

**PRESS RELEASE**

**ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES WINS PRESTIGIOUS AFRICAN AIRLINE OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**Addis Ababa, September 25, 2006** – Ethiopian Airlines has won the prestigious African Airline of the Year 2006 Award, the company's management announced.

US Deputy Assistant Secretary for Aviation and International Affairs in the Department of Transport, Susan McDermott, handed the award plaque on Monday to Ethiopian Airlines chief Girma Wake in Cape Town, South Africa at the end of the 15th Annual Air Finance for Africa Conference.



**Ato Girma Wake receiving the award from H.E Ms. Susan McDermott**

The Africa Aviation Journal introduced the award in 1999 to give international recognition to individuals, companies and organisations that make significant contribution to aviation development in Africa.

Ethiopian Airlines was commended for its financial performance and overall profitability, passenger growth, route network expansion, fleet modernisation, in-flight services and customer care, the Journal said.



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"It is a special privilege for Ethiopian (Airlines) to have been awarded African Airline of the Year 2006. The award inspires the airline to enhance its commitment to provide quality services to its esteemed customers," said Girma.

From its Addis Ababa hub, Ethiopian Airlines provides flight connections to 47 destinations in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Europe and North America. With the motto: "Bringing Africa Together and Closer to the World" Ethiopian Airlines boasts the largest network on the continent, both in passenger and cargo services.

Previous winners of this distinguished award include South African Airways and Kenya Airways.

#### **About Ethiopian Airlines**

Ethiopian Airlines is one of the largest airlines in Africa and features four weekly flights from Washington, D.C.'s Dulles International Airport. The airline offers both morning and evening departures, with the morning departure allowing seamless connections to 28 African destinations. The airline's website, [www.ethiopianairlines.com](http://www.ethiopianairlines.com) provides excellent information on additional flights, services and special web fares. Ethiopian Airlines also serves 47 destinations around the globe via its Addis Ababa hub. Major destinations served include: Abidjan, Accra, Addis Ababa, Amsterdam, Bamako, Bangkok, Beijing, Beirut, Brazzaville, Brussels, Bujumbura, Cairo, Dakar, Dar Es-Salaam, Delhi, Djibouti, Douala, Dubai, Entebbe, Frankfurt, Guangzhou, Harare, Hargiesa, Hong Kong, Jeddah, Johannesburg, Khartoum, Kigali, Kilimanjaro, Kinshasa, Lagos, Libreville, Lilongwe, Lome, London, Luanda, Lusaka, Mumbai, Nairobi, N'djamena, Paris, Rome, Stockholm, Tel-Aviv, and Washington, D.C. **Learn more about Ethiopian Airlines at [www.ethiopianairlines.com](http://www.ethiopianairlines.com)**

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