

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):

August 1, 2003

CONTINENTAL AIRLINES, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware	1-10323	74-2099724
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)	(Commission File Number)	(IRS Employer Identification No.)

1600 Smith Street, Dept. HQSEO, Houston, Texas	77002
(Address of principal executive offices)	(Zip Code)

(713) 324-2950

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Item 5. Other Events.

On August 1, 2003, we issued a press release announcing our July performance and our estimated consolidated breakeven load factor for August. The press release is filed herewith as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 7. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

a. Exhibits

1. Press Release

SIGNATURE

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

CONTINENTAL AIRLINES, INC.

August 1, 2003

By /s/ Jennifer L. Vogel

Jennifer L. Vogel

Vice President, General Counsel

and Secretary

EXHIBIT INDEX

99.1 Press Release



## News Release

**Contact:** Corporate Communications

**Houston:** 713.324.5080

**Email:** corpcomm@coair.com

**News archive:** [continental.com/news/](http://continental.com/news/) **Address:** P.O. Box 4607, Houston, TX 77210-4607

### CONTINENTAL AIRLINES REPORTS

#### OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE FOR JULY 2003

HOUSTON, August 1, 2003 - Continental Airlines (NYSE: CAL) today reported an all-time record systemwide mainline load factor of 84.5 percent for July 2003,

5.0 points above last year's July load factor and 3.5 points above the previous record set in June 2003. In July 2003, the airline had an all-time record domestic mainline load factor of 85.7 percent, 6.5 points above July 2002 and 3.9 points above the previous record set in June 2003, and an international mainline load factor of 82.5 percent, 2.6 points above July 2002.

During the month, Continental recorded a U.S. Department of Transportation on-time arrival rate of 80.4 percent and a systemwide completion factor of 99.8 percent for its mainline operations. In the final five days of the month, Continental maintained an on-time arrival rate of 90.3 percent with an average load factor of 85.5 percent and no flight cancellations. In total, the airline operated 13 days without a single flight cancellation, including the day when hurricane Claudette passed within 90 miles of Continental's Houston hub at Bush Intercontinental Airport.

In July 2003, Continental flew 6.0 billion mainline revenue passenger miles (RPMs) and 7.1 billion mainline available seat miles (ASMs) systemwide, resulting in a

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traffic increase of 5.6 percent and a capacity decrease of 0.7 percent as compared to July

2002. Domestic mainline traffic was 3.7 billion RPMs in July 2003, up 9.3 percent from July 2002, and July 2003 domestic mainline capacity was 4.3 billion ASMs, up 1.0 percent from July 2002.

Systemwide July 2003 mainline passenger revenue per available seat mile

(RASM) is estimated to have increased between 4 and 6 percent compared to July 2002. For June 2003, RASM increased 0.4 percent as compared to June 2002.

Continental's regional operations (Continental Express) set an all time load factor record of 74.4 percent in July 2003, 7.0 points above last year's July load factor and 0.9 points above the previous record set last month. Regional RPMs were 585.5 million and regional ASMs were 787.2 million in July 2003, resulting in a traffic increase of 61.4 percent and a capacity increase of 46.2 percent versus July 2002.

This press release contains forward-looking statements that are not limited to historical facts, but reflect the company's current beliefs, expectations or intentions regarding future events. All forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements. For examples of such risks and uncertainties,

please see the risk factors set forth in the company's 2002 10-K and its other securities filings, which identify important matters such as terrorist attacks, domestic and international economic conditions, the significant cost of aircraft fuel, labor costs, competition, regulatory matters and industry conditions, including the demand for air travel, the airline pricing environment and industry capacity decisions. The company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances that may arise after the date of this press release.

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**PRELIMINARY TRAFFIC RESULTS**

<b>JULY</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>REVENUE PASSENGER MILES (000)</b>			
<b>Domestic</b>	<b>3,725,041</b>	<b>3,407,722</b>	<b>9.3 Percent</b>
<b>International</b>	<b>2,296,999</b>	<b>2,295,698</b>	<b>0.1 Percent</b>
Transatlantic	1,099,947	1,079,408	1.9 Percent
Latin America	789,479	725,160	8.9 Percent
Pacific	407,573	491,131	(17.0) Percent
<b>Mainline</b>	<b>6,022,040</b>	<b>5,703,420</b>	<b>5.6 Percent</b>
<b>Regional</b>	<b>585,500</b>	<b>362,654</b>	<b>61.4 Percent</b>
<b>AVAILABLE SEAT MILES (000)</b>			
<b>Domestic</b>	<b>4,345,772</b>	<b>4,304,401</b>	<b>1.0 Percent</b>
<b>International</b>	<b>2,782,874</b>	<b>2,872,976</b>	<b>(3.1) Percent</b>
Transatlantic	1,301,973	1,300,251	0.1 Percent
Latin America	922,966	925,469	(0.3) Percent
Pacific	557,935	647,257	(13.8) Percent
<b>Mainline</b>	<b>7,128,647</b>	<b>7,177,377</b>	<b>(0.7) Percent</b>

1,120,877      1,177,977      (9.7) Percent

**Regional**      **787,167**      **538,380**      **46.2 Percent**

PASSENGER LOAD FACTOR

**Domestic**      **85.7 Percent**      **79.2 Percent**      **6.5 Points**

**International**      **82.5 Percent**      **79.9 Percent**      **2.6 Points**

Transatlantic      84.5 Percent      83.0 Percent      1.5 Points

Latin America      85.5 Percent      78.4 Percent      7.1 Points

Pacific      73.1 Percent      75.9 Percent      (2.8) Points

**Mainline**      **84.5 Percent**      **79.5 Percent**      **5.0 Points**

**Regional**      **74.4 Percent**      **67.4 Percent**      **7.0 Points**

CARGO REVENUE TON MILES (000)

**Total**      **75,405**      **78,645**      **(4.1) Percent**

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**YEAR-TO-DATE**      **2003**      **2002**      **Change**

REVENUE PASSENGER MILES (000)

**Domestic**      **21,013,187**      **21,424,945**      **(1.9) Percent**

**International**      **12,955,507**      **13,796,642**      **(6.1) Percent**

Transatlantic      5,796,103      6,026,733      (3.8) Percent

Latin America      4,685,161      4,641,353      0.9 Percent

Pacific      2,474,243      3,128,556      (20.9) Percent

**Mainline**      **33,968,694**      **35,221,587**      **(3.6) Percent**

<b>Regional</b>	<b>3,119,688</b>	<b>2,200,652</b>	<b>41.8 Percent</b>
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AVAILABLE SEAT MILES (000)

<b>Domestic</b>	<b>27,475,778</b>	<b>28,604,134</b>	<b>(3.9) Percent</b>
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<b>International</b>	<b>17,896,956</b>	<b>18,098,067</b>	<b>(1.1) Percent</b>
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Transatlantic	7,800,612	7,685,140	1.5 Percent
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Latin America	6,316,695	6,304,952	0.2 Percent
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Pacific	3,779,649	4,107,975	(8.0) Percent
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<b>Mainline</b>	<b>45,372,734</b>	<b>46,702,201</b>	<b>(2.8) Percent</b>
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<b>Regional</b>	<b>4,627,257</b>	<b>3,494,782</b>	<b>32.4 Percent</b>
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PASSENGER LOAD FACTOR

<b>Domestic</b>	<b>76.5 Percent</b>	<b>74.9 Percent</b>	<b>1.6 Points</b>
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<b>International</b>	<b>72.4 Percent</b>	<b>76.2 Percent</b>	<b>(3.8) Points</b>
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Transatlantic	74.3 Percent	78.4 Percent	(4.1) Points
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Latin America	74.2 Percent	73.6 Percent	0.6 Points
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Pacific	65.5 Percent	76.2 Percent	(10.7) Points
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<b>Mainline</b>	<b>74.9 Percent</b>	<b>75.4 Percent</b>	<b>(0.5) Points</b>
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<b>Regional</b>	<b>67.4 Percent</b>	<b>63.0 Percent</b>	<b>4.4 Points</b>
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CARGO REVENUE TON MILES (000)

<b>Total</b>	<b>533,963</b>	<b>511,103</b>	<b>4.5 Percent</b>
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**PRELIMINARY OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL RESULTS**

<b>JULY</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>Change</b>
Operating Profit	90.1%	92.9%	(2.8) Points

On-Time Performance <sup>1</sup>	<b>99.4 %</b>	<b>92.0 %</b>	<b>(2.4) Points</b>
Completion Factor <sup>2</sup>	<b>99.8%</b>	<b>99.5%</b>	<b>0.3 Points</b>
<b>YEAR-TO-DATE</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>Change</b>
On-Time Performance <sup>1</sup>	<b>83.3%</b>	<b>84.8%</b>	<b>(1.5) Points</b>
Completion Factor <sup>2</sup>	<b>99.4%</b>	<b>99.8%</b>	<b>(0.4) Points</b>
<b>June 2003</b> consolidated breakeven load factor <sup>3,4</sup>			<b>76.6 Percent</b>
<b>July 2003</b> estimated year-over-year RASM change			<b>4-6 Percent</b>
<b>July 2003</b> estimated average price per gallon of fuel, excluding fuel taxes			<b>77.0 Cents</b>
<b>July 2003</b> estimated consolidated breakeven load factor <sup>3</sup>			<b>77 Percent</b>
<b>July 2003</b> actual consolidated load factor <sup>5</sup>			<b>83.5 Percent</b>
<b>August 2003</b> estimated consolidated breakeven load factor <sup>3</sup>			<b>76 Percent</b>
<b>YEAR-OVER-YEAR RASM<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>2002 vs. 2001</b>	<b>2002 vs. 2000</b>	
May	(6.3) Percent	(15.1) Percent	
June	(5.5) Percent	(15.5) Percent	
July	(4.0) Percent	(13.5) Percent	
August	(2.7) Percent	(15.2) Percent	
September	10.8 Percent	(17.6) Percent	
October	9.3 Percent	(15.7) Percent	
November	(1.7) Percent	(18.4) Percent	
December	10.1 Percent	(5.7) Percent	
	<b>2003 vs. 2002</b>	<b>2003 vs. 2001</b>	
January	3.6 Percent	(10.9) Percent	
February	(0.4) Percent	(11.3) Percent	
March	(11.8) Percent	(17.4) Percent	
April	(1.1) Percent	(11.3) Percent	

May	2.0 Percent	(4.4) Percent
June	0.4 Percent	(5.1) Percent
July (estimated)	4-6 Percent	(1)-1 Percent

1 Department of Transportation Arrivals within 14 minutes

2 System Mileage Completion Percentage

3 Consolidated load factor (including Continental Airlines and Continental Express) needed to break even on a consolidated net income basis. Actual consolidated breakeven load factor may vary significantly from estimates depending on actual passenger revenue yields, fuel price and other factors. Month-to-date consolidated load factor information can be found on Continental's website at [continental.com](http://continental.com) in the Investor Relations-Financial/Traffic Releases section.

4 Charge of \$14 million related to aircraft deferrals accounts for 1.8 percentage points

5 Includes Continental Airlines and Continental Express

6 CAL has been releasing RASM data since May 2001

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