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CONTACT:

Jarek Beem
ASA Corporate Communications
O: 404-856-1199
C: 404-803-3641

Atlantic Southeast Airlines jet doubles as sleigh for young fliers' visit to Children's Museum of Wilmington in Wilmington, N.C.

Thirty two children visit Santa Claus at Children's Museum of Wilmington

ATLANTA, Dec. 8, 2009 – Atlantic Southeast Airlines (ASA), a wholly owned subsidiary of SkyWest, Inc. (NASDAQ: SKYW), today will fly 32 students from Hendrix Drive Elementary School in Forest Park, Ga., to visit Santa Claus in Wilmington, N.C. The students will depart Atlanta aboard a 50-seat Bombardier CRJ200 regional jet – dubbed Santa's Special Sleigh – and return at the end of the day.

The students were chosen to fly aboard Santa's Special Sleigh as a reward for excelling in Hendrix Drive Elementary School's reading program. Each year more than 200 students compete for a seat on Santa's Special Sleigh by using Accelerated Reader (AR), a computerized reading program that tests reading comprehension.

ASA is a partner with Hendrix Drive Elementary School through Clayton County's "Adopt-A-School" program. This is the seventh year that Santa's Special Sleigh will take flight.

"Santa's Special Sleigh is the first opportunity to experience the excitement of flying for many of these students," said Lisa Walker, vice president of Operational Support. "They have worked hard to excel in their reading, and ASA is proud to be part of rewarding their accomplishments."

According to Symirna Jean-Simon, guidance counselor at Hendrix Drive Elementary School, the possibility of traveling on Santa's Special Sleigh motivates the students to participate in reading. "Each year, our students eagerly await the opportunity to travel on Santa's Special Sleigh based on their commitment to reading outside of the normal school day. The students truly enjoy this trip as it is the first flight experience for many of them," she said.

After arriving at the Wilmington International Airport, the students will visit The Children's Museum of Wilmington where they will conduct science experiments, explore the museum's exhibits, enjoy lunch and take pictures with Santa Claus before departing for home on Santa's Special Sleigh.

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About Atlantic Southeast Airlines

ASA, a wholly owned subsidiary of SkyWest, Inc., operates more than 800 flights daily to 104 airports in 27 U.S. states, District of Columbia, Bahamas and Canada. The airline operates a fleet of 160 Bombardier Canadair Regional Jets and employs more than 3,500 aviation professionals. For more information, visit www.flyasa.com.

About The Children's Museum of Wilmington

The Children's Museum of Wilmington opened its doors in 1997 after several years of research and study by parents, community leaders and educators. Through community support, the museum has grown from a 3,000 to a 17,000 square foot facility that now sees more than 48,000 visitors each year. The museum features interactive and fun exhibit areas, as well as regular and special programming that cater to all learning styles and interests. For more information about The Children's Museum of Wilmington and its programs, visit www.playwilmington.org.

About Wilmington, N.C.

Wilmington, N.C., located in New Hanover County, is a coastal town situated in southeastern North Carolina. The city is bordered by the Cape Fear River to the west and the Atlantic Ocean to the east. The city has a charm and style all its own – befitting a historic port city with roots that go back almost three centuries. A World War II battleship, a thriving movie production studio, cobblestone streets with horse-drawn carriages, music festivals, art galleries and theatrical performances greet visitors to the city. Please visit www.cape-fear.nc.us for more information.

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