

Aer Lingus Group plc

ISE: EIL1

LSE: AERL

Trading update

Dublin & London, 13 September 2013: Aer Lingus Group plc (“Aer Lingus”, “the Company”) today issues a trading update and revised outlook statement in respect of the Company’s expected full year 2013 operating result.

In first half results released on 31 July 2013, Aer Lingus noted that short and long haul forward bookings were ahead of prior year but that the short haul booking profile had somewhat eroded in July due to the exceptionally good weather conditions that were experienced. However, the trading environment at the time was such that Aer Lingus was able to maintain its guidance that 2013 operating profit, before exceptional items, would be broadly in line with the €69.1 million reported in respect of 2012.

The current booking profile for the rest of the year suggests that despite more aggressive pricing in response to market conditions, it will not be possible to recover lost volumes experienced in July and August as a result of the warm weather. In addition, the intensely competitive pricing environment will continue to impact higher yielding in-month bookings. We intend to reduce short haul capacity by a minimum of 3% in Q4 2013 relative to prior year.

Aer Lingus’ long haul business continues to perform strongly ahead of prior year despite some weakness evident in November 2013 relative to November 2012. Some of this weakness is attributable to a distortion in the prior year comparatives due to disrupted passengers travelling in November 2012 rather than late October as a result of Hurricane Sandy in the United States. Long haul bookings for the remainder of 2013 are currently ahead of prior year.

The recent nature of these new market conditions means that trading visibility is limited but on the assumption that these conditions continue unchanged for the rest of the year, Aer Lingus currently expects that 2013 operating profit, before exceptional items, will be around €60 million. We expect that the Q3 2013 operating result will be ahead of prior year.

Aer Lingus management is examining ways to accelerate existing plans to achieve further cost efficiencies in order to preserve competitiveness and protect future profitability. However, measures such as employee exits under the current voluntary severance scheme have been slowed by delays in the resolution of funding issues in the Irish Airlines Superannuation Scheme.

The Aer Lingus management team will host a conference call for institutional investors and analysts at 12.00 (noon) BST today, 13 September 2013. Dial in details are:

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Note on forward-looking information

This Announcement contains forward-looking statements, which are subject to risks and uncertainties because they relate to expectations, beliefs, projections, future plans and strategies, anticipated events or trends, and similar expressions concerning matters that are not historical facts. Such forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which may cause the actual results, performance or achievements of the Group or the industry in which it operates, to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. The forward-looking statements referred to in this paragraph apply only as at the date of this Announcement. The Group will not undertake any obligation to release publicly any revision or updates to these forward-looking statements to reflect future events, circumstances, unanticipated events, new information or otherwise except as required by law or by any appropriate regulatory authority.