APPLICATION OF AMERICAN AIRLINES, INC.
FOR RENEWAL OF AN EXEMPTION
(United States – Hong Kong)

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Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 40109 and Subpart C of the Department of Transportation’s (“Department”) Rules of Practice (14 C.F.R. Part 302), American Airlines, Inc. (“American Airlines”) applies for renewal of its exemption authority to engage in scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property, and mail between points in the United States and Hong Kong, either nonstop or via intermediate points, and beyond Hong Kong to third country points, pursuant to a codeshare agreement with Cathay Pacific Airways, Ltd. (“Cathay Pacific”). American Airlines requests that the exemption be renewed for a period of at least two years consistent with Department precedent.

In support of this renewal application, American Airlines respectfully states as follows:

1. American Airlines is a Delaware corporation with its principal office at 1 Skyview Drive, Fort Worth, Texas 76155.
2. American Airlines is a citizen of the United States within the meaning of 49 U.S.C. § 40102(a)(15)(C) and is fit, willing, and able to provide the services contemplated by this application. American Airlines holds various certificates of public convenience and exemption authorities. (See, e.g., DOT Order 2007-4-2, April 3, 2007, Dockets DOT-OST-2000-8516 and DOT-OST-2005-22228 (Blanket Open-Skies Route Authority); DOT Notice of Action Taken, Docket DOT-OST-2014-0169 (Oct. 7, 2014) (Dallas/Ft. Worth-Beijing).) Pursuant to Rule 24 of the Department’s Rules of Practice, American Airlines requests that the Department take official notice of all information previously filed to establish its fitness.

3. By Notice of Action Taken on April 12, 2019, the Department granted American Airlines a two-year exemption under 49 U.S.C. § 40109 authority allowing it to engage in scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property and mail between the United States and Hong Kong, either non-stop or via intermediate points, and beyond Hong Kong to third country points. (Notice of Action Taken, issued on April 12, 2019 in Docket DOT-OST-2000-6824.)

4. American Airlines currently provides scheduled air service between the United States and Hong Kong pursuant to a codeshare with Cathay Pacific. Renewal of American Airlines’ exemption will greatly serve the public interest by providing substantial competition to other carriers serving Hong Kong, and points beyond, from the United States, while supporting commerce and enhancing options available to the traveling and shipping public.

5. The Department has previously determined that the exemption authority at issue in this renewal application is fully consistent with the October 19, 2002, Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Hong

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1 The Notice of Action Taken dated April 12, 2019, was in response to American Airlines’ request for an amendment of the authority to the extent necessary to permit American Airlines to display the AA* code on flights operated by Cathay Pacific’s subsidiary, Cathay Dragon. Cathay Dragon ceased operations in October 2020. However, American Airlines continues to place its AA* code on flights operated by Cathay Pacific and requires continued exemption authority for such flights.
Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China. (See Notice of Action Taken, issued on April 12, 2019, in Docket DOT-OST-2000-6824.)

6. Pursuant to 14 C.F.R. § 377.10, American Airlines intends to rely on the Administrative Procedures Act, 5 U.S.C. § 558(c), as implemented by Part 377, to continue in effect its current exemption authority pending a final determination on this renewal application. American Airlines’ current exemption authority is effective through April 12, 2021. Accordingly, this renewal application is timely filed under the provisions of Part 377.

WHEREFORE, American Airlines respectfully requests that the Department renew for a two-year period its exemption authority to engage in scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property, and mail between the United States and Hong Kong, either non-stop or via intermediate points, and beyond Hong Kong to third country points as discussed herein.

Respectfully submitted,

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February 11, 2021
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that, on February 11, 2021, I caused to be served a copy of the foregoing Application of American Airlines, Inc. for Renewal of an Exemption Authority, by email upon those addressees listed below:

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