# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

# FORM 8-K

# **CURRENT REPORT**

Pursuant to Section 13 OR 15(d) of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): January 9, 2012

# UNITED CONTINENTAL HOLDINGS, INC. UNITED AIR LINES, INC. CONTINENTAL AIRLINES, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

 Delaware
 001-06033
 36-2675207

 Delaware
 001-11355
 36-2675206

 Delaware
 001-10323
 74-2099724

 (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)
 (Commission (IRS Employer Identification Number)

77 W. Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL
60601
77 W. Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL
60601
1600 Smith Street, Dept. HQSEO, Houston, Texas
(Address of principal executive offices)
(Zip Code)

(312) 997-8000 (312) 997-8000 (713) 324-2950

Registrant's telephone number, including area code

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report.)

ck the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following isions:
Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

# **Item 8.01 Other Events**

On January 9, 2012, United Continental Holdings, Inc. issued a press release reporting the December 2011 operational performance of United Air Lines, Inc. and Continental Airlines, Inc., its wholly owned subsidiaries. The press release is filed herewith as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

 Exhibit No.
 Description

 99.1\*
 Press Release issued by United Continental Holdings, Inc. dated January 9, 2012

\* Filed herewith electronically.

# **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

UNITED CONTINENTAL HOLDINGS, INC. UNITED AIR LINES, INC. CONTINENTAL AIRLINES, INC.

By: /s/ Chris Kenny

Name: Chris Kenny

Title: Vice President and Controller

Date: January 9, 2012

Exhibit No. Description

Press Release issued by United Continental Holdings, Inc. dated January 9, 2012

\* Filed herewith electronically.

99.1\*

# News Release



United Continental Holdings, Inc. Worldwide Media Relations 312.997.8640 media.relations@united.com

# UNITED CONTINENTAL HOLDINGS REPORTS DECEMBER 2011 OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE FOR UNITED AND CONTINENTAL

CHICAGO, Jan. 9, 2012 – United Continental Holdings, Inc. (NYSE: UAL) today reported December 2011 operational results for its United Airlines and Continental Airlines units.

United and Continental's combined consolidated traffic (revenue passenger miles) in December 2011 decreased 0.7 percent versus December 2010 results on a combined consolidated capacity (available seat miles) decrease of 0.1 percent. The carriers' combined consolidated load factor in December 2011 decreased 0.5 points compared to the same period in 2010.

United and Continental's December 2011 combined consolidated and mainline passenger revenue per available seat mile (PRASM) increased an estimated 4.0 to 5.0 percent and 3.5 to 4.5 percent, respectively, as compared to December 2010.

## **About United Continental Holdings, Inc.**

United Continental Holdings, Inc. (NYSE: UAL) is the holding company for both United Airlines and Continental Airlines. Together with United Express, Continental Express and Continental Connection, these airlines operate an average of 5,717 flights a day to 376 airports on six continents from their hubs in Chicago, Cleveland, Denver, Guam, Houston, Los Angeles, New York/Newark Liberty, San Francisco, Tokyo and Washington, D.C. United and Continental are members of Star Alliance, which offers more than 21,200 daily flights to 1,185 airports in 185 countries. United and Continental's more than 80,000 employees reside in every U.S. state and in many countries around the world. For more information about United Continental Holdings, Inc., go to <a href="UnitedContinentalHoldings.com">United ContinentalHoldings.com</a>. For more information about the airlines, see <a href="UnitedContinentalLoom">United ContinentalLoom</a> or follow United on <a href="Twitter">Twitter</a> and <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a>.

(more)



# **Preliminary Operational Results**

		December			Full Year	
VENUE PASSENGER MILES (000)	2011	2010	Change	2011	2010	Change
Domestic VENUE PASSENGER MILES (000)	7,752,603	7,858,291	(1.3)%	95,069,896	97,507,989	(2.5)%
International	6,982,065	7,069,016	(1.2)%	86,693,558	87,071,855	(0.4)%
Atlantic	2,890,038	2,922,123	(1.1)%	39,280,149	39,677,715	(1.0)%
Pacific	2,616,274	2,735,219	(4.3)%	31,350,439	31,875,964	(1.6)%
Latin	1,475,753	1,411,674	4.5%	16,062,970	15,518,176	3.5%
Mainline	14,734,668	14,927,307	(1.3)%	181,763,454	184,579,844	$(1.5)^{\circ}$
Regional	2,148,219	2,069,155	3.8%	25,768,002	25,960,762	$(0.7)^{\circ}$
Consolidated	16,882,887	16,996,462	(0.7)%	207,531,456	210,540,606	(1.4)
AILABLE SEAT MILES (000)						
Domestic	9,311,662	9,496,043	(1.9)%	111,734,624	114,894,643	(2.8)
International	8,707,176	8,591,234	1.3%	107,702,131	105,165,407	2.4%
Atlantic	3,698,344	3,587,004	3.1%	49,189,706	48,045,291	2.4%
Pacific	3,160,691	3,222,436	(1.9)%	38,207,995	37,829,729	1.0%
Latin	1,848,141	1,781,794	3.7%	20,304,430	19,290,387	5.3%
Mainline	18,018,838	18,087,277	(0.4)%	219,436,755	220,060,050	(0.3)
Regional	2,777,392	2,721,244	2.1%	33,091,282	33,034,277	0.2%
Consolidated	20,796,230	20,808,521	(0.1)%	252,528,037	253,094,327	$(0.2)^{\circ}$
SSENGER LOAD FACTOR						
Domestic	83.3%	82.8%	0.5pts	85.1%	84.9%	0.2p
International	80.2%	82.3%	(2.1)pts	80.5%	82.8%	(2.3)
Atlantic	78.1%	81.5%	(3.4)pts	79.9%	82.6%	$(2.7)_{]}$
Pacific	82.8%	84.9%	(2.1)pts	82.1%	84.3%	$(2.2)_{]}$
Latin	79.9%	79.2%	0.7pts	79.1%	80.4%	$(1.3)_{]}$
Mainline	81.8%	82.5%	(0.7)pts	82.8%	83.9%	(1.1)
Regional	77.3%	76.0%	1.3pts	77.9%	78.6%	$(0.7)_{I}$
Consolidated	81.2%	81.7%	(0.5)pts	82.2%	83.2%	(1.0)
BOARD PASSENGERS (000)						
Mainline	7,780	8,055	(3.4)%	96,360	99,456	(3.1)
Regional	3,778	3,661	3.2%	45,439	46,098	(1.4)
Consolidated	11,558	11,716	(1.3)%	141,799	145,554	(2.6)
RGO REVENUE TON MILES (000)						
Total	223,892	244,714	(8.5)%	2,645,600	3,003,871	(11.9)

(more)

#### **Preliminary Financial Results**

November 2011 year-over-year consolidated PRASM change	11.1%
November 2011 year-over-year mainline PRASM change	9.8%
December 2011 estimated year-over-year consolidated PRASM change	4.0 - 5.0%
December 2011 estimated year-over-year mainline PRASM change	3.5 - 4.5%
December 2011 estimated consolidated average price per gallon of fuel, including fuel taxes	3.23 Dollars
Fourth Quarter 2011 estimated consolidated average price per gallon of fuel, including fuel taxes	3.21 Dollars

## **Preliminary December Operational Results for United and Continental**

	2011	2010	Change
United Airlines			
On-Time Performance <sup>1</sup>	84.0%	83.1%	0.9 pts
Completion Factor <sup>2</sup>	99.4%	97.9%	1.5 pts
	2011	2010	Change
Continental Airlines	2011	2010	Change
Continental Airlines On-Time Performance <sup>1</sup>	2011 79.8%	<b>2010</b> 72.1%	Change 7.7 pts

Based on domestic mainline scheduled flights arriving within 14 minutes of scheduled arrival time, according to data published in the DOT Air Travel Consumer Report.

#### **Safe Harbor Statement**

Safe Harbor Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: Certain statements included in this release are forward-looking and thus reflect our current expectations and beliefs with respect to certain current and future events and financial performance. Such forward-looking statements are and will be subject to many risks and uncertainties relating to our operations and business environment that may cause actual results to differ materially from any future results expressed or implied in such forward-looking statements. Words such as "expects," "will," "plans," "anticipates," "indicates," "believes," "forecast," "guidance," "outlook" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Additionally, forward-looking statements include statements which do not relate solely to historical facts, such as statements which identify uncertainties or trends, discuss the possible future effects of current known trends or uncertainties, or which indicate that the future effects of known trends or uncertainties cannot be predicted, guaranteed or assured. All forwardlooking statements in this release are based upon information available to us on the date of this release. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events, changed circumstances or otherwise, except as required by applicable law. Our actual results could differ materially from these forward-looking statements due to numerous factors including, without limitation, the following: our ability to comply with the terms of our various financing arrangements; the costs and availability of financing; our ability to maintain adequate liquidity; our ability to execute our operational plans; our ability to control our costs, including realizing benefits from our resource optimization efforts, cost reduction initiatives and fleet replacement programs; our ability to utilize our net operating losses; our ability to attract and retain customers; demand for transportation in the markets in which we operate; an outbreak of a disease that affects travel demand or travel behavior; demand for travel and the impact that global economic conditions have on customer travel patterns; excessive taxation and the inability to offset future taxable income; general economic conditions (including interest rates, foreign currency exchange rates, investment or credit market conditions, crude oil prices, costs of aviation fuel and energy refining capacity in relevant markets); our ability to cost-effectively hedge against increases in the price of aviation fuel; any potential realized or unrealized gains or losses related to fuel or currency hedging programs; the effects of any hostilities, act of war or terrorist attack; the ability of other air carriers with whom we have alliances or partnerships to provide the services contemplated by the respective arrangements with such carriers; the costs and availability of aviation and other insurance; the costs associated with security measures and practices; industry consolidation or changes in airline alliances; competitive pressures on pricing and on demand; our capacity decisions and the capacity decisions of our competitors; U.S. or foreign governmental legislation, regulation and other actions (including open skies agreements and environmental regulations); labor costs; our ability to maintain satisfactory labor relations and the results of the collective bargaining agreement process with our union groups; any disruptions to operations due to any potential actions by our labor groups; weather conditions; the possibility that expected merger synergies will not be realized or will not be realized within the expected time period; and other risks and uncertainties set forth under Item 1A., Risk Factors of our Annual Report on Form 10-K, as well as other risks and uncertainties set forth from time to time in the reports we file with the SEC. Consequently, forward-looking statements should not be regarded as representations or warranties by us that such matters will be realized.

Mainline Completion Percentage