

## 2011 first-half performance: Good punctuality levels despite a significant increase in traffic volume

**Geneva, 11 July 2011** – Skyguide managed 587,030 flights in the first half of 2011, a 5.7 percent increase on the same period last year. The steps taken to increase system capacity also enabled skyguide to achieve an excellent performance in terms of punctuality for the period: 92.6 percent of all flights were handled on time.

### Significant increases in traffic volumes

Europe's air-traffic volumes have been recovering since February 2010, after the world financial crisis, and have since then shown steady growth.

Instrument flights<sup>1</sup> handled by skyguide in the first half of 2011:

	January-June 2011	January-June 2010	Change
Instrument flights handled	587,030	555,599	+ 5.7%
of which transit flights	346,185	333,650	+ 3.8%

The volume of transit flights using the airspace within skyguide's control showed a 3.8 percent increase for the first-half period. Arrival and Departure Control handled 8.5 percent more traffic. First-half traffic at Geneva Airport was up by 8.6 percent, while Zurich saw a 7 percent increase.

The peak day of 2011 to date was 17 June, when 3,914 flights were handled. This is substantially more than on the peak day in 2010, when 3,854 flights were handled.

### Delay levels below the previous year

Skyguide handled 92.6 percent of its flights on time in the first half of 2011, and increased its punctuality performance compared to the reference period when 89 percent of all flights were on time. Skyguide thus recorded fewer than half the delays in the first half of 2011 than occurred in 2006, while handling a similar volume of traffic. Skyguide continues to implement measures to raise its system capacity. Its strong punctuality performance is a result of such measures, and more specifically of the reorganisation of the upper airspace in the Geneva and Zurich areas that was performed during the previous years.

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<sup>1</sup> IFR or "instrument flight rules" flights are performed in controlled airspace and require air traffic management services to ensure their safe and efficient operation.

skyguide  
swiss air navigation services ltd.  
media relations  
CH-1215 Geneva 15

Contact:

phone: +41 22 417 4008  
e-mail: [presse@skyguide.ch](mailto:presse@skyguide.ch)  
internet: [www.skyguide.ch](http://www.skyguide.ch)

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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 – around 3170 flights a day or 1.16 million a year – through some of the busiest and most complex airspace in Europe. Skyguide is a non-profit limited company which has its head office in Geneva. The majority of its shares are held by the Swiss Confederation. The company generated total operating revenue of over CHF 365 million last year, and currently employs some 1400 people at 14 locations in Switzerland. Skyguide is also a member, together with its partner organisations in Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, of the FABEC initiative to create a common functional airspace block.

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