of long-term debt and capital lease obligations		(58)	(67)	(207	)	(834)
Distributions paid to non-controlling interests		(14)	(3)	• •	·	(3)
Other		-	1	-	1	(4)
		27	125	412		665
Investing						
Short-term investments		(372)	136	(523	)	(1,219)
Additions to capital assets		(213)	(316)	•		(411)
Proceeds from sale of assets		40	4	40		`41 <sup>′</sup>
Investment in US Airways shares		-	(87)	-		(87)
Sale of US Airways shares		74	-	232		-
Proceeds from sale of Aeroplan units		-	-	-		35
Proceeds from sale of Jazz units		-	-	14		-
Cash collaterization of letters of credit		(11)	(15)		)	(35)
Other		(12)	-	(12		-
		(494)	(278)	(956		(1,676)
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(308)	(165)	182		(370)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period		2,055	1,276	1,565		1,481
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$	1,747	\$ 1,111	\$ 1,747	\$	1,111
Cash payments of interest	\$	54	\$ 54	\$ 194	\$	163
Cash payments of income taxes	\$	3	\$ 11	\$ 9	\$	20

Cash and cash equivalents exclude Short-term investments of \$1,139 as at September 30, 2006 (\$616 as at December 31, 2005)

The notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements and are available on SEDAR at www.sedar.com and EDGAR at www.sec.gov/edgar.shtml