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BEFORE THE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
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Application of .

THAI AIRWAYS INTERNATIONAL
PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED

for renewal of exemption authority to serve Seoul and Osaka as
intermediate points on Bangkok-Los Angeles scheduled services

OST-95-338 -20

APPLICATION OF
THAI AIRWAYS INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC COMPANY LTD.
FOR RENEWAL OF EXEMPTION AUTHORITY

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DATED: April 15, 2002

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APPLICATION OF
THAI AIRWAYS INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC COMPANY LTD.
FOR RENEWAL OF EXEMPTION AUTHORITY

In support of this application, Thai submits the following:

1. Thai, a carrier of Thailand, holds a valid foreign air carrier permit which authorizes it to engage, *inter alia*, in scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property and mail between Bangkok, Thailand and Los Angeles, California.’ See Order 80-9-74.² Thai also holds various exemption authorities.³

2. By Order 91-9-26 dated September 13, 1991, the Department first granted Thai an exemption to serve Seoul, Korea as an intermediate point on its existing scheduled combination operations between Bangkok and Los Angeles (with full traffic rights in the Seoul-Los Angeles market) at a frequency of three roundtrip flights per week. By Notices of Action Taken dated January 14, 1997, and April 28, 1997, the Department granted Thai exemption authority to serve Osaka, Japan, as an additional intermediate point on two weekly all-cargo and three weekly combination services between Bangkok and Los Angeles, with local rights in the Osaka-Los Angeles market.

¹ Specifically, Thai’s permit states: “Thai Airways . . . is authorized . . . to engage in scheduled foreign air transportation of persons, property and mail . . . between the terminal point Bangkok, Thailand via the intermediate points Tokyo, Japan and Seattle, Washington, and the coterminal point Los Angeles, California and one additional point in the United States.” Order 80-9-74.

² Thai also has on file with the Department an application for a new foreign air carrier permit that would vest Thai with the full range of authority that the United States agreed to grant designated carriers of Thailand in the bilateral air services agreement concluded in 1996. (See Application of Thai Airways International Public Company Limited for Amendment of its Foreign Air Carrier Permit, filed on March 21, 1997, in Docket OST-97-2253).

³ See, e.g., Order 89-11-32, Order 92-2-37, and Notices of Action Taken and other approvals dated October 18, 1996 (Docket OST-96-1410), December 29, 1998 (Docket OST-98-4796), October 18, 2000 (Docket OST-00-7955), April 20, 2001 (Docket OST-01-8747), August 23, 2001 (Docket OST-00-7124), and March 21, 2002 (Docket OST-99-6700).

The Department has since eliminated all frequency restrictions and renewed the authority repeatedly, most recently by Notice of Action Taken dated April 20, 2001. By this application, Thai seeks to renew this exemption authority for a minimum period of two years.

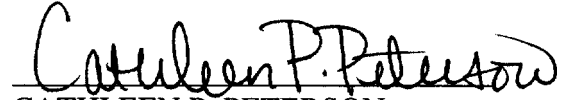
3. Pursuant to the above-described authority, Thai is currently operating combination services between Bangkok and Los Angeles via Osaka. These flights expand the service options available for travelers and shippers, and contribute to tourism and trade in the region. Thai's services have been well-received by U.S. and Thai passengers and shippers, and the flights enhance competition in the U.S.-Thailand and U.S.-Japan markets. Renewal of the exemption, therefore, will serve the public interest.

4. The authority at issue remains consistent with the U.S.-Thailand Air Services Agreement and the May 1996 U.S.-Thailand Memorandum of Understanding. See Notice of Action Taken, dated April 20, 2001 (citing bilateral agreements as basis for approval).

WHEREFORE, Thai respectfully requests that the Department renew its exemption from the requirements of 49 U.S.C. §41301 authorizing Thai to serve Seoul, Korea and Osaka, Japan as intermediate points on its Bangkok-Los Angeles scheduled combination and all-cargo services, and grant such other and further relief as the

Department deems appropriate.

Respectfully submitted,



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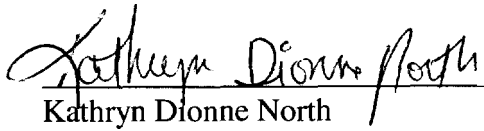
Counsel for
THAI AIRWAYS INTERNATIONAL
PUBLIC COMPANY LIMITED

DATED: April 15, 2002

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served a copy of the foregoing Application of Thai International Airways Public Company Limited for Renewal of Exemption Authority by causing a copy to be sent via first-class mail, postage prepaid to the persons listed on the attached Service List.


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