

## **Simon Maurer named new Chief Safety Officer**

**Geneva, May 13, 2008.** Skyguide has appointed a new head of its Safety, Security & Quality organisation: Simon Maurer (40) will become the company's Chief Safety Officer, and a member of Executive Management, in January 2009. Maurer will join skyguide this autumn to be thoroughly familiarised with his new duties by current Chief Safety Officer Jürg Schmid. Skyguide's Safety, Security & Quality unit covers all the company's safety, security and quality management activities and concerns, and comprises 35 personnel. "This is a vitally important function within our company," confirms CEO Daniel Weder. "Safety is our daily business and our paramount priority. And in appointing Simon Maurer, we are further pursuing our endeavours to maintain a state-of-the-art safety culture."

### **A proven safety specialist**

Safety has been a prime concern of Simon Maurer since he first entered the aviation business. Having graduated from the Swiss Civil Aviation School as a commercial airline pilot in 1994, he initially served in IT and pilot training functions. Later, in parallel with his service as a Senior First Officer on short and long-haul flights, he conducted various projects for Swissair's and later SWISS's Flight Operations, and also served as a specialist in various national and international working groups. In the last four years, he has further expanded and deepened his knowledge and experience of safety issues as Deputy Aviation Safety Officer at the Swiss Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy & Communications.

Simon Maurer studied at Lausanne and Basel universities, graduating in experimental physics. He also earned a Master of Advanced Studies in Management, Technology and Economics degree from the Zurich Federal Institute of Technology in 2005.

### **A strengthened safety culture**

Jürg Schmid, skyguide's current Chief Safety Officer, will be retiring from management at the end of 2008. Schmid has been instrumental in cementing and further enhancing the safety culture throughout the skyguide organisation. Under his guidance, the previously separate and widespread responsibilities for central, operating and technical safety were amalgamated into a single Safety, Security & Quality unit in March 2008, whose head – currently Schmid himself – now has a full and permanent seat on the company's Executive Management.

A photo of Simon Maurer is available at:

[http://www.skyguide.ch/en/\\_img/simon\\_maurer\\_2008.jpg](http://www.skyguide.ch/en/_img/simon_maurer_2008.jpg)

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Skyguide is responsible for providing air navigation services within Swiss airspace and in the airspace of certain adjoining regions in neighbouring countries. The company guides the civil and military aircraft entrusted to its care – some 3 400 flights a day or over 1.23 million a year – through some of the busiest and most complex airspace in Europe. Skyguide is a non-profit limited company under private law which has its head office in Geneva. The majority of its shares are held by the Swiss Confederation. The company generates annual operating revenue of over CHF 369 million and employs some 1 400 people at 14 locations in Switzerland.

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