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VIRGIN ATLANTIC CARGO DOUBLES INDIA SERVICES WITH NEW ROUTE TO MUMBAI

- **Airline is to resume Mumbai service after four years**
- **New daily route to launch from London Heathrow from October 2019**
- **Serving a fast-growing cargo market to and from the UK and US**

Virgin Atlantic is relaunching flights between London Heathrow and Mumbai, a thriving cargo route for customers in India, the UK and US. The first service is set to commence on 27th October 2019 and will complement the airline's long-established route between London and Delhi.

The daily service will not only enhance a vital link between India's commercial centre and the UK's capital, it also provides seamless connections via Heathrow between India and the US. The new flights will depart and arrive Heathrow in the morning to align with connecting passenger and cargo flows to and from US.

The Mumbai flights will be operated on Virgin Atlantic's Boeing 787-9 aircraft, providing up to 26 tonnes of cargo capacity.

Juha Jarvinen, Executive Vice President, Commercial, at Virgin Atlantic, commented;

"2019 marks a significant period of growth for Virgin Atlantic and I'm delighted that we're continuing to expand our route network once more, by returning to Mumbai. Until recently, we've been able to serve this important market through our partnership with Jet Airways, however, since Jet Airways has sadly suspended its operation, we now have an opportunity to provide alternative options for our customers and meet this demand."

Dominic Kennedy, Managing Director of Virgin Atlantic Cargo, said: "We have given our cargo customers direct access to the vibrant cargo market in India for 19 years and, in 2018, our cargo revenues ex India rose 10% as support grew for our daily Delhi flights. The Mumbai market is equally buoyant. In the last four years, the overall market from Mumbai to the UK and US has increased by more than 50% in revenue terms, alongside increases of 46% to India from both countries. When we resume Mumbai operations in October, we aim to win a strong share of this growing market, supported by our fast and easy connections over London to and from major cities across US and our enhanced capabilities for handling pharmaceuticals, one of the main types of shipments ex Mumbai. More capacity is great news for our import and export customers."

The new Mumbai flights mark Virgin Atlantic's 27th daily service from London Heathrow and its third new route announcement this year. Flights to Tel Aviv, Israel, are due to commence in September 2019, with flights to São Paulo, Brazil, starting in 2020, marking the airline's first venture into South America.

Together with partner Delta Air Lines, Virgin Atlantic offers customers unrivalled choice of U.S. destinations and the leading transatlantic service from London Heathrow. Both airlines offer over 28 daily flights between London and the USA.

Key facts:

Service operates:	London Heathrow (LHR) – Mumbai (BOM)
Frequency:	Daily, year-round, launching 27th October 2019
Flight time:	LHR – BOM: 10:15-00:40 BOM – LHR: 02:55-07:35
Aircraft:	Boeing 787-9 with a cargo capacity of 26 tonnes
Cargo market:	Market ex Mumbai to UK and US has grown over 50% in last four years, with imports from the UK and US also recording strong growth of 46%. A major market for pharmaceutical shipments from India.

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For more information contact:

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Notes to editors:

About Virgin Atlantic Cargo

Cargo has been an important part of Virgin Atlantic's business ever since the airline was founded by entrepreneur Sir Richard Branson 34 years ago. Today, the airline carries over 240 million kilos of cargo annually and, with a strong commitment to innovation and customer service at its core, Virgin Atlantic Cargo is recognised as one of the world's most customer-focused and service-oriented airlines, earning 14 international Cargo Airline of the Year awards. Headquartered in London, Virgin Atlantic Cargo trades in 37 countries and sells services to destinations in over 60 countries worldwide. Alongside joint venture partner Delta Cargo, they operate a leading transatlantic network, offering a choice of 38 flights a day between the UK and US which, in 2018, carried over a quarter of total trans-Atlantic air cargo volumes. Virgin Atlantic Cargo is also the long-haul international cargo sales and management partner for Virgin Australia, connecting the two airline's networks over Los Angeles and Hong Kong. In 2019, Virgin Atlantic Cargo's volumes will benefit from a 22% increase in capacity provided by the delivery of the airline's first Airbus A350-1000 aircraft as well as the launch of its new Tel Aviv route in September. Investment in new technologies will make the airline even easier to do business with, while in Q4 will see Virgin Atlantic Cargo and Delta Cargo move in a state-of-the-art cargo terminal, doubling the size of their joint Heathrow operation.

On May 15, 2018 Air France-KLM, Delta Air Lines and Virgin Atlantic Limited signed definitive agreements to combine the existing trans-Atlantic joint ventures. Closer cooperation between Delta Cargo, Air France KLM Cargo and Virgin Atlantic Cargo across the trans-Atlantic is subject to regulatory approvals and the receipt of anti-trust immunity (ATI) from the US Department of Transportation (DOT). Once ATI is received, the cargo divisions will be able to start working together giving customers more choice across a broad network of passenger flights with joint trucking options and tailored products and services.

For more information, go to virginatlanticcargo.com