Registration No. 333-

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Continental Airlines, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State of incorporation)

74-2099724 (I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

1600 Smith Street Houston, Texas 77002

(713) 324-5000 (Address, including zip code and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Jennifer L. Vogel, Esq. Senior Vice President and General Counsel 1600 Smith Street Department HQSLG Houston, Texas 77002 (713) 324-5000

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copy to:

Kevin P. Lewis Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2300 Houston, Texas 77002-6760 (713) 758-2222

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after the registration statement becomes effective.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following box. o

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering. o

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If delivery of the prospectus is expected to be made pursuant to Rule 434, please check the following box. o

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered(1)(2)(3)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(1)(2)(3)(4)	Amount of Registration Fee	
Debt Securities				
Class B Common Stock(5)				
Preferred Stock				
Stock Purchase Contracts				
Stock Purchase Units				
Depositary Shares(6)				
Warrants				
Subscription Rights(7)				
Pass Through Certificates				
Total	\$1,000,000,000	\$1,000,000,000(8)	\$117,700(9)	

(1) Not specified as to each class of securities to be registered pursuant to General Instruction II(D) to Form S-3.

- (2) This registration statement also covers an indeterminate amount of securities that may be issued in exchange for, or upon conversion, exercise or settlement of, as the case may be, any securities registered hereunder that provide for conversion, exercise or exchange. Any securities registered hereunder may be sold separately or as units with other securities registered hereunder.
- (3) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(o).
- (4) The proposed maximum offering price per unit will be determined from time to time by the registrant in connection with, and at the time of, the issuance by the registrant of the securities registered hereunder.
- (5) Each share of Class B common stock registered hereunder includes an associated preferred share purchase right, which is not exercisable and is not separately tradable until certain events occur. No separate consideration will be received for the preferred share purchase rights.
- (6) The depositary shares registered hereunder will be evidenced by depositary receipts issued pursuant to a deposit agreement. If the registrant elects to offer to the public fractional interests in shares of preferred stock, then depositary receipts will be distributed to those persons purchasing the fractional interests and the shares will be issued to the depositary under the deposit agreement.
- (7) Rights evidencing the right to purchase Class B common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares or warrants.
- (8) The aggregate principal amount of the debt securities may be increased if any debt securities are issued at an original issue discount by an amount such that the gross proceeds to be received by the registrant shall be equal to the above amount to be registered. Any offering of debt securities denominated other than in U.S. dollars will be treated as the equivalent of U.S. dollars based on the exchange rate applicable to the purchase of such debt securities at the time of initial offering. In no event will the aggregate initial offering price of all securities issued from time to time pursuant to this registration statement exceed \$1,000,000,000, or the equivalent thereof in foreign currencies or composite currencies. The aggregate amount of common stock is further limited in some circumstances to that which is permissible under Rule 415(a)(4).
- (9) The registration fee has been calculated in accordance with Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933 at the statutory rate of \$117.70 per \$1,000,000 of securities registered. Securities registered under Registration Statement No. 333-71906 having an aggregate offering price of \$125,602,500 remain unsold. In accordance with Rule 457(p) under the Securities Act of 1933, the registration fee of \$31,400 associated with such securities is offset against the total registration fee due in connection with this Registration Statement. Accordingly, a filing fee of \$86,300 is paid herewith.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Registration Statement contains two separate forms of prospectuses to be used in connection with offerings of (1) debt securities, Class B common stock, preferred stock, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units, depositary shares, warrants and subscription rights and (2) pass through certificates.

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement that contains this prospectus and that has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

PROSPECTUS

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED SEPTEMBER 13, 2005



CONTINENTAL AIRLINES, INC.

Debt Securities, Common Stock, Preferred Stock, Stock Purchase Contracts, Stock Purchase Units, Depositary Shares, Warrants and Subscription Rights

Continental Airlines, Inc. may offer and sell the securities listed above from time to time in one or more classes or series and in amounts, at prices and on terms that we will determine at the time of the offering. The aggregate initial public offering prices of the securities offered under this prospectus will not exceed \$1,000,000,000.

We will provide specific terms of these securities and the manner in which we will sell them in supplements to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and any prospectus supplement carefully before you invest.

Our common stock is listed for trading on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "CAL."

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is

, 2005.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About This Prospectus	1
Where You Can Find More Information	2
Forward-Looking Statements	2
Incorporation by Reference	2
Continental Airlines, Inc.	3
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	3
Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	4
Description of Debt Securities	4
Description of Common Stock and Preferred Stock	15
Description of Depositary Shares	20
Description of Warrants	22
Description of Stock Purchase Contracts and Stock Purchase Units	23
Description of Subscription Rights	23
<u>Plan of Distribution</u>	24
Legal Matters	27
Experts	27
Opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.	
Opinion of Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP	
Calculation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges	
Consent of Ernst & Young LLP	
Powers of Attorney	

<u>Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility and Qualification</u> Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility and Qualification - Pass Through Trust Agreement

We have not authorized any dealer, salesman or other person to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement. You must not rely upon any information or representation not contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement as if we had authorized it. This prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement as if we had authorized it. This prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement are not an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities other than the registered securities to which they relate. This prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement are not an offer or solicitation in that jurisdiction. The information contained in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement is accurate as of the dates on their covers. When we deliver this prospectus or a supplement or make a sale pursuant to this prospectus, we are not implying that the information is current as of the date of the delivery or sale.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which we refer to as the "SEC", utilizing a "shelf" registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may offer and sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus in one or more offerings up to a total dollar amount of \$1,000,000,000. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the securities we may offer. Each time we offer the securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement and attach it to this prospectus. The prospectus supplement will contain specific information about the terms of the offering and the securities being offered at that time. The prospectus supplement also may add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. In this prospectus, "Continental," "we, "us," our" and the "company" each refers to Continental Airlines, Inc., unless the context indicates otherwise.

To the extent information in this prospectus is inconsistent with information contained in a prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, together with additional information described under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information," and any additional information you may need to make your investment decision.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. You may read and copy this information, or obtain copies (at prescribed rates) by mail from, the Public Reference Room of the SEC, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at (800) SEC-0330. The SEC also maintains an internet world wide web site that contains reports, proxy statements and other information about issuers, like us, who file reports electronically with the SEC. The address of that site is http://www.sec.gov. You may also inspect reports, proxy statements and other information about us at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, any prospectus supplement delivered with this prospectus and the documents we incorporate by reference may contain statements that constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Forward-looking statements include any statements that predict, forecast, indicate or imply future results, performance or achievements, and may contain the words "believe," "anticipate," "expect," "estimate," "project," "will be," "will continue," "will result," or words or phrases of similar meaning.

Any such forward-looking statements are not assurances of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties. Actual results may vary materially from anticipated results for a number of reasons, including those stated under the caption "Risk Factors" in our SEC reports incorporated in this prospectus by reference.

All forward-looking statements attributable to us are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements above.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with the SEC into this prospectus. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, except for any information that is superseded by subsequent incorporated documents or by information that is included directly in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement.

This prospectus incorporates by reference the documents listed below that we previously have filed with the SEC and that are not delivered with this prospectus. They contain important information about us and our financial condition.

- Our Annual Report on Form 10-K/ A for the year ended December 31, 2004.
- Our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q/ A for the quarter ended March 31, 2005 and on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2005.
- Our Current Reports on Form 8-K (excluding any information furnished under Items 2.02 or 7.01 on any Current Report on Form 8-K) filed with the SEC on January 3, 2005, January 4, 2005, January 6, 2005, February 2, 2005, February 14, 2005, February 17, 2005, February 28, 2005, March 2, 2005, March 4, 2005, March 9, 2005, March 31, 2005, April 4, 2005, April 20, 2005, May 3, 2005, June 2, 2005, June 3, 2005, July 5, 2005, July 20, 2005, August 2, 2005 and September 2, 2005.

• The description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A/A#3, as filed with the SEC on February 6, 2001.

• The description and terms of the preferred share purchase rights associated with our outstanding common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A/ A, as filed with the SEC on March 17, 2004.

Our SEC file number is 0-9781.

We incorporate by reference additional documents that we may file with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(a) of the Securities Exchange Act (excluding any information furnished under Items 2.02 or 7.01 on any Current Report on Form 8-K) between the date of this prospectus and the termination of the offering of securities under this prospectus. These documents include our periodic reports, such as Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K, as well as our proxy statements.

You may obtain any of these incorporated documents from us without charge, excluding any exhibits to those documents unless the exhibit is specifically incorporated by reference in such document. You may obtain documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus by requesting them from us in writing or by telephone at the following address:

Continental Airlines, Inc. 1600 Smith Street, Dept. HQSEO Houston, Texas 77002 Attention: Secretary (713) 324-2950

CONTINENTAL AIRLINES, INC.

We are the world's sixth largest airline (as measured by the number of scheduled miles flown by revenue passengers, known as revenue passenger miles, in 2004). Together with ExpressJet Airlines, Inc. (operating as Continental Express), a wholly-owned subsidiary of ExpressJet Holdings, Inc. from which we purchase seat capacity, and our wholly owned subsidiary, Continental Micronesia, Inc., each a Delaware corporation, we operate more than 2,500 daily departures throughout the Americas, Europe and Asia. As of July 31, 2005, we flew to 131 domestic and 123 international destinations and offered additional connecting service through alliances with domestic and foreign carriers. We directly served 23 European cities, eight South American cities, Tel Aviv, Hong Kong, Beijing and Tokyo as of July 31, 2005. In addition, we provide service to more destinations in Mexico and Central America than any other U.S. airline, serving 41 cities. Through our Guam hub, CMI provides extensive service in the western Pacific, including service to more Japanese cities than any other United States carrier.

We are a Delaware corporation, with executive offices located at 1600 Smith Street, Houston, Texas 77002. Our telephone number is (713) 324-2950.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise indicated in an accompanying prospectus supplement, we intend to use the proceeds from the sale of the securities for general corporate purposes, which may include repayment of indebtedness and the funding of a portion of our pension liabilities, and our working capital requirements.

Table of Contents

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The ratios of our "earnings" to our "fixed charges" for the six months ended June 30, 2005 and for each of the years 2000 through 2004 were:

Six Months Ended	Year Ended December 31,				
June 30, 2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
(1)	(2)	1.14	(3)	(4)	1.49

- (1) For the six months ended June 30, 2005, earnings were not sufficient to cover fixed charges. We would have had to generate additional pre-tax earnings of approximately \$97 million to achieve a ratio of earnings to fixed charges of 1.0.
- (2) For the year ended December 31, 2004, earnings were not sufficient to cover fixed charges. We would have had to generate additional pre-tax earnings of approximately \$490 million to achieve a ratio of earnings to fixed charges of 1.0.
- (3) For the year ended December 31, 2002, earnings were not sufficient to cover fixed charges. We would have had to generate additional pre-tax earnings of approximately \$658 million to achieve a ratio of earnings to fixed charges of 1.0.
- (4) For the year ended December 31, 2001, earnings were not sufficient to cover fixed charges. We would have had to generate additional pre-tax earnings of approximately \$161 million to achieve a ratio of earnings to fixed charges of 1.0.

The ratios of earnings to fixed charges are based on continuing operations. For purposes of the ratios, "earnings" means the sum of:

• our pre-tax income (loss) adjusted for undistributed income of companies in which we have a minority equity interest; and

• our fixed charges, net of interest capitalized.

"Fixed charges" represent:

- the interest we pay on borrowed funds;
- the amount we amortize for debt discount, premium and issuance expense and interest previously capitalized; and
- that portion of rentals considered to be representative of the interest expense.

DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

The following description sets forth certain general terms and provisions of our debt securities, consisting of notes, debentures or other evidences of indebtedness, that we may offer by this prospectus. We will describe the particular terms of debt securities, and provisions that vary from those described below, in one or more prospectus supplements.

We may offer under this prospectus up to \$1.0 billion total principal amount of debt securities, or its equivalent if debt securities are issued at a discount or in a foreign currency or currency units. We may issue the debt securities in registered or bearer form. The debt securities we offer pursuant to this prospectus will be unsecured obligations unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. We may issue the debt securities as unsubordinated or senior debt securities, or as subordinated debt securities. The senior debt securities will rank equally in right of payment with all our current and future unsubordinated indebtedness, and the subordinated debt securities will be subordinated in right of payment to all our senior indebtedness, as described below under "— Subordination of Subordinated Debt Securities."

As required by U.S. law, debt securities are governed by a document called an "indenture." The indenture is a contract between us and an entity named in this prospectus or a prospectus supplement which acts as trustee. The trustee has two main roles:

- the trustee can enforce your rights, including rights you have against us if we default; and
- the trustee performs administrative duties for us, such as sending you interest payments, transferring your debt securities to a new buyer if you sell and sending you notices.

Senior debt securities will be issued under a senior debt indenture entered into between us and J. P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association (as successor in interest to Bank One, N.A.), as trustee, dated as of July 15, 1997. Subordinated debt securities will be issued under a subordinated debt indenture between us and a trustee we name when the subordinated debt securities are issued. The senior debt indenture and the subordinated debt indenture are sometimes collectively referred to in this prospectus as the "indentures." We have filed the senior indenture and a form of the subordinated indenture as exhibits to this registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

The following description is a summary of selected provisions relating to the debt securities and the indentures. The summary is not complete. You should not rely on this summary, because the indentures define your rights as a holder of the debt securities.

General

The indentures do not limit the total principal amount of debt securities that may be issued and provide that debt securities may be issued from time to time in one or more series. We will set forth in a prospectus supplement a description of the series of debt securities being offered, including some or all of the following:

- the title of such debt securities;
- any limit upon the aggregate principal amount of such debt securities;
- the date or dates on which principal will be payable or how to determine such dates;
- the rate or rates of interest or the method of determination of interest rate; the date from which interest will accrue or the method by which such date may be determined; the dates on which interest will be payable ("Interest Payment Dates"); and any record dates for the interest payable on such Interest Payment Dates;
- any obligation or option we may have to redeem, purchase or repay debt securities, or any option of the holder to require us to redeem or repurchase debt securities, and the terms and conditions upon which such debt securities will be redeemed, purchased or repaid;
- any rights of the holders of the debt securities to convert the debt securities into other securities or property and the terms and conditions governing such conversion or exchange;
- the denominations in which such debt securities will be issuable (if other than denominations of \$1,000 and any integral multiple thereof for registered securities or if other than denominations of \$5,000 for bearer securities);
- whether such debt securities are to be issued in whole or in part in the form of one or more global debt securities and, if so, the identity of the depositary for such global debt securities;
- the currency and denominations of the debt securities;
- the principal amount of the debt securities payable upon declaration of the acceleration of the maturity of the debt securities, if other than 100% of the principal amount;
- the person to whom any interest on any debt security will be payable, if other than the person in whose name the debt security is registered on the applicable record date;



- any addition to, or modification or deletion of, any event of default or any covenant with respect to the debt securities;
- the application, if any, of defeasance or covenant defeasance discussed below;
- any provisions relating to the registration and exchange of the debt securities; and
- · any other terms of the series of debt securities.

The holders of our debt securities (whether senior or subordinated debt securities) will be effectively subordinated to the creditors of our subsidiaries because such creditors will have a direct claim against any assets of such subsidiaries upon their liquidation or reorganization. By contrast, as a holder of our debt securities (whether senior or subordinated debt securities), you will have only an indirect claim against the assets of our subsidiaries that derives through our ownership of the capital stock of our subsidiaries. Consequently, as a holder of debt securities, your right to participate in those assets will be effectively subordinated to the claims of that subsidiary's creditors (including trade creditors). In addition, the holders of our debt securities (whether senior or subordinated to the holders of our secured debt to the extent of the collateral securing such debt.

Except as may be set forth in a prospectus supplement, the indentures also do not limit the aggregate amount of unsecured indebtedness that we or our subsidiaries may incur.

Unless we indicate differently in a prospectus supplement, the debt securities will not be listed on any securities exchange and will be issued in fully registered form without coupons. If debt securities are issued in bearer form, we will set forth the special restrictions and considerations applicable to such debt securities in a prospectus supplement. Bearer debt securities will be transferable by delivery of the security by the transferring holder to the new holder, and the transfer will not be registered or recorded by the trustee or us.

We may sell the debt securities for an amount less than their stated principal amount, bearing no interest or bearing a below market rate of interest. We will provide you with information on the federal income tax consequences and other special considerations applicable to any of these debt securities in a prospectus supplement.

If the purchase price of any debt securities is payable in one or more foreign currencies or currency units or if any debt securities are denominated in one or more foreign currencies or currency units or if the principal of, premium and/or interest, if any, on any debt securities is payable in one or more foreign currencies or currency units, the restrictions, elections, federal income tax considerations, specific terms and other information with respect to the debt securities and such foreign currency or currency units will be set forth in a prospectus supplement.

Denominations, Payment, Registration, Transfer and Exchange

We will issue registered debt securities in denominations of \$1,000 and multiples of \$1,000, and we will issue bearer debt securities in \$5,000 denominations or, in each case, in such other denominations and currencies established by the terms of the debt securities of any particular series. Unless we provide otherwise in a prospectus supplement, we will make payments in respect of the debt securities, subject to any applicable laws and regulations, in the designated currency and at the office or agency as we may designate from time to time. At our option, however, we may make interest payments on debt securities in registered form:

- by checks mailed by the trustee to the holders of the debt securities entitled to payment at their registered addresses; or
- by wire transfer to an account maintained by the person entitled to payment as specified in the register of the debt securities maintained by the trustee.



We will pay installments of interest on debt securities:

- in registered form to the person in whose name the debt security is registered at the close of business on the regular record date for such interest, unless otherwise provided in a prospectus supplement; or
- in bearer form at such paying agencies outside the United States as we may appoint from time to time, in the currency and in the manner designated in a prospectus supplement, subject to any applicable laws and regulations.

The paying agents outside the United States, if any, whom we initially appoint for a series of debt securities will be named in a prospectus supplement. We may at any time designate additional paying agents or rescind the designation of any paying agents, provided that, in the case of:

- registered debt securities, we will be required to maintain at least one paying agent in each place of payment for any series; and
- bearer debt securities, we will be required to maintain a paying agent in a place of payment outside the United States where debt securities of any series and any related coupons may be presented and surrendered for payment.

We will have the right to require a holder of any debt security, in connection with the payment of the principal of, premium and/or interest, if any, on any debt security, to certify certain information to us for tax purposes. In the absence of such certification, we will be entitled to rely on any legal presumption to enable us to determine our duties and liabilities, if any, to deduct or withhold taxes, assessments or governmental charges from such payment.

Unless we provide otherwise in a prospectus supplement, you may transfer debt securities in registered form at the agency we designate from time to time. You will not be required to pay a service charge to transfer or exchange the debt securities, but you may be required to pay for any tax or other governmental charge imposed in connection with the transfer or exchange.

If we redeem the debt securities of any series, we will not be required to:

- issue, register the transfer of, or exchange debt securities of that series during a period beginning at the opening of business 15 days before any selection of debt securities of that series to be redeemed and ending at the close of business on (A) the day of mailing of the relevant notice of redemption, if debt securities of the series are issuable only as registered debt securities, and (B) the day of the first publication of the relevant notice of redemption, if debt securities of the series are issuable as bearer debt securities, or the mailing of the relevant notice of redemption, if debt securities are issuable as bearer debt securities, or the mailing of the relevant notice of redemption, if debt securities and there is no publication;
- register the transfer of or exchange any registered debt securities called for redemption, except the unredeemed portion of any registered security being redeemed in part; or
- exchange any bearer security called for redemption, except to exchange such bearer security for a registered security of that series and like tenor which is simultaneously surrendered for redemption.

Subordination of Subordinated Debt Securities

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the following provisions will apply to the subordinated debt securities.

The payment of the principal of, premium, and/or interest, if any, on, and the redemption or repurchase of, the subordinated debt securities and coupons will be subordinated and junior in right of payment, as set forth in the subordinated indenture, to the prior payment in full of all our "senior indebtedness" (as defined below). Generally, the subordinated debt securities will rank equally in right of payment with all of our existing and future subordinated indebtedness other than any future subordinated indebtedness or other subordinated obligations which we specify will rank junior to the subordinated debt

Table of Contents

securities. Notwithstanding the preceding, payment from the money or the proceeds of U.S. government obligations held in any defeasance trust described under "— Defeasance; Satisfaction and Discharge" below is not subordinate to any senior indebtedness or subject to the restrictions described herein.

Senior indebtedness consists of the following types of obligations, in each case subject to the exceptions enumerated below:

- the principal of, premium, if any, interest, if any, and other amounts in respect of (A) our indebtedness for money borrowed and (B) our indebtedness evidenced by securities, debentures, bonds or other similar instruments issued by us, in each case that is not, by its terms, subordinated to other indebtedness;
- all of our capital lease obligations;
- all of our obligations issued or assumed as the deferred purchase price of property;
- all of our conditional sale obligations;
- all of our obligations under any title retention agreement (excluding trade accounts payable arising in the ordinary course of business);
- all of our obligations for the reimbursement on any letter of credit, bankers acceptance, security purchase facility or similar credit transaction;
- all obligations (of the type referred to in the first six bullet points above) of other persons for which we are responsible or liable as obligor, guarantor or otherwise; and
- all obligations (of the type referred to in the first six bullet points above) of other persons secured by any lien on any of our properties or assets (whether or not such obligation is assumed by us).

Except as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, senior indebtedness will not include the following:

- indebtedness that is subordinated to or pari passu with the subordinated debt securities;
- indebtedness between or among us and our affiliates that ranks pari passu with, or junior to the subordinated debt securities;
- our \$100 million of Floating Rate Secured Subordinated Notes due December 2007;
- our guarantee of certain payments under the 6% Convertible Preferred Securities, Term Income Deferrable Equity Securities (TIDES) of Continental Airlines Finance Trust II; and
- our 6% Convertible Junior Subordinated Debentures due 2030.

The senior indebtedness will continue to be entitled to the benefits of the subordination provisions irrespective of any amendment, modification or waiver of any term of the senior indebtedness. Except as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, the payment of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest, if any, on the subordinated debt securities and coupons will rank senior in right of payment to our guarantee of certain payments under the 6% Convertible Preferred Securities, Term Income Deferrable Equity Securities (TIDES) of Continental Airlines Finance Trust II and our 6% Convertible Junior Subordinated Debentures due 2030.

No payment on account of principal of, premium, if any, or interest on, or redemption or repurchase of, the subordinated debt securities or any coupon or any deposit pursuant to the provisions described under "— Defeasance; Satisfaction and Discharge" below may be made by us if there is a default in the payment of principal, premium, if any, sinking funds or interest (including a default under any repurchase or redemption obligation) or other amounts with respect to any senior indebtedness. Similarly, no payment may be made if any other event of default with respect to any senior indebtedness to accelerate the maturity thereof, has occurred and has not been cured, waived or ceased to exist after written notice to us and the trustee by any holder of senior indebtedness. Upon any



acceleration of the principal due on the subordinated debt securities or payment or distribution of our assets to creditors upon any dissolution, winding up, liquidation or reorganization, all principal, premium, if any, sinking funds and interest or other amounts due on all senior indebtedness must be paid in full before the holders of the subordinated debt securities are entitled to receive any payment. Because of such subordination, if we become insolvent, our creditors who are holders of senior indebtedness may recover more, ratably, than the holders of the subordinated debt securities. Furthermore, such subordination may result in a reduction or elimination of payments to the holders of the subordinated debt securities.

The subordinated indenture does not limit our ability to incur senior indebtedness or any other indebtedness.

Global Debt Securities

The debt securities of a series may be issued in whole or in part in global form that will be deposited with a depositary or with a nominee for the depositary identified in a prospectus supplement. In such case, one or more registered global securities will be issued in a denomination or aggregate denominations equal to the portion of the total principal amount of outstanding debt securities of the series to be represented by such registered global security or securities. Unless and until it is exchanged in whole or in part for debt securities in definitive form, a registered global security may not be registered for transfer or exchange except as a whole by the depositary, the depositary's nominee or their respective successors as described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

The specific terms of the depositary arrangement with respect to any portion of a series of debt securities to be represented by a registered global security will be described in a prospectus supplement. We expect that the following provisions will apply to depositary arrangements.

Upon the issuance of any registered global security, and the deposit of such security with or on behalf of the appropriate depositary, the depositary will credit, on its book-entry registration and transfer system, the respective principal amounts of the debt securities represented by such registered global security to the accounts of institutions or participants that have accounts with the depositary or its nominee. The accounts to be credited will be designated by the underwriters or agents engaging in the distribution of the debt securities or by us, if we offer and sell such debt securities directly.

Ownership of beneficial interests in a registered global security will be limited to participants of the depositary (which are usually large investment banks, retail brokerage firms, banks and other large financial institutions) and persons that hold interests through participants. Ownership of beneficial interests by participants in a registered global security will be shown on, and the transfer of those ownership interests will be effected only through, records maintained by the depositary for that security or its nominee. Ownership of beneficial interests in a registered global security by persons who hold through participants will be shown on, and the transfer of those ownership interests in a registered global security by persons who hold through participants will be shown on, and the transfer of those ownership interests will be effected only through, records maintained by that participant. The laws of some jurisdictions require that certain purchasers of securities take physical delivery of securities in certificated form. The preceding limitations and such laws may impair the ability to transfer beneficial interests in registered global securities.

So long as the depositary for a registered global security, or its nominee, is the registered owner of a registered global security, that depositary or nominee, as the case may be, will be considered the sole owner or holder of the debt securities represented by that registered global security. Unless otherwise specified in a prospectus supplement and except as specified below, owners of beneficial interests in a registered global security will not:

- be entitled to have the debt securities of the series represented by the registered global security registered in their names;
- receive or be entitled to receive physical delivery of the debt securities of such series in certificated form; or
- be considered the holders of the debt securities for any purposes under the indentures.

Accordingly, each person owning a beneficial interest in a registered global security must rely on the procedures of the depositary and, if such person is not a participant, on the procedures of the participant through which such person owns its interest, to exercise any rights of a holder under the indentures.

The depositary may grant proxies and otherwise authorize participants to give or take any request, demand, authorization, direction, notice, consent, waiver or other action which a holder is entitled to give or take under the indentures. Unless otherwise specified in a prospectus supplement, payments with respect to principal, premium and/or interest, if any, on debt securities represented by a registered global security registered in the name of a depositary or its nominee will be made to such depositary or its nominee, as the case may be, as the registered owner of such registered global security.

We expect that the depositary for any debt securities represented by a registered global security, upon receipt of any payment of principal, premium or interest, will immediately credit participants' accounts with payments in amounts proportionate to their respective beneficial interests in the principal amount of the registered global security as shown on the records of such depositary. We also expect that payments by participants to owners of beneficial interests in a registered global security held through participants will be governed by standing instructions and customary practices in the securities industry, as is now the case with the securities held for the accounts of customers registered in "street names," and will be the responsibility of such participants. Neither we nor the trustee or any agent of ours will have any responsibility or liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests of a registered global security, or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to such beneficial ownership interests.

Unless otherwise specified in a prospectus supplement, if the depositary for any debt securities represented by a registered global security is at any time unwilling or unable to continue as depositary and a successor depositary is not appointed by us within 90 days, we will issue debt securities in certificated form in exchange for the registered global security. In addition, the indentures provide that we may at any time and in our sole discretion determine not to have any of the debt securities of a series represented by one or more registered global securities and, in such event, will issue debt securities of such series in certificated form in exchange for all of the registered global securities representing such debt securities. Further, if we so specify with respect to the debt securities of a series, an owner of a beneficial interest in a registered global security representing such series of debt securities may receive, on terms acceptable to us and the depositary for such registered global security, debt securities of such series in certificated form registered in the name of such beneficial owner or its designee.

Consolidation, Merger and Conveyance of Assets as an Entirety

Each indenture provides that we will not merge or consolidate with or into any other entity or sell, convey, transfer, lease or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all our assets unless:

- in the case of a merger or consolidation, we are the surviving corporation or the entity formed by such consolidation or into which we are merged or consolidated or the entity which acquires or which leases all or substantially all our assets is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the United States of America or any state thereof or the District of Columbia, and expressly assumes, by supplemental indenture, all our obligations under the debt securities, any related coupons and under the indenture;
- immediately after giving effect to such transactions, no Default or Event of Default shall have occurred and be continuing; and
- certain other conditions are met.

If a successor corporation assumes our obligations, the successor will succeed to and be substituted for us under the indentures, the debt securities and any related coupons. Consequently, all of our obligations will terminate, except in the case of a lease. If any such permitted consolidation, merger, sale, conveyance, disposition or other change of control transaction occurs, the holders of the debt securities will not have

Table of Contents

the right to require redemption of their securities or similar rights unless otherwise provided in a prospectus supplement.

Events of Default

An "Event of Default" occurs with respect to debt securities of any series if any of the following occurs:

- we fail to pay any interest on any debt securities of that series or any related coupon or any other amount applicable to such series as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement within 30 days of the due date;
- we fail to pay principal or premium on any debt securities of that series on its due date;
- we fail to deposit any sinking fund payment when and as due by the terms of the debt securities of that series;
- we default for 60 days after notice to us by the trustee for such series, or by the holders of 25% in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of such series then outstanding, in the performance of any other agreement applicable to the debt securities of that series; and
- · certain events in bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization occur; or
- any other Event of Default specified in the prospectus supplement applicable to such series occurs.

An Event of Default with respect to a particular series of debt securities will not necessarily be an Event of Default with respect to any other series of debt securities.

The indentures provide that, if an Event of Default occurs with respect to the debt securities of any series and is continuing, the trustee for the series or the holders of 25% in aggregate principal amount of all of the outstanding debt securities of that series, by written notice to us (and to the trustee for such series, if notice is given by the holders of debt securities), may declare the principal (or, if the debt securities of that series are original issue discount debt securities or indexed debt securities, such portion of the principal amount specified in the prospectus supplement) of all the debt securities of that series to be due and payable.

The indentures provide that the trustee for any series of debt securities will give to the holders of the debt securities of that series notice of all uncured Defaults (as defined below) within 90 days after the occurrence of a Default. However, such notice will not be given until 60 days after the occurrence of a Default with respect to the debt securities of that series involving a failure to perform a covenant other than the obligation to pay principal, premium, and/or interest, if any, or make a mandatory sinking fund payment. Further, except in the case of default in payment on the debt securities of that series, the trustee may withhold the notice if and so long as a committee comprised of certain officers of the trustee determines in good faith that withholding such notice is in the interests of the holders of the debt securities of that series. "Default" means any event which is, or, after notice or passage of time or both, would be, an Event of Default.

Under the indentures, the trustee is under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers at the request of any of the holders, unless such holders have offered to the trustee reasonable indemnity. Subject to such provision for indemnification, the indentures provide that the holders of not less than a majority in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of each series affected with each series voting as a class, may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceeding for any remedy available to the trustee for such series, or exercising any trust or power conferred on such trustee. We are required to file annually with the trustee a certificate as to our compliance with all conditions and covenants under indentures.

By notice to the trustee, the holders of not less than a majority in total principal amount of any series of debt securities may waive any past Default or Event of Default with respect to that series and its consequences, except a Default or an Event of Default based on the payment of the principal of, premium,

Table of Contents

if any, or interest, if any, on any debt security of a series and certain other defaults. Further, such majority holders may rescind and annul a declaration of acceleration with respect to that series (unless a judgment or decree based on such acceleration has been obtained by the trustee), if all existing Defaults and Events of Default with respect to that series (other than the non-payment of the principal of that series that has become due solely by the declaration of acceleration) have been cured or waived.

Modification of Indenture

Without Holder Consent. Without the consent of any holders of debt securities, we and the trustee may enter into one or more supplemental indentures for any of the following purposes:

- to evidence the succession of another entity to our company and the assumption of our covenants by the successor; or
- to add one or more covenants for the benefit of the holders of all or any series of debt securities, or to surrender any right or power conferred upon us; or
- to add any additional Events of Default for all or any series of debt securities; or
- to add or change any provisions to such extent as necessary to facilitate the issuance of debt securities in bearer or in global form; or
- to provide security for the debt securities of any series; or
- to establish the form or terms of debt securities of any series; or
- to evidence and provide for the acceptance of appointment of a separate or successor trustee; or
- to add to, change or eliminate any provision affecting debt securities not yet issued; or
- to cure any ambiguity, to correct any mistake or inconsistency or to facilitate the defeasance or discharge of any series of debt securities or make any other changes that do not adversely affect the interests of the holders of debt securities of any series in any material respect.

With Holder Consent. Except as provided above, the consent of the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of each series affected by such supplemental indenture is generally required for the purpose of adding to, or changing or eliminating any of the provisions of, the indentures or debt securities pursuant to a supplemental indenture. However, no amendment may, without the consent of the holder of each outstanding debt security directly affected thereby,

- change the stated maturity of the principal or interest on any debt security, or reduce the principal amount, interest rate or premium payable with respect to any debt security or change the currency in which any debt security is payable, or impair the right to bring suit to enforce any such payment; or
- reduce principal payable upon acceleration of the maturity of an original issue discount debt security; or
- reduce the percentages of holders whose consent is required to amend the indentures or to waive compliance with certain provisions of the indentures or certain defaults; or
- change our obligation to maintain an office or agency in the places and for the purposes specified in the indentures; or
- modify any of the preceding provisions.

A supplemental indenture which changes or eliminates any provision of the indenture expressly included solely for the benefit of holders of debt securities of one or more particular series of debt securities will be deemed not to affect the rights under the indenture of the holders of debt securities of any other series.

Defeasance; Satisfaction and Discharge

If indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will have two options to discharge our obligations under a series of debt securities before their stated maturity date. We may elect either:

- to defease and be discharged from any and all obligations with respect to the debt securities of or within any series (except as described below) ("defeasance"); or
- to be released from our obligations with respect to certain covenants applicable to the debt securities of or within any series ("covenant defeasance").

To elect either option, we must deposit with the trustee for such series an amount of money and/or government obligations sufficient to pay the principal of, premium and/or interest, if any, on such debt securities to stated maturity or redemption, as the case may be, and any mandatory sinking fund payments.

Upon the occurrence of a defeasance, we will be deemed to have paid and discharged the entire indebtedness represented by the debt securities of or within any series and any related coupons and to have satisfied all of our other obligations with respect to such debt securities and coupons, except for:

- the rights of holders of the debt securities to receive, solely from the trust funds deposited to defease such debt securities, payments in respect of the principal of, premium, and/or interest, if any, on the debt securities or any related coupons when such payments are due; and
- certain other obligations as provided in the indentures.

Upon the occurrence of a covenant defeasance, we will:

- be released only from our obligations to comply with certain covenants contained in the indentures;
- continue to be obligated in all other respects under the defeased debt securities; and
- continue to be contingently liable with respect to the payment of principal, premium and/or interest, if any, with respect to the defeased debt securities.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement and except as described below, the conditions to both defeasance and covenant defeasance are as follows:

- the defeasance or covenant defeasance must not result in a breach or violation of, or constitute a Default or Event of Default under, the applicable indenture;
- certain bankruptcy related Defaults or Events of Default must not have occurred and be continuing during the period commencing on the date of the deposit of the trust funds to defease the debt securities and ending on the 91st day after such date;
- we must deliver to the trustee an opinion of counsel to the effect that the holders of the defeased debt securities will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of the defeasance or covenant defeasance and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amounts and in the same manner and at all the same times as would have been the case if the defeasance or covenant defeasance had not occurred; and

• any additional conditions to the defeasance or covenant defeasance which may be imposed on us pursuant to the applicable indenture.

A nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants must deliver a written certification to the trustee as to the sufficiency of the trust funds deposited for the defeasance or covenant defeasance of the debt securities. As holders of the debt securities, you will not have any recourse against such firm. If government obligations deposited with the trustee for the defeasance of the debt securities decrease in value or default subsequent to their being deposited, we will have no further obligation, and you will have no additional recourse against us, as a result of such decrease in value or default.

We may exercise our defeasance option notwithstanding our prior exercise of our covenant defeasance option. If we exercise our defeasance option, payment of the debt securities may not be accelerated

because of an Event of Default. If we exercise our covenant defeasance option, payment of the debt securities may not be accelerated by reason of an Event of Default with respect to the covenants to which such covenant defeasance is applicable. However, if such acceleration were to occur, the realizable value at the acceleration date of the money and government obligations in the defeasance trust could be less than the principal and interest, if any, then due on the defeased debt securities, because the required deposit in the defeasance trust is based upon scheduled cash flow rather than market value, which will vary depending upon interest rates and other factors.

A prospectus supplement may further describe the provisions, if any, applicable to defeasance or covenant defeasance with respect to debt securities of or within a particular series.

In addition, we may satisfy and discharge either indenture with respect to any series of debt securities and as a result we will be relieved of our obligations with respect to the debt securities of that series, other than our obligations with respect to registration of transfer and exchange of such debt securities and the replacement of lost, stolen or mutilated debt securities, provided that either:

(1) we deliver all debt securities of that series previously authenticated and delivered and any related coupons (other than (a) coupons pertaining to certain bearer securities, (b) debt securities and coupons that have been replaced as destroyed, lost or stolen and (c) debt securities and coupons for which payment amounts have been deposited in trust and after two years repaid to us) to the trustee for cancellation; or

(2) all such debt securities and any related coupons not so delivered for cancellation have either become due and payable or will become due and payable at their stated maturity within one year or are to be called for redemption within one year under arrangements satisfactory to the trustee and, in the case of this clause (2), we have deposited with the trustee in trust an amount of the currency in which that series is payable sufficient to pay the entire indebtedness on such debt securities and coupons, including interest to the date of deposit (in the case of debt securities that have become due and payable) or to their stated maturity or applicable redemption date.

The Trustee

The trustee under the senior debt indenture is J. P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association (as successor in interest to Bank One, N.A.). The trustee under the subordinated debt indenture will be named when the subordinated debt securities are issued. If more than one series of debt securities is outstanding under an indenture, a trustee may serve as trustee with respect to the debt securities of one or more of such series. If more than one series of debt securities is outstanding under an indenture, the holders of a majority in total principal amount of each such series at any time outstanding may remove the trustee with respect to such series (but not as to any other series) by notifying the trustee and us and may appoint a successor trustee for such series with our consent.

Each indenture contains certain limitations on the right of the trustee, should it become a creditor of ours, to obtain payment of claims in certain cases, or to realize for its own account on certain property received in respect of any such claim as security or otherwise. The trustee is permitted to engage in certain other transactions; however, if after an Event of Default has occurred and is continuing, the trustee acquires any conflicting interest (as specified in the Trust Indenture Act of 1939) it must eliminate such conflict or resign.

Governing Law

The indentures and the debt securities will be governed by the laws of the State of New York.

DESCRIPTION OF COMMON STOCK AND PREFERRED STOCK

Our authorized capital stock currently consists of 200 million shares of Class B common stock, which we refer to as the common stock, and 10 million shares of preferred stock. As of August 31, 2005, we had outstanding 67,048,822 shares of Class B common stock and one share of Series B preferred stock.

This section contains a description of our common stock and preferred stock that we may offer by this prospectus as well as the terms of our Series B preferred stock which may affect our common stock and preferred stock that we may offer by this prospectus. The following discussion is not meant to be complete and is qualified by reference to our certificate of incorporation, bylaws and the rights agreement that we describe in this section. For more information, you should read "Where You Can Find More Information."

Description of Common Stock

Rights to Dividends and on Liquidation, Dissolution or Winding Up. Common stockholders participate ratably in any dividends or distributions on the common stock. In the event of any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our company, common stockholders are entitled to share ratably in our assets available for distribution to the stockholders, subject to the prior rights of holders of any outstanding preferred stock.

Preemptive and Other Subscription Rights. Common stockholders do not have preemptive, subscription, conversion or redemption rights, and are not subject to further capital calls or assessments.

No Cumulative Voting Rights. Common stockholders do not have the right to cumulate their votes in the election of directors.

Voting. Holders of common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters submitted to a vote of stockholders, except that voting rights of non-U.S. citizens are limited as described under "— Limitation on Voting by Foreign Owners."

Description of Preferred Stock

The following summary describes certain general terms of our authorized preferred stock.

We may issue preferred stock from time to time in one or more series. Subject to the provisions of our certificate of incorporation and limitations prescribed by law, our board of directors may adopt resolutions to issue the shares of preferred stock in one or more series, to fix the number of shares of the series and to establish the designations, powers, preferences and relative, participating, optional or other special rights of the preferred stock. Our board of directors may also fix the qualifications, limitations or restrictions, if any, of the preferred stock, including dividend rights (including whether dividends are cumulative), dividend rates, terms of redemption (including sinking fund provisions), redemption rights and prices, conversion or exchange rights and liquidation preferences of the shares of the series, in each case without any further action or vote by our stockholders.

If we offer preferred stock, a description will be filed with the SEC and the specific terms of the preferred stock will be described in the prospectus supplement, including the following terms:

- the series, the number of shares offered and the liquidation value of the preferred stock;
- the price at which the preferred stock will be issued;
- the dividend rate, the dates on which the dividends will be payable and other terms relating to the payment of dividends on the preferred stock;
- the voting rights of the preferred stock;
- the liquidation preference of the preferred stock;
- whether the preferred stock is redeemable or subject to a sinking fund, and the terms of any such redemption or sinking fund;

- whether the preferred stock is convertible into or exchangeable for any other securities, and the terms of any such conversion or exchange; and
- any additional rights, preferences, qualifications and limitations of the preferred stock.

Limitation on Voting by Foreign Owners

Our certificate of incorporation provides that shares of capital stock may not be voted by or at the direction of persons who are not citizens of the United States unless the shares are registered on a separate stock record. Applicable restrictions currently require that no more than 25% of our voting stock be owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by persons who are not U.S. citizens, and that our president and at least two-thirds of our directors or other managing officers be U.S. citizens. For purposes of the certificate of incorporation, "U.S. citizen" means:

- an individual who is a citizen of the United States; or
- a partnership each of whose partners is an individual who is a citizen of the United States, or a corporation or association organized under the laws of the United States or a state, the District of Columbia, or a territory or possession of the United States, of which the president and at least two-thirds of the board of directors and other managing officers are citizens of the United States, and in which at least 75% of the voting interest is owned or controlled by persons that are citizens of the United States.

Our bylaws provide that no shares will be registered on the foreign stock record if the amount so registered would exceed the restrictions described above or adversely affect our operating certificates or authorities. Registration on the foreign stock record is made in chronological order based on the date we receive a written request for registration.

Preferred Stock Purchase Rights

General. One preferred stock purchase right is currently associated with each outstanding share of our common stock. Each of these preferred stock purchase rights entitles the registered holder to purchase from us one one-thousandth of a share of our Series A junior participating preferred stock at a purchase price of \$200 per one one-thousandth of a share, subject to adjustment.

The preferred stock purchase rights will have anti-takeover effects. The preferred stock purchase rights could cause substantial dilution to a person or group that attempts to acquire us and effect a change in the composition of our board of directors on terms not approved by our board of directors, including by means of a tender offer at a premium to the market price. Subject to restrictions and limitations contained in our charter, the preferred stock purchase rights should not interfere with any merger or business combination approved by our board of directors, because we may redeem the preferred stock purchase rights at the redemption price prior to the time that a person has become an acquiring person or amend the preferred stock purchase rights to make them inapplicable to the approved transaction.

The following summary of the material terms of the preferred stock purchase rights is not meant to be complete and is qualified by reference to the rights agreement that governs the issuance of the rights. See "Where You Can Find More Information."

Evidence and Transferability of Preferred Stock Purchase Rights. The preferred stock purchase rights will be evidenced by the certificates representing shares of common stock until the earlier to occur of:

• 10 days following a public announcement or public disclosure of facts made by us or an acquiring person that a person or group of affiliated or associated persons has become an acquiring person, which occurs, generally, when that person or group has acquired beneficial ownership of common stock representing 15% or more of the total number of votes entitled to be cast by the holders of common stock then outstanding; and



• 10 business days, or a later date established by our board of directors before the time any person or group becomes an acquiring person, following the commencement of, or the first public announcement of an intention of any person or group to make, a tender offer or exchange offer that, if completed, would result in the beneficial ownership by a person or group of shares of common stock representing 15% or more of such number of votes.

Until the rights distribution date or the earlier redemption or expiration of the preferred stock purchase rights:

- the preferred stock purchase rights will be transferred only with the transfer of shares of common stock;
- certificates representing shares of common stock which become outstanding after the record date for the initial distribution of the rights, will contain a notation incorporating the terms of the preferred stock purchase rights by reference; and
- the surrender for transfer of any certificate representing shares of common stock will also constitute the transfer of the preferred stock purchase rights associated with the shares of common stock represented by that certificate.

As soon as practicable following the rights distribution date, separate certificates evidencing the preferred stock purchase rights will be mailed to holders of record of the shares of common stock as of the close of business on the rights distribution date and those separate preferred stock purchase rights certificates alone will evidence the rights.

Exempt Persons. We and certain persons affiliated with us are exempt from the definition of acquiring person. An exception to the definition of acquiring person in the rights agreement permits an institutional investor to be or become the beneficial owner of our common stock representing 15% or more of the voting power of the common stock then outstanding, subject to certain limitations described below, without becoming an acquiring person, as long as the institutional investor continues to be an institutional investor. Generally, an institutional investor is a person who, as of January 31, 2000:

- beneficially owned more than 14% of the voting power of our common stock then outstanding;
- had a Schedule 13G on file with the SEC with respect to its holdings;
- is principally engaged in the business of managing investment funds for unaffiliated securities investors;
- acquires the common stock pursuant to trading activities undertaken in the ordinary course of such person's business not with the purpose or effect of exercising or influencing control over us; and
- is not obligated to and does not file a Schedule 13D with respect to our securities.

If our board of directors determines that a person is no longer an institutional investor, then this person will be required to divest itself as promptly as practicable of a sufficient number of shares of common stock so that this person beneficially owns less than 15% of the voting power of our common stock then outstanding.

If our board of directors determines that this person does not divest itself of common shares as required, then this person will be or become an acquiring person under the rights agreement.

Exercisability of Rights. The preferred stock purchase rights are not exercisable until the preferred stock purchase rights distribution date. The preferred stock purchase rights will expire on November 20, 2008, unless the expiration date is extended or unless the preferred stock purchase rights are earlier redeemed or exchanged by us, in each case, as described below.

If any person becomes an acquiring person, each holder of a preferred stock purchase right (other than preferred stock purchase rights beneficially owned by the acquiring person, which will be void) will, after the date that any person became an acquiring person, have the right to receive, upon exercise of

those preferred stock purchase rights at the then current exercise price, that number of shares of common stock, or cash or other securities or assets in certain circumstances, having a market value of two times the exercise price of the preferred stock purchase right. If, at any time on or after the date that any person has become an acquiring person, we are acquired in a merger or other business combination transaction or 50% or more of our consolidated assets or earning power are sold, each holder of a preferred stock purchase right will, after the date of that transaction, have the right to receive, upon the exercise of those preferred stock purchase rights at the then current exercise price of the preferred stock purchase right, that number of shares of common stock of the acquiring company which at the time of that transaction will have a market value of two times the exercise price of the preferred stock purchase right.

The purchase price payable, and the number of shares of junior preferred stock or other securities or property issuable, upon exercise of the preferred stock purchase rights are subject to adjustment from time to time to prevent dilution in some circumstances.

Until a preferred stock purchase right is exercised, the holder of a preferred stock purchase right will have no rights as a stockholder of our company, including the right to vote or to receive dividends.

From and after the occurrence of an event described in Section 11(a)(ii) of the rights agreement, if rights are or were, at any time on or after the earlier of (1) the date of such event and (2) the distribution date, acquired or beneficially owned by an acquiring person or an associate or affiliate of an acquiring person, such rights shall become void, and any holder of such rights shall thereafter have no right to exercise such rights.

Terms of Junior Preferred Stock. Shares of junior preferred stock, which may be purchased upon exercise of the preferred stock purchase rights, will not be redeemable. Each share of junior preferred stock will be entitled to receive when, as and if declared by the board of directors, out of funds legally available for the purpose, an amount per share equal to 1,000 times the cash or non-cash dividend declared per share of common stock. In the event of liquidation, the holders of the junior preferred stock will be entitled to receive an aggregate payment equal to 1,000 times the payment made per share of common stock. Each share of junior preferred stock will have 1,000 votes, together with the common stock. Finally, in the event of any merger, consolidation or other transaction in which the common stock is exchanged, each share of junior preferred stock will be entitled to receive an adjust be entitled to receive an amount equal to 1,000 times the amount received per share of common stock. The rights are protected by customary antidilution provisions.

Exchange or Redemption. At any time after any person becomes an acquiring person, and prior to the acquisition by any person or group of a majority of the voting power, our board of directors may exchange the rights (other than rights owned by such acquiring person which have become void), in whole or in part, at an exchange ratio of one share of common stock per right (subject to adjustment). We may, at our option, substitute preferred shares or common stock equivalents for common stock, at the rate of one one-thousandth of a preferred share for each share of common stock (subject to adjustment). No fractional share of common stock will be issued and in lieu thereof, an adjustment in cash will be made based on the market price of the share of common stock on the last trading day prior to the date of exchange.

At any time prior to any person becoming an acquiring person, our board of directors, by the required board vote, may redeem the rights in whole, but not in part, at a redemption price of \$.001 per right. The redemption of the rights may be made effective at the time, on any basis and subject to the conditions which our board of directors may establish. Immediately upon any redemption of the rights (or upon a later date specified by our board of directors in the resolution approving a redemption), the right to exercise the rights will terminate and the only right of the holders of rights will be to receive the redemption price. The redemption of the rights may be subject to certain restrictions and limitations contained in our charter.

Our board of directors, by the required board vote, may amend the terms of the rights without the consent of the holders of the rights, except that from the time any person becomes an acquiring person, no amendment may adversely affect the interests of the holders of the rights (other than the acquiring person

Table of Contents

and its affiliates and associates). The right of our board of directors to amend the rights agreement may be subject to certain restrictions and limitations contained in our charter.

Series B Preferred Stock

We have one outstanding share of Series B preferred stock, which is owned by Northwest Airlines, Inc. Set forth below is a description of some of the material provisions of the Series B preferred stock.

Ranking. The Series B preferred stock ranks junior to all classes of our capital stock other than our common stock upon liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our company.

Dividends. No dividends are payable on our Series B preferred stock.

Voting Rights. The holder of the Series B preferred stock has the right to block certain actions we may seek to take, including:

- certain business combinations and similar changes of control transactions involving us and a third party major air carrier;
- certain amendments to our rights plan (or redemption of those rights);
- any dividend or distribution of all or substantially all of our assets; and
- certain reorganizations and restructuring transactions involving us.

Redemption. The Series B preferred stock is redeemable by us at a nominal price under the following circumstances:

- Northwest Airlines, Inc. transfers or encumbers the Series B preferred stock;
- there is a change of control of Northwest Airlines Corporation or Northwest Airlines, Inc. (or certain related entities that own a majority of the airline assets of Northwest Airlines Corporation or Northwest Airlines, Inc.) involving a third party major air carrier;
- our alliance with Northwest Airlines, Inc. terminates or expires (other than as a result of a breach by us); or
- Northwest Airlines Corporation or Northwest Airlines, Inc. (or certain related entities) materially breaches their standstill obligations to us or triggers our rights agreement (described above under "— Preferred Stock Purchase Rights").

Corporate Governance and Control

Our certificate of incorporation provides that our board of directors will consist of a number of directors as may be determined from time to time by the board of directors in accordance with the bylaws. Our board of directors currently consists of 11 directors elected by common stockholders, subject to the rights of preferred stockholders to elect additional directors as set forth in any preferred stock designations.

Business Combinations

Our certificate of incorporation provides that we are not governed by Section 203 of the General Corporation Law of Delaware which, in the absence of such provisions, would have imposed additional requirements regarding mergers and other business combinations.

Procedural Matters

Our bylaws require stockholders seeking to nominate directors or propose other matters for action at a stockholders' meeting to give us notice within specified periods in advance of the meeting and to follow certain other specified procedures.

Change of Control

Because a separate class vote is required pursuant to the terms of the Series B preferred stock in connection with some changes of control requiring stockholder approval as described under "— Series B Preferred Stock — Voting Rights," a change of control of our company could be delayed, deferred or prevented.

In addition, the existence of the preferred stock purchase rights may have the effect of delaying or preventing a change of control of our company. See "— Preferred Stock Purchase Rights" above.

Limitation of Director Liability and Indemnification

Our certificate of incorporation provides, to the full extent permitted by Delaware law, that directors will not be liable to us or our stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director. As required under current Delaware law, our certificate of incorporation and bylaws currently provide that this waiver may not apply to liability:

- for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to us or our stockholders;
- or acts or omissions not in good faith or that involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;
- under Section 174 of the Delaware General Corporation Law (governing distributions to stockholders); or
- for any transaction from which the director derived any improper personal benefit.

However, in the event the Delaware General Corporation Law is amended to authorize corporate action further eliminating or limiting the personal liability of directors, then the liability of any of our directors will be eliminated or limited to the fullest extent permitted by the Delaware General Corporation Law, as so amended. Our certificate of incorporation further provides that we will indemnify each of our directors and officers to the full extent permitted by Delaware law and may indemnify certain other persons as authorized by the Delaware General Corporation Law. These provisions do not eliminate any monetary liability of directors under the federal securities laws.

DESCRIPTION OF DEPOSITARY SHARES

We may offer fractional shares of preferred stock, rather than full shares of preferred stock. If we decide to offer fractional shares of preferred stock, we will issue receipts for depositary shares. Each depositary share will represent a fraction of a share of a particular series of preferred stock, and the prospectus supplement will indicate that fraction. The shares of preferred stock represented by depositary shares will be deposited under a deposit agreement between our company and a depositary that is a bank or trust company that meets certain requirements and is selected by us. The depositary will be specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. Each owner of a depositary share will be entitled to all of the rights and preferences of the preferred stock represented by the depositary share. The depositary shares will be evidenced by depositary receipts issued pursuant to the deposit agreement. Depositary receipts will be distributed to those persons purchasing the fractional shares of preferred stock in accordance with the terms of the offering.

We have summarized selected provisions of the deposit agreement and the depositary receipts, but the summary is qualified by reference to the provisions of the deposit agreement and the depositary receipts. The particular terms of any series of depositary shares will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. If so indicated in the prospectus supplement, the terms of any such series may differ from the terms set forth below.

Dividends

The depositary will distribute all cash dividends or other cash distributions received by it in respect of the preferred stock to the record holders of depositary shares relating to such preferred shares in proportion to the numbers of depositary shares held on the relevant record date. The amount made available for distribution will be reduced by any amounts withheld by the depositary or us on account of taxes.

In the event of a distribution other than in cash, the depositary will distribute securities or property received by it to the record holders of depositary shares in proportion to the numbers of depositary shares held on the relevant record date, unless the depositary determines that it is not feasible to make such distribution. In that case, the depositary may make the distribution by such method as it deems equitable and practicable. One such possible method is for the depositary to sell the securities or property and then distribute the net proceeds from the sale as provided in the case of a cash distribution.

Withdrawal of Shares

Upon surrender of depositary receipts representing any number of whole shares at the depositary's office, unless the related depositary shares previously have been called for redemption, the holder of the depositary shares evidenced by the depositary receipts will be entitled to delivery of the number of whole shares of the related series of preferred stock and all money and other property, if any, underlying such depositary shares. However, once such an exchange is made, the preferred stock cannot thereafter be redeposited in exchange for depositary shares. Holders of depositary receipts will be entitled to receive whole shares of the related series of preferred stock on the basis set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. If the depositary receipts delivered by the holder evidence a number of depositary shares representing more than the number of whole shares of preferred stock of the related series to be withdrawn, the depositary will deliver to the holder at the same time a new depositary receipt evidencing the excess number of depositary shares.

Redemption of Depositary Shares

Whenever we redeem the preferred stock, the depositary will redeem a number of depositary shares representing the same number of shares of preferred stock so redeemed. If fewer than all of the depositary shares are to be redeemed, the depositary shares to be redeemed will be selected by lot, pro rata or by any other equitable method as the depositary may determine.

Voting of Underlying Shares

Upon receipt of notice of any meeting at which the holders of the preferred stock of any series are entitled to vote, the depositary will mail the information contained in the notice of the meeting to the record holders of the depositary shares relating to that series of preferred shares. Each record holder of the depositary shares on the record date will be entitled to instruct the depositary as to the exercise of the voting rights represented by the number of shares of preferred stock underlying the holder's depositary shares. The depositary will endeavor, to the extent it is practical to do so, to vote the number of whole shares of preferred stock underlying such depositary shares in accordance with such instructions. We will agree to take all action that the depositary may deem reasonably necessary in order to enable the depositary to do so. To the extent the depositary does not receive specific instructions from the holders of depositary shares relating to such preferred shares, it will abstain from voting such shares of preferred stock.

Amendment and Termination of Deposit Agreement

The form of depositary receipt evidencing the depositary shares and any provision of the applicable deposit agreement may at any time be amended by agreement between us and the depositary. We may, with the consent of the depositary, amend the deposit agreement from time to time in any manner that we desire. However, if the amendment would materially and adversely alter the rights of the existing holders



Table of Contents

of depositary shares, the amendment would need to be approved by the holders of at least a majority of the depositary shares then outstanding.

The deposit agreement may be terminated by us or the depositary if:

- all outstanding depositary shares have been redeemed; or
- there has been a final distribution in respect of the shares of preferred stock of the applicable series in connection with our liquidation, dissolution or winding up and such distribution has been made to the holders of depositary receipts.

Resignation and Removal of Depositary

The depositary may resign at any time by delivering to us notice of its election to do so. We may remove a depositary at any time. Any resignation or removal will take effect upon the appointment of a successor depositary and its acceptance of appointment.

Charges of Depositary

We will pay all transfer and other taxes and governmental charges arising solely from the existence of any depositary arrangements. We will pay all charges of each depositary in connection with the initial deposit of the preferred shares of any series, the initial issuance of the depositary shares, any redemption of such preferred shares and any withdrawals of such preferred shares by holders of depositary shares. Holders of depositary shares will be required to pay any other transfer taxes.

Notices

Each depositary will forward to the holders of the applicable depositary shares all notices, reports and communications from us which are delivered to such depositary and which we are required to furnish the holders of the preferred shares.

Limitation of Liability

The deposit agreement contains provisions that limit our liability and the liability of the depositary to the holders of depositary shares. Both the depositary and we are also entitled to an indemnity from the holders of the depositary shares prior to bringing, or defending against, any legal proceeding. We or any depositary may rely upon written advice of counsel or accountants, or information provided by persons presenting preferred shares for deposit, holders of depositary shares or other persons believed by us or it to be competent and on documents believed by us or them to be genuine.

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

We may issue warrants to purchase any of our securities. We may issue warrants independently or together with any other securities offered by any prospectus supplement and the warrants may be attached to or separate from those securities. Each series of warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement, to be entered into between us and a warrant agent specified in a prospectus supplement. The warrant agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the warrants of such series and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust with any of the holders of the warrants. We will set forth further terms of the warrants and the applicable warrant agreements in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to the issuance of any warrants, including, where applicable, the following:

- the title of the warrants;
- the aggregate number of the warrants;
- the number and type of securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants;

- the designation and terms of the securities, if any, with which the warrants are issued and the number of the warrants issued with each such offered security;
- the date, if any, on and after which the warrants and the related securities will be separately transferable;
- the price at which each security purchasable upon exercise of the warrants may be purchased;
- the date on which the right to exercise the warrants will commence and the date on which the right will expire;
- the minimum or maximum amount of the warrants which may be exercised at any one time;
- any circumstances that will cause the warrants to be deemed to be automatically exercised; and
- any other material terms of the warrants.

DESCRIPTION OF STOCK PURCHASE CONTRACTS AND STOCK PURCHASE UNITS

We may issue stock purchase contracts, including contracts obligating holders to purchase from us, and obligating us to sell to the holders, a specified number of shares of common stock or other securities at a future date or dates, which we refer to in this prospectus as "stock purchase contracts." The price per share of the securities and the number of shares of the securities may be fixed at the time the stock purchase contracts are issued or may be determined by reference to a specific formula set forth in the stock purchase contracts. The stock purchase contracts may be issued separately or as part of units consisting of a stock purchase contract and debt securities, preferred securities, warrants or debt obligations of third parties, including U.S. treasury securities, securing the holders' obligations to purchase the securities under the stock purchase contracts, which we refer to herein as "stock purchase units." The stock purchase contracts may require holders to secure their obligations under the stock purchase contracts in a specified manner. The stock purchase contracts also may require us to make periodic payments to the holders of the stock purchase units or vice versa, and those payments may be unsecured or refunded on some basis.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the terms of the stock purchase contracts or stock purchase units. The description in the prospectus supplement will not necessarily be complete, and reference will be made to the stock purchase contracts, and, if applicable, collateral or depositary arrangements, relating to the stock purchase contracts or stock purchase units, which will be filed with the SEC each time we issue stock purchase contracts or stock purchase units. Material United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the stock purchase units and the stock purchase contracts will also be discussed in the applicable prospectus supplement.

DESCRIPTION OF SUBSCRIPTION RIGHTS

General

We may issue subscription rights to purchase common stock, preferred stock, depositary shares or warrants to purchase preferred stock, common stock or depositary shares. Subscription rights may be issued independently or together with any other offered security and may or may not be transferable by the person purchasing or receiving the subscription rights. In connection with any subscription rights offering to our stockholders, we may enter into a standby underwriting arrangement with one or more underwriters pursuant to which such underwriters will purchase any offered securities remaining unsubscribed for after such subscription rights offering. In connection with a subscription rights offering to our stockholders, we will distribute certificates evidencing the subscription rights and a prospectus supplement to our stockholders on the record date that we set for receiving subscription rights in such subscription rights offering.

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the following terms of subscription rights in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered:

- the title of such subscription rights,
- the securities for which such subscription rights are exercisable,
- the exercise price for such subscription rights,
- the number of such subscription rights issued to each stockholder,
- the extent to which such subscription rights are transferable,
- if applicable, a discussion of the material United States federal income tax considerations applicable to the issuance or exercise of such subscription rights,
- the date on which the right to exercise such subscription rights shall commence, and the date on which such rights shall expire (subject to any extension),
- the extent to which such subscription rights include an over-subscription privilege with respect to unsubscribed securities,
- if applicable, the material terms of any standby underwriting or other purchase arrangement that we may enter into in connection with the subscription rights offering, and
- any other terms of such subscription rights, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of such subscription rights.

Exercise of Subscription Rights

Each subscription right will entitle the holder of the subscription right to purchase for cash such amount of shares of preferred stock, depositary shares, common stock, warrants or any combination thereof, at such exercise price as shall in each case be set forth in, or be determinable as set forth in, the prospectus supplement relating to the subscription rights offered thereby. Subscription rights may be exercised at any time up to the close of business on the expiration date for such subscription rights set forth in the prospectus supplement. After the close of business on the expiration date, all unexercised subscription rights will become void.

Subscription rights may be exercised as set forth in the prospectus supplement relating to the subscription rights offered thereby. Upon receipt of payment and the subscription rights certificate properly completed and duly executed at the corporate trust office of the subscription rights agent or any other office indicated in the prospectus supplement, we will forward, as soon as practicable, the shares of preferred stock or common stock, depositary shares or warrants purchasable upon such exercise. We may determine to offer any unsubscribed offered securities directly to persons other than stockholders, to or through agents, underwriters or dealers or through a combination of such methods, including pursuant to standby underwriting arrangements, as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

Any of the securities being offered hereby and any accompanying prospectus supplement may be sold in any one or more of the following ways from time to time:

- directly to purchasers;
- through agents;
- to or through underwriters;
- through dealers;

- · directly to our stockholders; or
- through a combination of any such methods of sale.

In addition, we may issue the securities as a dividend or distribution to our stockholders.

The distribution of the securities may be effected from time to time in one or more transactions at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to such prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices.

We may solicit offers to purchase directly. Offers to purchase securities also may be solicited by agents designated by us from time to time. Any such agent involved in the offer or sale of the securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered will be named, and any commissions payable by us to such agent will be set forth, in the applicable prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise indicated in such prospectus supplement, any such agent will be acting on a reasonable best efforts basis for the period of its appointment. Any such agent may be deemed to be an underwriter, as that term is defined in the Securities Act of 1933, of the securities so offered and sold.

If securities are sold by means of an underwritten offering, we will execute an underwriting agreement with an underwriter or underwriters at the time an agreement for such sale is reached, and the names of the specific managing underwriter or underwriters, as well as any other underwriters, the respective amounts underwritten and the terms of the transaction, including commissions, discounts and any other compensation of the underwriters and dealers, if any, will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement which will be used by the underwriters to make resales of the securities in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered to the public. If underwriters are utilized in the sale of any securities in respect of which this prospectus is being delivered, such securities will be acquired by the underwriters for their own account and may be resold from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at fixed public offering prices or at varying prices determined by the underwriters at the time of sale. Securities may be offered to the public either through underwriting syndicates represented by managing underwriters or directly by one or more underwriters. If any underwriters are utilized in the sale of securities, unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement will provide that the obligations of the underwriters are subject to certain conditions precedent and that the underwriters with respect to a sale of such securities will be obligated to purchased.

We may grant to the underwriters options to purchase additional securities, to cover over-allotments, if any, at the initial public offering price (with additional underwriting commissions or discounts), as may be set forth in the prospectus supplement relating thereto. If we grant any over-allotment option, the terms of such over-allotment option will be set forth in the prospectus supplement for such securities.

If a dealer is used in the sale of the securities in respect of which this prospectus is delivered, we will sell such securities to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell such securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by such dealer at the time of resale. Any such dealer may be deemed to be an underwriter, as such term is defined in the Securities Act, of the securities so offered and sold. The name of the dealer and their terms of the transaction will be set forth in the prospectus supplement relating thereto.

Offers to purchase securities may be solicited directly by us and the sale thereof may be made by us directly to institutional investors or others, who may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act of 1933 with respect to any resale thereof. We may also offer securities through agents in connection with a distribution to our stockholders of rights to purchase such securities. The terms of any such sales will be described in the prospectus supplement relating thereto.

Subject to the limitations under Rule 415(a)(4)(ii) under the Securities Act, we may offer our equity securities into an existing trading market on the terms described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Underwriters and dealers who may participate in any at-the-market offerings will be described in the prospectus supplement relating thereto.

Pursuant to any standby underwriting agreement entered into in connection with a subscription rights offering to our stockholders, persons acting as standby underwriters may receive a commitment fee for all securities underlying the subscription rights that the underwriter commits to purchase on a standby basis. Additionally, prior to the expiration date with respect to any subscription rights, any standby underwriters in a subscription rights offering to our stockholders may offer such securities on a when-issued basis, including securities to be acquired through the purchase and exercise of subscription rights, at prices set from time to time by the standby underwriters. After the expiration date with respect to such subscription rights, the underwriters may offer securities of the type underlying the subscription rights, whether acquired pursuant to a standby underwriting agreement, the exercise of the subscription rights or the purchase of such securities in the market, to the public at a price or prices to be determined by the underwriters. The standby underwriters may thus realize profits or losses independent of the underwriting discounts or commissions paid by us. If we do not enter into a standby underwriting arrangement in connection with a subscription rights offering to our stockholders, we may elect to retain a dealer-manager to manage such a subscription rights offering for us. Any such dealer-manager may offer securities of the type underlying the subscription rights acquired or to be acquired pursuant to the purchase and exercise of subscription rights and may thus realize profits or losses independent of any dealer-manager fee paid by us.

Securities may also be offered and sold, if so indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, in connection with a remarketing upon their purchase, in accordance with a redemption or repayment pursuant to their terms, or otherwise, by one or more firms ("remarketing firms") acting as principals for their own accounts or as agents for us. Any remarketing firm will be identified and the terms of its agreement, if any, with us and its compensation will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Remarketing firms may be deemed to be underwriters, as that term is defined in the Securities Act of 1933, in connection with the securities remarketed thereby.

If so indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we may authorize agents, dealers or underwriters to solicit offers by certain institutions to purchase securities from us at the public offering price set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement pursuant to delayed delivery contracts providing for payment and delivery on the date or dates stated in the applicable prospectus supplement. Such delayed delivery contracts will be subject to only those conditions set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. A commission indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement will be paid to underwriters and agents soliciting purchases of securities pursuant to delayed delivery contracts accepted by us.

Agents, underwriters, dealers and remarketing firms may be entitled under relevant agreements with us to indemnification by us against certain liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, or to contribution with respect to payments which such agents, underwriters, dealers and remarketing firms may be required to make in respect thereof.

Any underwriter may engage in stabilizing and syndicate covering transactions in accordance with Rule 104 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Rule 104 permits stabilizing bids to purchase the underlying security so long as the stabilizing bids do not exceed a specified maximum. The underwriters may over-allot shares of the securities in connection with an offering of securities, thereby creating a short position in the underwriters' account. Syndicate covering transactions involve purchases of the securities in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions. Stabilizing and syndicate covering transactions may cause the price of the securities to be higher than it would otherwise be in the absence of such transactions. These transactions, if commenced, may be discontinued at any time.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, each series of securities will be a new issue and will have no established trading market. We may elect to list any series of securities on an exchange but, unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, we shall not be obligated to do so. No assurance can be given as to the liquidity of the trading market for any of the securities.

Agents, underwriters, dealers and remarketing firms may be customers of, engage in transactions with, or perform services for, us and our subsidiaries in the ordinary course of business.

The anticipated date of delivery of securities will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement relating to each offer.

LEGAL MATTERS

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the validity of the securities will be passed upon for us by Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., Houston, Texas, and will be passed upon for any agents, dealers or underwriters by counsel named in the applicable prospectus supplement.

EXPERTS

Our consolidated financial statements and schedule appearing in our Annual Report on Form 10-K/ A for the year ended December 31, 2004, and our management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2004 included therein, have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in its reports thereon (which conclude, among other things, that we did not maintain effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2004, based on Internal Control — Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission, because of the effects of the material weakness described therein), which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement. Our financial statements and management's assessment are incorporated by reference in reliance upon such reports given on the authority of Ernst & Young LLP as experts in accounting and auditing.

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement that contains this prospectus and that has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

PROSPECTUS

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED SEPTEMBER 13, 2005



CONTINENTAL AIRLINES, INC.

Pass Through Certificates

This prospectus relates to pass through certificates to be issued by one or more trusts that we will form, as creator of each pass through trust, with a national or state bank or trust company, as trustee. The trustee will hold all property owned by a trust for the benefit of holders of pass through certificates issued by that trust. Each pass through certificate issued by a trust will represent a beneficial interest in all property held by that trust.

We will describe the specific terms of any offering of pass through certificates in a prospectus supplement to this prospectus. You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest.

This prospectus may not be used to consummate sales of pass through certificates unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

T	he	date	of	this	prospectus is	
---	----	------	----	------	---------------	--

, 2005.

1

2 2

2

4

6

6

7

8

21

26

28

29

30

30

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About This ProspectusWhere You Can Find More InformationForward-Looking StatementsIncorporation By ReferenceSummaryContinental Airlines, Inc.Use of ProceedsRatio of Earnings to Fixed ChargesDescription of the CertificatesDescription of the Equipment NotesU.S. Federal Income Tax MattersERISA ConsiderationsPlan of DistributionLegal MattersExperts

We have not authorized any dealer, salesman or other person to give any information or to make any representation other than those contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement. You must not rely upon any information or representation not contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus or the accompanying prospectus supplement as if we had authorized it. This prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement as if we had authorized it. This prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement are not an offer to buy any securities other than the registered securities to which they relate. This prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement are not an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy securities in any jurisdiction to any person to whom it is unlawful to make an offer or solicitation in that jurisdiction. The information contained in this prospectus and the accompanying prospectus supplement is accurate as of the dates on their covers. When we deliver this prospectus or a supplement or make a sale pursuant to this prospectus, we are not implying that the information is current as of the date of the delivery or sale.

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which we refer to as the "SEC", utilizing a "shelf" registration process. Under this shelf registration process, we may offer and sell the pass through certificates described in this prospectus in one or more offerings up to a total dollar amount of \$1,000,000,000. This prospectus provides you with a general description of the pass through certificates we may offer. Each time we offer pass through certificates, we will provide a prospectus supplement and attach it to this prospectus. The prospectus supplement will contain specific information about the terms of the offering and the pass through certificates being offered at that time. The prospectus supplement also may add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. In this prospectus, "Continental," "we, "us," our" and the "company" each refers to Continental Airlines, Inc., unless the context indicates otherwise.

To the extent information in this prospectus is inconsistent with information contained in a prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement. You should read both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, together with additional information described under the heading "Where You Can Find More Information," and any additional information you may need to make your investment decision.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. You may read and copy this information, or obtain copies (at prescribed rates) by mail from, the Public Reference Room of the SEC, 100 F Street, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at (800) SEC-0330. The SEC also maintains an internet world wide web site that contains reports, proxy statements and other information about issuers, like us, who file reports electronically with the SEC. The address of that site is http://www.sec.gov. You may also inspect reports, proxy statements and other information about us at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, Inc., 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, any prospectus supplement delivered with this prospectus and the documents we incorporate by reference may contain statements that constitute "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Forward-looking statements include any statements that predict, forecast, indicate or imply future results, performance or achievements, and may contain the words "believe," "anticipate," "expect," "estimate," "project," "will be," "will continue," "will result," or words or phrases of similar meaning.

Any such forward-looking statements are not assurances of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties. Actual results may vary materially from anticipated results for a number of reasons, including those stated under the caption "Risk Factors" in our SEC reports incorporated in this prospectus by reference.

All forward-looking statements attributable to us are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements above.

INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference the information we file with the SEC into this prospectus. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, except for any information that is superseded by subsequent incorporated documents or by information that is included directly in this prospectus or any prospectus supplement.

This prospectus incorporates by reference the documents listed below that we previously have filed with the SEC and that are not delivered with this prospectus. They contain important information about us and our financial condition.

- Our Annual Report on Form 10-K/ A for the year ended December 31, 2004.
- Our Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q/ A for the quarter ended March 31, 2005 and on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2005.
- Our Current Reports on Form 8-K (excluding any information furnished under Items 2.02 or 7.01 on any Current Report on Form 8-K) filed with the SEC on January 3, 2005, January 4, 2005, January 6, 2005, February 2, 2005, February 14, 2005, February 17, 2005, February 28, 2005, March 2, 2005, March 4, 2005, March 9, 2005, March 31, 2005, April 4, 2005, April 20, 2005, May 3, 2005, June 2, 2005, June 3, 2005, July 5, 2005, July 20, 2005, August 2, 2005 and September 2, 2005.

• The description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A/A#3, as filed with the SEC on February 6, 2001.

• The description and terms of the preferred share purchase rights associated with our outstanding common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A/ A, as filed with the SEC on March 17, 2004.

Our SEC file number is 0-9781.

We incorporate by reference additional documents that we may file with the SEC under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(a) of the Securities Exchange Act (excluding any information furnished under Items 2.02 or 7.01 on any Current Report on Form 8-K) between the date of this prospectus and the termination of the offering of securities under this prospectus. These documents include our periodic reports, such as Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K, as well as our proxy statements.

You may obtain any of these incorporated documents from us without charge, excluding any exhibits to those documents unless the exhibit is specifically incorporated by reference in such document. You may obtain documents incorporated by reference in this prospectus by requesting them from us in writing or by telephone at the following address:

Continental Airlines, Inc. 1600 Smith Street, Dept. HQSEO Houston, Texas 77002 Attention: Secretary (713) 324-2950

SUMMARY

The Offering

This prospectus describes the pass through certificates that we may offer from time to time after the date of this prospectus. The proceeds of these offerings will be used to provide funds for the financing or refinancing of our aircraft.

Certificates

Pass through certificates are securities that evidence an ownership interest in a pass through trust. The holders of the certificates issued by a pass through trust will be the beneficiaries of that trust. For convenience, we may refer to pass through certificates as "certificates" and refer to the holder of a pass through certificate as a "certificateholder."

The beneficial interest in a pass through trust represented by a certificate will be a percentage interest in the property of that trust equal to the original face amount of such certificate divided by the original face amount of all of the certificates issued by that trust. Each certificate will represent a beneficial interest only in the property of the pass through trust that issued the certificate. Multiple series of certificates may be issued. If more than one series of certificates is issued, each series of certificates will be issued by a separate pass through trust.

The property that will be held by each pass through trust will include equipment notes secured by aircraft that we own or lease. Payments of principal, premium, if any, and interest on the equipment notes owned by a pass through trust will be passed through to holders of certificates issued by that trust in accordance with the terms of the pass through trust agreement pursuant to which the trust was formed.

If certificates of any series are entitled to the benefits of a liquidity facility or other form of credit enhancement, the prospectus supplement relating to that series will describe the terms of the liquidity facility or other form of credit enhancement. A liquidity facility is a revolving credit agreement, letter of credit, bank guarantee, insurance policy or other instrument or agreement under which another person agrees to make certain payments in respect of the certificates if there is a shortfall in amounts otherwise available for distribution. While a liquidity facility is designed to increase the likelihood of the timely payment of certain amounts due under certificates, it is not a guarantee of timely or ultimate payment.

The rights of a pass through trustee to receive monies payable under equipment notes held for that pass through trustee may be subject to the effect of subordination provisions contained in an intercreditor agreement described in the prospectus supplement for a series of certificates. An intercreditor agreement will set forth the terms and conditions upon which payments made under the equipment notes and payments made under any liquidity facility will be received, shared and distributed among the several pass through trustees and the liquidity provider.

We may offer and sell up to \$1,000,000,000 of aggregate initial offering price of certificates pursuant to this prospectus and related prospectus supplements in one or more offerings of certificates. The initial offering price may be denominated in U.S. dollars or foreign currencies based on the applicable exchange rate at the time of sale.

Pass Through Trusts

We will form a separate pass through trust to issue each series of certificates. Each pass through trust will be formed by us, as creator of each pass through trust, and a national or state bank or trust company, as trustee. Unless otherwise stated in a prospectus supplement, Wilmington Trust Company will be the trustee of each pass through trust. For convenience, we may refer to the pass through trustee as the trustee.

Each pass through trust will be governed by a trust instrument that creates the trust and sets forth the powers of the trustee and the rights of the beneficiaries. The beneficiaries of a pass through trust will be

the holders of certificates issued by that trust. The trust instrument for each pass through trust will consist of a basic pass through trust agreement between us and the pass through trustee, which we refer to as the "Basic Agreement", and a supplement to that basic agreement, which we refer to as a "pass through trust supplement."

When a pass through trust supplement is signed and delivered, the pass through trustee, on behalf of the related pass through trust, will enter into one or more purchase or refunding agreements, typically referred to as "note purchase agreements" or "participation agreements," under which it will agree to purchase one or more promissory notes secured by aircraft described in the applicable prospectus supplement. These secured promissory notes are referred to as "equipment notes."

Under the applicable note purchase agreement or participation agreement, the pass through trustee, on behalf of the related pass through trust, will purchase one or more equipment notes. The equipment notes that are the property of a pass through trust will have:

- identical interest rates, in each case equal to the rate applicable to the certificates issued by such pass through trust; and
- identical priority of payment relative to each of the other equipment notes held for such pass through trust.

If any portion of the proceeds of an offering of a series of certificates is not used to purchase equipment notes on the date the certificates are originally issued, those proceeds will be held for the benefit of the certificateholders. If any of the proceeds are not later used to purchase equipment notes by the date specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the proceeds will be returned to the certificateholders.

Equipment Notes

The equipment notes owned by a pass through trust may consist of any combination of:

- Equipment notes issued by an owner trustee and secured by an aircraft owned by that trustee and leased to us. We refer to these equipment notes as "leased aircraft notes."
- Equipment notes issued by us and secured by an aircraft owned by us. We refer to these equipment notes as "owned aircraft notes."

Leased Aircraft Notes. Except as specified in a prospectus supplement, leased aircraft notes will be issued by a bank, trust company, financial institution or other entity solely in its capacity as owner trustee in a leveraged lease transaction. In a leveraged lease transaction, one or more persons will form an owner trust to acquire an aircraft and then that owner trust will lease the aircraft to us. The investors that are the beneficiaries of the owner trusts are typically referred to as owner participants. Each owner participant will contribute a portion of the purchase price of the aircraft to the owner trust, and the remainder of the purchase price of the aircraft will be financed, or "leveraged", through the issuance of leased aircraft notes. Leased aircraft notes may also be issued to refinance an aircraft previously financed in a leveraged lease transaction or otherwise.

The leased aircraft notes will be issued pursuant to a separate indenture between the owner trustee and a bank, trust company, financial institution or other entity, as loan trustee. The indenture entered into in connection with the issuance of leased aircraft notes will be referred to as a "leased aircraft indenture." The loan trustee under a leased aircraft indenture will act as a trustee for the holders of the leased aircraft notes issued under that leased aircraft indenture.

In a leveraged lease transaction, we will pay or advance rent and other amounts to the owner trustee in its capacity as lessor under the lease. The owner trustee will use the rent payments and certain other amounts received by it to make payments of principal and interest on the leased aircraft notes. The owner trustee also will assign its rights to receive basic rent and certain other payments to a loan trustee as

security for the owner trustee's obligations to pay principal of, premium, if any, and interest on the leased aircraft notes.

Payments or advances required to be made under a lease and related agreements will at all times be sufficient to make scheduled payments of principal of, and interest on, the leased aircraft notes issued to finance the aircraft subject to that lease. However, we will not have any direct obligation to pay principal of, or interest on, the leased aircraft notes. No owner participant or owner trustee will be personally liable for any amount payable under a leased aircraft indenture.

Owned Aircraft Notes. We may finance or refinance aircraft that we own through the issuance of owned aircraft notes. Owned aircraft notes relating to an owned aircraft will be issued under a separate indenture relating to that owned aircraft. Each separate indenture relating to owned aircraft notes will be between us and a bank, trust company, financial institution or other entity, as loan trustee. The indenture entered into in connection with the issuance of owned aircraft notes will be referred to as an "owned aircraft indenture." Because we often refer to owned aircraft indentures and leased aircraft indentures together, we sometimes refer to them collectively as the "indentures". The loan trustee under an owned aircraft indenture will act as a trustee for the holders of the owned aircraft notes issued under that owned aircraft indenture.

Unlike the leased aircraft notes, we will have a direct obligation to pay the principal of, and interest on, the owned aircraft notes.

CONTINENTAL AIRLINES, INC.

We are the world's sixth largest airline (as measured by the number of scheduled miles flown by revenue passengers, known as revenue passenger miles, in 2004). Together with ExpressJet Airlines, Inc. (operating as Continental Express), a wholly-owned subsidiary of ExpressJet Holdings, Inc. from which we purchase seat capacity, and our wholly owned subsidiary, Continental Micronesia, Inc., each a Delaware corporation, we operate more than 2,500 daily departures throughout the Americas, Europe and Asia. As of July 31, 2005, we flew to 131 domestic and 123 international destinations and offered additional connecting service through alliances with domestic and foreign carriers. We directly served 23 European cities, eight South American cities, Tel Aviv, Hong Kong, Beijing and Tokyo as of July 31, 2005. In addition, we provide service to more destinations in Mexico and Central America than any other U.S. airline, serving 41 cities. Through our Guam hub, CMI provides extensive service in the western Pacific, including service to more Japanese cities than any other United States carrier.

We are a Delaware corporation, with executive offices located at 1600 Smith Street, Houston, Texas 77002. Our telephone number is (713) 324-2950.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Except as set forth in a prospectus supplement for a specific offering of certificates, the certificates will be issued in order to provide funds for:

- the financing or refinancing of the debt portion and, in certain cases, the refinancing of some of the equity portion of one or more separate leveraged lease transactions entered into by us, as lessee, with respect to the leased aircraft as described in the applicable prospectus supplement; and
- the financing or refinancing of debt to be issued, or the purchase of debt previously issued, by us in respect of the owned aircraft as described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Except as set forth in a prospectus supplement for a specific offering of certificates, the proceeds from the sale of the certificates will be used by the pass through trustee on behalf of the applicable pass through trust or pass through trusts to purchase either:

- leased aircraft notes issued by one or more owner trustees to finance or refinance, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the related leased aircraft; or
- owned aircraft notes issued by us to finance or refinance, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the related owned aircraft.

If any portion of the proceeds of an offering of a series of certificates is not used to purchase equipment notes on the date the certificates are issued, those proceeds will be held for the benefit of the certificateholders. If any of the proceeds are not later used to purchase equipment notes by the date specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the proceeds will be returned to the certificateholders. See "Description of Certificates — Delayed Purchase of Equipment Notes".

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES

The ratios of our "earnings" to our "fixed charges" for the six months ended June 30, 2005 and for each of the years 2000 through 2004 were:

Six Months Ended		Yea	ar Ended December 31,		
June 30, 2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
(1)	(2)	1.14	(3)	(4)	1.49

(1) For the six months ended June 30, 2005, earnings were not sufficient to cover fixed charges. We would have had to generate additional pre-tax earnings of approximately \$97 million to achieve a ratio of earnings to fixed charges of 1.0.

(2) For the year ended December 31, 2004, earnings were not sufficient to cover fixed charges. We would have had to generate additional pre-tax earnings of approximately \$490 million to achieve a ratio of earnings to fixed charges of 1.0.

- (3) For the year ended December 31, 2002, earnings were not sufficient to cover fixed charges. We would have had to generate additional pre-tax earnings of approximately \$658 million to achieve a ratio of earnings to fixed charges of 1.0.
- (4) For the year ended December 31, 2001, earnings were not sufficient to cover fixed charges. We would have had to generate additional pre-tax earnings of approximately \$161 million to achieve a ratio of earnings to fixed charges of 1.0.

The ratios of earnings to fixed charges are based on continuing operations. For purposes of the ratios, "earnings" means the sum of:

• our pre-tax income (loss) adjusted for undistributed income of companies in which we have a minority equity interest; and

• our fixed charges, net of interest capitalized.

"Fixed charges" represent:

the interest we pay on borrowed funds;

- the amount we amortize for debt discount, premium and issuance expense and interest previously capitalized; and
- that portion of rentals considered to be representative of the interest expense.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CERTIFICATES

The following summary describes the material terms of the certificates that we expect will be common to all series of certificates. We will describe the financial terms and other specific terms of any series of certificates in a prospectus supplement. To the extent that any provision in any prospectus supplement is inconsistent with any provision in this prospectus, the provision of the prospectus supplement will control.

Because the following description is a summary, it does not describe every aspect of the certificates, and it is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to all the provisions of the pass through trust agreement and the applicable supplements to the pass through trust agreement. For convenience, we will refer to the pass through trust agreement between the pass through trustee and us as the "Basic Agreement," and to the Basic Agreement as supplemented by a supplement as a "pass through trust agreement." The form of Basic Agreement has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part. The supplement to the Basic Agreement relating to each series of certificates and the forms of the other agreements described in this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement will be filed as exhibits to a post-effective amendment to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, a Current Report on Form 8-K, a Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q or an Annual Report on Form 10-K, as applicable, filed by us with the SEC.

General

Except as amended by a supplement to the Basic Agreement, the terms of the Basic Agreement generally will apply to all of the pass through trusts that we form to issue certificates. We will create a separate pass through trust for each series of certificates by entering into a separate supplement to the Basic Agreement. Each supplement to the Basic Agreement will contain the additional terms governing the specific pass through trust to which it relates and, to the extent inconsistent with the Basic Agreement, will supersede the Basic Agreement.

Certificates for a pass through trust will be issued pursuant to the pass through trust agreement applicable to such pass through trust. Unless otherwise stated in the applicable prospectus supplement, each pass through certificate will be issued in a minimum denomination of \$1,000 or a multiple of \$1,000, except that one certificate of each series may be issued in a different denomination.

Each certificate will represent a fractional undivided interest in the property of the pass through trust that issued the certificate. All payments and distributions made with respect to a certificate will be made only from the property owned by the pass through trust that issued the certificate. The certificates do not represent an interest in or obligation of Continental, the pass through trustee, any of the owner trustees or loan trustees, in their individual capacities, or any owner participant. Each certificateholder by its acceptance of a certificate agrees to look solely to the income and proceeds from the property of the applicable pass through trust as provided in the pass through trust agreement.

The property of each pass through trust for which a series of certificates will be issued will include:

- the equipment notes held for the pass through trust;
- all monies at any time paid under the equipment notes held for the pass through trust;
- the rights of such pass through trust to acquire equipment notes;
- funds from time to time deposited with the pass through trustee in accounts relating to that pass through trust; and
- if so specified in the relevant prospectus supplement, rights under intercreditor agreements relating to cross-subordination arrangements and monies receivable under a liquidity facility.

The rights of a pass through trustee to receive monies payable under equipment notes held for that pass through trustee may be subject to the effect of subordination provisions contained in an intercreditor agreement described in the prospectus supplement for a series of certificates. An intercreditor agreement

refers to an agreement among the pass through trustees and, if applicable, a liquidity provider under a liquidity facility, as creditors of the issuers of the equipment notes owned by the pass through trustees. An intercreditor agreement will set forth the terms and conditions upon which payments made under the equipment notes and payments made under any liquidity facility will be received, shared and distributed among the several pass through trustees and the liquidity provider. In addition, the intercreditor agreement will set forth agreements among the pass through trustees and the liquidity provider relating to the exercise of remedies under the equipment notes and the indentures.

Cross-subordination refers to an agreement under which payments on a junior class of equipment notes issued under an indenture are distributed to a pass through trustee that holds a senior class of equipment notes issued under a different indenture on which all required payments were not made. The effect of this distribution mechanism is that holders of certificates of a pass through trust that owns a junior class of equipment notes will not receive payments made on that junior class of equipment notes until certain distributions are made on the certificates of the pass through trust that owns a senior class of equipment notes.

Equipment notes owned by a pass through trust may be leased aircraft notes, owned aircraft notes or a combination of leased aircraft notes and owned aircraft notes.

Leased aircraft notes will be issued in connection with the leveraged lease of an aircraft to us. Except as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, each leased aircraft will be leased to us under a lease between us, as lessee, and an owner trustee, as lessor. Each owner trustee will issue leased aircraft notes on a non-recourse basis under a separate leased aircraft indenture between it and the applicable loan trustee. The owner trustee will use the proceeds of the sale of the leased aircraft notes to finance or refinance a portion of the purchase price paid or to be paid by the owner trustee for the applicable leased aircraft. The owner trustee will obtain the remainder of the funding for the leased aircraft from an equity contribution from the owner participant that is the beneficiary of the owner trust and, to the extent set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, additional debt secured by the applicable leased aircraft or other sources. A leased aircraft also may be subject to other financing arrangements.

Generally, neither the owner trustee nor the owner participant will be personally liable for any principal or interest payable under any leased aircraft indenture or any leased aircraft notes. In some cases, an owner participant may be required to make payments to an owner trustee that are to be used by the owner trustee to pay principal of, and interest on, the equipment notes. If an owner participant is required to make payments to be used by an owner trustee to pay principal of, and interest on, the equipment notes and the owner participant fails to make the payment, we will be required to provide the owner trustee with funds sufficient to make the payment. We will be obligated to make payments or advances under a lease and the related documents sufficient to pay when due all scheduled principal and interest payments on the leased aircraft notes issued to finance the aircraft subject to that lease.

We will issue owned aircraft notes under separate owned aircraft indentures. Owned aircraft notes will be issued in connection with the financing or refinancing of an aircraft that we own. Owned aircraft notes will be obligations that have recourse to us and the related aircraft. Any owned aircraft may secure additional debt or be subject to other financing arrangements.

An indenture may provide for the issuance of multiple classes of equipment notes. If an indenture provides for multiple classes of equipment notes, it may also provide for differing priority of payments among the different classes. Equipment notes issued under an indenture may be held in more than one pass through trust, and one pass through trust may hold equipment notes issued under more than one indenture. Unless otherwise provided in a prospectus supplement, only equipment notes having the same priority of payment may be held for the same pass through trust.

Except as set forth in the prospectus supplement for any series of certificates, interest payments on the equipment notes held for a pass through trust will be passed through to the registered holders of certificates of that pass through trust at the annual rate shown on the cover page of the prospectus supplement for the certificates issued by that pass through trust. The certificateholders' right to receive

payments made in respect of the equipment notes is subject to the effect of any cross-subordination provisions described in the prospectus supplement for a series of certificates.

We refer you to the prospectus supplement that accompanies this prospectus for a description of the specific series of certificates being offered by this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, including:

- the specific designation, title and amount of the certificates;
- amounts payable on and distribution dates for the certificates;
- the currency or currencies, including currency units, in which the certificates may be denominated;
- the specific form of the certificates, including whether or not the certificates are to be issued in accordance with a book-entry system;
- a description of the equipment notes to be purchased by the pass through trust issuing that series of certificates, including:
 - the period or periods within which, the price or prices at which, and the terms and conditions upon which the equipment notes may or must be redeemed or defeased in whole or in part, by us or an owner trustee;
 - the payment priority of the equipment notes in relation to any other equipment notes issued with respect to the related aircraft; and
 - any intercreditor or other rights or limitations between or among the holders of equipment notes of different priorities issued with respect to the same aircraft;
- a description of the aircraft to be financed with the proceeds of the issuance of the equipment notes;
- a description of the note purchase agreement or participation agreement setting forth the terms and conditions upon which that pass through trust will purchase equipment notes;
- a description of the indentures under which the equipment notes to be purchased for that pass through trust will be issued;
- a description of the events of default, the remedies exercisable upon the occurrence of events of default and any limitations on the exercise of those remedies under the indentures pursuant to which the equipment notes to be purchased for that pass through trust will be issued;
- if the certificates relate to leased aircraft, a description of the leases to be entered into by the owner trustees and us;
- if the certificates relate to leased aircraft, a description of the provisions of the leased aircraft indentures governing:
 - the rights of the related owner trustee and/or owner participant to cure our failure to pay rent under the leases; and
 - any limitations on the exercise of remedies with respect to the leased aircraft notes;
- if the certificates relate to leased aircraft, a description of the participation agreements that will set forth the terms and conditions upon which the owner participant, the owner trustee, the pass through trustees, the loan trustee and we agree to enter into a leveraged lease transaction;
- if the certificates relate to an owned aircraft, a description of the participation agreements that will set forth the terms and conditions upon which the applicable pass through trustees, the loan trustee and we agree to enter into a financing transaction for the owned aircraft;

- a description of the limitations, if any, on amendments to leases, indentures, pass through trust agreements, participation agreements and other material agreements entered into in connection with the issuance of equipment notes;
- a description of any cross-default provisions in the indentures;
- a description of any cross-collateralization provisions in the indentures;
- a description of any agreement among the holders of equipment notes and any liquidity provider governing the receipt and distribution of monies with respect to the equipment notes and the enforcement of remedies under the indentures, including a description of any applicable intercreditor and cross-subordination arrangements;
- a description of any liquidity facility or other credit enhancement relating to the certificates;
- if the certificates relate to aircraft that have not yet been delivered or financed, a description of any deposit or escrow agreement or other arrangement providing for the deposit and investment of funds pending the purchase of equipment notes and the financing of an owned aircraft or leased aircraft; and
- any other special terms pertaining to the certificates.

The concept of cross-default mentioned above refers to a situation where a default under one indenture or lease results in a default under other indentures or leases. We currently do not expect any indentures or leases to contain cross-default provisions. The concept of cross-collateralization mentioned above refers to the situation where collateral that secures obligations incurred under one indenture also serves as collateral for obligations under one or more other indentures. We currently do not expect any indentures to be cross-collateralized.

Book-Entry Registration

General

If specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the certificates will be subject to the procedures and provisions described below.

Upon issuance, each series of certificates will be represented by one or more fully registered global certificates. Each global certificate will be deposited with, or on behalf of, The Depository Trust Company, referred to as DTC, and registered in the name of Cede & Co., the nominee of DTC. No purchaser of a certificate will be entitled to receive a physical certificate representing an interest in the global certificates, except as set forth below under "— Physical Certificates". For convenience, we refer to such purchasers as "certificate owners". Unless and until physical certificates are issued under the limited circumstances described below, all references in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement to actions by certificateholders will refer to actions taken by DTC upon instructions from DTC participants, and all references to distributions, notices, reports and statements to Certificates, or to DTC participants for distribution to certificateholders in accordance with DTC procedures.

DTC is a limited purpose trust company organized under the laws of the State of New York, a member of the Federal Reserve System, a "clearing corporation" within the meaning of the New York Uniform Commercial Code and "clearing agency" registered pursuant to Section 17A of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Under the New York Uniform Commercial Code, a "clearing corporation" is defined as:

- a person that is registered as a "clearing agency" under the federal securities laws;
- a federal reserve bank; or

• any other person that provides clearance or settlement services with respect to financial assets that would require it to register as a clearing agency under the federal securities laws but for an exclusion or exemption from the registration requirement, if its activities as a clearing corporation, including promulgation of rules, are subject to regulation by a federal or state governmental authority.

A "clearing agency" is an organization established for the execution of trades by transferring funds, assigning deliveries and guaranteeing the performance of the obligations of parties to trades.

DTC was created to hold securities for its participants and to facilitate the clearance and settlement of securities transactions between DTC participants through electronic book-entry changes in the accounts of DTC participants. The ability to execute transactions through book-entry changes in accounts eliminates the need for transfer of physical certificates. DTC is owned by a number of DTC participants and by the New York Stock Exchange, the American Stock Exchange, and the National Association of Securities Dealers. DTC participants include securities brokers and dealers, banks, trust companies, clearing corporations and certain other organizations. Banks, brokers, dealers, trust companies and other entities that clear through or maintain a custodial relationship with a DTC participant, either directly or indirectly, are indirect participants in the DTC system.

Under the rules, regulations and procedures creating and affecting DTC and its operations, DTC is required to make book-entry transfers of the certificates among DTC participants on whose behalf it acts with respect to the certificates and to receive and transmit distributions of principal, premium, if any, and interest with respect to the certificates. DTC participants and indirect DTC participants with which certificate owners have accounts similarly are required to make book-entry transfers and receive and transmit the payments on behalf of their respective customers. Certificate owners that are not DTC participants or indirect DTC participants but desire to purchase, sell or otherwise transfer ownership of, or other interests in, the certificates may do so only through DTC participants and indirect DTC participants. In addition, certificate owners will receive all distributions of principal, premium, if any, and interest from the pass through trustee through DTC participants or indirect DTC participants or indirect DTC participants or indirect DTC participants.

Under a book-entry format, certificate owners may experience some delay in their receipt of payments, because payments with respect to the certificates will be forwarded by the pass through trustee to Cede, as nominee for DTC. DTC will forward payments in same-day funds to each DTC participant who is credited with ownership of the certificates in an amount proportionate to the principal amount of that DTC participant's holdings of beneficial interests in the certificates, as shown on the records of DTC or its nominee. Each such DTC participant will forward payments to its indirect DTC participants in accordance with standing instructions and customary industry practices. DTC participants and indirect DTC participants will be responsible for forwarding distributions to certificate owners for whom they act. Accordingly, although certificate owners will not possess physical certificates, DTC's rules provide a mechanism by which certificate owners will receive payments on the certificates and will be able to transfer their interests.

Unless and until physical certificates are issued under the limited circumstances described below, the only physical certificateholder will be Cede, as nominee of DTC. Certificate owners will not be recognized by the pass through trustee as registered owners of certificates under the pass through trust agreement. Certificate owners will be permitted to exercise their rights under the pass through trust agreement only indirectly through DTC. DTC will take any action permitted to be taken by a certificateholder under the pass through trust agreement only at the direction of one or more DTC participants to whose accounts with DTC the certificates are credited. In the event any action requires approval by certificateholders of a certain percentage of the beneficial interests in a pass through trust, DTC will take action only at the direction of and on behalf of DTC participants whose holdings include undivided interests that satisfy the required percentage. DTC may take conflicting actions with respect to other undivided interests to the extent that the actions are taken on behalf of DTC participants whose holdings include those undivided interests. DTC will convey notices and other communications to DTC participants, and DTC participants will convey notices and other communications to indirect DTC participants in accordance with

arrangements among them. Arrangements among DTC and its direct and indirect participants are subject to any statutory or regulatory requirements as may be in effect from time to time. DTC's rules applicable to itself and DTC participants are on file with the SEC.

A certificate owner's ability to pledge the certificates to persons or entities that do not participate in the DTC system, or otherwise to act with respect to the certificates, may be limited due to the lack of a physical certificate to evidence ownership of the certificates, and because DTC can only act on behalf of DTC participants, who in turn act on behalf of indirect DTC participants.

Neither we nor the pass through trustee will have any liability for any aspect of the records relating to or payments made on account of beneficial ownership interests in the certificates held by Cede, as nominee for DTC, for maintaining, supervising or reviewing any records relating to the beneficial ownership interests or for the performance by DTC, any DTC participant or any indirect DTC participant of their respective obligations under the rules and procedures governing their obligations.

The applicable prospectus supplement will specify any additional book-entry registration procedures applicable to certificates denominated in a currency other than U.S. dollars.

Same-Day Settlement and Payment

As long as the certificates are registered in the name of DTC or its nominee, we will make all payments to the loan trustee under any lease or any owned aircraft indenture in immediately available funds. The pass through trustee will pass through to DTC in immediately available funds all payments received from us, including the final distribution of principal with respect to the certificates of any pass through trust.

Any certificates registered in the name of DTC or its nominee will trade in DTC's Same-Day Funds Settlement System until maturity. DTC will require secondary market trading activity in the certificates to settle in immediately available funds. We cannot give any assurance as to the effect, if any, of settlement in same-day funds on trading activity in the certificates.

Physical Certificates

Physical certificates will be issued in paper form to certificateholders or their nominees, rather than to DTC or its nominee, only if:

- we advise the pass through trustee in writing that DTC is no longer willing or able to discharge properly its responsibilities as depository with respect to the certificates and we are unable to locate a qualified successor;
- we elect to terminate the book-entry system through DTC; or
- after the occurrence of certain events of default or other events specified in the related prospectus supplement, certificateholders owning at least a
 majority in interest in a pass through trust advise the applicable pass through trustee, us and DTC through DTC participants that the continuation of a
 book-entry system through DTC or a successor to DTC is no longer in the certificate owners' best interest.

Upon the occurrence of any of the events described in the three subparagraphs above, the applicable pass through trustee will notify all certificate owners through DTC participants of the availability of physical certificates. Upon surrender by DTC of the global certificates and receipt of instructions for reregistration, the pass through trustee will reissue the certificates as physical certificates to certificate owners.

After physical certificates are issued, the pass through trustee or a paying agent will make distributions of principal, premium, if any, and interest with respect to certificates directly to holders in whose names the physical certificates were registered at the close of business on the applicable record date. Except for the final payment to be made with respect to a certificate, the pass through trustee or a

paying agent will make distributions by check mailed to the addresses of the registered holders as they appear on the register maintained by the pass through trustee. The pass through trustee or a paying agent will make the final payment with respect to any pass through certificate only upon presentation and surrender of the applicable pass through certificate at the office or agency specified in the notice of final distribution to certificateholders.

Physical certificates will be freely transferable and exchangeable at the office of the pass through trustee upon compliance with the requirements set forth in the pass through trust agreement. Neither the pass through trustee nor any transfer or exchange agent will impose a service charge for any registration of transfer or exchange. However, the pass through trustee or transfer or exchange agent will require payment of a sum sufficient to cover any tax or other governmental charge attributable to a transfer or exchange.

Payments and Distributions

Subject to the effect of any cross-subordination provisions set forth in the prospectus supplement for a series of certificates:

- Payments of principal, premium, if any, and interest with respect to the equipment notes held for each pass through trust will be distributed by the pass through trustee, upon receipt, to certificateholders of that trust on the dates and in the currency specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, except in certain cases when some or all of the equipment notes are in default as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Payments of principal of, and interest on, the unpaid principal amount of the equipment notes held in each pass through trust will be scheduled to be received by the pass through trustee on the dates specified in the applicable prospectus supplement.
- Each certificateholder of a pass through trust will be entitled to receive a pro rata share of any distribution in respect of scheduled payments of principal and interest made on the equipment notes held for such pass through trust.

If we elect or are required to redeem equipment notes relating to one or more aircraft prior to their scheduled maturity date, payments of principal, premium (if any) and interest received by the pass through trustee as a result of the early redemption will be distributed on a special distribution date determined as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Payments received by the pass through trustee following a default under the equipment notes held for a pass through trust will also be distributed on a special distribution date determined in the same way. However, if following such a default the pass through trustee receives any scheduled payments on equipment notes on a regular distribution date or within five days thereafter, the pass through trustee will distribute those payments on the date they are received. In addition, if following a default under equipment notes the pass through trustee receives payments on a regular distribution date by making a drawing under any liquidity facility, as described in the applicable prospectus supplement, those payments will be distributed to certificateholders on the regular distribution date. The pass through trustee will mail notice to the certificateholders of record of the applicable pass through trust stating the anticipated special distribution date.

Pool Factors

Unless otherwise described in the applicable prospectus supplement, the "pool balance" for each pass through trust or for the certificates issued by any pass through trust indicates, as of any date, the portion of the original aggregate face amount of the certificates issued by that pass through trust that has not been distributed to certificateholders (excluding any payments of interest or premium). The pool balance for each pass through trust as of any distribution date will be computed after giving effect to any distribution to certificateholders to be made on that date.

Unless otherwise described in the applicable prospectus supplement, the "pool factor" for a pass through trust as of any distribution date for that trust is the quotient (rounded to the seventh decimal



place) computed by dividing (a) the pool balance by (b) the original aggregate face amount of the certificates issued by that pass through trust. The pool factor for a pass through trust as of any distribution date will be computed after giving effect to the payment of principal, if any, on the equipment notes held for that pass through trust and distribution to certificateholders of the payment of principal to be made on that date. Each pass through trust will have a separate pool factor.

The pool factor for a pass through trust initially will be 1.0000000. The pool factor for a pass through trust will decline as described in this prospectus and the related prospectus supplement to reflect reductions in the pool balance of that pass through trust. As of any distribution date for a pass through trust, a certificate will represent a share of the pool balance of that pass through trust equal to the product obtained by multiplying the original face amount of the certificate by the pool factor for the pass through trust that issued such certificate. The pool factor and pool balance of each past through trust will be mailed to the certificateholders of the pass through trust on each distribution date.

The pool factor for each pass through trust will decline in proportion to the scheduled repayments of principal on the equipment notes held by that pass through trust, unless there is an early redemption or purchase of equipment notes held by a pass through trust or if a default occurs in the repayment of equipment notes held by a pass through trust. In the event of a redemption, purchase or default, the pool factor and the pool balance of each pass through trust affected by the redemption, purchase or default will be recomputed, and a notice will be mailed to the certificateholders of the pass through trust.

Reports to Certificateholders

The pass through trustee will include with each distribution of a payment to certificateholders a statement setting forth the following information:

- the amount of the distribution allocable to principal and the amount allocable to premium, if any;
- the amount of the distribution allocable to interest; and
- the pool balance and the pool factor for the pass through trust after giving effect to the distribution.

As long as the certificates are registered in the name of DTC or its nominee, on the record date prior to each distribution date, the pass through trustee will request from DTC a securities position listing setting forth the names of all DTC participants reflected on DTC's books as holding interests in the certificates on that record date. On each distribution date, the applicable pass through trustee will mail to each DTC participant holding certificates the statement described above and will make available additional copies as requested by the DTC participants for forwarding to certificate owners.

After the end of each calendar year, each pass through trustee will prepare a report for each person that was a holder of one or more of its pass through certificates at any time during the preceding calendar year. This report will contain the sum of the amount of distributions allocable to principal, premium and interest with respect to that pass through trust for the preceding calendar year or, if the person was a holder of a pass through certificate during only a portion of the preceding calendar year, for the applicable portion of the preceding calendar year. In addition, each pass through trustee will prepare for each person that was a holder of one or more of its pass through certificates at any time during the preceding calendar year any other information that is readily available to the pass through trustee and which a certificateholder reasonably requests as necessary for the purpose of preparing its federal income tax returns. The reports and other items described in this section will be prepared on the basis of information supplied to the pass through trustee by DTC participants and will be delivered by the pass through trustee to DTC participants to be available for forwarding by DTC participants to certificate owners in the manner described above.

If the certificates of a pass through trust are issued in the form of physical certificates, the pass through trustee of that pass through trust will prepare and deliver the information described above to each record holder of a pass through certificate issued by that pass through trust as the name and period of ownership of the holder appears on the records of the registrar of the certificates.

Voting of Equipment Notes

A pass through trustee has the right to vote and give consents and waivers with respect to the equipment notes held by that pass through trust. However, the pass through trustee's right to vote and give consents or waivers may be restricted or may be exercisable by another person in accordance with the terms of an intercreditor agreement, as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. The pass through trust agreement will set forth:

- the circumstances in which a pass through trustee may direct any action or cast any vote with respect to the equipment notes held for its pass through trust at its own discretion;
- the circumstances in which a pass through trustee will seek instructions from its certificateholders; and
- if applicable, the percentage of certificateholders required to direct the pass through trustee to take action.

If the holders of certificates are entitled to the benefits of a liquidity facility, and the liquidity facility is used to make any payments to certificateholders, the provider of the liquidity facility may be entitled to exercise rights to vote or give consents and waivers with respect to the equipment notes held for the pass through trust that issued the certificates, as described in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Events of Default and Certain Rights Upon an Event of Default

The prospectus supplement will specify the events of default that can occur under the pass through trust agreement and under the indentures relating to the equipment notes held for the related pass through trust. In the case of a leased aircraft indenture, an indenture default will include events of default under the related lease. In the case of any equipment notes that are supported by a liquidity facility, a default may include events of default under that liquidity facility.

Unless otherwise provided in a prospectus supplement, all of the equipment notes issued under the same indenture will relate to a specific aircraft and there will be no cross-collateralization or cross-default provisions in the indentures. As a result, events resulting in a default under any particular indenture will not necessarily result in an a default under any other indenture. If a default occurs in fewer than all of the indentures, payments of principal and interest on the equipment notes issued under the indentures with respect to which a default has not occurred will continue to be made as originally scheduled.

As described below under "— Cross-Subordination Issues", a prospectus supplement may describe the terms of any cross-subordination provisions among certificateholders of separate pass through trusts. If cross-subordination is provided, payments made pursuant to an indenture under which a default has not occurred may be distributed first to the holders of the certificates issued under the pass through trust which holds the most senior equipment notes issued under all of the indentures.

The ability of the applicable owner trustee or owner participant under a leased aircraft indenture to cure a default under the indenture, including a default that results from the occurrence of a default under the related lease, will be described in the prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise provided in a prospectus supplement, with respect to any pass through certificates or equipment notes entitled to the benefits of a liquidity facility, a drawing under the liquidity facility for the purpose of making a payment of interest as a result of our failure to have made a corresponding payment will not cure a default related to our failure.

The prospectus supplement related to a series of pass through certificates will describe the circumstances under which the pass through trustee of the related pass through trust may vote some or all of the equipment notes held in the pass through trust. The prospectus supplement also will set forth the percentage of certificateholders of the pass through trust entitled to direct the pass through trustee to take any action with respect to the equipment notes. If the equipment notes outstanding under an indenture are held by more than one pass through trust, then the ability of the certificateholders issued with respect to any one pass through trust to cause the loan trustee with respect to any equipment notes held in the pass

through trust to accelerate the equipment notes under the applicable indenture or to direct the exercise of remedies by the loan trustee under the applicable indenture will depend, in part, upon the proportion of the aggregate principal amount of the equipment notes outstanding under that indenture and held in that pass through trust to the aggregate principal amount of all equipment notes outstanding under that indenture.

In addition, if cross-subordination provisions are applicable to any series of certificates, then the ability of the certificateholders of any one pass through trust holding equipment notes issued under an indenture to cause the loan trustee with respect to any equipment notes held in that pass through trust to accelerate the equipment notes under that indenture or to direct the exercise of remedies by the loan trustee under that indenture will depend, in part, upon the class of equipment notes held in the pass through trust. If the equipment notes outstanding under an indenture are held by more than one pass through trust, then each pass through trust will hold equipment notes with different terms from the equipment notes held in the other pass through trusts and therefore the certificateholders of each pass through trust may have divergent or conflicting interests from those of the certificateholders of the other pass through trusts holding equipment notes issued under the same indenture. In addition, so long as the same institution acts as pass through trust could for the same reason be faced with a potential conflict of interest upon a default under an indenture. In that event, the pass through trustee has indicated that it would resign as pass through trustee of one or all the pass through trusts, and a successor trustee would be appointed in accordance with the terms of the Basic Agreement.

The prospectus supplement for a series of certificates will specify whether and under what circumstances the pass through trustee may sell for cash to any person all or part of the equipment notes held in the related pass through trust. Any proceeds received by the pass through trustee upon a sale will be deposited in an account established by the pass through trustee for the benefit of the certificateholders of the pass through trust for the deposit of the special payments and will be distributed to the certificateholders of the pass through trust on a special distribution date.

The market for equipment notes in default may be very limited, and we cannot assure you that they could be sold for a reasonable price. Furthermore, so long as the same institution acts as pass through trustee of multiple pass through trusts, it may be faced with a conflict in deciding from which pass through trust to sell equipment notes to available buyers. If the pass through trustee sells any equipment notes with respect to which a default under an indenture exists for less than their outstanding principal amount, the certificateholders of that pass through trust will receive a smaller amount of principal distributions than anticipated and will not have any claim for the shortfall against us, any owner trustee, owner participant or the pass through trustee. Furthermore, neither the pass through trustee nor the certificateholders of that pass through trust could take any action with respect to any remaining equipment notes held in that pass through trust so long as no default under an indenture exists.

Any amount, other than scheduled payments received on a regular distribution date, distributed to the pass through trustee of any pass through trust by the loan trustee under any indenture on account of the equipment notes held in that pass through trust following a default under such indenture will be deposited in the special payments account for that pass through trust and will be distributed to the certificateholders of that pass through trust on a special distribution date. In addition, if a prospectus supplement provides that the applicable owner trustee may, under circumstances specified in the prospectus supplement, redeem or purchase the outstanding equipment notes issued under the applicable indenture, the price paid by the owner trustee to the pass through trustee of any pass through trust for the equipment notes issued under that indenture and held in that pass through trust will be deposited in the special payments account for the pass through trust and will be distributed to the certificateholders of the pass through trust on a special payments account for the pass through trust and will be distributed to the certificateholders of the pass through trust will be deposited in the special payments account for the pass through trust and will be distributed to the certificateholders of the pass through trust on a special distribution date.

Any funds representing payments received with respect to any equipment notes in default held in a pass through trust, or the proceeds from the sale by the pass through trustee of any of those equipment

notes, held by the pass through trustee in the special payments account for that pass through trust will, to the extent practicable, be invested and reinvested by the pass through trustee in permitted investments pending the distribution of the funds on a special distribution date. Permitted investments will be specified in the related prospectus supplement.

The Basic Agreement provides that the pass through trustee of each pass through trust will give to the certificateholders of that pass through trust notice of all uncured or unwaived defaults known to it with respect to that pass through trust. The Basic Agreement requires the pass through trustee to provide the notice of default within 90 days after the occurrence of the default. However, except in the case of default in the payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest on any of the equipment notes held for a pass through trust, the pass through trustee will be protected in withholding a notice of default if it in good faith determines that withholding the notice is in the interest of the certificateholders of such pass through trust. The term "default" as used in this paragraph means only the occurrence of a default under an indenture with respect to equipment notes held in a pass through trust as described above, except that in determining whether any default under an indenture has occurred, any related grace period or notice will be disregarded.

The Basic Agreement requires the pass through trustee to act with a specified standard of care while a default is continuing under an indenture. In addition, the Basic Agreement contains a provision entitling the pass through trustee to require reasonable security or indemnification by the certificateholders of the pass through trust before proceeding to exercise any right or power under the Basic Agreement at the request of those certificateholders.

The prospectus supplement for a series of certificates will specify the percentage of certificateholders entitled to waive, or to instruct the pass through trustee to waive, any past default with respect to the related pass through trust and its consequences. The prospectus supplement for a series of certificates also will specify the percentage of certificateholders entitled to waive, or to instruct the pass through trustee or the loan trustee to waive, any past default under an indenture.

Merger, Consolidation and Transfer of Assets

We will be prohibited from consolidating with or merging into any other corporation or transferring substantially all of our assets as an entirety to any other corporation unless the surviving, successor or transferee corporation:

- is validly existing under the laws of the United States or any of its states;
- is a citizen of the United States, as defined in Title 49 of the U.S. Code relating to aviation, referred to as the "Transportation Code," holding an air carrier operating certificate issued pursuant to Chapter 447 of Title 49, U.S. Code, if, and so long as, that status is a condition of entitlement to the benefits of Section 1110 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code relating to the rights of creditors of an airline in the event of the airline's bankruptcy; and
- expressly assumes all of our obligations contained in the Basic Agreement and any pass through trust supplement, the note purchase agreements, any indentures, any participation agreements and, with respect to aircraft leased by us, the applicable leases.

In addition, we will be required to deliver a certificate and an opinion or opinions of counsel indicating that the transaction, in effect, complies with these conditions.

Modifications of the Basic Agreement

The Basic Agreement contains provisions permitting us and the pass through trustee of each pass through trust to enter into a supplemental trust agreement, without the consent of the holders of any of the certificates issued by such pass through trust, in order to do the following, among other things:

• to provide for the formation of such pass through trust and the issuance of a series of certificates and to set forth the terms of the certificates;

Table of Contents

- to evidence the succession of another corporation to us and the assumption by that corporation of our obligations under the Basic Agreement and the pass through trust agreements;
- to add to our covenants for the benefit of holders of such certificates, or to surrender any right or power in the Basic Agreement conferred upon us;
- to cure any ambiguity or correct or supplement any defective or inconsistent provision of the Basic Agreement or any pass through trust agreement, so long as those changes will not materially adversely affect the interests of the holders of such certificates, or to cure any ambiguity or correct any mistake or, to give effect to or provide for replacement liquidity facilities, if applicable, to such certificates;
- to comply with any requirement of the SEC, any applicable law, rules or regulations of any exchange or quotation system on which any certificates may be listed or of any regulatory body;
- to modify, eliminate or add to the provisions of the Basic Agreement to the extent necessary to continue the qualification of the pass through trust agreement under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, and to add to the Basic Agreement other provisions as may be expressly permitted by the Trust Indenture Act;
- to provide for a successor pass through trustee or to add to or change any provision of the Basic Agreement as necessary to facilitate the administration of the pass through trusts created under the pass through trust agreement by more than one pass through trustee; and
- to make any other amendments or modifications to the Basic Agreement so long as those amendments or modifications apply only to certificates of a series issued after the date of the amendment or modification.

No pass through trust supplement may be made that will adversely affect the status of any pass through trust as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

The Basic Agreement also contains provisions permitting us and the pass through trustee of each pass through trust, with the consent of a majority in interest of the certificateholders of the pass through trust, to execute supplemental trust agreements adding any provisions to or changing or eliminating any of the provisions of the Basic Agreement, to the extent relating to that pass through trust, and the applicable pass through trust supplement, or modifying the rights of the certificateholders, except that no supplement may, without the consent of each affected certificateholder:

- reduce in any manner the amount of, or delay the timing of, any receipt by the pass through trustee of payments on the equipment notes held in the pass through trust or distributions in respect of any pass through certificate issued by the pass through trust;
- change the date or place of any payment in respect of any pass through certificate, or make distributions payable in currency other than that provided for in the certificates, or impair the right of any certificateholder to institute suit for the enforcement of any payment when due;
- permit the disposition of any equipment note held in the pass through trust, except as provided in the pass through trust agreement, or otherwise deprive any certificateholder of the benefit of the ownership of the applicable equipment note;
- reduce the percentage of the aggregate fractional undivided interests of the pass through trust that is required in order for any supplement or waiver to be approved;
- modify any of the provisions relating to the rights of the certificateholders in respect of the waiver of events of default or receipt of payment;
- alter the priority of distributions described in any applicable intercreditor agreement, in a manner materially adverse to the interests of the certificateholders of such pass through trust; or

• adversely affect the status of any pass through trust as a grantor trust for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Modification of Indenture and Related Agreements

The prospectus supplement will specify the pass through trustee's obligations if a pass through trustee, as the holder of any equipment notes held for a pass through trust, receives a request for its consent to any amendment, modification or waiver under the indenture under which the equipment notes were issued, under the lease relating to the aircraft leased by us that was financed with the proceeds of the equipment notes or under any liquidity facility.

Cross-Subordination Issues

The equipment notes issued under an indenture may be held in more than one pass through trust, and one pass through trust may hold equipment notes issued under more than one indenture. Unless otherwise provided in a prospectus supplement, only equipment notes having the same priority for distributions under the applicable indenture may be held in the same pass through trust. In that event, payments made on account of a subordinate class of certificates issued under a prospectus supplement may be subordinated, under circumstances described in the prospectus supplement, to the prior payment of all amounts owing to certificateholders of a pass through trust which holds senior equipment notes issued under the applicable indentures. The prospectus supplement related to an issuance of certificates will describe the "cross-subordination" provisions and any related terms, including the percentage of certificateholders under any pass through trust which are permitted to:

- grant waivers of defaults under any applicable indenture;
- consent to the amendment or modification of any applicable indenture; or
- direct the exercise of remedial actions under any applicable indenture.

Termination of the Pass Through Trusts

Our obligations and those of the pass through trustee with respect to a pass through trust will terminate upon the distribution to certificateholders of the pass through trust of all amounts required to be distributed to them pursuant to the applicable pass through trust agreement and the disposition of all property held in the pass through trust. In no event will any pass through trust continue beyond 110 years following the date of the execution of the applicable pass through trust supplement, or any other final expiration date as may be specified in the pass through trust supplement. The pass through trustee will send to each certificateholder of record of the pass through trust notice of the termination of the pass through trust, the amount of the proposed final payment and the proposed date for the distribution of the final payment for the pass through trust. The final distribution to any certificateholder of the pass through trust will be made only upon surrender of that certificateholder's certificates at the office or agency of the pass through trustee specified in the notice of termination.

Delayed Purchase of Equipment Notes

On the issuance date of any certificates, if all of the proceeds from the sale of the certificates are not used to purchase the equipment notes contemplated to be held in the related pass through trust, the equipment notes may be purchased by the pass through trustee at any time on or prior to the date specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. In that event, the proceeds from the sale of the certificates not used to purchase equipment notes will be held under an arrangement described in the applicable prospectus supplement pending the purchase of equipment notes. The arrangements with respect to the payment of interest on funds so held will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. If any proceeds are not used to purchase equipment notes by the date specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the proceeds will be returned to the certificateholders.

Liquidity Facility

The related prospectus supplement may provide that one or more payments of interest on the certificates of one or more series will be supported by a liquidity facility issued by an institution identified in the related prospectus supplement. The provider of the liquidity facility may have a claim on money and property belonging to a pass through trust that is senior to the certificateholders' as specified in the related prospectus supplement.

The Pass Through Trustee

Unless otherwise provided in the prospectus supplement for any series of certificates, the pass through trustee for each series of certificates will be Wilmington Trust Company. With certain exceptions, the pass through trustee makes no representations as to the validity or sufficiency of the Basic Agreement, the pass through trust supplements, the certificates, the equipment notes, the indentures, the leases or other related documents. The pass through trustee will not be liable with respect to any series of certificates for any action taken or omitted to be taken by it in good faith in accordance with the direction of the holders of a majority in principal amount of outstanding certificates of that series issued under the Basic Agreement. Subject to those provisions, the pass through trustee will be under no obligation to exercise any of its rights or powers under the Basic Agreement at the request of any holders of certificates issued under that agreement unless they will have offered to the pass through trustee indemnity satisfactory to it. The Basic Agreement provides that the pass through trustee in its individual or any other capacity may acquire and hold certificates and, subject to certain conditions, may otherwise deal with us and, with respect to the leased aircraft, with any owner trustee with the same rights it would have if it were not the pass through trustee.

The pass through trustee may resign with respect to any or all of the pass through trusts at any time, in which event we will be obligated to appoint a successor trustee. If the pass through trustee ceases to be eligible to continue as pass through trustee with respect to a pass through trust or becomes incapable of acting as pass through trustee or becomes insolvent, we may remove the pass through trustee, or any certificateholder of the pass through trust for at least six months may, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, petition any court of competent jurisdiction for the removal of the pass through trustee and the appointment of a successor trustee. Any resignation or removal of the pass through trustee with respect to a pass through trust and appointment of a successor trustee for the pass through trust does not become effective until acceptance of the appointment by the successor trustee. Pursuant to the resignation and successor trustee provisions, it is possible that a different trustee could be appointed to act as the successor trustee with respect to each pass through trust. All references in this prospectus to the pass through trustee should be read to take into account the possibility that the pass through trusts could have different successor trustees in the event of a resignation or removal.

The Basic Agreement provides that we will pay the pass through trustee's fees and expenses and indemnify the pass through trustee against certain liabilities.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EQUIPMENT NOTES

The statements made under this caption are summaries, and we refer you to the entire prospectus and detailed information appearing in the applicable prospectus supplement. Where no distinction is made between the leased aircraft notes and the owned aircraft notes or between their respective indentures, those statements refer to any equipment notes and any indenture.

To the extent that any provision in any prospectus supplement is inconsistent with any provision in this summary, the provision of the prospectus supplement will control.

General

The equipment notes will be issued under indentures. Equipment notes secured by an aircraft that is leased to us will be issued under an indenture between an owner trustee and a loan trustee. Equipment

notes secured by an aircraft that is owned by us will be issued under an indenture between a loan trustee and us.

The leased aircraft notes will be non-recourse obligations of the applicable owner trustee. All of the leased aircraft notes issued under the same indenture will relate to and will be secured by one or more specific aircraft leased to us. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, leased aircraft notes will not be secured by any other aircraft.

We will be the issuer of owned aircraft notes. The owned aircraft notes will be our direct recourse obligations. All of the owned aircraft notes issued under the same indenture will relate to, and will be secured by, one or more specific aircraft that we own. Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the owned aircraft notes will not be secured by any other aircraft.

Principal and Interest Payments

Interest received by the pass through trustee on the equipment notes held in a pass through trust will be passed through to the certificateholders of that pass through trust on the dates and at the annual rate set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement until the final distribution for that pass through trust. Principal payments received by the pass through trustee on the equipment notes held in a pass through trust will be passed through to the certificateholders of that pass through trust in scheduled amounts on the dates set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement until the final distribution date for that pass through trust.

If any date scheduled for any payment of principal, premium, if any, or interest with respect to the equipment notes is not a business day, the payment will be made on the next succeeding business day without any additional interest.

Redemption

The applicable prospectus supplement will describe the circumstances, whether voluntary or involuntary, under which the equipment notes may be redeemed or purchased prior to their stated maturity date, in whole or in part. The prospectus supplement will also describe the premium, if any, applicable upon redemptions or purchases and other terms applying to the redemptions or purchases of the equipment notes.

Security

The leased aircraft notes will be secured by:

- an assignment by the related owner trustee to the related loan trustee of the owner trustee's rights, except for certain rights described below, under the lease or leases with respect to the related aircraft, including the right to receive payments of rent under those leases; and
- a mortgage granted to the loan trustee on the aircraft, subject to our rights under the lease or leases.

Under the terms of each lease, our obligations in respect of each leased aircraft will be those of a lessee under a "net lease". Accordingly, we will be obligated, among other things and at our expense, to cause each leased aircraft to be duly registered, to pay all costs of operating the aircraft and to maintain, service, repair and overhaul the aircraft or cause it to be maintained, serviced, repaired and overhauled. With respect to the leased aircraft, the assignment by the related owner trustee to the related loan trustee of its rights under the related lease will exclude, among other things:

• rights of the owner trustee and the related owner participant relating to indemnification by us for certain matters;

- insurance proceeds payable to the owner trustee in its individual capacity and to the owner participant under liability insurance maintained by us pursuant to the lease or by the owner trustee or the owner participant;
- insurance proceeds payable to the owner trustee in its individual capacity or to the owner participant under certain casualty insurance maintained by the owner trustee or the owner participant pursuant to the lease; and
- any rights of the owner participant or the owner trustee to enforce payment of the foregoing amounts and their respective rights to the proceeds of the foregoing.

The owned aircraft notes will be secured by a mortgage granted to the related loan trustee of all of our right, title and interest in and to the owned aircraft. Under the terms of each owned aircraft indenture, we will be obligated, among other things and at our expense, to cause each owned aircraft to be duly registered, to pay all costs of operating the aircraft and to maintain, service, repair and overhaul the aircraft or cause it to be maintained, serviced, repaired and overhauled.

We will be required, except under certain circumstances, to keep each aircraft registered under the Transportation Code, and to record the indenture and the lease, if applicable, among other documents, with respect to each aircraft under the Transportation Code. Recordation of the indenture, the lease, if applicable, and other documents with respect to each aircraft will give the related loan trustee a perfected security interest in the related aircraft whenever it is located in the United States or any of its territories and possessions. The Convention on the International Recognition of Rights in Aircraft, referred to as the "Convention," provides that this security interest will also be recognized, with certain limited exceptions, in those jurisdictions that have ratified or adhere to the Convention.

We will have the right, subject to certain conditions, at our own expense to register each aircraft in countries other than the United States. Each aircraft may also be operated by us or under lease, sublease or interchange arrangements in countries that are not parties to the Convention. The extent to which the related loan trustee's security interest would be recognized in an aircraft located in a country that is not a party to the Convention, and the extent to which the security interest would be recognized in a directaft to the Convention if the aircraft is registered in a jurisdiction not a party to the Convention, is uncertain. Moreover, in the case of a default under an indenture, the ability of the related loan trustee to realize upon its security interest in an aircraft could be adversely affected as a legal or practical matter if the aircraft were registered or located outside the United States.

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, the equipment notes will not be cross-collateralized. Consequently, the equipment notes issued in respect of any one aircraft will not be secured by any other aircraft. Unless and until a default under an indenture with respect to a leased aircraft has occurred and is continuing, the related loan trustee may exercise only limited rights of the related owner trustee under the related lease.

The loan trustee will invest and reinvest funds, if any, held by it from time to time under an indenture. The loan trustee will, at our direction, invest and reinvest funds in certain investments described in the applicable indenture. We will not be entitled to direct the loan trustee to invest and reinvest funds with respect to a leased aircraft in the case of a default under the applicable lease or, with respect to an owned aircraft, in the case of a default under the applicable indenture. We will pay the net amount of any loss resulting from these investments.

In the case of Chapter 11 bankruptcy proceedings involving a holder of "equipment" (defined as described below), Section 1110 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code provides special rights to lessors, conditional vendors and holders of security interests with respect to such equipment. Under Section 1110, the right of such financing parties to take possession of such equipment in compliance with the provisions of a lease, conditional sale contract or security agreement is not affected by any provision of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code or any power of the bankruptcy court. Ordinarily, such right would be limited by the "automatic stay" under the Bankruptcy Code. Such right to take possession may not be exercised for 60 days following the date of commencement of the reorganization proceedings. Thereafter, such right to take possession may be exercised during such proceedings unless, within the 60-day period or any longer period consented to by the relevant parties, the debtor agrees to perform its obligations that become due on or after that date and cures all defaults on a timely basis. Defaults resulting solely from the financial condition, bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of the debtor need not be cured.

"Equipment" is defined in Section 1110 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, in part, as an aircraft, aircraft engine, propeller, appliance, or spare part (as defined in Section 40102 of Title 49 of the U.S. Code) that is subject to a security interest granted by, leased to, or conditionally sold to a debtor that, at the time such transaction is entered into, holds an air carrier operating certificate issued pursuant to chapter 447 of title 49 of the U.S. Code for aircraft capable of carrying 10 or more individuals or 6,000 pounds of more of cargo (subject to certain limitations in the case of equipment first placed in service on or prior to October 22, 1994).

In connection with any issuance of certificates under this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement, it will be a condition to the pass through trustee's obligation to purchase equipment notes with respect to each aircraft that our outside counsel provide its opinion (which may assume that we hold, at the time of the lease or mortgage, as the case may be, an air carrier operating certificate issued pursuant to chapter 447 of title 49 of the U.S. Code for aircraft capable of carrying 10 or more individuals or 6,000 pounds or more of cargo) to the Pass Through Trustee that:

- if the aircraft is a leased aircraft, the owner trustee, as lessor under the lease for the aircraft, and the loan trustee, as assignee of the owner trustee's rights under the lease pursuant to the applicable indenture, will be entitled to the benefits of Section 1110 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code with respect to the airframe and engines comprising the aircraft; or
- if the aircraft is an owned aircraft, the loan trustee will be entitled to the benefits of Section 1110 with respect to the airframe and engines comprising the owned aircraft.

The opinion will not address the possible replacement of an aircraft after an "Event of Loss", as defined in the applicable indenture, in the future.

Ranking of Equipment Notes

Some of the equipment notes related to one or more aircraft, as described in the related prospectus supplement, may be subordinated and junior in right of payment to other equipment notes related to the same aircraft. The terms of the subordination, if any, will be described in the related prospectus supplement.

Payments and Limitation of Liability

We will lease each leased aircraft from an owner trustee for a term commencing on the delivery date of the aircraft to the owner trustee and expiring on a date no earlier than the latest maturity date of the related leased aircraft notes, unless previously terminated as permitted by the terms of the related lease. We will make basic rent and other payments under each lease to an owner trustee, as lessor. The owner trustee will assign these payments under the applicable indenture to the related loan trustee to provide the funds necessary to pay principal of, premium, if any, and interest due from the owner trustee on the leased aircraft notes issued under the indenture. Each lease will provide that under no circumstances will our rent payments be less than the scheduled payments on the related leased aircraft notes. The balance of any basic rent payment under each lease, after payment of amounts due on the leased aircraft notes issued under the indenture corresponding to the lease, will be paid over to the applicable owner trustee. Our obligation to pay rent and to cause other payments to be made under each lease will be our direct obligation.

Except in circumstances in which we purchase a leased aircraft and assume the related leased aircraft notes, the leased aircraft notes will not be our direct obligation. None of the owner trustees, the owner participants or the loan trustees will be personally liable to any holder of leased aircraft notes for amounts payable under the leased aircraft notes. Except as provided in the indentures relating to the leased aircraft

notes, no owner trustee or loan trustee will be liable for or incur any liability under the indentures. Except in the circumstances described above, all amounts payable under any leased aircraft notes, other than payments made in connection with an optional redemption or purchase by the related owner trustee or the related owner participant, will be made only from:

- the assets subject to the lien of the applicable indenture with respect to the aircraft or the income and proceeds received by the related loan trustee from that aircraft, including rent payable by us under the related lease; or
- if so provided in the related prospectus supplement, the applicable liquidity facility.

With respect to the leased aircraft notes, except as otherwise provided in the applicable indenture, no owner trustee will be personally liable for any amount payable or for any statements, representations, warranties, agreements or obligations under any indenture or under any leased aircraft notes. None of the owner participants will have any duty or responsibility under the leased aircraft indentures or under the leased aircraft notes to the related loan trustee or to any holder of any leased aircraft note.

Our obligations under each owned aircraft indenture and under the owned aircraft notes will be our direct obligations.

Defeasance of the Indentures and the Equipment Notes in Certain Circumstances

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, an indenture may provide that the obligations of the related loan trustee, the related owner trustee or us, as the case may be, under that indenture will be deemed to have been discharged and paid in full on the 91st day after the date that money or certain United States government securities, in an aggregate amount sufficient to pay when due (including as a consequence of redemption in respect of which notice is given on or prior to the date of the deposit) principal, premium, if any, and interest on all equipment notes issued under that indenture, are irrevocably deposited with the related loan trustee. The discharge may occur only if, among other things, there has been published by the IRS a ruling to the effect that holders of the equipment notes will not recognize income, gain or loss for federal income tax purposes as a result of the deposit, defeasance and discharge and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amount and in the same manner and at the same time as would have been the case if the deposit, defeasance and discharge had not occurred.

Upon defeasance of the equipment notes, or upon payment in full of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on all equipment notes issued under any indenture on the applicable maturity date, or upon deposit with the applicable loan trustee of sufficient money no earlier than one year prior to the date of maturity, the holders of the equipment notes will have no beneficial interest in or other rights with respect to the related aircraft or other assets subject to the lien of the indenture and the lien will terminate.

Assumption of Obligations by Continental

Unless otherwise specified in the applicable prospectus supplement, upon our purchase of any leased aircraft prior to the end of the applicable term, we may assume on a full recourse basis all of the obligations of the owner trustee, other than its obligations in its individual capacity, under the indenture and the leased aircraft notes relating to that lease. If we assume leased aircraft notes, provisions relating to maintenance, possession and use of the related aircraft, liens and insurance will be incorporated into the indenture. If we assume leased aircraft notes in connection with our purchase of a leased aircraft, leased aircraft notes issued under the indenture will not be redeemed and will continue to be secured by the aircraft.

Liquidity Facility

The related prospectus supplement may provide that one or more payments of interest on the related equipment notes of one or more series will be supported by a liquidity facility issued by an institution identified in the related prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise provided in the related prospectus

Table of Contents

supplement, the provider of the liquidity facility will have a claim upon the assets securing the equipment notes senior to the claim of the pass through trustee, as owner of the equipment notes.

Intercreditor Issues

Equipment notes may be issued in different classes, which means that the equipment notes may have different payment priorities even though they are issued by the same borrower and relate to the same aircraft. If multiple classes of equipment notes are issued, the related prospectus supplement will describe the priority of distributions among the equipment notes, any liquidity facilities, the ability of any class to exercise and/or enforce any or all remedies with respect to the related aircraft, and, if the equipment notes are leased aircraft notes, the related lease, and certain other intercreditor terms and provisions.

U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAX MATTERS

General

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the following summary describes all material generally applicable U.S. federal income tax consequences to certificateholders of the purchase, ownership and disposition of the certificates offered by this prospectus, and in the opinion of Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP, our special tax counsel, is accurate in all material respects with respect to the matters discussed in this prospectus. Except as otherwise specified, the summary is addressed to beneficial owners of certificates that are citizens or residents of the United States, corporations created or organized in or under the laws of the United States or any state therein, estates the income of which is subject to U.S. federal income taxation regardless of its source or trusts that meet the following two tests: (1) a U.S. court is able to exercise primary supervision over the administration of the trust and (2) one or more U.S. fiduciaries have the authority to control all substantial decisions of the trust, and that will hold the certificates as capital assets.

This summary does not address the tax treatment of U.S. certificateholders that may be subject to special tax rules, such as banks, insurance companies, dealers in securities or commodities, partnerships, holders subject to the mark-to-market rules, tax-exempt entities, holders that will hold certificates as part of a straddle or holders that have a "functional currency" other than the U.S. dollar, nor, except as specifically indicated, does it address the tax treatment of U.S. certificateholders that do not acquire certificates at the public offering price as part of the initial offering. The summary is not a comprehensive description of all of the tax considerations that may be relevant to a decision to purchase certificates. This summary does not describe any tax consequences arising under the laws of any state, locality or taxing jurisdiction other than the United States, nor does it describe any estate or gift tax consequences.

The summary is based upon the tax laws and practice of the United States as in effect on the date of this prospectus, as well as judicial and administrative interpretations, in final or proposed form, available on or before that date. All of the foregoing are subject to change, which change could apply retroactively and could alter the tax consequences discussed below. We have not sought any ruling from the IRS with respect to the tax consequences, described below, and we cannot assure you that the IRS will not take contrary positions. The pass through trusts are not indemnified for any federal income taxes that may be imposed upon them, and the imposition of any such taxes on a pass through trust could result in a reduction in the amounts available for distribution to the certificateholders of that pass through trust. **Prospective investors should consult their own tax advisors with respect to the federal, state, local and foreign tax consequences to them of the purchase, ownership and disposition of the certificates.**

Tax Status of the Pass Through Trusts

In the opinion of our special tax counsel, each pass through trust will be classified as a grantor trust and not as an association taxable as a corporation for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

Taxation of Certificateholders General

A U.S. certificateholder will be treated as owning its pro rata undivided interest in each of the equipment notes and any other property held by the related pass through trust. Accordingly, each U.S. certificateholder's share of interest paid on the equipment notes will be taxable as ordinary income, as it is paid or accrued, in accordance with such U.S. certificateholder's method of accounting for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and a U.S. certificateholder's share of any premium paid on redemption of an equipment note will be treated as capital gain. If a pass through trust is supported by a liquidity facility, any amounts received by the pass through trust under the liquidity facility with respect to unpaid interest will be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as having the same characteristics as the payments they replace. If we assume an owner trust's obligations under leased aircraft notes, the assumption would be treated for federal income tax purposes as a taxable exchange of the leased aircraft notes, resulting in recognition of gain or loss by the U.S. certificateholder.

Each U.S. certificateholder will be entitled to deduct, consistent with its method of accounting, its pro rata share of fees and expenses paid or incurred by the corresponding pass through trust as provided in Section 162 or 212 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, referred to herein as the "Code". Certain fees and expenses, including fees paid to the pass through trustee and the provider of the liquidity facility, if applicable, will be paid by parties other than the certificateholders. These fees and expenses could be treated as constructively received by the pass through trust, in which event a U.S. certificateholder will be required to include in income and will be entitled to deduct its pro rata share of the fees and expenses. If a U.S. certificateholder is an individual, estate or trust, the deduction for the certificateholder's share of fees or expenses will be allowed only to the extent that all of the certificateholder's miscellaneous itemized deductions, including the certificateholder's share of fees and expenses, exceed 2% of the certificateholder's adjusted gross income. In addition, in the case of U.S. certificateholders who are individuals, certain otherwise allowable itemized deductions will be subject generally to additional limitations on itemized deductions under applicable provisions of the Code.

Effect of Subordination of Certificateholders of Subordinated Trusts

If any pass through trust is subordinated in right of payment to any other pass through trust and the subordinated trust receives less than the full amount of the interest, principal or premium paid with respect to the equipment notes held by it because of the subordination of such pass through trust, the certificateholders of the subordinated trust would probably be treated for federal income tax purposes as if they had:

- received as distributions their full share of interest, principal, or premium;
- paid over to the preferred class of certificateholders an amount equal to their share of the amount of the shortfall; and
- retained the right to reimbursement of the amount of the shortfall to the extent of future amounts payable to the certificateholders of the subordinated trust on account of the shortfall.

Under this analysis:

- subordinated certificateholders incurring a shortfall would be required to include as current income any interest or other income of the subordinated trust that was a component of the shortfall, even though that amount was in fact paid to a preferred class of certificateholders;
- a loss would only be allowed to subordinated certificateholders when their right to receive reimbursement of the shortfall becomes worthless; that is, when it becomes clear that funds will not be available from any source to reimburse the shortfall; and
- reimbursement of the shortfall before a claim of worthlessness would not be taxable income to certificateholders because the amount reimbursed would have been previously included in income.

These results should not significantly affect the inclusion of income for certificateholders on the accrual method of accounting, but could accelerate inclusion of income to certificateholders on the cash method of accounting by, in effect, placing them on the accrual method.



Original Issue Discount

The equipment notes may be issued with original issue discount, referred to as OID. The prospectus supplement will state whether any equipment notes to be held by the related pass through trust will be issued with OID. Generally, a holder of a debt instrument issued with OID that exceeds a statutorily defined de minimis amount must include the OID in income for federal income tax purposes as it accrues, in advance of the receipt of the cash attributable to such income, under a method that takes into account the compounding of interest.

Sale or Other Disposition of the Certificates

Upon the sale, exchange or other disposition of a certificate, a U.S. certificateholder generally will recognize capital gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized on the disposition, other than any amount attributable to accrued interest which will be taxable as ordinary income, and the U.S. certificateholder's adjusted tax basis in the related equipment notes and any other property held by the corresponding pass through trust. Any gain or loss will be long-term capital gain or loss to the extent attributable to property held by the pass through trust for more than one year. In the case of individuals, estates, and trusts, the maximum rate of tax on net long-term capital gains is currently 15%. After December 31, 2008, the maximum rate is scheduled to return to the previous maximum rate of 20%.

Foreign Certificateholders

Subject to the discussion of backup withholding below, payments of principal and interest (including any OID) on the equipment notes to, or on behalf of, any beneficial owner of a certificate that is for U.S. federal income tax purposes a nonresident alien (other than certain former United States citizens or residents), foreign corporation, foreign trust, or foreign estate (a "non-U.S. certificateholder") will not be subject to U.S. federal withholding tax provided that:

- the non-U.S. certificateholder does not actually or constructively own 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of an owner participant or us;
- the non-U.S. certificateholder is not a bank receiving interest pursuant to a loan agreement entered into in the ordinary course of its trade or business, or a controlled foreign corporation for U.S. tax purposes that is related to an owner participant or us; and
- certain certification requirements (including identification of the beneficial owner of the certificate) are complied with.

Any capital gain realized upon the sale, exchange, retirement or other disposition of a certificate or upon receipt of premium paid on an equipment note by a non-U.S. certificateholder will not be subject to U.S. federal income or withholding taxes if (i) such gain is not effectively connected with a U.S. trade or business of the non-U.S. certificateholder and (ii) in the case of an individual, such non-U.S. certificateholder is not present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of the sale, exchange, retirement or other disposition or receipt.

Backup Withholding

Payments made on the certificates will not be subject to a backup withholding tax unless, in general, the certificateholder fails to comply with certain reporting procedures or otherwise fails to establish an exemption from such tax under applicable provisions of the Code. Currently, the backup withholding tax rate is 28%.

ERISA CONSIDERATIONS

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the certificates may, subject to certain legal restrictions, be purchased and held by an employee benefit plan subject to Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended, referred to as "ERISA," or an individual

retirement account or an employee benefit plan subject to section 4975 of the Code. A fiduciary of an employee benefit plan must determine that the purchase and holding of a certificate is consistent with its fiduciary duties under ERISA and does not result in a non-exempt prohibited transaction as defined in section 406 of ERISA or section 4975 of the Code. Employee benefit plans which are governmental plans, as defined in section 3(32) of ERISA, and certain church plans, as defined in section 3(33) of ERISA, are not subject to Title I of ERISA or section 4975 of the Code. The certificates may, subject to certain legal restrictions, be purchased and held by such plans.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

Certificates may be sold to one or more underwriters for public offering and resale by them. Certificates may also be sold to investors or other persons directly or through one or more dealers or agents. Any underwriter, dealer or agent involved in the offer and sale of the certificates will be named in an applicable prospectus supplement.

The certificates may be sold:

- at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed;
- at market prices prevailing at the time of sale;
- at prices related to prevailing market prices; or
- at negotiated prices.

Dealer trading may take place in certain of the certificates, including certificates not listed on any securities exchange. We do not intend to apply for listing of the certificates on a national securities exchange. From time to time, we also may authorize underwriters acting as our agents to offer and sell the certificates upon the terms and conditions as will be set forth in any prospectus supplement.

In connection with the sale of certificates, underwriters may be deemed to have received compensation from us in the form of underwriting discounts or commissions and may also receive commissions from purchasers of certificates for whom they may act as agent. Underwriters may sell certificates to or through dealers, and those dealers may receive compensation in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions from the underwriters and/or commissions, which may be changed from time to time, from the purchasers for whom they may act as agent.

If a dealer is used directly by us in the sale of certificates in respect of which this prospectus is delivered, we will sell the certificates to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell the certificates to the public at varying prices to be determined by the dealer at the time of resale. The dealer will be named in, and the terms of the sale, will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

Certificates may be offered and sold through agents designated by us from time to time. The agent involved in the offer or sale of the certificates will be named in, and any commissions payable by us to the agent will be set forth in, the applicable prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the agent will be acting on a best efforts basis for the period of its appointment.

We may solicit directly offers to purchase certificates, and certificates may be sold directly to institutional investors or others who may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act with respect to any resale. The terms of these sales will be described in the applicable prospectus supplement. Except as set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement, no director, officer or employee of ours will solicit or receive a commission in connection with direct sales by us of the certificates, although those persons may respond to inquiries by potential purchasers and perform ministerial and clerical work in connection with our direct sales.

Any underwriting compensation that we pay to underwriters, dealers or agents in connection with the offering of certificates, and any discounts, concessions or commissions allowed by underwriters to participating dealers, will be set forth in an applicable prospectus supplement.



Underwriters, dealers and agents participating in the distribution of the certificates may be deemed to be underwriters, and any discounts and commissions received by them and any profit realized by them on resale of the certificates may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions under the Securities Act. Underwriters, dealers and agents may be entitled under agreements with us to indemnification against and contribution toward certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, and to reimbursement by us for certain expenses.

Underwriters, dealers and agents may engage in transactions with, or perform services for, us and our subsidiaries in the ordinary course of business.

If so indicated in an applicable prospectus supplement and subject to existing market conditions, we will authorize dealers acting as our agents to solicit offers by certain institutions to purchase certificates from us at the public offering price set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement pursuant to delayed delivery contracts. These contracts will provide for payment and delivery on the date or dates stated in the applicable prospectus supplement. Each contract will be for an amount not less than, and the aggregate principal amount of certificates sold pursuant to these contracts will not be less nor more than, the respective amounts stated in the applicable prospectus supplement. Institutions with whom these contracts, when authorized, may be made include commercial and savings banks, insurance companies, pension funds, investment companies, educational and charitable institutions and other institutions, but will in all cases be subject to our approval. These contracts will not be subject to any conditions, except for the condition that the purchase by an institution of the certificates not be prohibited at the time of delivery under the laws of any jurisdiction in the United States to which the institution is subject. A commission set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement will be granted to underwriters and agents soliciting purchases of certificates pursuant to contracts accepted by us. Agents and underwriters will have no responsibility in respect of the delivery or performance of these contracts.

If an underwriter or underwriters is used in the sale of any certificates, the applicable prospectus supplement will state the intention, if any, of the underwriters at the date of the prospectus supplement to make a market in the certificates. We cannot assure you that there will be a market for the certificates.

The place and time of delivery for the certificates in respect of which this prospectus is delivered will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

LEGAL MATTERS

Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, our counsel, Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP, New York, New York, will render an opinion with respect to the validity of the certificates being offered by such prospectus supplement. Unless otherwise indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP will rely on the opinion of counsel for the pass through trustee as to certain matters relating to the authorization, execution and delivery of the certificates by, and the valid and binding effect on, the pass through trustee.

EXPERTS

Our consolidated financial statements and schedule appearing in our Annual Report on Form 10-K/ A for the year ended December 31, 2004, and our management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2004 included therein, have been audited by Ernst & Young LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, as set forth in its reports thereon (which conclude, among other things, that we did not maintain effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2004, based on Internal Control — Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission, because of the effects of the material weakness described therein), which are incorporated by reference in this prospectus and elsewhere in the registration statement. Our financial statements and management's assessment are incorporated by reference in reliance upon such reports given on the authority of Ernst & Young LLP as experts in accounting and auditing.

PART II

INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

Item 14. Other Expenses of Issuance and Distribution.

The following table sets forth the estimated expenses in connection with the distribution of the securities covered by this Registration Statement. Continental Airlines, Inc. (the "Company") will bear all of these expenses.

\$ 86,300 75,000*
150,000*
75,000*
5,000*
75,000*
 18,700*
\$ 485,000*
<u>\$</u>

* Estimates

Item 15. Indemnification of Directors and Officers.

The Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (the "Certificate of Incorporation") and bylaws provide that the Company will indemnify each of its directors and officers to the full extent permitted by the laws of the State of Delaware and may indemnify certain other persons as authorized by the Delaware General Corporation Law (the "GCL"). Section 145 of the GCL provides as follows:

"(a) A corporation shall have power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had reasonable cause to believe that the person's conduct was unlawful.

(b) A corporation shall have power to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best



interests of the corporation and except that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the Court of Chancery or the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which the Court of Chancery or such other court shall deem proper.

(c) To the extent that a present or former director or officer of a corporation has been successful on the merits or otherwise in defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in subsections (a) and (b) of this section, or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, such person shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection therewith.

(d) Any indemnification under subsections (a) and (b) of this section (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the present or former director, officer, employee or agent is proper in the circumstances because the person has met the applicable standard of conduct set forth in subsections (a) and (b) of this section. Such determination shall be made, with respect to a person who is a director or officer at the time of such determination, (1) by a majority vote of the directors who are not parties to such action, suit or proceeding, even though less than a quorum, or (2) by a committee of such directors designated by majority vote of such directors, even though less than a quorum, or (3) if there are no such directors, or if such directors so direct, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion, or (4) by the stockholders.

(e) Expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by an officer or director in defending any civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the corporation in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of such director or officer to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that such person is not entitled to be indemnified by the corporation as authorized in this section. Such expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred by former directors and officers or other employees and agents may be so paid upon such terms and conditions, if any, as the corporation deems appropriate.

(f) The indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, the other subsections of this section shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise, both as to action in such person's official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office.

(g) A corporation shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity, or arising out of such person's status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability under this section.

(h) For purposes of this section, references to "the corporation' shall include, in addition to the resulting corporation, any constituent corporation (including any constituent of a constituent) absorbed in a consolidation or merger which, if its separate existence had continued, would have had power and authority to indemnify its directors, officers, and employees or agents, so that any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of such constituent corporation, or is or was serving at the request of such constituent corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, shall stand in the same position under this section with respect to the resulting or surviving corporation as such person would have with respect to such constituent corporation if its separate existence had continued.

II-2

(i) For purposes of this section, references to "other enterprises' shall include employee benefit plans; references to "fines' shall include any excise taxes assessed on a person with respect to any employee benefit plan; and references to "serving at the request of the corporation' shall include any service as a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation which imposes duties on, or involves services by, such director, officer, employee or agent with respect to an employee benefit plan, its participants or beneficiaries; and a person who acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in the interest of the participants and beneficiaries of an employee benefit plan shall be deemed to have acted in a manner "not opposed to the best interests of the corporation' as referred to in this section.

(j) The indemnification and advancement of expenses provided by, or granted pursuant to, this section shall, unless otherwise provided when authorized or ratified, continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee or agent and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such a person.

(k) The Court of Chancery is hereby vested with exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine all actions for advancement of expenses or indemnification brought under this section or under any bylaw, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors, or otherwise. The Court of Chancery may summarily determine a corporation's obligation to advance expenses (including attorneys' fees)."

The Certificate of Incorporation and bylaws also limit the personal liability of directors to the Company and its stockholders for monetary damages resulting from certain breaches of the director's fiduciary duties. The bylaws of the Company provide as follows:

"No Director of the Corporation shall be personally liable to the Corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a Director, except for liability (i) for any breach of the Director's duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders, (ii) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (iii) under Section 174 of the GCL, or (iv) for any transaction from which the Director derived any improper personal benefit. If the GCL is amended to authorize corporate action further eliminating or limiting the personal liability of Directors, then the liability of Directors of the Corporation shall be eliminated or limited to the full extent permitted by the GCL, as so amended."

The Company maintains directors' and officers' liability insurance.

Item 16. Exhibits.

**1.1	—	Form of Underwriting Agreement.
4.1	—	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Company (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000).
4.2	_	Certificate of Designation of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1(a) to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000).
4.3	_	Certificate of Amendment of Certificate of Designation of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1(b) to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2001).
4.4		Corrected Certificate of Designations of Series B Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2003).
4.5	—	Bylaws of Continental to date (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2003).
4.6	—	Specimen Series B Preferred Stock Certificate of the Company (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1(c) to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000).

II-3

4.7	_	Amended and Restated Rights Agreement, dated as of November 15, 2000, between Continental and ChaseMellon Shareholder Services, LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.11 to Continental's Current Report on Form 8-K dated November 15, 2000).
4.8	_	Form of Rights Certificate, included as Exhibit B to Exhibit 4.7 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.11 to the Form 8-K dated November 15, 2000).
4.9	_	Amendment to Amended and Restated Rights Agreement dated as of March 12, 2004 between Continental Airlines, Inc. and Mellon Investor Services LLC (as successor to ChaseMellon Shareholder Services, LLC) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.2 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form 8-A/ A filed on March 17, 2004).
4.10	_	Warrant Agreement dated as of April 27, 1993, between the Company and the Company, as warrant agent (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.7 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 16, 1993).
4.11	_	Senior Debt Indenture by and between the Company and Bank One, N.A., dated as of July 15, 1997 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on December 10, 1998).
4.12	_	Form of Subordinated Debt Indenture (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed with the SEC on June 16, 1997).
**4.13	—	Form of Debt Securities.
4.14	—	Specimen Class B Common Stock Certificate of the company (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Continental's Form S-1 Registration Statement (No. 333-68870)
**4.15	—	Form of Preferred Stock Certificate.
**4.16	—	Form of Depositary Agreement.
**4.17	—	Form of Depositary Receipt.
**4.18	—	Form of Warrants.
**4.19	—	Form of Stock Purchase Contracts.
**4.20	—	Form of Stock Purchase Units.
4.21	—	Form of Pass Through Trust Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Continental's Form S-3 Registration Statement (No. 333-31285)).
*5.1	—	Opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., as to the validity of the securities (other than the pass through certificates).
*5.2	—	Opinion of Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP, as to the validity of the pass through certificates.
*12.1	_	Calculation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges.
*23.1	_	Consent of Ernst & Young LLP.
*23.2	—	Consent of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. (included in Exhibit 5.1).
*23.3	_	Consent of Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP (included in Exhibit 5.2).
*24.1	—	Powers of Attorney.
*25.1	—	Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility and Qualification under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 of the trustee under the Senior Debt Indenture.
***25.2	_	Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility and Qualification under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 of the trustee under the Subordinated Debt Indenture.
*25.3		Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility and Qualification under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 of the trustee under the Pass Through Trust Agreement.

* Filed herewith.

** To be filed by amendment or in a Current Report on Form 8-K.

*** To be filed in accordance with Section 305(b)(2) of the Trust Indenture Act and Rules 5b-1 through 5b-2 thereunder.

Note: Continental Airlines, Inc. hereby agrees to furnish to the SEC, upon request, copies of certain instruments defining the rights of holders of long-term debt of the kind described in Item 601(b)(4)(iii)(A) of Regulation S-K.

Item 17. Undertakings

The undersigned registrant hereby undertakes:

1. To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this registration statement:

a. To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933;

b. To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement; notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than a 20% change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective registration statement; and

c. To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement;

provided, however, that the undertakings set forth in clauses a and b above do not apply if the information required to be included in a post-effective amendment by those clauses is contained in periodic reports filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission by the registrant pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 that are incorporated by reference in the registration statement.

2. That, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

3. To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

4. To file an application for the purpose of determining the eligibility of the trustee under the Subordinated Debt Indenture to act under subsection (a) of Section 310 of the Trust Indenture Act ("Act") in accordance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the Securities and Exchange Commission under Section 305(b)(2) of the Act.

5. For purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act of 1933, each filing of the registrant's annual report pursuant to section 13(a) or section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) that is incorporated by reference in the registration statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

6. To supplement the prospectus, after the expiration of the subscription period, to set forth the results of the subscription offer, the transactions by the underwriters during the subscription period, the amount of unsubscribed securities to be purchased by the underwriters, and the terms of any subsequent reoffering thereof. If any public offering by the underwriters is to be made on terms differing from those set forth on the cover page of the prospectus, a post-effective amendment will be filed to set forth the terms of such offering.

II-5

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the provisions set forth in response to Item 15, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act of 1933 and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this registration statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized in the City of Houston, State of Texas, September 13, 2005.

CONTINENTAL AIRLINES, INC.

By: /s/ Jeffrey J. Misner

Name: Jeffrey J. Misner Title: Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement has been signed on behalf of the following persons in the capacities indicated, on September 13, 2005.

Signature	Title
/s/ Lawrence W. Kellner Lawrence W. Kellner	Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer) and Director
/s/ Jeffrey J. Misner Jeffrey J. Misner	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)
/s/ Chris T. Kenny Chris T. Kenny	Vice President and Controller (Principal Accounting Officer)
* Thomas J. Barrack, Jr.	Director
* Kirbyjon H. Caldwell	Director
* Douglas H. McCorkindale	Director
* Henry L. Meyer III	Director
* Oscar Munoz	Director
* George G. C. Parker II-7	Director

Signature	Title
/s/ Jeffery A. Smisek Jeffery A. Smisek	Director
* Karen Hastie Williams	Director
*	Director
Ronald B. Woodard *	Director
Charles A. Yamarone	
*By: /s/ Jennifer L. Vogel	
Name: Jennifer L. Vogel Attorney-in-Fact	
II-8	

EXHIBIT INDEX

**1.1	—	Form of Underwriting Agreement.
4.1	_	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Company (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000).
4.2		Certificate of Designation of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1(a) to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000).
4.3	_	Certificate of Amendment of Certificate of Designation of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1(b) to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2001).
4.4	_	Corrected Certificate of Designations of Series B Preferred Stock (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2003).
4.5	_	Bylaws of Continental to date (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2003).
4.6	_	Specimen Series B Preferred Stock Certificate of the Company (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1(c) to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000).
4.7	_	Amended and Restated Rights Agreement, dated as of November 15, 2000, between Continental and ChaseMellon Shareholder Services, LLC (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.11 to Continental's Current Report on Form 8-K dated November 15, 2000).
4.8	_	Form of Rights Certificate, included as Exhibit B to Exhibit 4.7 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 99.11 to the Form 8-K dated November 15, 2000).
4.9	—	Amendment to Amended and Restated Rights Agreement dated as of March 12, 2004 between Continental Airlines, Inc. and Mellon Investor Services LLC (as successor to ChaseMellon Shareholder Services, LLC) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 1.2 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form 8-A/ A filed on March 17, 2004).
4.10	_	Warrant Agreement dated as of April 27, 1993, between the Company and the Company, as warrant agent (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.7 to the Company's Form 8-K filed with the SEC on April 16, 1993).
4.11	_	Senior Debt Indenture by and between the Company and Bank One, N.A., dated as of July 15, 1997 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 of the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on December 10, 1998).
4.12	_	Form of Subordinated Debt Indenture (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed with the SEC on June 16, 1997).
**4.13	_	Form of Debt Securities.
4.14		Specimen Class B Common Stock Certificate of the company (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Continental's Form S-1 Registration Statement (No. 333-68870).
**4.15		Form of Preferred Stock Certificate.
**4.16	_	Form of Depositary Agreement.
**4.17	_	Form of Depositary Receipt.
**4.18	_	Form of Warrants.
**4.19	_	Form of Stock Purchase Contracts.
**4.20	_	Form of Stock Purchase Units.
4.21	_	Form of Pass Through Trust Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Continental's Form S-3 Registration Statement (No. 333-31285)).
*5.1		Opinion of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P., as to the validity of the securities (other than the pass through certificates).
*5.2		Opinion of Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP, as to the validity of the pass through certificates.
*12.1		Calculation of Ratio of Earnings to Fixed Charges.
*23.1		Consent of Ernst & Young LLP.

*23.2	_	Consent of Vinson & Elkins L.L.P. (included in Exhibit 5.1).
*23.3	—	Consent of Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP (included in Exhibit 5.2).
*24.1	—	Powers of Attorney.
*25.1	_	Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility and Qualification under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 of the trustee under the Senior Debt Indenture.
***25.2	_	Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility and Qualification under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 of the trustee under the Subordinated Debt Indenture.
*25.3	_	Form T-1 Statement of Eligibility and Qualification under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939 of the trustee under the Pass Through Trust Agreement.

* Filed herewith.

** To be filed by amendment or in a Current Report on Form 8-K.

*** To be filed in accordance with Section 305(b)(2) of the Trust Indenture Act and Rules 5b-1 through 5b-2 thereunder.

Note: Continental Airlines, Inc. hereby agrees to furnish to the SEC, upon request, copies of certain instruments defining the rights of holders of long-term debt of the kind described in Item 601(b)(4)(iii)(A) of Regulation S-K.

Vinson&Elkins

September 9, 2005

Continental Airlines, Inc. 1600 Smith Street Houston, Texas 77002

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as counsel for Continental Airlines, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), with respect to certain legal matters in connection with the registration by the Company under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), of the offer and sale by the Company from time to time, pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act, of (i) unsecured debt securities of the Company ("Debt Securities"), in one or more series, consisting of notes, debentures or other evidences of indebtedness which may be either senior or subordinated in priority of payment, (ii) shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.01 per share, of the Company, in one or more series ("Preferred Stock"), which may be issued in the form of depositary shares evidenced by depositary receipts ("Depositary Shares"), (iii) shares of Class B common stock, par value \$0.01 per share ("Common Stock"), (iv) warrants to purchase Debt Securities, Preferred Stock, Depositary Shares, Common Stock or other securities ("Warrants"), (v) stock purchase contracts to purchase shares of Common Stock or other securities of the Company at a future date or dates ("Stock Purchase Contracts"), (vi) stock purchase units ("Stock Purchase Units") consisting of a Stock Purchase Contract and debt securities, preferred securities, warrants or debt obligations of third parties, including United States treasury securities, securing the holders' obligations to purchase the securities under the Stock Purchase Contracts, and (vii) subscription rights to purchase Common Stock, Preferred Stock, Depositary Shares or Warrants ("Subscription Rights"). The Company has advised us that the aggregate initial offering prices of the Debt Securities, Preferred Stock, Depositary Shares, Common Stock, Warrants, Stock Purchase Contracts, Stock Purchase Units and Subscription Rights offered by the Company (collectively, the "Securities") will not exceed \$1,000,000,000 or, if applicable, the equivalent thereof in any other currency or currency unit. The Company has advised us that the Securities will be offered in amounts, at prices and on terms to be determined in light of market conditions at the time of sale and to be set forth in supplements to the prospectus contained in the Company's Registration Statement on Form S-3 (the "Registration Statement") to which this opinion is an exhibit.

Vinson & Elkins LLP Attorneys at Law Austin Beijing Dallas Dubai Houston London Moscow New York Tokyo Washington First City Tower, 1001 Fannin Street, Suite 2300, Houston, TX 77002-6760 Tel 713.758.2222 Fax 713.758.2346 www.velaw.com

Continental Airlines, Inc. September 9, 2005 Page 2

We have examined originals or copies, certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of (i) the Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Company, each as amended to the date hereof; (ii) resolutions adopted by the Board of Directors of the Company (the Board of Directors, or to the extent permitted by Section 141 of the Delaware General Corporation Law (the "<u>DGCL</u>"), a duly constituted and acting committee thereof, being referred to herein as the "<u>Board</u>"); (iii) the Registration Statement; (iv) the Senior Debt Indenture between the Company and J. P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association (as successor in interest to Bank One, N.A.), as trustee, dated July 15, 1997 (the "<u>Senior Indenture</u>") relating to the senior Debt Securities, in the form incorporated as an exhibit to the Registration Statement; (v) a form of the Indenture to be entered into between the Company and a trustee to be determined (the "<u>Subordinated Indenture</u>," and together with the Senior Indenture, the "<u>Indentures</u>") relating to the subordinated Debt Securities, in the form incorporated as an exhibit to the Registration Statement; and (vi) such other certificates, statutes and other instruments and documents as we considered appropriate for purposes of the opinions hereafter expressed. In addition, we reviewed such questions of law as we considered appropriate.

As to any facts material to the opinions contained herein, we have made no independent investigation of such facts and have relied, to the extent that we deem such reliance proper, upon certificates of public officials and officers or other representatives of the Company.

In rendering the opinions set forth below, we have assumed that (i) all information contained in all documents reviewed by us is true and correct; (ii) all signatures on all documents examined by us are genuine; (iii) all documents submitted to us as originals are authentic and all documents submitted to us as copies conform to the originals of those documents; (iv) each natural person signing any document reviewed by us had the legal capacity to do so; (v) each person signing in a representative capacity (other than on behalf of the Company) any document reviewed by us had authority to sign in such capacity; (vi) the Registration Statement, and any amendments thereto (including post-effective amendments), will have become effective and comply with all applicable laws; (vii) one or more prospectus supplements will have been prepared and filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission describing the Securities offered thereby; (viii) all Securities will be issued and sold in compliance with applicable federal and state securities laws and in the manner stated in the Registration Statement and an applicable prospectus supplement; (ix) the Senior Indenture and the Subordinated Indenture, together with any supplemental indenture or other instruments establishing a series of Debt Securities to be issued under any of the Indentures,

Continental Airlines, Inc.September 9, 2005 Page 3

will each be duly authorized, executed and delivered by the parties thereto in substantially the form reviewed by us or with changes that do not affect the opinions given hereunder; (x) at the time of any offering or sale of any shares of Common Stock or Preferred Stock, that the Company will have at least such number of shares of Common Stock or Preferred Stock authorized, created and, if appropriate, reserved for issuance; (xi) a definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement with respect to any Securities offered will have been duly authorized and validly executed and delivered by the Company and the other parties thereto; and (xii) any Securities issuable upon conversion, exchange or exercise of any Security being offered will have been duly authorized, created and, if appropriate, reserved for issuance upon such conversion, exchange or exercise.

Based on the foregoing, and subject to the assumptions, qualifications, limitations and exceptions set forth herein, we are of the opinion that:

(a) With respect to Debt Securities to be issued under the Senior Indenture, when (i) the Senior Indenture has been duly qualified under the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended (the "<u>TIA</u>"); (ii) the Board has taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance and terms of such Debt Securities, the terms of the offering thereof and related matters; (iii) the terms of such Debt Securities and of their issuance and sale have been established so as not to violate any applicable law or result in a default under or breach of any agreement or instrument binding upon the Company and so as to comply with any requirement or restriction imposed by any court or governmental body having jurisdiction over the Company; and (iv) such Debt Securities have been duly executed, authenticated, issued and delivered in accordance with the provisions of the Senior Indenture and in accordance with the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board, then upon payment of the consideration provided for therein, such Debt Securities will be legally issued and will constitute valid and binding obligations of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms and will be entitled to the benefits of the Senior Indenture.

(b) With respect to Debt Securities to be issued under the Subordinated Indenture, when (i) the Subordinated Indenture has been duly qualified under the TIA; (ii) the Board has taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance and terms of such Debt Securities, the terms of the offering thereof and related matters; (iii) the terms of such Debt Securities and of their issuance and sale and the terms of the Subordinated Indenture have been established so as not to violate any applicable law or result in a default under or breach of any agreement or instrument binding upon the Company and so as to comply with any

Continental Airlines, Inc. September 9, 2005 Page 4

requirement or restriction imposed by any court or governmental body having jurisdiction over the Company; and (iv) such Debt Securities have been duly executed, authenticated, issued and delivered in accordance with the provisions of the Subordinated Indenture and in accordance with the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board, then upon payment of the consideration provided for therein, such Debt Securities will be legally issued and will constitute valid and binding obligations of the Company, enforceable against the Company in accordance with their terms and will be entitled to the benefits of the Subordinated Indenture.

(c) With respect to shares of Common Stock, when (i) the Board has taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance and terms of the offering thereof and related matters; and (ii) certificates representing the shares of Common Stock have been duly executed, countersigned, registered and delivered either (A) in accordance with the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board, then upon payment of the consideration therefor (not less than the par value of the Common Stock) provided for therein; or (B) upon conversion, exchange or exercise of any other security in accordance with the terms of the security or the instrument governing the security providing for the conversion, exchange or exercise as approved by the Board, for the consideration approved by the Board (not less than the par value of the Common Stock), such shares of Common Stock will be validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable.

(d) With respect to shares of any series of Preferred Stock, when (i) the Board has taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance and terms of the shares of the series, the terms of the offering thereof and related matters, including the adoption of a resolution establishing and designating the series and fixing and determining the preferences, limitations and relative rights thereof and the filing of a statement with respect to the series with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware as required under Section 151 of the DGCL (the "<u>Certificate of Designation</u>"); and (ii) certificates representing the shares of the series of Preferred Stock have been duly executed, countersigned, registered and delivered either (A) in accordance with the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board, then upon payment of the consideration therefor (not less than the par value of the Preferred Stock) provided for therein; or (B) upon conversion, exchange or exercise of any other Security in accordance with the terms of the Security or the instrument governing the Security providing for the conversion, exchange or exercise as approved by the Board, for the consideration approved by the Board (not less than the par value of the Preferred Stock), the shares of the series of Preferred Stock will be validly issued, fully paid and non-assessable.

Continental Airlines, Inc. September 9, 2005 Page 5

(e) With respect to Depositary Shares, when (i) the Board has taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance and terms of the Depositary Shares, the terms of the offering thereof and related matters, including the adoption of a Certificate of Designation relating to the Preferred Stock underlying the Depositary Shares and the filing of the Certificate of Designation with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware; (ii) the depositary agreement or agreements relating to the Depositary Shares and the related depositary receipts have been duly authorized and validly executed and delivered by the Company and the depositary appointed by the Company; (iii) the shares of Preferred Stock underlying the Depositary Shares have been depositary set forth in the Registration Statement) under the applicable depositary agreements; and (iv) the depositary agreement approved by the Board, then upon payment of the consideration therefore provided for therein; or (B) upon conversion, exchange or exercise of any other Security providing for the conversion, exchange or exercise as approved by the Board, for the consideration approved by the Board, the Depositary Shares will be legally issued.

(f) With respect to the Warrants, when (i) the Board has taken all necessary corporate action to approve the creation of and the issuance and terms of the Warrants, the terms of the offering thereof and related matters; (ii) the warrant agreement or agreements relating to the Warrants have been duly authorized and validly executed and delivered by the Company and the warrant agent appointed by the Company; and (iii) the Warrants or certificates representing the Warrants have been duly executed, countersigned, registered and delivered in accordance with the appropriate warrant agreement or agreements and the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board, then upon payment of the consideration provided for therein, the Warrants will be legally issued.

(g) With respect to Stock Purchase Contracts, when (i) the purchase agreement for the Stock Purchase Contracts has been duly authorized and validly executed by the parties thereto; (ii) the Board has taken all necessary corporate action to approve and establish the terms of the Stock Purchase Contracts and to authorize and approve the issuance thereof, the terms of the offering and related matters; and (iii) the Stock Purchase Contracts have been duly executed and delivered in accordance with the purchase agreement and the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by or on behalf of the

Continental Airlines, Inc. September 9, 2005 Page 6

Board, then upon payment of the consideration therefore provided for therein, the Stock Purchase Contracts will be legally issued.

(h) With respect to Stock Purchase Units, when (i) the purchase agreement for the Stock Purchase Units has been duly authorized and validly executed by the parties thereto, (ii) the Board has taken all necessary corporate action to approve and establish the terms of the Stock Purchase Units and to authorize and approve the issuance thereof, the terms of the offering and related matters; and (iii) the Stock Purchase Units have been duly executed and delivered in accordance with the purchase agreement and the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by or on behalf of the Board, then upon payment of the consideration therefor provided therein, the Stock Purchase Units will be legally issued.

(i) With respect to Subscription Rights, when (i) the Board has taken all necessary corporate action to approve the issuance and terms of the offering thereof and related matters; and (ii) certificates representing the Subscription Rights have been duly executed, countersigned, registered and delivered, the Subscription Rights will be legally issued.

The foregoing opinions are qualified to the extent that the enforceability of any document, instrument or Security may be limited by or subject to (i) bankruptcy, insolvency, fraudulent transfer or conveyance, reorganization, moratorium or other similar laws relating to or affecting creditors' rights generally, and general equitable or public policy principles, and (ii) with respect to any Debt Securities denominated in a currency other than United States dollars, the requirement that a claim (or a foreign currency judgment in respect of such a claim) with respect to such Securities be converted to United States dollars at a rate of exchange prevailing on a date determined pursuant to applicable law or governmental authority.

We express no opinions concerning (i) the validity or enforceability of any provisions contained in the Indentures that purport to waive or not give effect to rights to notices, defenses, subrogation or other rights or benefits that cannot be effectively waived under applicable law or (ii) the enforceability of indemnification provisions to the extent they purport to relate to liabilities resulting from or based upon negligence or any violation of federal or state securities or blue sky laws.

Continental Airlines, Inc. September 9, 2005 Page 7

The foregoing opinions are limited in all respects to the laws of the DGCL (including the applicable provisions of the Delaware Constitution and the reported judicial decisions interpreting these laws) and the laws of the State of New York and the federal laws of the United States of America, and we do not express any opinions as to the laws of any other jurisdiction.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to the Registration Statement and to the use of our name in the prospectus forming a part of the Registration Statement under the caption "Legal Matters." By giving such consent, we do not admit that we are within the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act or the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission issued thereunder.

Very truly yours,

/s/ VINSON & ELKINS L.L.P.

Vinson & Elkins L.L.P.

September 9, 2005

Continental Airlines, Inc. 1600 Smith Street Houston, Texas 77002

> Re: Continental Airlines, Inc. <u>Registration Statement on Form S-3</u>

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We have acted as your counsel in connection with the form of prospectus relating to pass through certificates (the "Pass Through Certificates") expected to be issued by one or more trusts (each, a "Trust") to be formed by Continental Airlines, Inc. (the "Company") included in the Registration Statement on Form S-3 (the "Registration Statement") to be filed by the Company with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Act"). Such Trusts are expected to acquire certain equipment notes relating to aircraft to be leased or owned by the Company. The Pass Through Certificates are expected to be issued and sold from time to time pursuant to Rule 415 under the Act for an aggregate initial offering price not to exceed \$1,000,000,000 or the equivalent thereof in one or more foreign currencies or composite currencies.

The Pass Through Certificates will be issued in one or more series under the Pass Through Trust Agreement dated as of September 25, 1997, between the Company and Wilmington Trust Company ("WTC"), the trustee thereunder (the "Basic Pass Through Trust Agreement"), the form of which has been filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement, as supplemented by a separate trust supplement (each, a "Trust Supplement") relating to each such series.

We have examined the Certificate of Incorporation and By-Laws of the Company and the Basic Pass Through Trust Agreement, and we have assumed that the Basic Pass Through Trust Agreement was duly authorized, executed and delivered by, and is the valid and binding obligation of, WTC, as trustee. In addition, we have examined, and have relied as to matters of fact upon, originals or copies, certified or otherwise identified to our satisfaction, of such corporate records, agreements, documents and other instruments and such certificates or comparable documents of public officials and of officers and representatives of the Company,

and have made such other and further investigations as we have deemed relevant and necessary as a basis for the opinion hereinafter set forth.

Based upon and subject to the foregoing, we are of the opinion that, with respect to each series of Pass Through Certificates, when (i) the applicable provisions of the Act and such "blue sky" or state securities laws as may be applicable shall have been complied with, (ii) the Trust Supplement relating to such series has been duly authorized and validly executed and delivered by the Company and WTC, as trustee under the Basic Pass Through Trust Agreement, (iii) the Board of Directors of the Company has taken all necessary corporate action to approve the terms of the offering of such series of Pass Through Certificates and related matters and (iv) the Pass Through Certificates of such series have been duly executed, authenticated, issued and delivered in accordance with the provisions of the Basic Pass Through Trust Agreement, as supplemented by the related Trust Supplement, and the applicable definitive purchase, underwriting or similar agreement approved by the Board of Directors of the Company and upon payment of the consideration therefor provided for therein, such series of Pass Through Certificates will be legally issued and binding obligations of WTC, as trustee of the applicable Trust.

We are members of the Bar of the State of New York, and we do not express any opinion herein concerning any law other than the law of the State of New York, the federal law of the United States and the Delaware General Corporation Law. We have assumed that each Trust Supplement will be governed by the laws of the State of New York.

We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion as an exhibit to said Registration Statement and we further consent to the use of our name under the caption "Legal Matters" in the form of prospectus relating to Pass Through Certificates included in the Registration Statement. In giving this consent, we do not thereby admit that we are in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Act, or the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission thereunder.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP

CONTINENTAL AIRLINES, INC.

COMPUTATION OF RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES (IN MILLIONS)

	Six Months Ended June 30,		Years Ended December 31,			
	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
Earnings:						
Earnings (Loss) Before Income Taxes						
and Minority Interest	(86)	(449)	186	(649)	(146)	546
Less:						
Undistributed Earnings (Losses) of						
Equity Investees	26	66	23	8	(14)	(1)
Plus:						
Interest Expense	198	389	393	372	311	253
Capitalized Interest	(5)	(14)	(24)	(36)	(57)	(57)
Amortization of Capitalized						
Interest	20	39	38	35	28	21
Portion of Rent Expense						
Representative of Interest						
Expense	446	856	847	860	842	786
	547	755	1,417	574	992	1,550
Fixed Charges:						
Interest Expense	198	389	393	372	311	253
Portion of Rent Expense						
Representative of Interest						
Expense	446	856	847	860	842	786
Total Fixed Charges	644	1,245	1,240	1,232	1,153	1,039
6						
Coverage Adequacy (Deficiency)	(97)	(490)	177	(658)	(161)	511
				(300)	(101)	
Coverage Ratio	NA	NA	1.14	NA	NA	1.49
Coverage Rallo			1,14		INA	1.49

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We consent to the reference to our firm under the caption "Experts" and to the incorporation by reference in the Registration Statement (Form S-3) and related Prospectuses for the registration of \$1,000,000,000 of Debt Securities, Class B Common Stock, Preferred Stock, Stock Purchase Contracts, Stock Purchase Units, Depositary Shares, Warrants, Subscription Rights and Pass Through Certificates of Continental Airlines, Inc. of our reports dated March 14, 2005, except for Note 1, as to which the date is July 19, 2005, with respect to the consolidated financial statements and schedule of Continental Airlines, Inc., Continental Airlines, Inc.'s management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting of Continental Airlines, Inc., all included in its Annual Report (Form 10-K/A) for the year ended December 31, 2004 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Houston, Texas September 9, 2005

The undersigned officer and/or director of Continental Airlines, Inc. (the "Company") does hereby constitute and appoint Jennifer L. Vogel, Lori A. Gobillot and James Von Atzingen, or any of them, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys in fact and agents to do any and all acts and things in the undersigned's name and behalf in the undersigned's capacities as officer and/or director, and to execute any and all instruments for the undersigned and in the undersigned's name in the capacities indicated below which such person or persons may deem necessary or advisable to enable the Company to comply with the Securities Act of 1933 and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") in connection with a universal shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 relating to an offering of up to \$1,000,000,000 (One billion dollars) of debt securities, equity securities and other securities specified therein, including but not limited to Class B common stock, preferred stock, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units, depositary shares, warrants and subscription rights of the Company and pass through certificates (the "Registration Statement"), which was approved by the Board of Directors of the Company on September 12, 2005, including specifically, but not limited to, power and authority to sign for the undersigned in the capacity as a director and/or officer of the Company the Registration Statement, and any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) thereto, and the undersigned does hereby ratify and confirm all that such person or persons shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

September 12, 2005

By: /s/ Thomas J. Barrack, Jr.

Thomas J. Barrack, Jr.

The undersigned officer and/or director of Continental Airlines, Inc. (the "Company") does hereby constitute and appoint Jennifer L. Vogel, Lori A. Gobillot and James Von Atzingen, or any of them, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys in fact and agents to do any and all acts and things in the undersigned's name and behalf in the undersigned's capacities as officer and/or director, and to execute any and all instruments for the undersigned and in the undersigned's name in the capacities indicated below which such person or persons may deem necessary or advisable to enable the Company to comply with the Securities Act of 1933 and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") in connection with a universal shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 relating to an offering of up to \$1,000,000,000 (One billion dollars) of debt securities, equity securities and other securities specified therein, including but not limited to Class B common stock, preferred stock, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units, depositary shares, warrants and subscription rights of the Company and pass through certificates (the "Registration Statement"), which was approved by the Board of Directors of the Company on September 12, 2005, including specifically, but not limited to, power and authority to sign for the undersigned in the capacity as a director and/or officer of the Company the Registration Statement, and any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) thereto, and the undersigned does hereby ratify and confirm all that such person or persons shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

September 12, 2005

By: /s/ Kirbyjon H. Caldwell Kirbyjon H. Caldwell

The undersigned officer and/or director of Continental Airlines, Inc. (the "Company") does hereby constitute and appoint Jennifer L. Vogel, Lori A. Gobillot and James Von Atzingen, or any of them, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys in fact and agents to do any and all acts and things in the undersigned's name and behalf in the undersigned's capacities as officer and/or director, and to execute any and all instruments for the undersigned and in the undersigned's name in the capacities indicated below which such person or persons may deem necessary or advisable to enable the Company to comply with the Securities Act of 1933 and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") in connection with a universal shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 relating to an offering of up to \$1,000,000,000 (One billion dollars) of debt securities, equity securities and other securities specified therein, including but not limited to Class B common stock, preferred stock, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units, depositary shares, warrants and subscription rights of the Company and pass through certificates (the "Registration Statement"), which was approved by the Board of Directors of the Company on September 12, 2005, including specifically, but not limited to, power and authority to sign for the undersigned in the capacity as a director and/or officer of the Company the Registration Statement, and any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) thereto, and the undersigned does hereby ratify and confirm all that such person or persons shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

September 12, 2005

By: /s/ Lawrence W. Kellner Lawrence W. Kellner

The undersigned officer and/or director of Continental Airlines, Inc. (the "Company") does hereby constitute and appoint Jennifer L. Vogel, Lori A. Gobillot and James Von Atzingen, or any of them, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys in fact and agents to do any and all acts and things in the undersigned's name and behalf in the undersigned's capacities as officer and/or director, and to execute any and all instruments for the undersigned and in the undersigned's name in the capacities indicated below which such person or persons may deem necessary or advisable to enable the Company to comply with the Securities Act of 1933 and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") in connection with a universal shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 relating to an offering of up to \$1,000,000,000 (One billion dollars) of debt securities, equity securities and other securities specified therein, including but not limited to Class B common stock, preferred stock, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units, depositary shares, warrants and subscription rights of the Company and pass through certificates (the "Registration Statement"), which was approved by the Board of Directors of the Company on September 12, 2005, including specifically, but not limited to, power and authority to sign for the undersigned in the capacity as a director and/or officer of the Company the Registration Statement, and any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) thereto, and the undersigned does hereby ratify and confirm all that such person or persons shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

September 12, 2005

By: /s/ Douglas H. McCorkindale Douglas H. McCorkindale

The undersigned officer and/or director of Continental Airlines, Inc. (the "Company") does hereby constitute and appoint Jennifer L. Vogel, Lori A. Gobillot and James Von Atzingen, or any of them, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys in fact and agents to do any and all acts and things in the undersigned's name and behalf in the undersigned's capacities as officer and/or director, and to execute any and all instruments for the undersigned and in the undersigned's name in the capacities indicated below which such person or persons may deem necessary or advisable to enable the Company to comply with the Securities Act of 1933 and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") in connection with a universal shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 relating to an offering of up to \$1,000,000,000 (One billion dollars) of debt securities, equity securities and other securities specified therein, including but not limited to Class B common stock, preferred stock, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units, depositary shares, warrants and subscription rights of the Company and pass through certificates (the "Registration Statement"), which was approved by the Board of Directors of the Company on September 12, 2005, including specifically, but not limited to, power and authority to sign for the undersigned in the capacity as a director and/or officer of the Company the Registration Statement, and any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) thereto, and the undersigned does hereby ratify and confirm all that such person or persons shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

September 12, 2005

By: /s/ Henry L. Meyer III Henry L. Meyer III

The undersigned officer and/or director of Continental Airlines, Inc. (the "Company") does hereby constitute and appoint Jennifer L. Vogel, Lori A. Gobillot and James Von Atzingen, or any of them, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys in fact and agents to do any and all acts and things in the undersigned's name and behalf in the undersigned's capacities as officer and/or director, and to execute any and all instruments for the undersigned and in the undersigned's name in the capacities indicated below which such person or persons may deem necessary or advisable to enable the Company to comply with the Securities Act of 1933 and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") in connection with a universal shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 relating to an offering of up to \$1,000,000,000 (One billion dollars) of debt securities, equity securities and other securities specified therein, including but not limited to Class B common stock, preferred stock, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units, depositary shares, warrants and subscription rights of the Company and pass through certificates (the "Registration Statement"), which was approved by the Board of Directors of the Company on September 12, 2005, including specifically, but not limited to, power and authority to sign for the undersigned in the capacity as a director and/or officer of the Company the Registration Statement, and any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) thereto, and the undersigned does hereby ratify and confirm all that such person or persons shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

September 12, 2005

By:	/s/ Oscar Munoz
	Oscar Munoz

The undersigned officer and/or director of Continental Airlines, Inc. (the "Company") does hereby constitute and appoint Jennifer L. Vogel, Lori A. Gobillot and James Von Atzingen, or any of them, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys in fact and agents to do any and all acts and things in the undersigned's name and behalf in the undersigned's capacities as officer and/or director, and to execute any and all instruments for the undersigned and in the undersigned's name in the capacities indicated below which such person or persons may deem necessary or advisable to enable the Company to comply with the Securities Act of 1933 and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") in connection with a universal shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 relating to an offering of up to \$1,000,000,000 (One billion dollars) of debt securities, equity securities and other securities specified therein, including but not limited to Class B common stock, preferred stock, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units, depositary shares, warrants and subscription rights of the Company and pass through certificates (the "Registration Statement"), which was approved by the Board of Directors of the Company on September 12, 2005, including specifically, but not limited to, power and authority to sign for the undersigned in the capacity as a director and/or officer of the Company the Registration Statement, and any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) thereto, and the undersigned does hereby ratify and confirm all that such person or persons shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

September 12, 2005

By: /s/ George G.C. Parker George G.C. Parker

The undersigned officer and/or director of Continental Airlines, Inc. (the "Company") does hereby constitute and appoint Jennifer L. Vogel, Lori A. Gobillot and James Von Atzingen, or any of them, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys in fact and agents to do any and all acts and things in the undersigned's name and behalf in the undersigned's capacities as officer and/or director, and to execute any and all instruments for the undersigned and in the undersigned's name in the capacities indicated below which such person or persons may deem necessary or advisable to enable the Company to comply with the Securities Act of 1933 and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") in connection with a universal shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 relating to an offering of up to \$1,000,000,000 (One billion dollars) of debt securities, equity securities and other securities specified therein, including but not limited to Class B common stock, preferred stock, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units, depositary shares, warrants and subscription rights of the Company and pass through certificates (the "Registration Statement"), which was approved by the Board of Directors of the Company on September 12, 2005, including specifically, but not limited to, power and authority to sign for the undersigned in the capacity as a director and/or officer of the Company the Registration Statement, and any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) thereto, and the undersigned does hereby ratify and confirm all that such person or persons shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

September 12, 2005

By: /s/ Jeffery A. Smisek Jeffery A. Smisek

The undersigned officer and/or director of Continental Airlines, Inc. (the "Company") does hereby constitute and appoint Jennifer L. Vogel, Lori A. Gobillot and James Von Atzingen, or any of them, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys in fact and agents to do any and all acts and things in the undersigned's name and behalf in the undersigned's capacities as officer and/or director, and to execute any and all instruments for the undersigned and in the undersigned's name in the capacities indicated below which such person or persons may deem necessary or advisable to enable the Company to comply with the Securities Act of 1933 and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") in connection with a universal shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 relating to an offering of up to \$1,000,000,000 (One billion dollars) of debt securities, equity securities and other securities specified therein, including but not limited to Class B common stock, preferred stock, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units, depositary shares, warrants and subscription rights of the Company and pass through certificates (the "Registration Statement"), which was approved by the Board of Directors of the Company on September 12, 2005, including specifically, but not limited to, power and authority to sign for the undersigned in the capacity as a director and/or officer of the Company the Registration Statement, and any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) thereto, and the undersigned does hereby ratify and confirm all that such person or persons shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

September 12, 2005

By: /s/ Karen Hastie Williams Karen Hastie Williams

The undersigned officer and/or director of Continental Airlines, Inc. (the "Company") does hereby constitute and appoint Jennifer L. Vogel, Lori A. Gobillot and James Von Atzingen, or any of them, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys in fact and agents to do any and all acts and things in the undersigned's name and behalf in the undersigned's capacities as officer and/or director, and to execute any and all instruments for the undersigned and in the undersigned's name in the capacities indicated below which such person or persons may deem necessary or advisable to enable the Company to comply with the Securities Act of 1933 and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") in connection with a universal shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 relating to an offering of up to \$1,000,000,000 (One billion dollars) of debt securities, equity securities and other securities specified therein, including but not limited to Class B common stock, preferred stock, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units, depositary shares, warrants and subscription rights of the Company and pass through certificates (the "Registration Statement"), which was approved by the Board of Directors of the Company on September 12, 2005, including specifically, but not limited to, power and authority to sign for the undersigned in the capacity as a director and/or officer of the Company the Registration Statement, and any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) thereto, and the undersigned does hereby ratify and confirm all that such person or persons shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

September 12, 2005

By: /s/ Ronald B. Woodard Ronald B. Woodard

The undersigned officer and/or director of Continental Airlines, Inc. (the "Company") does hereby constitute and appoint Jennifer L. Vogel, Lori A. Gobillot and James Von Atzingen, or any of them, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys in fact and agents to do any and all acts and things in the undersigned's name and behalf in the undersigned's capacities as officer and/or director, and to execute any and all instruments for the undersigned and in the undersigned's name in the capacities indicated below which such person or persons may deem necessary or advisable to enable the Company to comply with the Securities Act of 1933 and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") in connection with a universal shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 relating to an offering of up to \$1,000,000,000 (One billion dollars) of debt securities, equity securities and other securities specified therein, including but not limited to Class B common stock, preferred stock, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units, depositary shares, warrants and subscription rights of the Company and pass through certificates (the "Registration Statement"), which was approved by the Board of Directors of the Company on September 12, 2005, including specifically, but not limited to, power and authority to sign for the undersigned in the capacity as a director and/or officer of the Company the Registration Statement, and any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) thereto, and the undersigned does hereby ratify and confirm all that such person or persons shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

September 12, 2005

By: /s/ Charles A. Yamarone Charles A. Yamarone

The undersigned officer and/or director of Continental Airlines, Inc. (the "Company") does hereby constitute and appoint Jennifer L. Vogel, Lori A. Gobillot and James Von Atzingen, or any of them, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys in fact and agents to do any and all acts and things in the undersigned's name and behalf in the undersigned's capacities as officer and/or director, and to execute any and all instruments for the undersigned and in the undersigned's name in the capacities indicated below which such person or persons may deem necessary or advisable to enable the Company to comply with the Securities Act of 1933 and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") in connection with a universal shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 relating to an offering of up to \$1,000,000,000 (One billion dollars) of debt securities, equity securities and other securities specified therein, including but not limited to Class B common stock, preferred stock, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units, depositary shares, warrants and subscription rights of the Company and pass through certificates (the "Registration Statement"), which was approved by the Board of Directors of the Company on September 12, 2005, including specifically, but not limited to, power and authority to sign for the undersigned in the capacity as a director and/or officer of the Company the Registration Statement, and any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) thereto, and the undersigned does hereby ratify and confirm all that such person or persons shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

September 12, 2005

By: /s/ Jeffrey J. Misner Jeffrey J. Misner

The undersigned officer and/or director of Continental Airlines, Inc. (the "Company") does hereby constitute and appoint Jennifer L. Vogel, Lori A. Gobillot and James Von Atzingen, or any of them, as the undersigned's true and lawful attorneys in fact and agents to do any and all acts and things in the undersigned's name and behalf in the undersigned's capacities as officer and/or director, and to execute any and all instruments for the undersigned and in the undersigned's name in the capacities indicated below which such person or persons may deem necessary or advisable to enable the Company to comply with the Securities Act of 1933 and any rules, regulations and requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") in connection with a universal shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 relating to an offering of up to \$1,000,000,000 (One billion dollars) of debt securities, equity securities and other securities specified therein, including but not limited to Class B common stock, preferred stock, stock purchase contracts, stock purchase units, depositary shares, warrants and subscription rights of the Company and pass through certificates (the "Registration Statement"), which was approved by the Board of Directors of the Company on September 12, 2005, including specifically, but not limited to, power and authority to sign for the undersigned in the capacity as a director and/or officer of the Company the Registration Statement, and any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) thereto, and the undersigned does hereby ratify and confirm all that such person or persons shall do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

September 12, 2005

By: /s/ Chris T. Kenny

Chris T. Kenny

Exhibit 25.1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D. C. 20549

FORM T-1

STATEMENT OF ELIGIBILITY UNDER THE TRUST INDENTURE ACT OF 1939 OF A CORPORATION DESIGNATED TO ACT AS TRUSTEE

CHECK IF AN APPLICATION TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY OF A TRUSTEE PURSUANT TO SECTION 305(b)(2) ____

> J. P. MORGAN TRUST COMPANY, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (Exact name of trustee as specified in its charter)

(State of incorporation if not a national bank)

1999 Avenue of the Stars – Floor 26 Los Angeles, CA (Address of principal executive offices)

> Thomas F. Godfrey Vice President and Assistant General Counsel J. P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association 1 Chase Manhattan Plaza, 25th Floor New York, New York 10081 Tel: (212) 552-2192 (Name, address and telephone number of agent for service)

Continental Airlines, Inc.

(Exact name of obligor as specified in its charter)

Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of

incorporation or organization)

1600 Smith Street, Dept. HQSEO Houston, Texas (Address of principal executive offices) 74-2099724 (I.R.S. employer identification No.)

> 77**002** (Zip Code)

SENIOR DEBT SECURITIES (Title of the indenture securities)

95-4655078 (I.R.S. employer identification No.)

> **90067** (Zip Code)

Item 1. General Information.

Furnish the following information as to the trustee:

(a) Name and address of each examining or supervising authority to which it is subject.

Comptroller of the Currency, Washington, D.C. Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, Washington, D.C.

(b) Whether it is authorized to exercise corporate trust powers.

Yes.

Item 2. Affiliations with Obligor.

If the Obligor is an affiliate of the trustee, describe each such affiliation.

None.

No responses are included for Items 3-15 of this Form T-1 because the Obligor is not in default as provided under Item 13.

Item 16. List of Exhibits.

List below all exhibits filed as part of this statement of eligibility.

- Exhibit 1. Articles of Association of the Trustee as Now in Effect (see Exhibit 1 to Form T-1 filed in connection with Form 8K of the Southern California Water Company filing, dated December 7, 2001, which is incorporated by reference).
- Exhibit 2. Certificate of Authority of the Trustee to Commence Business (see Exhibit 2 to Form T-1 filed in connection with Registration Statement No. 333-41329, which is incorporated by reference).
- Exhibit 3. Authorization of the Trustee to Exercise Corporate Trust Powers (contained in Exhibit 2).
- Exhibit 4. Existing By-Laws of the Trustee (see Exhibit 4 to Form T-1 filed in connection with Form 8K of the Southern California Water Company filing, dated December 7, 2001, which is incorporated by reference).
- Exhibit 5. Not Applicable
- Exhibit 6. The consent of the Trustee required by Section 321 (b) of the Act (see Exhibit 6 to Form T-1 filed in connection with Registration Statement No. 333-41329, which is incorporated by reference).
- Exhibit 7. A copy of the latest report of condition of the Trustee, published pursuant to law or the requirements of its supervising or examining authority.
- Exhibit 8. Not Applicable
- Exhibit 9. Not Applicable

2

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, the Trustee, J. P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association, has duly caused this statement of eligibility and qualification to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, all in the City of Houston, and State of Texas, on the 9th day of September, 2005.

J. P. Morgan Trust Company, National Association

By /s/ MARY JANE HENSON Mary Jane Henson Vice President

Exhibit 7. Report of Condition of the Trustee.

Consolidated Report of Condition of J.P. Morgan Trust Company, N.A., (formerly Chase Manhattan Bank and Trust Company, N.A.) (Legal Title)

Located at	1800 Century Park East, Ste. 400	Los Angeles,	CA	90067
	(Street)	(City)	(State)	(Zip)
	()	(()	
as of close of business on <u>l</u>	<u>March 31, 2005</u>			
				(\$000)
Assets				(\$000)
Cash and Due From E	Banks			\$ 29,397
Securities				207,530
Loans and Leases				110,719
Premises and Fixed A	lssets			8,753
Intangible Assets				370,377
Goodwill				202,094
Other Assets				42,767
Total Assets				\$971,637
Liabilities				
Deposits				\$121,455
Other Liabilities				55,518
Total Liabilities				176,973
Equity Capital				
Common Stock				600
Surplus				701,587
Retained Earnings				92,477
Total Equity Capita	al			794,664
				* • • • • • • • •
Total Liabilities an	d Equity Capital			\$971,637

4

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM T-1

STATEMENT OF ELIGIBILITY UNDER THE TRUST INDENTURE ACT OF 1939 OF A **CORPORATION DESIGNATED TO ACT AS TRUSTEE**

> Check if an Application to Determine Eligibility of a Trustee Pursuant to Section 305(b)(2)

WILMINGTON TRUST COMPANY

(Exact name of Trustee as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction or incorporation or organization)

51-0055023 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

1100 North Market Street Wilmington, Delaware 19890-0001 (302) 651-1000 (Address of principal executive offices)

Cynthia L. Corliss Vice President and Assistant General Counsel Wilmington Trust Company 1100 North Market Street Wilmington, Delaware 19890 (302) 651-8516

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent of service)

CONTINENTAL AIRLINES, INC.

(Exact name of obligor as specified in its charter)

Delaware

(State or other jurisdiction or incorporation or organization)

74-2099724 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

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

Jennifer L. Vogel, Esq. Senior Vice President and General Counsel 1600 Smith Street, Dept. HQSLG Houston, Texas 77002 (713) 758-2222 (Name, address and telephone number of agent of service)

> **Pass Through Certificates** (Title of the Indenture Securities)

ITEM 1. GENERAL INFORMATION.

Furnish the following information as to the trustee:

Name and address of each examining or supervising authority to which it is subject. (a)

Federal Deposit Insurance Co.	State Bank Commissioner
Five Penn Center	Dover, Delaware

Suite #2901 Philadelphia, PA

(b) Whether it is authorized to exercise corporate trust powers.

The trustee is authorized to exercise corporate trust powers.

ITEM 2. AFFILIATIONS WITH THE OBLIGOR.

If the obligor is an affiliate of the trustee, describe each affiliation:

Based upon an examination of the books and records of the trustee and upon information furnished by the obligor, the obligor is not an affiliate of the trustee.

ITEM 16. LIST OF EXHIBITS.

List below all exhibits filed as part of this Statement of Eligibility and Qualification.

- 1. Copy of the Charter of Wilmington Trust Company, which includes the certificate of authority of Wilmington Trust Company to commence business (Exhibit 2) and the authorization of Wilmington Trust Company to exercise corporate trust powers (Exhibit 3).
- Copy of By-Laws of Wilmington Trust Company. 4.
- 6. Consent of Wilmington Trust Company required by Section 321(b) of Trust Indenture Act.
- 7. Copy of most recent Report of Condition of Wilmington Trust Company.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, the trustee, Wilmington Trust Company, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Delaware, has duly caused this Statement of Eligibility to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, all in the City of Wilmington and State of Delaware on the 13th day of September, 2005.

WILMINGTON TRUST COMPANY

[SEAL]

Attest: /s/ Christopher J. Monigle Assistant Secretary

By: /s/ Patricia A. Evans Name: Patricia A. Evans Title: Vice President

2

EXHIBIT 1

AMENDED CHARTER

Wilmington Trust Company

Wilmington, Delaware

As existing on May 9, 1987

Amended Charter or Act of Incorporation of Wilmington Trust Company

Wilmington Trust Company, originally incorporated by an Act of the General Assembly of the State of Delaware, entitled "An Act to Incorporate the Delaware Guarantee and Trust Company", approved March 2, A.D. 1901, and the name of which company was changed to "**Wilmington Trust Company**" by an amendment filed in the Office of the Secretary of State on March 18, A.D. 1903, and the Charter or Act of Incorporation of which company has been from time to time amended and changed by merger agreements pursuant to the corporation law for state banks and trust companies of the State of Delaware, does hereby alter and amend its Charter or Act of Incorporation so that the same as so altered and amended shall in its entirety read as follows:

First: - The name of this corporation is Wilmington Trust Company.

Second: - The location of its principal office in the State of Delaware is at Rodney Square North, in the City of Wilmington, County of New Castle; the name of its resident agent is **Wilmington Trust Company** whose address is Rodney Square North, in said City. In addition to such principal office, the said corporation maintains and operates branch offices in the City of Newark, New Castle County, Delaware, the Town of Newport, New Castle County, Delaware, at Claymont, New Castle County, Delaware, at Greenville, New Castle County Delaware, and at Milford Cross Roads, New Castle County, Delaware, and shall be empowered to open, maintain and operate branch offices at Ninth and Shipley Streets, 418 Delaware Avenue, 2120 Market Street, and 3605 Market Street, all in the City of Wilmington, New Castle County, Delaware, and such other branch offices or places of business as may be authorized from time to time by the agency or agencies of the government of the State of Delaware empowered to confer such authority.

Third: - (a) The nature of the business and the objects and purposes proposed to be transacted, promoted or carried on by this Corporation are to do any or all of the things herein mentioned as fully and to the same extent as natural persons might or could do and in any part of the world, viz.:

(1) To sue and be sued, complain and defend in any Court of law or equity and to make and use a common seal, and alter the seal at pleasure, to hold, purchase, convey, mortgage or otherwise deal in real and personal estate and property, and to appoint such officers and agents as the business of the Corporation shall require, to make by-laws not inconsistent with the Constitution or laws of the United States or of this State, to discount bills, notes or other evidences of debt, to receive deposits of money, or securities for money, to buy gold and silver

bullion and foreign coins, to buy and sell bills of exchange, and generally to use, exercise and enjoy all the powers, rights, privileges and franchises incident to a corporation which are proper or necessary for the transaction of the business of the Corporation hereby created.

(2) To insure titles to real and personal property, or any estate or interests therein, and to guarantee the holder of such property, real or personal, against any claim or claims, adverse to his interest therein, and to prepare and give certificates of title for any lands or premises in the State of Delaware, or elsewhere.

(3) To act as factor, agent, broker or attorney in the receipt, collection, custody, investment and management of funds, and the purchase, sale, management and disposal of property of all descriptions, and to prepare and execute all papers which may be necessary or proper in such business.

(4) To prepare and draw agreements, contracts, deeds, leases, conveyances, mortgages, bonds and legal papers of every description, and to carry on the business of conveyancing in all its branches.

(5) To receive upon deposit for safekeeping money, jewelry, plate, deeds, bonds and any and all other personal property of every sort and kind, from executors, administrators, guardians, public officers, courts, receivers, assignees, trustees, and from all fiduciaries, and from all other persons and individuals, and from all corporations whether state, municipal, corporate or private, and to rent boxes, safes, vaults and other receptacles for such property.

(6) To act as agent or otherwise for the purpose of registering, issuing, certificating, countersigning, transferring or underwriting the stock, bonds or other obligations of any corporation, association, state or municipality, and may receive and manage any sinking fund therefor on such terms as may be agreed upon between the two parties, and in like manner may act as Treasurer of any corporation or municipality.

(7) To act as Trustee under any deed of trust, mortgage, bond or other instrument issued by any state, municipality, body politic, corporation, association or person, either alone or in conjunction with any other person or persons, corporation or corporations.

(8) To guarantee the validity, performance or effect of any contract or agreement, and the fidelity of persons holding places of responsibility or trust; to become surety for any person, or persons, for the faithful performance of any trust, office, duty, contract or agreement, either by itself or in conjunction with

²

any other person, or persons, corporation, or corporations, or in like manner become surety upon any bond, recognizance, obligation, judgment, suit, order, or decree to be entered in any court of record within the State of Delaware or elsewhere, or which may now or hereafter be required by any law, judge, officer or court in the State of Delaware or elsewhere.

(9) To act by any and every method of appointment as trustee, trustee in bankruptcy, receiver, assignee, assignee in bankruptcy, executor, administrator, guardian, bailee, or in any other trust capacity in the receiving, holding, managing, and disposing of any and all estates and property, real, personal or mixed, and to be appointed as such trustee, trustee in bankruptcy, receiver, assignee, assignee in bankruptcy, executor, administrator, guardian or bailee by any persons, corporations, court, officer, or authority, in the State of Delaware or elsewhere; and whenever this Corporation is so appointed by any person, corporation, court, officer or authority such trustee, trustee in bankruptcy, receiver, assignee in bankruptcy, receiver, assignee in bankruptcy, executor, administrator, guardian, bailee, or in any other trust capacity, it shall not be required to give bond with surety, but its capital stock shall be taken and held as security for the performance of the duties devolving upon it by such appointment.

(10) And for its care, management and trouble, and the exercise of any of its powers hereby given, or for the performance of any of the duties which it may undertake or be called upon to perform, or for the assumption of any responsibility the said Corporation may be entitled to receive a proper compensation.

(11) To purchase, receive, hold and own bonds, mortgages, debentures, shares of capital stock, and other securities, obligations, contracts and evidences of indebtedness, of any private, public or municipal corporation within and without the State of Delaware, or of the Government of the United States, or of any state, territory, colony, or possession thereof, or of any foreign government or country; to receive, collect, receipt for, and dispose of interest, dividends and income upon and from any of the bonds, mortgages, debentures, notes, shares of capital stock, securities, obligations, contracts, evidences of indebtedness and other property held and owned by it, and to exercise in respect of all such bonds, mortgages, debentures, notes, shares of capital stock, securities, obligations, contracts, evidences of indebtedness and other property, any and all the rights, powers and privileges of individual owners thereof, including the right to vote thereon; to invest and deal in and with any of the moneys of the Corporation upon such securities and in such manner as it may think fit and proper, and from time to time to vary or realize such investments; to issue bonds and secure the same by pledges or deeds of trust or mortgages of or upon the whole or any part of the property held or owned by the Corporation, and to sell and pledge such

3

bonds, as and when the Board of Directors shall determine, and in the promotion of its said corporate business of investment and to the extent authorized by law, to lease, purchase, hold, sell, assign, transfer, pledge, mortgage and convey real and personal property of any name and nature and any estate or interest therein.

(b) In furtherance of, and not in limitation, of the powers conferred by the laws of the State of Delaware, it is hereby expressly provided that the said Corporation shall also have the following powers:

(1) To do any or all of the things herein set forth, to the same extent as natural persons might or could do, and in any part of the world.

(2) To acquire the good will, rights, property and franchises and to undertake the whole or any part of the assets and liabilities of any person, firm, association or corporation, and to pay for the same in cash, stock of this Corporation, bonds or otherwise; to hold or in any manner to dispose of the whole or any part of the property so purchased; to conduct in any lawful manner the whole or any part of any business so acquired, and to exercise all the powers necessary or convenient in and about the conduct and management of such business.

(3) To take, hold, own, deal in, mortgage or otherwise lien, and to lease, sell, exchange, transfer, or in any manner whatever dispose of property, real, personal or mixed, wherever situated.

(4) To enter into, make, perform and carry out contracts of every kind with any person, firm, association or corporation, and, without limit as to amount, to draw, make, accept, endorse, discount, execute and issue promissory notes, drafts, bills of exchange, warrants, bonds, debentures, and other negotiable or transferable instruments.

(5) To have one or more offices, to carry on all or any of its operations and businesses, without restriction to the same extent as natural persons might or could do, to purchase or otherwise acquire, to hold, own, to mortgage, sell, convey or otherwise dispose of, real and personal property, of every class and description, in any State, District, Territory or Colony of the United States, and in any foreign country or place.

(6) It is the intention that the objects, purposes and powers specified and clauses contained in this paragraph shall (except where otherwise expressed in said paragraph) be nowise limited or restricted by reference to or inference from the terms of any other clause of this or any other paragraph in this charter, but that the objects, purposes and powers specified in each of the clauses of this paragraph shall be regarded as independent objects, purposes and powers.

Fourth: - (a) The total number of shares of all classes of stock which the Corporation shall have authority to issue is forty-one million (41,000,000) shares, consisting of:

(1) One million (1,000,000) shares of Preferred stock, par value \$10.00 per share (hereinafter referred to as "Preferred Stock"); and

(2) Forty million (40,000,000) shares of Common Stock, par value \$1.00 per share (hereinafter referred to as "Common Stock").

(b) Shares of Preferred Stock may be issued from time to time in one or more series as may from time to time be determined by the Board of Directors each of said series to be distinctly designated. All shares of any one series of Preferred Stock shall be alike in every particular, except that there may be different dates from which dividends, if any, thereon shall be cumulative, if made cumulative. The voting powers and the preferences and relative, participating, optional and other special rights of each such series, and the qualifications, limitations or restrictions thereof, if any, may differ from those of any and all other series at any time outstanding; and, subject to the provisions of subparagraph 1 of Paragraph (c) of this Article **Fourth**, the Board of Directors of the Corporation is hereby expressly granted authority to fix by resolution or resolutions adopted prior to the issuance of any shares of a particular series of Preferred Stock, the voting powers and the designations, preferences and relative, optional and other special rights, and the qualifications, limitations and restrictions of such series, including, but without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the following:

(1) The distinctive designation of, and the number of shares of Preferred Stock which shall constitute such series, which number may be increased (except where otherwise provided by the Board of Directors) or decreased (but not below the number of shares thereof then outstanding) from time to time by like action of the Board of Directors;

(2) The rate and times at which, and the terms and conditions on which, dividends, if any, on Preferred Stock of such series shall be paid, the extent of the preference or relation, if any, of such dividends to the dividends payable on any other class or classes, or series of the same or other class of stock and whether such dividends shall be cumulative or non-cumulative;

(3) The right, if any, of the holders of Preferred Stock of such series to convert the same into or exchange the same for, shares of any other class or classes or of any series of the same or any other class or classes of stock of the Corporation and the terms and conditions of such conversion or exchange;

(4) Whether or not Preferred Stock of such series shall be subject to redemption,

and the redemption price or prices and the time or times at which, and the terms and conditions on which, Preferred Stock of such series may be redeemed.

(5) The rights, if any, of the holders of Preferred Stock of such series upon the voluntary or involuntary liquidation, merger, consolidation, distribution or sale of assets, dissolution or winding-up, of the Corporation.

(6) The terms of the sinking fund or redemption or purchase account, if any, to be provided for the Preferred Stock of such series; and

(7) The voting powers, if any, of the holders of such series of Preferred Stock which may, without limiting the generality of the foregoing include the right, voting as a series or by itself or together with other series of Preferred Stock or all series of Preferred Stock as a class, to elect one or more directors of the Corporation if there shall have been a default in the payment of dividends on any one or more series of Preferred Stock or under such circumstances and on such conditions as the Board of Directors may determine.

(c) (1) After the requirements with respect to preferential dividends on the Preferred Stock (fixed in accordance with the provisions of section (b) of this Article **Fourth**), if any, shall have been met and after the Corporation shall have complied with all the requirements, if any, with respect to the setting aside of sums as sinking funds or redemption or purchase accounts (fixed in accordance with the provisions of section (b) of this Article **Fourth**), and subject further to any conditions which may be fixed in accordance with the provisions of section (b) of this Article **Fourth**, then and not otherwise the holders of Common Stock shall be entitled to receive such dividends as may be declared from time to time by the Board of Directors.

(2) After distribution in full of the preferential amount, if any, (fixed in accordance with the provisions of section (b) of this Article **Fourth**), to be distributed to the holders of Preferred Stock in the event of voluntary or involuntary liquidation, distribution or sale of assets, dissolution or winding-up, of the Corporation, the holders of the Common Stock shall be entitled to receive all of the remaining assets of the Corporation, tangible and intangible, of whatever kind available for distribution to stockholders ratably in proportion to the number of shares of Common Stock held by them respectively.

(3) Except as may otherwise be required by law or by the provisions of such resolution or resolutions as may be adopted by the Board of Directors pursuant to section (b) of this Article **Fourth**, each holder of Common Stock shall have one vote in respect of each share of Common Stock held on all matters voted upon by the stockholders.

⁶

(d) No holder of any of the shares of any class or series of stock or of options, warrants or other rights to purchase shares of any class or series of stock or of other securities of the Corporation shall have any preemptive right to purchase or subscribe for any unissued stock of any class or series or any additional shares of any class or series to be issued by reason of any increase of the authorized capital stock of the Corporation of any class or series, or bonds, certificates of indebtedness, debentures or other securities convertible into or exchangeable for stock of the Corporation of any class or series, or carrying any right to purchase stock of any class or series, but any such unissued stock, additional authorized issue of shares of any class or series of stock or securities convertible into or exchangeable for stock, may be issued and disposed of pursuant to resolution of the Board of Directors to such persons, firms, corporations or associations, whether such holders or others, and upon such terms as may be deemed advisable by the Board of Directors in the exercise of its sole discretion.

(e) The relative powers, preferences and rights of each series of Preferred Stock in relation to the relative powers, preferences and rights of each other series of Preferred Stock shall, in each case, be as fixed from time to time by the Board of Directors in the resolution or resolutions adopted pursuant to authority granted in section (b) of this Article **Fourth** and the consent, by class or series vote or otherwise, of the holders of such of the series of Preferred Stock as are from time to time outstanding shall not be required for the issuance by the Board of Directors of any other series of Preferred Stock whether or not the powers, preferences and rights of such other series shall be fixed by the Board of Directors as senior to, or on a parity with, the powers, preferences and rights of such outstanding series, or any of them; provided, however, that the Board of Directors may provide in the resolution or resolutions as to any series of Preferred Stock adopted pursuant to section (b) of this Article **Fourth** that the consent of the holders of a majority (or such greater proportion as shall be therein fixed) of the outstanding shares of such series voting thereon shall be required for the issuance of any or all other series of Preferred Stock.

(f) Subject to the provisions of section (e), shares of any series of Preferred Stock may be issued from time to time as the Board of Directors of the Corporation shall determine and on such terms and for such consideration as shall be fixed by the Board of Directors.

(g) Shares of Common Stock may be issued from time to time as the Board of Directors of the Corporation shall determine and on such terms and for such consideration as shall be fixed by the Board of Directors.

(h) The authorized amount of shares of Common Stock and of Preferred Stock may, without a class or series vote, be increased or decreased from time to time by the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the stock of the Corporation entitled to

vote thereon.

Fifth: - (a) The business and affairs of the Corporation shall be conducted and managed by a Board of Directors. The number of directors constituting the entire Board shall be not less than five nor more than twenty-five as fixed from time to time by vote of a majority of the whole Board, provided, however, that the number of directors shall not be reduced so as to shorten the term of any director at the time in office, and provided further, that the number of directors constituting the whole Board shall be twenty-four until otherwise fixed by a majority of the whole Board.

(b) The Board of Directors shall be divided into three classes, as nearly equal in number as the then total number of directors constituting the whole Board permits, with the term of office of one class expiring each year. At the annual meeting of stockholders in 1982, directors of the first class shall be elected to hold office for a term expiring at the next succeeding annual meeting, directors of the second class shall be elected to hold office for a term expiring at the next succeeding annual meeting, directors of the second class shall be elected to hold office for a term expiring at the third succeeding annual meeting. Any vacancies in the Board of Directors for any reason, and any newly created directorships resulting from any increase in the directors, may be filled by the Board of Directors, acting by a majority of the directors then in office, although less than a quorum, and any directors so chosen shall hold office until the next annual election of directors. At such election, the stockholders shall elect a successor to such director to hold office until the next election of the class for which such director shall have been chosen and until his successor shall be elected and qualified. No decrease in the number of directors shall shorten the term of any incumbent director.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Charter or Act of Incorporation or the By-Laws of the Corporation (and notwithstanding the fact that some lesser percentage may be specified by law, this Charter or Act of Incorporation or the By-Laws of the Corporation), any director or the entire Board of Directors of the Corporation may be removed at any time without cause, but only by the affirmative vote of the holders of two-thirds or more of the outstanding shares of capital stock of the Corporation entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (considered for this purpose as one class) cast at a meeting of the stockholders called for that purpose.

(d) Nominations for the election of directors may be made by the Board of Directors or by any stockholder entitled to vote for the election of directors. Such nominations shall be made by notice in writing, delivered or mailed by first class United States mail, postage prepaid, to the Secretary of the Corporation not less than 14 days nor more than 50 days prior to any meeting of the stockholders called for the election of directors; provided, however, that if less than 21 days' notice of the meeting is given to stockholders, such written notice shall be delivered or mailed, as prescribed, to the

Secretary of the Corporation not later than the close of the seventh day following the day on which notice of the meeting was mailed to stockholders. Notice of nominations which are proposed by the Board of Directors shall be given by the Chairman on behalf of the Board.

(e) Each notice under subsection (d) shall set forth (i) the name, age, business address and, if known, residence address of each nominee proposed in such notice, (ii) the principal occupation or employment of such nominee and (iii) the number of shares of stock of the Corporation which are beneficially owned by each such nominee.

(f) The Chairman of the meeting may, if the facts warrant, determine and declare to the meeting that a nomination was not made in accordance with the foregoing procedure, and if he should so determine, he shall so declare to the meeting and the defective nomination shall be disregarded.

(g) No action required to be taken or which may be taken at any annual or special meeting of stockholders of the Corporation may be taken without a meeting, and the power of stockholders to consent in writing, without a meeting, to the taking of any action is specifically denied.

Sixth: - The Directors shall choose such officers, agents and servants as may be provided in the By-Laws as they may from time to time find necessary or proper.

Seventh: - The Corporation hereby created is hereby given the same powers, rights and privileges as may be conferred upon corporations organized under the Act entitled "An Act Providing a General Corporation Law", approved March 10, 1899, as from time to time amended.

Eighth: - This Act shall be deemed and taken to be a private Act.

Ninth: - This Corporation is to have perpetual existence.

Tenth: - The Board of Directors, by resolution passed by a majority of the whole Board, may designate any of their number to constitute an Executive Committee, which Committee, to the extent provided in said resolution, or in the By-Laws of the Company, shall have and may exercise all of the powers of the Board of Directors in the management of the business and affairs of the Corporation, and shall have power to authorize the seal of the Corporation to be affixed to all papers which may require it.

Eleventh: - The private property of the stockholders shall not be liable for the payment of corporate debts to any extent whatever.

Twelfth: - The Corporation may transact business in any part of the world.

Thirteenth: - The Board of Directors of the Corporation is expressly authorized to make, alter or repeal the By-Laws of the Corporation by a vote of the majority of the entire Board. The stockholders may make, alter or repeal any By-Law whether or not adopted by them, provided however, that any such additional By-Laws, alterations or repeal may be adopted only by the affirmative vote of the holders of two-thirds or more of the outstanding shares of capital stock of the Corporation entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (considered for this purpose as one class).

Fourteenth: - Meetings of the Directors may be held outside of the State of Delaware at such places as may be from time to time designated by the Board, and the Directors may keep the books of the Company outside of the State of Delaware at such places as may be from time to time designated by them.

Fifteenth: - (a) (1) In addition to any affirmative vote required by law, and except as otherwise expressly provided in sections (b) and (c) of this Article **Fifteenth:**

(A) any merger or consolidation of the Corporation or any Subsidiary (as hereinafter defined) with or into (i) any Interested Stockholder (as hereinafter defined) or (ii) any other corporation (whether or not itself an Interested Stockholder), which, after such merger or consolidation, would be an Affiliate (as hereinafter defined) of an Interested Stockholder, or

(B) any sale, lease, exchange, mortgage, pledge, transfer or other disposition (in one transaction or a series of related transactions) to or with any Interested Stockholder or any Affiliate of any Interested Stockholder of any assets of the Corporation or any Subsidiary having an aggregate fair market value of \$1,000,000 or more, or

(C) the issuance or transfer by the Corporation or any Subsidiary (in one transaction or a series of related transactions) of any securities of the Corporation or any Subsidiary to any Interested Stockholder or any Affiliate of any Interested Stockholder in exchange for cash, securities or other property (or a combination thereof) having an aggregate fair market value of \$1,000,000 or more, or

(D) the adoption of any plan or proposal for the liquidation or dissolution of the Corporation, or

(E) any reclassification of securities (including any reverse stock split), or recapitalization of the Corporation, or any merger or consolidation of the Corporation with any of its Subsidiaries or any similar transaction (whether or not with or into or otherwise involving an Interested Stockholder) which has the effect, directly or indirectly, of increasing the proportionate share of the

outstanding shares of any class of equity or convertible securities of the Corporation or any Subsidiary which is directly or indirectly owned by any Interested Stockholder, or any Affiliate of any Interested Stockholder,

shall require the affirmative vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of the outstanding shares of capital stock of the Corporation entitled to vote generally in the election of directors, considered for the purpose of this Article **Fifteenth** as one class ("Voting Shares"). Such affirmative vote shall be required notwithstanding the fact that no vote may be required, or that some lesser percentage may be specified, by law or in any agreement with any national securities exchange or otherwise.

(2) The term "business combination" as used in this Article **Fifteenth** shall mean any transaction which is referred to in any one or more of clauses (A) through (E) of paragraph 1 of the section (a).

(b) The provisions of section (a) of this Article **Fifteenth** shall not be applicable to any particular business combination and such business combination shall require only such affirmative vote as is required by law and any other provisions of the Charter or Act of Incorporation or By-Laws if such business combination has been approved by a majority of the whole Board.

(c) For the purposes of this Article **Fifteenth**:

(1) A "person" shall mean any individual, firm, corporation or other entity.

(2) "Interested Stockholder" shall mean, in respect of any business combination, any person (other than the Corporation or any Subsidiary) who or which as of the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to notice of and to vote on such business combination, or immediately prior to the consummation of any such transaction:

(A) is the beneficial owner, directly or indirectly, of more than 10% of the Voting Shares, or

(B) is an Affiliate of the Corporation and at any time within two years prior thereto was the beneficial owner, directly or indirectly, of not less than 10% of the then outstanding voting Shares, or

(C) is an assignee of or has otherwise succeeded in any share of capital stock of the Corporation which were at any time within two years prior thereto beneficially owned by any Interested Stockholder, and such assignment or succession shall have occurred in the course of a transaction or series of transactions not involving a public offering within the meaning of the Securities

Act of 1933.

(3) A person shall be the "beneficial owner" of any Voting Shares:

(A) which such person or any of its Affiliates and Associates (as hereafter defined) beneficially own, directly or indirectly, or

(B) which such person or any of its Affiliates or Associates has (i) the right to acquire (whether such right is exercisable immediately or only after the passage of time), pursuant to any agreement, arrangement or understanding or upon the exercise of conversion rights, exchange rights, warrants or options, or otherwise, or (ii) the right to vote pursuant to any agreement, arrangement or understanding, or

(C) which are beneficially owned, directly or indirectly, by any other person with which such first mentioned person or any of its Affiliates or Associates has any agreement, arrangement or understanding for the purpose of acquiring, holding, voting or disposing of any shares of capital stock of the Corporation.

(4) The outstanding Voting Shares shall include shares deemed owned through application of paragraph (3) above but shall not include any other Voting Shares which may be issuable pursuant to any agreement, or upon exercise of conversion rights, warrants or options or otherwise.

(5) "Affiliate" and "Associate" shall have the respective meanings given those terms in Rule 12b-2 of the General Rules and Regulations under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as in effect on December 31, 1981.

(6) "Subsidiary" shall mean any corporation of which a majority of any class of equity security (as defined in Rule 3a11-1 of the General Rules and Regulations under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as in effect on December 31, 1981) is owned, directly or indirectly, by the Corporation; provided, however, that for the purposes of the definition of Investment Stockholder set forth in paragraph (2) of this section (c), the term "Subsidiary" shall mean only a corporation of which a majority of each class of equity security is owned, directly or indirectly, by the Corporation.

(d) majority of the directors shall have the power and duty to determine for the purposes of this Article **Fifteenth** on the basis of information known to them, (1) the number of Voting Shares beneficially owned by any person (2) whether a person is an Affiliate or Associate of another, (3) whether a person has an agreement, arrangement or understanding with another as to the matters referred to in paragraph (3) of section (c), or (4) whether the assets subject to any business combination or the consideration received for the issuance or transfer of

securities by the Corporation, or any Subsidiary has an aggregate fair market value of \$1,000,000 or more.

(e) Nothing contained in this Article Fifteenth shall be construed to relieve any Interested Stockholder from any fiduciary obligation imposed by law.

Sixteenth: Notwithstanding any other provision of this Charter or Act of Incorporation or the By-Laws of the Corporation (and in addition to any other vote that may be required by law, this Charter or Act of Incorporation by the By-Laws), the affirmative vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of the outstanding shares of the capital stock of the Corporation entitled to vote generally in the election of directors (considered for this purpose as one class) shall be required to amend, alter or repeal any provision of Articles **Fifth, Thirteenth, Fifteenth** or **Sixteenth** of this Charter or Act of Incorporation.

Seventeenth: (a) a Director of this Corporation shall not be liable to the Corporation or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a Director, except to the extent such exemption from liability or limitation thereof is not permitted under the Delaware General Corporation Laws as the same exists or may hereafter be amended.

(b) Any repeal or modification of the foregoing paragraph shall not adversely affect any right or protection of a Director of the Corporation existing hereunder with respect to any act or omission occurring prior to the time of such repeal or modification."

EXHIBIT 4

BY-LAWS

WILMINGTON TRUST COMPANY

WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

As existing on December 16, 2004

BY-LAWS OF WILMINGTON TRUST COMPANY

ARTICLE 1 Stockholders' Meetings

Section 1. <u>Annual Meeting</u>. The annual meeting of stockholders shall be held on the third Thursday in April each year at the principal office at the Company or at such other date, time or place as may be designated by resolution by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. <u>Special Meetings</u>. Special meetings of stockholders may be called at any time by the Board of Directors, the Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer or the President.

Section 3. <u>Notice</u>. Notice of all meetings of the stockholders shall be given by mailing to each stockholder at least ten (10) days before said meeting, at his last known address, a written or printed notice fixing the time and place of such meeting.

Section 4. <u>Quorum</u>. A majority in the amount of the capital stock of the Company issued and outstanding on the record date, as herein determined, shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of stockholders for the transaction of any business, but the holders of a smaller number of shares may adjourn from time to time, without further notice, until a quorum is secured. At each annual or special meeting of stockholders, each stockholder shall be entitled to one vote, either in person or by proxy, for each share of stock registered in the stockholder's name on the books of the Company on the record date for any such meeting as determined herein.

ARTICLE 2 Directors

Section 1. Management. The affairs and business of the Company shall be managed by or under the direction of the Board of Directors.

Section 2. <u>Number</u>. The authorized number of directors that shall constitute the Board of Directors shall be fixed from time to time by or pursuant to a resolution passed by a majority of the Board of Directors within the parameters set by the Charter of the Company. No more than two directors may also be employees of the Company or any affiliate thereof.

Section 3. <u>Qualification</u>. In addition to any other provisions of these Bylaws, to be qualified for nomination for election or appointment to the Board of Directors, a person must have not attained the age of sixty-nine years at the time of such election or appointment, provided however, the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee may waive such qualification as to a particular candidate otherwise qualified to serve as a director upon a good faith determination by such committee that such a waiver is in the best interests of the Company and

its stockholders. The Chairman of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer shall not be qualified to continue to serve as directors upon the termination of their service in those offices for any reason.

Section 4. <u>Meetings</u>. The Board of Directors shall meet at the principal office of the Company or elsewhere in its discretion at such times to be determined by a majority of its members, or at the call of the Chairman of the Board of Directors, the Chief Executive Officer or the President.

Section 5. <u>Special Meetings</u>. Special meetings of the Board of Directors may be called at any time by the Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer or the President, and shall be called upon the written request of a majority of the directors.

Section 6. <u>Quorum</u>. A majority of the directors elected and qualified shall be necessary to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Board of Directors.

Section 7. Notice. Written notice shall be sent by mail to each director of any special meeting of the Board of Directors, and of any change in the time or place of any regular meeting, stating the time and place of such meeting, which shall be mailed not less than two days before the time of holding such meeting.

Section 8. <u>Vacancies</u>. In the event of the death, resignation, removal, inability to act or disqualification of any director, the Board of Directors, although less than a quorum, shall have the right to elect the successor who shall hold office for the remainder of the full term of the class of directors in which the vacancy occurred, and until such director's successor shall have been duly elected and qualified.

Section 9. <u>Organization Meeting</u>. The Board of Directors at its first meeting after its election by the stockholders shall appoint an Audit Committee, a Compensation Committee and a Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee, and shall elect from its own members a Chairman of the Board, a Chief Executive Officer and a President, who may be the same person. The Board of Directors shall also elect at such meeting a Secretary and a Chief Financial Officer, who may be the same person, and may appoint at any time such committee as it may deem advisable. The Board of Directors may also elect at such meeting one or more Associate Directors. The Board of Directors, or a committee designated by the Board of Directors may elect or appoint such other officers as they may deem advisable.

Section 10. <u>Removal</u>. The Board of Directors may at any time remove, with or without cause, any member of any committee appointed by it or any associate director or officer elected by it and may appoint or elect his successor.

Section 11. <u>Responsibility of Officers</u>. The Board of Directors may designate an officer to be in charge of such departments or divisions of the Company as it may deem advisable.

Section 12. <u>Participation in Meetings</u>. The Board of Directors or any committee of the Board of Directors may participate in a meeting of the Board of Directors or such committee, as the case may be, by conference telephone, video facilities or other communications equipment. Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting of the Board of Directors or any committee thereof may be taken without a meeting if all of the members of the Board of Directors or the committee, as the case may be, consent thereto in writing, and the writing or writings are filed with the minutes of the Board of Directors or such committee.

ARTICLE 3 Committees of the Board of Directors

Section 1. Audit Committee.

(A) The Audit Committee shall be composed of not more than five (5) members, who shall be selected by the Board of Directors from its own members, none of whom shall be an officer or employee of the Company, and shall hold office at the pleasure of the Board.

(B) The Audit Committee shall have general supervision over the Audit Services Division in all matters however subject to the approval of the Board of Directors; it shall consider all matters brought to its attention by the officer in charge of the Audit Services Division, review all reports of examination of the Company made by any governmental agency or such independent auditor employed for that purpose, and make such recommendations to the Board of Directors with respect thereto or with respect to any other matters pertaining to auditing the Company as it shall deem desirable.

(C) The Audit Committee shall meet whenever and wherever its Chairperson, the Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer, the President or a majority of the Committee's members shall deem it to be proper for the transaction of its business. A majority of the Committee's members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The acts of the majority at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall constitute action by the Committee.

Section 2. Compensation Committee.

(A) The Compensation Committee shall be composed of not more than five (5) members, who shall be selected by the Board of Directors from its own members, none of whom shall be an officer or employee of the Company, and shall hold office at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.

(B) The Compensation Committee shall in general advise upon all matters of policy concerning compensation, including salaries and employee

benefits.

(C) The Compensation Committee shall meet whenever and wherever its Chairperson, the Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer, the President or a majority of the Committee's members shall deem it to be proper for the transaction of its business. A majority of the Committee's members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The acts of the majority at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall constitute action by the Committee.

Section 3. Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee.

(A) The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee shall be composed of not more than five members, who shall be selected by the Board of Directors from its own members, none of whom shall be an officer or employee of the Company, and shall hold office at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.

(B) The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee shall provide counsel and make recommendations to the Chairman of the Board and the full Board with respect to the performance of the Chairman of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer, candidates for membership on the Board of Directors and its committees, matters of corporate governance, succession planning for the Company's executive management and significant shareholder relations issues.

(C) The Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee shall meet whenever and wherever its Chairperson, the Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer, the President, or a majority of the Committee's members shall deem it to be proper for the transaction of its business. A majority of the Committee's members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The acts of the majority at a meeting at which a quorum is present shall constitute action by the Committee.

Section 4. <u>Other Committees</u>. The Company may have such other committees with such powers as the Board may designate from time to time by resolution or by an amendment to these Bylaws.

Section 5. Associate Directors.

(A) Any person who has served as a director may be elected by the Board of Directors as an associate director, to serve at the pleasure of the Board of Directors.

(B) Associate directors shall be entitled to attend all meetings of directors and participate in the discussion of all matters brought to the Board of Directors, but will not have a right to vote.

Section 6. <u>Absence or Disqualification of Any Member of a Committee.</u> In the absence or disqualification of any member of any committee created under Article III of these Bylaws, the member or members thereof present at any meeting and not disqualified from voting, whether or not he or they constitute a quorum, may unanimously appoint another member of the Board of Directors to act at the meeting in the place of any such absent or disqualified member.

ARTICLE 4 Officers

Section 1. <u>Chairman of the Board</u>. The Chairman of the Board shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and shall have such further authority and powers and shall perform such duties the Board of Directors may assign to him from time to time.

Section 2. <u>Chief Executive Officer</u>. The Chief Executive Officer shall have the powers and duties pertaining to the office of Chief Executive Officer conferred or imposed upon him by statute, incident to his office or as the Board of Directors may assign to him from time to time. In the absence of the Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer shall have the powers and duties of the Chairman of the Board.

Section 3. <u>President</u>. The President shall have the powers and duties pertaining to the office of the President conferred or imposed upon him by statute, incident to his office or as the Board of Directors may assign to him from time to time. In the absence of the Chairman of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer, the President shall have the powers and duties of the Chairman of the Board.

Section 4. <u>Duties</u>. The Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer or the President, as designated by the Board of Directors, shall carry into effect all legal directions of the Board of Directors and shall at all times exercise general supervision over the interest, affairs and operations of the Company and perform all duties incident to his office.

Section 5. <u>Vice Presidents</u>. There may be one or more Vice Presidents, however denominated by the Board of Directors, who may at any time perform all of the duties of the Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer and/or the President and such other powers and duties incident to their respective offices or as the Board of Directors, the Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer or the President or the officer in charge of the department or division to which they are assigned may assign to them from time to time.

Section 6. <u>Secretary</u>. The Secretary shall attend to the giving of notice of meetings of the stockholders and the Board of Directors, as well as the committees thereof, to the keeping of accurate minutes of all such meetings, recording the same in the minute books of the Company and in general notifying the Board of Directors of material matters affecting the Company on a timely basis. In

addition to the other notice requirements of these Bylaws and as may be practicable under the circumstances, all such notices shall be in writing and mailed well in advance of the scheduled date of any such meeting. He shall have custody of the corporate seal, affix the same to any documents requiring such corporate seal, attest the same and perform other duties incident to his office.

Section 7. <u>Chief Financial Officer</u>. The Chief Financial Officer shall have general supervision over all assets and liabilities of the Company. He shall be custodian of and responsible for all monies, funds and valuables of the Company and for the keeping of proper records of the evidence of property or indebtedness and of all transactions of the Company. He shall have general supervision of the expenditures of the Company and periodically shall report to the Board of Directors the condition of the Company, and perform such other duties incident to his office or as the Board of Directors, the Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer or the President may assign to him from time to time.

Section 8. <u>Controller</u>. There may be a Controller who shall exercise general supervision over the internal operations of the Company, including accounting, and shall render to the Board of Directors or the Audit Committee at appropriate times a report relating to the general condition and internal operations of the Company and perform other duties incident to his office.

There may be one or more subordinate accounting or controller officers however denominated, who may perform the duties of the Controller and such duties as may be prescribed by the Controller.

Section 9. <u>Audit Officers</u>. The officer designated by the Board of Directors to be in charge of the Audit Services Division of the Company, with such title as the Board of Directors shall prescribe, shall report to and be directly responsible to the Audit Committee and the Board of Directors.

There shall be an Auditor and there may be one or more Audit Officers, however denominated, who may perform all the duties of the Auditor and such duties as may be prescribed by the officer in charge of the Audit Services Division.

Section 10. <u>Other Officers</u>. There may be one or more officers, subordinate in rank to all Vice Presidents with such functional titles as shall be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors, who shall ex officio hold the office of Assistant Secretary of the Company and who may perform such duties as may be prescribed by the officer in charge of the department or division to which they are assigned.

Section 11. <u>Powers and Duties of Other Officers</u>. The powers and duties of all other officers of the Company shall be those usually pertaining to their respective offices, subject to the direction of the Board of Directors, the Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer or the President and the officer in charge of the department or division to which they are assigned.

Section 12. <u>Number of Offices</u>. Any one or more offices of the Company may be held by the same person, except that (A) no individual may hold more than one of the offices of Chief Financial Officer, Controller or Audit Officer and (B) none of the Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer or the President may hold any office mentioned in Section 12(A).

ARTICLE 5 Stock and Stock Certificates

Section 1. <u>Transfer</u>. Shares of stock shall be transferable on the books of the Company and a transfer book shall be kept in which all transfers of stock shall be recorded.

Section 2. <u>Certificates</u>. Every holder of stock shall be entitled to have a certificate signed by or in the name of the Company by the Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer or the President or a Vice President, and by the Secretary or an Assistant Secretary, of the Company, certifying the number of shares owned by him in the Company. The corporate seal affixed thereto, and any of or all the signatures on the certificate, may be a facsimile. In case any officer, transfer agent or registrar who has signed or whose facsimile signature has been placed upon a certificate shall have ceased to be such officer, transfer agent or registrar before such certificate is issued, it may be issued by the Company with the same effect as if he were such officer, transfer agent or registrar at the date of issue. Duplicate certificates of stock shall be issued only upon giving such security as may be satisfactory to the Board of Directors.

Section 3. <u>Record Date</u>. The Board of Directors is authorized to fix in advance a record date for the determination of the stockholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, any meeting of stockholders and any adjournment thereof, or entitled to receive payment of any dividend, or to any allotment of rights, or to exercise any rights in respect of any change, conversion or exchange of capital stock, or in connection with obtaining the consent of stockholders for any purpose, which record date shall not be more than 60 nor less than 10 days preceding the date of any meeting of stockholders or the date for the payment of any dividend, or the date for the allotment of rights, or the date when any change or conversion or exchange of capital stock shall go into effect, or a date in connection with obtaining such consent.

ARTICLE 6

<u>Seal</u>

The corporate seal of the Company shall be in the following form:

Between two concentric circles the words "Wilmington Trust Company" within the inner circle the words "Wilmington, Delaware."

ARTICLE 7 Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Company shall be the calendar year.

ARTICLE 8 Execution of Instruments of the Company

The Chairman of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer, the President or any Vice President, however denominated by the Board of Directors, shall have full power and authority to enter into, make, sign, execute, acknowledge and/or deliver and the Secretary or any Assistant Secretary shall have full power and authority to attest and affix the corporate seal of the Company to any and all deeds, conveyances, assignments, releases, contracts, agreements, bonds, notes, mortgages and all other instruments incident to the business of this Company or in acting as executor, administrator, guardian, trustee, agent or in any other fiduciary or representative capacity by any and every method of appointment or by whatever person, corporation, court officer or authority in the State of Delaware, or elsewhere, without any specific authority, ratification, approval or confirmation by the Board of Directors, and any and all such instruments shall have the same force and validity as though expressly authorized by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 9

Compensation of Directors and Members of Committees

Directors and associate directors of the Company, other than salaried officers of the Company, shall be paid such reasonable honoraria or fees for attending meetings of the Board of Directors as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine. Directors and associate directors who serve as members of committees, other than salaried employees of the Company, shall be paid such reasonable honoraria or fees for services as members of committees as the Board of Directors shall from time to time determine and directors and associate directors may be authorized by the Company to perform such special services as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine in accordance with any guidelines the Board of Directors may adopt for such services, and

shall be paid for such special services so performed reasonable compensation as may be determined by the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE 10 Indemnification

Section 1. <u>Persons Covered</u>. The Company shall indemnify and hold harmless, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law as it presently exists or may hereafter be amended, any person who was or is made or is threatened to be made a party or is otherwise involved in any action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (a "proceeding") by reason of the fact that he, or a person for whom he is the legal representative, is or was a director or associate director of the Company, a member of an advisory board the Board of Directors of the Company or any of its subsidiaries may appoint from time to time or is or was serving at the request of the Company as a director, officer, employee, fiduciary or agent of another corporation, partnership, limited liability company, joint venture, trust, enterprise or non-profit entity that is not a subsidiary or affiliate of the Company, including service with respect to employee benefit plans, against all liability and loss suffered and expenses reasonably incurred by such person. The Company shall be required to indemnify such a person in connection with a proceeding initiated by such person only if the proceeding was authorized by the Board of Directors.

The Company may indemnify and hold harmless, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law as it presently exists or may hereafter be amended, any person who was or is made or threatened to be made a party or is otherwise involved in any proceeding by reason of the fact that he, or a person for whom he is the legal representative, is or was an officer, employee or agent of the Company or a director, officer, employee or agent of a subsidiary or affiliate of the Company, against all liability and loss suffered and expenses reasonably incurred by such person. The Company may indemnify any such person in connection with a proceeding (or part thereof) initiated by such person only if such proceeding (or part thereof) was authorized by the Board of Directors.

Section 2. <u>Advance of Expenses</u>. The Company shall pay the expenses incurred in defending any proceeding involving a person who is or may be indemnified pursuant to Section 1 in advance of its final disposition, provided, however, that the payment of expenses incurred by such a person in advance of the final disposition of the proceeding shall be made only upon receipt of an undertaking by that person to repay all amounts advanced if it should be ultimately determined that the person is not entitled to be indemnified under this Article 10 or otherwise.

Section 3. <u>Certain Rights</u>. If a claim under this Article 10 for (A) payment of expenses or (B) indemnification by a director, associate director, member of an advisory board the Board of Directors of the Company or any of its subsidiaries may appoint from time to time or a person who is or was serving at the request of the Company as a director, officer, employee, fiduciary or agent of another corporation, partnership, limited liability company, joint venture, trust, enterprise or

nonprofit entity that is not a subsidiary or affiliate of the Company, including service with respect to employee benefit plans, is not paid in full within sixty days after a written claim therefor has been received by the Company, the claimant may file suit to recover the unpaid amount of such claim and, if successful in whole or in part, shall be entitled to be paid the expense of prosecuting such claim. In any such action, the Company shall have the burden of proving that the claimant was not entitled to the requested indemnification or payment of expenses under applicable law.

Section 4. <u>Non-Exclusive</u>. The rights conferred on any person by this Article 10 shall not be exclusive of any other rights which such person may have or hereafter acquire under any statute, provision of the Charter or Act of Incorporation, these Bylaws, agreement, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise.

Section 5. <u>Reduction of Amount</u>. The Company's obligation, if any, to indemnify any person who was or is serving at its request as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, enterprise or nonprofit entity shall be reduced by any amount such person may collect as indemnification from such other corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust, enterprise or nonprofit entity.

Section 6. <u>Effect of Modification</u>. Any amendment, repeal or modification of the foregoing provisions of this Article 10 shall not adversely affect any right or protection hereunder of any person in respect of any act or omission occurring prior to the time of such amendment, repeal or modification.

ARTICLE 11 Amendments to the Bylaws

These Bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed, in whole or in part, and any new Bylaw or Bylaws adopted at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors by a vote of a majority of all the members of the Board of Directors then in office.

ARTICLE 12 Miscellaneous

Whenever used in these Bylaws, the singular shall include the plural, the plural shall include the singular unless the context requires otherwise and the use of either gender shall include both genders.

EXHIBIT 6

Section 321(b) Consent

Pursuant to Section 321(b) of the Trust Indenture Act of 1939, as amended, Wilmington Trust Company hereby consents that reports of examinations by Federal, State, Territorial or District authorities may be furnished by such authorities to the Securities and Exchange Commission upon requests therefor.

WILMINGTON TRUST COMPANY

Dated: September 13, 2005

By: <u>/s/ Patricia A. Evans</u> Name: Patricia A. Evans Title: Vice President

EXHIBIT 7

NOTICE

This form is intended to assist state nonmember banks and savings banks with state publication requirements. It has not been approved by any state banking authorities. Refer to your appropriate state banking authorities for your state publication requirements.

REPORT OF CONDITION

Consolidating domestic subsidiaries of the

WILMINGTON TRUST COMPANY of WILMINGTON

Name of Bank

City

in the State of <u>DELAWARE</u>, at the close of business on June 30, 2005.

ASSETS

	Thousands of dollars
Cash and balances due from depository institutions:	
Noninterest-bearing balances and currency and coins	252,628
Interest-bearing balances	0
Held-to-maturity securities	2,754
Available-for-sale securities	1,556,160
Federal funds sold in domestic offices	364,797
Securities purchased under agreements to resell	11,106
Loans and lease financing receivables:	
Loans and leases held for sale	0
Loans and leases, net of unearned income	6,544,540
LESS: Allowance for loan and lease losses	83,071
Loans and leases, net of unearned income, allowance, and reserve	6,461,469
Assets held in trading accounts	0
Premises and fixed assets (including capitalized leases)	137,660
Other real estate owned	199
Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries and associated companies	1,609
Customers' liability to this bank on acceptances outstanding	0
Intangible assets:	
a. Goodwill	157
b. Other intangible assets	9,709
Other assets	156,764
Total assets	8,955,012

2

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

LIABILITIES

Deposits:	
In domestic offices	7,018,170
Noninterest-bearing	1,126,816
Interest-bearing	5,891,354
Federal funds purchased in domestic offices	322,675
Securities sold under agreements to repurchase	338,964
Trading liabilities (from Schedule RC-D)	0
Other borrowed money (includes mortgage indebtedness and obligations under capitalized leases:	406,251
Bank's liability on acceptances executed and outstanding	0
Subordinated notes and debentures	0
Other liabilities (from Schedule RC-G)	157,959
Total liabilities	8,244,019

EQUITY CAPITAL

Perpetual preferred stock and related surplus	0
Common Stock	500
Surplus (exclude all surplus related to preferred stock)	112,358
a. Retained earnings	625,947
b. Accumulated other comprehensive income	(27,812)
Total equity capital	710,993
Total liabilities, limited-life preferred stock, and equity capital	8,955,012