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INTERNATIONAL SWAPS AND DERIVATIVES ASSOCIATION

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**ISDA PUBLISHES DELTA & NORTHWEST CDS INDEX PROTOCOL**

**NEW YORK, Friday, September 23, 2005 –**The International Swaps and Derivatives Association (ISDA) today announced its publication of a protocol created to facilitate settlement of credit derivative index contracts that include Delta Air Lines, Inc. and Northwest Airlines, Inc. Delta and Northwest filed for bankruptcy on September 14, 2005. Both companies are included in various credit derivative indices published by Dow Jones CDX and TRAC-X.

The [2005 Delta & Northwest CDS Index Protocol](http://www.isda.org/2005deltanorthwestcdsprot/2005dnwcdsindexprot.html) offers market participants an efficient way to address the settlement issues relating to trades on credit derivative indices that include Delta Air Lines, Inc. and Northwest Airlines, Inc. The Protocol enables institutions to amend their documentation for such index trades from physical to cash settlement and to participate in an auction, scheduled for October 11, 2005, which will determine the final price for certain Delta Air Lines, Inc. and Northwest Airlines, Inc. bonds. Markit Partners and Creditex will administer the auction.

“ISDA has been able to redeploy the highly successful CDS protocol mechanism developed and used to settle index trades referencing Collins and Aikman bonds,” said Robert Pickel, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director, ISDA.   “While numerous Delta and Northwest reference obligations are available for physical settlement, the principal aim of today's protocol is to facilitate a swift, orderly and efficient cash settlement process.”

With the 2005 Delta & Northwest CDS Index Protocol, ISDA enables parties to amend credit derivative index documents on a multilateral basis rather than through one-on-one negotiations between all counterparties.  In addition to greater efficiency, time and cost savings, using the Protocol will provide enhanced legal certainty.

The Protocol is open to ISDA members and non-members alike.  The adherence period for the Protocol is September 23 and September 30, 2005. The text of the Protocol and form of adherence letter, guidance on the mechanics of the Protocol, answers to frequently asked questions and details on adherents, are all available at [www.isda.org](http://www.isda.org/).  Details on the auction are included in the Protocol.

The auction will determine settlement prices for the following list of bonds.

In respect of Delta, the Reference Obligation may be any one of the following:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Issuer | Coupon | Maturity | CUSIP | ISIN |
| Delta Airlines, Inc. | 7.700% | 15 December 2005 | 247361YE2 | US247361YE22 |
| Delta Airlines, Inc. | 10.000% | 15 August 2008 | 247361YT9 | US247361YT90 |
| Delta Airlines, Inc | 7.900% | 15 December 2009 | 247361YF9 | US247361YF96 |
| Delta Airlines, Inc | 9.000% | 15 May 2016 | 247361AD0 | US247361AD05 |
| Delta Airlines, Inc | 9.750% | 15 May 2021 | 247361WH7 | US247361WH70 |
| Delta Airlines, Inc | 8.000% | 03 June 2023 | 247361YN2 | US247361YN21 |
| Delta Airlines, Inc | 2.875% | 18 February 2024 | 247361YS1 | US247361YS18 |
| Delta Airlines, Inc | 8.300% | 15 December 2029 | 247361YG7 | US247361YG79 |

In respect of Northwest, the Reference Obligation may be any one of the following:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Issuer | Coupon | Maturity | CUSIP | ISIN |
| Northwest Airlines, Inc. | 8.875% | 01 June 2006 | 667281AP4 | US667281AP49 |
| Northwest Airlines, Inc. | 8.700% | 15 March 2007 | 667281AJ8 | US667281AJ88 |
| Northwest Airlines, Inc | 9.875% | 15 March 2007 | 667280AA9 | US667280AA96 |
| Northwest Airlines, Inc | 7.875% | 15 March 2008 | 667281AM1 | US667281AM18 |
| Northwest Airlines, Inc | 10.000% | 01 February 2009 | 667280AF8 | US667280AF83 |

About ISDA

ISDA is the global trade association representing leading participants in the privately negotiated derivatives industry. ISDA was chartered in 1985, and today has more than 650 member institutions from 47 countries on six continents. These members include most of the world's major institutions that deal in privately negotiated derivatives, as well as many of the businesses, governmental entities and other end users that rely on over-the-counter derivatives to manage efficiently the financial market risks inherent in their core economic activities. Information about ISDA and its activities is available on the Association's web site: [www.isda.org](http://www.isda.org/).

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