Lufthansa Group releases medically trained employees with pay, provides face masks to health authorities and coordinates relief flights

- Employees with medical vocational training can now volunteer for service in medical facilities with their basic salary unaffected

- Lufthansa Group provides 920,000 face masks to health authorities

- Relief and repatriation flights have so far returned 25,000 European passengers home

Lufthansa Group recognizes the need for swift and collaborative action to address the unprecedented state of emergency faced by the entire world. Actions and plans organized to date include:

Support for the medical community

Employees in Germany who have completed medical training can now be released quickly and unbureaucratically on a voluntary basis for specific work in a medical facility. Lufthansa will continue to pay the full basic salary of those employees, and further details of this initiative are currently being worked out.

Additionally, the Lufthansa Group is waiving the purchase of more than 920,000 permanently ordered facemasks and making them available to the health authorities in Germany. The company recognizes the immediate need of supplies by the medical community on the front lines of the pandemic, and has a sufficient quantity of masks in stock for Lufthansa Group employees.

Special relief flights for travelers

In order to bring as many people as possible back home quickly, the Lufthansa Group airlines are also operating numerous special flights all over the world. In close consultation with the governments of their home markets and on behalf of tourism companies and cruise lines, Lufthansa Group airlines are currently offering around 140 special flights. More than 25,000 passengers are flying home with Lufthansa, Eurowings, Swiss, Austrian Airlines, Brussels Airlines and Edelweiss. Further special flights will follow in the next few days.
In addition, Lufthansa continues to offer connection between Frankfurt and North America with three times a week operation to Newark and Chicago in the U.S. and Montreal in Canada. SWISS will offer three weekly long-haul flights between Zurich and Newark. This schedule is initially valid until April 19, 2020. Lufthansa Cargo continues to fly its regular program, except for cancellations to mainland China, and is keeping the entire freighter fleet in the air in order to support the supply chain as well as needed medical goods and critical devices between Europe and the rest of the world.

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