



**U.S. Department of
Transportation**

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

NOTICE OF ACTION TAKEN

March 25, 1998

This serves as interim notice to the public of the action described below, taken orally by the Department official indicated; the confirming order or other decision document will be issued as soon as possible.

Application of **Delta Air Lines, Inc.** filed **2/13/98** and amended **3/25/98** in Docket **OST-98-3419** for:

XX *Certificate under 49 U.S.C. 41102 and allocation of six weekly frequencies to serve the Honolulu-Tokyo market*

By Order 98-3-15, the Department issued its tentative decision in the *1998 U.S.-Japan Combination Service Proceeding*, Docket OST-98-3419, proposing to authorize all those services proposed to begin in 1998. Objections to that tentative decision are due March 26, 1998. Delta's application for allocation of frequencies to serve various U.S.-Tokyo markets is included in that proceeding.

On March 25, 1998, Delta filed an amendment to its application, requesting certificate authority and an allocation of six weekly frequencies to operate service between Honolulu, Hawaii, and Tokyo, beginning December 15, 1998. Answers to this amendment would normally be due by April 22. Delta requests, however, that we require answers to its supplement by March 26, 1998, and replies by April 3, 1998, the same dates that we used for similar requests by Continental Micronesia and American in this case, and the same dates for responsive pleadings to the Department's show-cause order.

We have decided to grant Delta's request for an accelerated procedural schedule to its amendment. As we stated in our decision with respect to the supplements filed by Continental Micronesia and American, the common response dates will facilitate our consideration of the revised applications, and our consideration of the *U.S.-Japan* proceeding in Docket OST-98-3419, without prejudicing any party's right to an opportunity to respond to the supplemented application. (Notices of Action Taken, dated March 23 and March 24, 1998). These same considerations also apply to Delta's revised application. Therefore, we will require that answers to American's March 24 supplement be filed no later than March 26, 1998, and that replies to any answers be filed no later than April 3, 1998. Parties may file such comments separately or include their comments in their responses to Order 98-3-15. While we realize that the time period for answers is short, Delta has faxed its pleading to all parties to this proceeding and the supplement raises similar issues to those presented by the supplements filed by Continental Micronesia and American. In these circumstances, we found that the answer period provided would be sufficient for interested parties to comment on Delta's filing.

Applicant rep: **Robert Cohn (202) 663-8060**

DOT Analyst: **Terri Bingham (202) 366-2390**

XX *Under assigned authority (14 CFR 385) by:*

Paul L. Gretch, Director
Office of International Aviation
(Petitions for review may be filed from now
until 10 days after the confirming order/letter
issues. Filing of a petition shall not stay the
effectiveness of this action.)