

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20549  
FORM 10-Q**

(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2002.

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from . . . . . to . . . . .

Commission file number 1-8957

**ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

91-1292054  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

19300 Pacific Highway South, Seattle, Washington 98188  
(Address of principal executive offices)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (206) 431-7040

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

APPLICABLE ONLY TO CORPORATE ISSUERS:

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

The registrant has 26,546,130 common shares, par value \$1.00, outstanding at March 31, 2002.

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**PART I. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS****ITEM 1. Financial Statements****CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (unaudited)**

Alaska Air Group, Inc.

**ASSETS**

	December 31, 2001	March 31, 2002
(In Millions)		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 490.3	\$ 353.9
Marketable securities	170.4	265.8
Receivables — net	83.5	104.3
Inventories and supplies — net	71.5	69.9
Prepaid expenses and other assets	84.7	126.5
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>900.4</u>	<u>920.4</u>
<b>Property and Equipment</b>		
Flight equipment	2,014.5	2,008.6
Other property and equipment	377.4	394.9
Deposits for future flight equipment	127.8	112.5
	<u>2,519.7</u>	<u>2,516.0</u>
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	694.7	723.9
<b>Total Property and Equipment — Net</b>	<u>1,825.0</u>	<u>1,792.1</u>
<b>Intangible Assets</b>	<u>51.4</u>	<u>51.4</u>
<b>Other Assets</b>	<u>157.0</u>	<u>160.0</u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<u>\$ 2,933.8</u>	<u>\$2,923.9</u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

[Table of Contents](#)**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (unaudited)**

Alaska Air Group, Inc.

**LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY**

	December 31, 2001	March 31, 2002
	(In Millions Except Share Amounts)	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 122.0	\$ 132.2
Accrued aircraft rent	90.1	70.6
Accrued wages, vacation and payroll taxes	76.0	79.0
Other accrued liabilities	204.5	164.3
Air traffic liability	220.4	269.5
Current portion of long-term debt and capital lease obligations	43.2	43.7
	<u>756.2</u>	<u>759.3</u>
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	756.2	759.3
<b>Long-Term Debt and Capital Lease Obligations</b>	863.3	862.5
<b>Other Liabilities and Credits</b>		
Deferred income taxes	138.4	130.8
Deferred revenue	176.6	176.4
Other liabilities	179.0	197.6
	<u>494.0</u>	<u>504.8</u>
<b>Shareholders' Equity</b>		
Common stock, \$1 par value		
Authorized: 100,000,000 shares		
Issued: 2001 - 29,268,869 shares		
2002 - 29,285,569 shares	29.3	29.3
Capital in excess of par value	482.5	482.9
Treasury stock, at cost: 2001 - 2,740,501 shares		
2002 - 2,739,439 shares	(62.6)	(62.5)
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	(3.9)	7.0
Retained earnings	375.0	340.6
	<u>820.3</u>	<u>797.3</u>
<b>Total Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity</b>	<u>\$ 2,933.8</u>	<u>\$2,923.9</u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

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Alaska Air Group, Inc.

	Three Months Ended March 31	
	2001	2002
	(In Millions Except Per Share Amounts)	
<b>Operating Revenues</b>		
Passenger	\$ 479.8	\$ 456.1
Freight and mail	20.6	17.1
Other — net	15.6	23.7
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>516.0</b>	<b>496.9</b>
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
Wages and benefits	192.0	204.6
Contracted services	20.9	22.8
Aircraft fuel	89.7	64.7
Aircraft maintenance	50.1	43.1
Aircraft rent	46.2	46.5
Food and beverage service	14.0	14.3
Commissions	15.4	12.4
Other selling expenses	31.8	30.2
Depreciation and amortization	29.9	31.7
Loss (gain) on sale of assets	0.8	(0.6)
Landing fees and other rentals	28.3	30.1
Other	46.4	48.5
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>565.5</b>	<b>548.3</b>
<b>Operating Loss</b>	<b>(49.5)</b>	<b>(51.4)</b>
<b>Nonoperating Income (Expense)</b>		
Interest income	8.1	4.4
Interest expense	(12.1)	(11.9)
Interest capitalized	3.6	0.2
Other — net	(1.4)	5.3
	(1.8)	(2.0)
Loss before income tax	(51.3)	(53.4)
Income tax credit	(18.2)	(19.0)
<b>Net Loss</b>	<b>\$ (33.1)</b>	<b>\$ (34.4)</b>
<b>Basic Loss Per Share:</b>	<b>\$ (1.25)</b>	<b>\$ (1.30)</b>
<b>Diluted Loss Per Share:</b>	<b>\$ (1.25)</b>	<b>\$ (1.30)</b>
Shares used for computation:		
Basic	26.471	26.532
Diluted	26.471	26.532

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

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**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY (unaudited)**

Alaska Air Group, Inc.

	Common Shares Outstanding	Common Stock	Capital in Excess of Par Value	Treasury Stock, at Cost	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Retained Earnings	Total
				(In Millions)			
Balances at December 31, 2001	26.528	\$ 29.3	\$ 482.5	\$ (62.6)	\$ (3.9)	\$ 375.0	\$820.3
Net loss for the three months ended March 31, 2002						(34.4)	(34.4)
Other comprehensive income (loss) related to fuel hedges:							
Change in fair value					20.5		
Reclassification to earnings					(3.1)		
Income tax effect					(6.5)		
					10.9		10.9
Total comprehensive income (loss)							(23.5)
Stock issued under stock plans	0.018		0.4	0.1			0.5
<b>Balances at March 31, 2002</b>	<b>26.546</b>	<b>\$ 29.3</b>	<b>\$ 482.9</b>	<b>\$ (62.5)</b>	<b>\$ 7.0</b>	<b>\$ 340.6</b>	<b>\$797.3</b>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (unaudited)**

Alaska Air Group, Inc.

	Three Months Ended March 31	
	2001	2002
	(In Millions)	
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Net loss	\$ (33.1)	\$ (34.4)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	29.9	31.7
Amortization of airframe and engine overhauls	20.6	15.7
Loss (gain) on sale of assets	0.8	(0.6)
Decrease in deferred income taxes	(18.2)	(12.7)
Increase in accounts receivable	(19.5)	(20.8)
(Increase) decrease in other current assets	7.7	(31.1)
Increase in air traffic liability	57.7	49.2
Increase (decrease) in other current liabilities	5.4	(43.9)
Increase in deferred revenue and other-net	3.0	17.1
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	54.3	(29.8)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Proceeds from disposition of assets	—	1.7
Purchases of marketable securities	(79.6)	(117.7)
Sales and maturities of marketable securities	133.4	22.2
Property and equipment additions:		
Flight equipment, including purchase deposits	(40.0)	14.2
Capitalized airframe and engine overhauls	(22.0)	(11.9)
Aircraft modifications, rotatable parts, and other flight equipment	(18.3)	(7.2)
Other property and equipment	(13.6)	(5.9)
Restricted deposits and other	(0.1)	(2.2)
Net cash used in investing activities	(40.2)	(106.8)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities:</b>		
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	29.5	7.4
Long-term debt and capital lease payments	(60.2)	(7.6)
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	0.4	0.4
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	(30.3)	0.2
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(16.2)	(136.4)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	101.1	490.3
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of period</b>	<b>\$ 84.9</b>	<b>\$ 353.9</b>
Supplemental disclosure of cash paid (refunded) during the period for:		
Interest (net of amount capitalized)	\$ 16.0	\$ 9.9
Income taxes	(0.1)	0.0
Noncash investing and financing activities	None	None

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (unaudited)**

Alaska Air Group, Inc.

**Note 1. Basis of Presentation and Significant Accounting Policies**

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements of Alaska Air Group, Inc. (the Company or Air Group) include the accounts of its principal subsidiaries, Alaska Airlines, Inc. (Alaska) and Horizon Air Industries, Inc. (Horizon). These statements should be read in conjunction with the financial statements in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001. They include all adjustments that are, in the opinion of management, necessary for a fair presentation of the results for the interim periods. The adjustments made were of a normal recurring nature. Certain reclassifications have been made in the prior year's financial statements to conform to the 2002 presentation.

Effective January 1, 2002, the Company adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 142, "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets". Under this Statement, the Company's intangible assets are considered to have an indefinite life and will no longer be amortized but instead will be subject to periodic impairment testing. Additionally, we will be required to apply a fair market value based assumption test to our goodwill at least annually. The impact of the adoption of SFAS No. 142 is expected to increase annual net income by \$2.0 million related to the discontinuance of amortization of existing goodwill. We are currently evaluating whether there will be additional impacts from the adoption of SFAS No. 142 on our consolidated financial statements such as an impairment of existing goodwill amounts.

In June 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued SFAS No. 143, "Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations" (effective for the Company on January 1, 2003). This Statement addresses financial accounting and reporting for obligations associated with the retirement of tangible long-lived assets and the associated asset retirement costs. The Company is in the process of evaluating the financial statement impact of SFAS No. 143.

In August 2001, the FASB issued SFAS No. 144, "Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets." This Statement supersedes SFAS No. 121, "Accounting for the Impairment of Long-Lived Assets and for Long-Lived Assets to Be Disposed Of" and APB Opinion No. 30, "Reporting the Results of Operations - Reporting the Effects of Disposal of a Segment of Business, and Extraordinary, Unusual and Infrequently Occurring Events and Transactions". Adoption of this Statement, in the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2002, did not have a material impact on the Company's consolidated financial statements.

**Note 2. Earnings per Share (See Note 10 to Consolidated Financial Statements at December 31, 2001)**

Earnings per share (EPS) calculations for the three months ended March 31 were as follows (in millions except per share amounts). The calculation is the same for basic and diluted EPS. Stock options are excluded from the calculation of diluted EPS because they are antidilutive and they represented 2.4 million and 3.0 million shares, respectively, in 2001 and 2002.

	2001	2002
Net loss	\$ (33.1)	\$ (34.4)
Average shares outstanding	26.471	26.532
Earnings per share	\$ (1.25)	\$ (1.30)

**Note 3. Other Assets**

At December 31, 2001 and March 31, 2002, other assets included prepaid pension cost of \$98.4 million and \$97.5 million, respectively.

**Note 4. Frequent Flyer Program (See Note 1 to Consolidated Financial Statements at December 31, 2001)**

Alaska's Mileage Plan liabilities are included under the following balance sheet captions.

	December 31, 2001	March 31, 2002
	(In millions)	
Current Liabilities:		
Other accrued liabilities	\$ 67.3	\$ 66.8
Other Liabilities and Credits:		
Deferred revenue	123.0	122.0
Other liabilities	58.0	72.0
Total	\$ 248.3	\$ 260.8

**Note 5. Operating Segment Information (See Note 11 to Consolidated Financial Statements at December 31, 2001)**

Operating segment information for Alaska Airlines, Inc. (Alaska) and Horizon Air Industries, Inc. (Horizon) for the three months ended March 31 was as follows (in millions):

	2001	2002
Operating revenues:		
Alaska	\$ 418.1	\$ 408.9
Horizon	102.0	93.2
Elimination of intercompany revenues	(4.1)	(5.2)
Consolidated	516.0	496.9
Loss before income tax:		
Alaska	(33.7)	(43.9)
Horizon	(17.1)	(9.0)
Other	(0.5)	(0.5)
Consolidated	(51.3)	(53.4)
Total assets at end of period:		
Alaska	2,401.0	2,738.8
Horizon	268.4	266.6
Other	843.0	828.7
Elimination of intercompany accounts	(901.2)	(910.2)
Consolidated	2,611.2	2,923.9

## Alaska Airlines Financial and Statistical Data

	Three Months Ended March 31		
	2001	2002	% Change
<b>Financial Data (in millions):</b>			
Operating Revenues:			
Passenger	\$ 385.1	<b>\$374.2</b>	(2.8)
Freight and mail	18.3	<b>15.9</b>	(13.1)
Other — net	14.7	<b>18.8</b>	27.9
	418.1	<b>408.9</b>	(2.2)
Operating Expenses:			
Wages and benefits	155.3	<b>167.3</b>	7.7
Contracted services	17.9	<b>19.9</b>	11.2
Aircraft fuel	74.0	<b>55.2</b>	(25.4)
Aircraft maintenance	31.1	<b>36.5</b>	17.4
Aircraft rent	35.3	<b>31.8</b>	(9.9)
Food and beverage service	13.2	<b>13.9</b>	5.3
Commissions	15.9	<b>14.3</b>	(10.1)
Other selling expenses	26.0	<b>24.9</b>	(4.2)
Depreciation and amortization	23.1	<b>27.6</b>	19.5
Loss on sale of assets	0.9	<b>0.1</b>	NM
Landing fees and other rentals	21.5	<b>23.7</b>	10.2
Other	36.4	<b>35.5</b>	(2.5)
	450.6	<b>450.7</b>	0.0
Operating Loss	(32.5)	<b>(41.8)</b>	28.6
Interest income	9.5	<b>5.0</b>	
Interest expense	(12.1)	<b>(11.9)</b>	
Interest capitalized	2.6	<b>0.1</b>	
Other — net	(1.2)	<b>4.7</b>	
	(1.2)	<b>(2.1)</b>	
Loss Before Income Tax	\$ (33.7)	<b>\$ (43.9)</b>	30.3
<b>Operating Statistics:</b>			
Revenue passengers (000)	3,198	<b>3,193</b>	(0.2)
RPMs (000,000)	2,895	<b>2,977</b>	2.8
ASMs (000,000)	4,428	<b>4,467</b>	0.9
Passenger load factor	65.4%	<b>66.7%</b>	1.3 pts
Breakeven load factor	73.4%	<b>76.5%</b>	3.1 pts
Yield per passenger mile	13.30¢	<b>12.57¢</b>	(5.5)
Operating revenue per ASM	9.44¢	<b>9.16¢</b>	(3.1)
Operating expenses per ASM	10.18¢	<b>10.09¢</b>	(0.9)
Expense per ASM excluding fuel	8.51¢	<b>8.86¢</b>	4.1
Fuel cost per gallon	97.1¢	<b>73.6¢</b>	(24.3)
Fuel gallons (000,000)	76.2	<b>75.0</b>	(1.6)
Average number of employees	10,203	<b>9,815</b>	(3.8)
Aircraft utilization (blk hrs/day)	11.0	<b>10.1</b>	(8.2)
Operating fleet at period-end	96	<b>102</b>	6.3

NM = Not Meaningful

**Horizon Air Financial and Statistical Data**

	Three Months Ended March 31		
	2001	2002	% Change
<b>Financial Data (in millions):</b>			
Operating Revenues:			
Passenger	\$ 98.2	\$ 86.3	(12.1)
Freight and mail	2.3	1.2	(47.8)
Other — net	1.5	5.7	280.0
<b>Total Operating Revenues</b>	<b>102.0</b>	<b>93.2</b>	<b>(8.6)</b>
Operating Expenses:			
Wages and benefits	36.7	37.3	1.6
Contracted services	3.7	3.9	5.4
Aircraft fuel	15.7	9.5	(39.5)
Aircraft maintenance	19.0	6.6	(65.3)
Aircraft rent	11.0	14.8	34.5
Food and beverage service	0.8	0.4	(50.0)
Commissions	2.9	2.3	(20.7)
Other selling expenses	5.8	5.3	(8.6)
Depreciation and amortization	6.4	3.9	(39.1)
Gain on sale of assets	(0.1)	(0.6)	NM
Landing fees and other rentals	6.9	6.4	(7.2)
Other	9.9	12.7	28.3
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>118.7</b>	<b>102.5</b>	<b>(13.6)</b>
<b>Operating Loss</b>	<b>(16.7)</b>	<b>(9.3)</b>	<b>(44.3)</b>
Interest expense	(1.1)	(0.5)	
Interest capitalized	1.1	0.2	
Other — net	(0.4)	0.6	
	(0.4)	0.3	
<b>Loss Before Income Tax</b>	<b>\$ (17.1)</b>	<b>\$ (9.0)</b>	<b>(47.4)</b>
<b>Operating Statistics:</b>			
Revenue passengers (000)	1,177	1,095	(7.0)
RPMs (000,000)	336	329	(2.0)
ASMs (000,000)	543	531	(2.2)
Passenger load factor	61.8%	62.0%	0.2 pts
Breakeven load factor	73.3%	69.5%	(3.8)pts
Yield per passenger mile	29.24¢	26.20¢	(10.4)
Operating revenue per ASM	18.78¢	17.56¢	(6.5)
Operating expenses per ASM	21.85¢	19.31¢	(11.6)
Expense per ASM excluding fuel	18.96¢	17.52¢	(7.6)
Fuel cost per gallon	100.1¢	77.2¢	(22.9)
Fuel gallons (000,000)	15.6	12.3	(21.2)
Average number of employees	3,923	3,452	(12.0)
Aircraft utilization (blk hrs/day)	8.1	7.1	(12.3)
Operating fleet at period-end	63	62	(1.6)

## **ITEM 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

### **Forward-Looking Information**

This report may contain forward-looking statements that are based on the best information currently available to management. These forward-looking statements are intended to be subject to the safe harbor protection provided by Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Forward-looking statements are indicated by phrases such as "will", "should", "the Company believes", "we expect" or any other language indicating a prediction of future events. There can be no assurance that actual developments will be those anticipated by the Company. Actual results could differ materially from those projected as a result of a number of factors, some of which the Company cannot predict or control. For a discussion of these factors, please see Item 1 of the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2001.

### **Results of Operations**

#### **First Quarter 2002 Compared with First Quarter 2001**

The consolidated net loss for the first quarter of 2002 was \$34.4 million, or \$1.30 per share, compared with a loss of \$33.1 million, or \$1.25 per share, in 2001. The consolidated operating loss for the first quarter of 2002 was \$51.4 million compared with an operating loss of \$49.5 million for 2001. Financial and statistical data for Alaska and Horizon is shown on pages 9 and 10, respectively. A discussion of this data follows.

#### **Alaska Airlines Revenues**

Capacity was down 4.9% in January but increased 3.1% in February and 4.5% in March. For the quarter, capacity increased 0.9% due to our service to new markets (Seattle to Washington D.C., Los Angeles to Cancun and Los Angeles to Calgary), partially offset by reduced service in existing markets, especially the Pacific Northwest to Southern California and Northern California. Traffic grew by 2.8%, and our passenger load factor increased 1.3 percentage points. The Canada and Mexico markets experienced the largest increases in load factor. Passenger yields were down 5.5% due to a combination of fewer business passengers, a drop off in demand due to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, and fare sales offered to stimulate demand. Yields were down in virtually all major markets, with Mexico and Canada showing the largest decreases. The lower yield combined with the higher load factor resulted in a 3.1% decrease in revenue per available seat mile (ASM). The higher traffic combined with the lower yield resulted in a 2.8% decrease in passenger revenue.

Freight and mail revenues decreased 13.1% due to lower freight and mail volumes as a result of decreased business activity and increased security restrictions. Other-net revenues increased 27.9%, largely due to increased revenue from the sale of miles in Alaska's frequent flyer program.

#### **Alaska Airlines Expenses**

For the quarter, total operating expenses were flat compared to 2001. Fuel expense decreased by \$18.8 million, which was offset by increases in other expense categories, primarily wages and benefits. Cost per ASM decreased by 0.9%. Cost per ASM excluding fuel increased by 4.1%. Explanations of significant year-over-year changes in the components of operating expenses are as follows:

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- Wages and benefits increased 7.7% due to a 12.0% increase in average wages and benefits per employee combined with a 3.8% decrease in the number of employees. Average wages and benefits per employee increased due to a pilot pay increase that was effective in June 2001, longevity increases for union employees, annual merit raises for management employees, and higher pension and health insurance costs for all employees.
- Contracted services increased 11.2% primarily due to increased airport security screening costs.
- Fuel expense decreased 25.4% due to a 24.3% decrease in the cost per gallon of fuel and a 1.6% decrease in gallons consumed. The fuel consumption rate decreased 0.7% due to the use of more fuel-efficient B737-700 and B737-900 aircraft. The lower fuel prices saved \$17.7 million.
- Maintenance expense increased 17.4%, largely due to increased airframe overhaul expenses. A total of 11 "C" checks (annual airframe inspections) were performed at outside contractors in 2002 compared to three in 2001. Higher amortization of airframe and engine overhauls that were capitalized in prior years also contributed to the growth in maintenance expense.
- Commission expense decreased 10.1%, exceeding the 2.8% decrease in passenger revenue, due to a commission cap we instituted in November 2001 and the continuing shift to direct sales channels. In 2002, 58.5% of Air Group ticket sales were made through travel agents, versus 61.6% in 2001. In 2002, 18.8% of the ticket sales were made through Alaska's Internet web site versus 14.9% in 2001.
- Depreciation and amortization increased 19.5%, primarily because we owned seven more aircraft in 2002.
- Landing fees and other rentals increased 10.2%, primarily due to higher rates. The 2002 results include a \$2.2 million credit from adjusting a December 2001 accrual due to a year-end airport assessment coming in lower than expected. Absent this credit, landing fees and other rentals increased 20.5%. The higher rates are attributable to airport construction projects and the effects of increased security and other costs resulting from the events of September 11.
- Other expense decreased 2.5%, as lower supplies, property tax, passenger remuneration, personnel and legal costs offset higher expenditures for insurance.

## **Horizon Air Revenues**

Capacity was down 7.8% in January, increased 2.5% in February and decreased 1.0% in March. For the quarter, capacity decreased 2.2% due to lower customer demand, especially in the shorthaul markets. Approximately 4% of first quarter capacity was in new markets (San Jose to Tucson, Portland to Tucson, Sacramento to Palm Springs and Portland to Palm Springs). Passenger load factor increased 0.2 percentage points. Passenger yields were down 10.4% due to a combination of fewer business passengers, a drop off in demand due to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, and

fare sales offered to stimulate demand. The lower traffic combined with the lower yield resulted in a 12.1% decrease in passenger revenue.

Freight and mail revenues decreased 47.8%. In June 2001, Horizon ceased carrying general freight in order to focus on carrying higher-yield small packages. This change, along with the impact of the September 11 terrorist attacks, led to the decline in revenues. Other-net revenues increased \$4.2 million, primarily due to manufacturer support received as compensation for delays in delivery of CRJ 700 aircraft.

#### **Horizon Air Expenses**

Operating expenses decreased by \$16.2 million, or 13.6%, primarily due to a decrease in maintenance and fuel expenses. Horizon's transition to its new fleet, as well as decreases in fuel prices, contributed to the decrease in these expenses. Cost per ASM decreased by 11.6%. Cost per ASM excluding fuel decreased by 7.6%. Explanations of significant year-over-year changes in the components of operating expenses are as follows:

- Wages and benefits increased 1.6% due to a 15.5% increase in average wages and benefits per employee, offset by a 12.0% reduction in the number of employees. Employee reductions were in line with a 14.1% reduction in block hours. Average wages and benefits per employee increased due to a pilot pay increase that was effective in September 2001, longevity increases for union employees, annual merit raises for management employees, and higher health insurance costs for all employees.
- Fuel expense decreased 39.5% due to a 22.9% decrease in the cost per gallon of fuel and a 21.2% decrease in gallons consumed. The fuel consumption rate decreased 8.3% due to the use of more fuel-efficient Dash 8-400 and CRJ 700 aircraft. The Company shifted flying to larger aircraft in 2002 which also contributed to this decrease. Fuel cost per ASM was 1.8¢ in 2002, compared to 2.9¢ in 2001.
- Aircraft maintenance expense decreased 65.3% due to a 14.1% decrease in aircraft block hours, the greater use of new aircraft in 2002, and higher expenses in 2001 related to the phasing out of the Fokker F-28 jet aircraft.
- Aircraft rent increased 34.5% due to higher rental rates incurred on new Dash 8-400 and CRJ 700 aircraft commencing in mid-2001 through early 2002.
- Depreciation and amortization expense decreased 39.1%, primarily due to higher expenses in 2001 related to the phasing out of the Fokker F-28 jet aircraft.
- Landing fees and other rentals decreased 7.2%, as higher rates (resulting primarily from new security directives) were offset by a 13.5% reduction in landings. The 2002 results include a \$0.9 million credit from adjusting a December 2001 accrual due to a year-end airport assessment coming in lower than expected. Absent this credit, landing fees and other rentals increased 5.8%.

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- Other expense increased 28.3%, primarily due to higher expenditures for insurance, partly offset by lower supplies and passenger remuneration costs.

### Consolidated Nonoperating Income (Expense)

Net nonoperating items were \$2.0 million expense in 2002 compared to \$1.8 million expense in 2001. Interest income decreased \$3.7 million due to lower interest rates, while interest expense (net of capitalized interest) was up \$3.2 million due to new debt incurred in the past year and much lower levels of capitalization. Other-net included a \$3.1 million gain due to the increase in value of fuel hedging contracts in 2002 (compared with a \$1.7 million loss on such contracts in 2001), a \$1.4 million insurance recovery and a \$1.0 million gain on conversion of Equant N.V. shares (a telecommunications network company owned by many airlines).

**Consolidated Income Tax Credit** Accounting standards require us to provide for income taxes each quarter based on our estimate of the effective tax rate for the full year. The volatility of air fares and fuel prices and the seasonality of our business make it difficult to accurately forecast full-year pretax results. In addition, a relatively small change in pretax results can cause a significant change in the effective tax rate due to the magnitude of nondeductible expenses, such as employee per diem costs. In estimating the 35.6% tax rate for the first quarter of 2002, we considered a variety of factors, including the U.S. federal rate of 35%, estimates of nondeductible expenses and state income taxes, and our forecast of pretax income for the full year. We evaluate this rate each quarter and make adjustments if necessary.

### Liquidity and Capital Resources

The table below presents the major indicators of financial condition and liquidity.

	December 31, 2001	March 31, 2002	Change
	(In millions, except debt-to-capital and per-share amounts)		
Cash and marketable securities	\$ 660.7	\$ 619.7	\$(41.0)
Working capital	144.2	161.1	16.9
Long-term debt and capital lease obligations	863.3	862.5	(0.8)
Shareholders' equity	820.3	797.3	(23.0)
Book value per common share	\$ 30.92	\$ 30.03	\$(0.89)
Debt-to-capital	51%:49%	52%:48%	NA
Debt-to-capital assuming aircraft operating leases are capitalized at seven times annualized rent	73%:27%	73%:27%	NA

The Company's cash and marketable securities portfolio decreased \$41.0 million during the first three months of 2002. \$49.4 million of the decrease is attributable to payments for transportation taxes related to the fourth quarter of 2001 which we were allowed to defer until this quarter under the Air Transportation Safety and System Stabilization Act, and \$35.5 million is for the incremental portion of lease payments on Horizon's new aircraft. Cash was also used for \$25.3 million of capital expenditures, including the purchase of spare parts and airframe and engine overhauls. These decreases were partially offset by \$14.5 million of flight equipment deposits that were returned by Horizon's aircraft manufacturer.

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Shareholders' equity decreased \$23.0 million primarily due to the net loss of \$34.4 million.

*Financing Activities* - During the first quarter of 2002, Horizon added three Dash 8-400 and two CRJ 700 aircraft to its operating fleet. The aircraft were financed with a combination of U.S. leveraged leases and single investor leases with terms of approximately 16.5 years. The aggregate future minimum lease payments under these five new operating leases will be \$117.8 million.

*Commitments* - At March 31, 2002, the Company had firm orders for 27 aircraft requiring aggregate payments of approximately \$661 million, as set forth below. In addition, Alaska has options to acquire 28 more B737s, and Horizon has options to acquire 15 Dash 8-400s and 25 CRJ 700s. Alaska expects to finance the new planes with leases, long-term debt or internally generated cash. Horizon expects to finance its new aircraft with operating leases.

Aircraft	Delivery Period - Firm Orders				Total
	2002	2003	2004	2005	
Boeing 737-700	—	2	—	—	2
Boeing 737-900	1	2	3	—	6
Bombardier CRJ 700	5	2	6	6	19
Total	6	6	9	6	27
Payments (Millions)	\$178	\$175	\$199	\$109	\$661

*New Accounting Standards* - In June 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 143, "Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations" (effective for the Company on January 1, 2003). This Statement addresses financial accounting and reporting for obligations associated with the retirement of tangible long-lived assets and the associated asset retirement costs. The Company is in the process of evaluating the financial statement impact of SFAS No. 143.

**PART II. OTHER INFORMATION**

**ITEM 1. Legal Proceedings**

**Flight 261 Litigation**

Alaska is a defendant in a number of lawsuits relating to the loss of Flight 261 on January 31, 2000. Representatives of all 88 passengers and crew on board have filed cases against Alaska, the Boeing Company, and others. The suits seek unspecified compensatory and punitive damages. In May 2001, the judge presiding over the majority of the cases ruled that punitive damages are not available against Alaska. Alaska has settled a number of these cases and continues in its efforts to settle the remaining ones. Consistent with industry standards, the Company maintains insurance against aircraft accidents.

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Management believes the ultimate disposition of this matter is not likely to materially affect the Company's financial position or results of operations. This forward-looking statement is based on management's current understanding of the relevant law and facts; it is subject to various contingencies, including the potential costs and risks associated with litigation and the actions of judges and juries.

The Company is also a party to other ordinary routine litigation incidental to its business and with respect to which no material liability is expected.

**ITEM 5. Other Information**

In April 2002, in response to requests from shareholders constituting a significant percentage of Alaska Air Group's stock ownership, the Company eliminated its shareholder rights plan.

**ITEM 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K**

(a) Exhibit 10 — Employment agreement between Alaska Airlines, Inc. and George D. Bagley

(b) On January 4, 2002, February 15, 2002, March 11, 2002, April 3, 2002 and April 12, 2002 reports on Form 8-K were filed discussing estimated financial results under regulation FD disclosure.

**Signatures**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

ALASKA AIR GROUP, INC.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Registrant

Date: April 29, 2002

/s/ Bradley D. Tilden

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bradley D. Tilden  
Executive Vice President/Finance and Chief Financial Officer

/s/ Terri K. Maupin

\_\_\_\_\_  
Terri K. Maupin  
Staff Vice President/Finance and Controller

## EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

This Employment Agreement (this "Agreement"), dated as of January 30, 2002, is entered into between Alaska Airlines, Inc., an Alaska corporation ("Alaska"), a wholly owned subsidiary of Alaska Air Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("AAG") and George D. Bagley ("Executive").

## 1. EMPLOYMENT

Alaska shall employ Executive as its Executive Vice President/Operations. Executive has the authority, subject to Alaska's Charter and Bylaws, as may be granted from time to time by the Board of Directors of Alaska. Executive will perform such duties as may be assigned from time to time by the Board of Directors of Alaska, which relate to the business of Alaska, its subsidiaries, its affiliates, or any business ventures in which Alaska, its subsidiaries or its parent corporation may participate.

## 2. ATTENTION AND EFFORT

Executive will devote all of his entire productive time, ability, attention and effort to Alaska's business and will serve its interests during his employment by the Company; provided, however, that Executive may devote reasonable periods of time to (a) engaging in personal investment activities and (b) engaging in charitable or community service activities, so long as none of the foregoing additional activities materially interfere with Executive's duties under this Agreement.

## 3. COMPENSATION, STOCK OPTIONS, OFFICERS SUPPLEMENTAL RETIREMENT PLAN

Alaska agrees to pay or cause to be paid to Executive, and Executive agrees to accept in exchange for the services rendered hereunder by him, the following compensation:

## 3.1 BASE SALARY

Executive's compensation shall consist, in part, of an annual base salary of \$300,000 before all customary payroll deductions. Such annual base salary shall be paid in substantially equal installments and at the same intervals as other officers of Alaska are paid. The Board of Directors of AAG or the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of AAG thereof (the "Compensation Committee") shall determine any increases in the amount of the annual base salary.

## 3.2 BONUS

Executive will be eligible to receive, in addition to the annual base salary described above, an annual bonus under Alaska's Management Incentive Plan (the "MIP") based on the

objectives that are established under the MIP from time to time by the Compensation Committee. Executive shall participate in the MIP at a rate of 45% of his base salary if "target" level goals are achieved.

## 3.3 STOCK OPTIONS

Subject to approval by the Shareholders of AAG of the issuance of additional shares under the 1999 Long-Term Incentive Equity Plan, and further subject to the condition that Executive shall not have issued a Notice of Termination, AAG shall grant to Executive, between May 30, 2002 and August 28, 2002, an award of options to purchase 100,000 shares of AAG common stock.

The terms and conditions of such options shall include, without limitation:

- (a) the exercise price shall be equal to the closing price of such stock on the date such options are awarded;

- (b) such options shall vest in equal annual installments over four (4) years;
- (c) such options shall continue to vest and shall remain exercisable for the earlier of the option expiration date or three (3) years after retirement or termination unless Executive is terminated for Cause in which case such options shall immediately cease to vest and shall no longer be exercisable;
- (d) such other terms as the Compensation Committee shall determine.

In addition, Executive will be eligible for stock option awards under Alaska's stock option plans.

#### 3.4 OFFICERS SUPPLEMENTAL RETIREMENT PLAN

Executive shall continue to participate in the Alaska Airlines Officers Supplemental Retirement Plan ("OSRP"). In the event of termination of the Executive for any reason other than Cause (including, without limitation, voluntary termination by Executive), Executive shall immediately become 100% vested in all benefits under the OSRP, not withstanding anything to the contrary in the OSRP.

#### 3.5 HORIZON STOCK OPTIONS

If, prior to the earlier of (i) January 30, 2007, or (ii) Executive's date of voluntary or involuntary termination, AAG should offer the sale to the public stock in Horizon Air Industries, Inc. ("Horizon"), Executive shall be entitled to options for the purchase of shares in Horizon or restricted shares in Horizon, in the same amounts and on the same terms as are offered to Horizon's then Chief Executive Officer in connection with such offering. Executive shall not be entitled to such options which result by operation of law in connection with previously existing stock options issued to Horizon's then Chief Executive Officer. Executive shall, in addition to

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the options set forth above, be entitled to options which result from operation of law in connection with previously existing stock options issued to Executive.

#### 4. BENEFITS

During the term of his employment by the Company, Executive will be entitled to participate, subject to and in accordance with applicable eligibility requirements, in fringe benefit programs, including, but not limited to, health, dental and vision insurance, group life insurance, car allowance and maintenance, and such other programs as shall be provided from time to time by Alaska for its officers generally.

#### 5. TERMINATION

Employment of Executive pursuant to this Agreement may be terminated as follows, but in any case, the provisions of Section 7 hereof shall survive the termination of this Agreement and the termination of Executive's employment hereunder:

##### 5.1 BY ALASKA

With or without Cause (as defined below), Alaska may terminate the employment of Executive at any time during the term of employment upon giving Notice of Termination (as defined below).

##### 5.2 BY EXECUTIVE

Executive may terminate his employment at any time, for any reason, upon giving Notice of Termination.

##### 5.3 NOTICE

The term "Notice of Termination" shall mean at least 90 days' written notice of termination of Executive's employment, during which period Executive's

employment and performance of services will continue; provided, however, that Alaska may, upon notice to Executive and without reducing Executive's compensation during such period, excuse Executive from any or all of his or her duties during such period. The effective date of the termination of Executive's employment hereunder shall be the date on which such 90-day period expires.

## 6. EFFECT OF TERMINATION

In the event of termination of the employment of Executive, all compensation and benefits set forth in this Agreement shall terminate except as specifically provided in this Section 6:

### 6.1 TERMINATION BY ALASKA

If Alaska terminates Executive's employment without Cause, Executive shall be entitled to receive (i) any unpaid annual base salary which has accrued for services already performed as

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of the date termination of Executive's employment becomes effective, (ii) continued rights in then issued and outstanding options as described in Section 3.3, and (iii) immediate vesting in OSRP as described in Section 3.4. If Executive is terminated by Alaska for Cause, Executive shall not be entitled to receive any of the foregoing benefits, other than those set forth in clause (i) above.

### 6.2 TERMINATION BY EXECUTIVE

In the case of the termination of Executive's employment by Executive, Executive shall nevertheless be entitled to receive (i) any unpaid annual base salary which has accrued for services already performed as of the date termination of Executive's employment becomes effective, (ii) continued rights in then issued and outstanding options as described in Section 3.3(c), and (iii) immediate vesting in OSRP as described in Section 3.4.

### 6.3 CAUSE

Wherever reference is made in this Agreement to termination being with or without Cause, "Cause" shall mean as basis for termination for reason of admission by the Executive or reasonable substantiation by the Company of embezzlement, dishonesty or other fraud, conviction of a felony or conspiracy against the Company or any willful or intentional injury to either the Company, its property, or its employees in connection with the business affairs of the Company.

## 7. NON-COMPETITION AND NON-SOLICITATION

### 7.1 APPLICABILITY

This Section 7 shall survive the termination of Executive's employment with Alaska or the expiration of the term of this Agreement.

### 7.2 SCOPE OF COMPETITION

Executive agrees that he will not, directly or indirectly, during his employment and for a period of one (1) year from the date on which his employment with Alaska terminates for any reason, be employed by, consult with or otherwise perform services for, own, manage, operate, join, control or participate in the ownership, management, operation or control of or be connected with, in any manner, any Competitor. A "Competitor" shall include, (a) any entity which provides air transportation services anywhere in the world, and (b) any business whose efforts are in competition with the efforts of the company, including, without limitation, any business whose efforts involve any research and development, products or services in competition with products or services which are, during or at the end of the Term, either (i) produced, marketed or otherwise commercially exploited by the Company or (ii) in actual or demonstrably anticipated research or development by the Company, unless released from such obligation in writing by Alaska's Board of Directors. Executive shall be deemed to be related to or connected with a Competitor if such Competitor is (x) a partnership in which he is a general or limited partner or employee, (y) a corporation or association of which he is a shareholder, officer, employee or

director, or (z) a partnership, corporation or association of which he is a member, consultant or

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agent; provided, however, that nothing herein shall prevent the purchase or ownership by Executive of shares which constitute less than five percent of the outstanding equity securities of a publicly or privately held corporation, so long as Executive has no other relationship with such corporation.

#### 7.3 SCOPE OF NON-SOLICITATION

Executive shall not, during his employment and for a period of one (1) year from the date on which his employment with Alaska terminate for any reason, directly or indirectly solicit, influence or entice, or attempt to solicit, influence or entice, any employee or consultant of Alaska to cease his or her relationship with Alaska or solicit, influence, entice or in any way divert any customer, distributor, partner, joint venturer or supplier of Alaska to do business or in any way become associated with any Competitor. This Section 7.3 shall apply during the time period and geographical area described in Section 7.2 hereof.

#### 7.4 NONDISCLOSURE; RETURN OF MATERIALS

During the term of his employment by Alaska and following termination of such employment, he will not disclose (except as required by his duties to Alaska), any concept, design, process, technology, trade secret, customer list, business plan, embodiment, or invention, or any other confidential information, of Alaska of which Executive becomes informed or aware during his employment, whether or not developed by Executive. In the event of the termination of his employment with Alaska or the expiration of this Agreement, Executive will promptly return all documents, data and other materials of whatever nature, including, without limitation, drawings, specifications, research, reports, embodiments, software and manuals to Alaska which pertain to Alaska and shall not retain or cause or allow any third party to retain photocopies or other reproductions of the foregoing.

#### 8. RENEGOTIATION

In the event that, on or prior to June 28, 2002 or such later date as may be applicable, Company applies for the issuance of loans, guarantees, or other financial assistance under Section 101(a)(1) of the Air Transportation Safety and System Stabilization Act, the Company may be required, as a condition to the issuance of said loans and guarantees, to enter into a legally binding agreement with the Air Transportation Stabilization Board limiting Executives compensation. In such event, and notwithstanding any other provisions in this Agreement, Executive and Company agree that during the two-year period beginning September 11, 2001, and ending September 11, 2003:

8.1 Executives total compensation from Alaska, AAG and Horizon shall not, during any 12 consecutive months, exceed the total compensation received by Executive in calendar year 2000; and

8.2 Executive shall not receive from Alaska, AAG and Horizon severance pay or other benefits upon termination of employment which exceeds twice the maximum total compensation received by Executive in Calendar year 2000.

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The term "total compensation" includes salary, bonuses, awards of stock and other financial benefits provided by Alaska, AAG and Horizon.

#### 9. NOTICE AND CURE OF BREACH

Whenever a breach of this Agreement by either party is relied upon as justification for any action taken by the other party pursuant to any provision of this Agreement, before such action is taken, the party asserting the breach of this Agreement shall give the other party at least twenty (20) days' prior

written notice of the existence and the nature of such breach before taking further action hereunder and shall give the party purportedly in breach of this Agreement the opportunity to correct such breach during the 20-day period.

10. FORM OF NOTICE

All notices given hereunder shall be given in writing, shall specifically refer to this Agreement and shall be personally delivered or sent by telecopy or other electronic facsimile transmission or by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, at the address set forth below or at such other address as may hereafter be designated by notice given in compliance with the terms hereof:

If to Executive: George D. Bagley  
21 Skagit Key  
Bellevue, Washington 98006

If to Alaska: Alaska Airlines, Inc.  
Attn: Chief Executive Officer  
19300 Pacific Highway South  
Seattle, WA 98188  
Fax: (206) 431-3819

With a copy to: General Counsel  
Fax: (206) 431-3807

If notice is mailed, such notice shall be effective upon mailing, or if notice is personally delivered or sent by telecopy or other electronic facsimile transmission, it shall be effective upon receipt.

11. ASSIGNMENT

This Agreement is personal to Executive and shall not be assignable by Executive. Alaska may assign its rights hereunder to (a) any corporation resulting from any merger, consolidation or other reorganization to which Alaska is a party or (b) any corporation, partnership, association or other person to which Alaska may transfer all or substantially all of the assets and business of Alaska existing at such time. All of the terms and provisions of this Agreement shall be binding upon and shall inure to the benefit of and be enforceable by the parties hereto and their respective successors and permitted assigns.

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12. WAIVERS

No delay or failure by any party hereto in exercising, protecting or enforcing any of its rights, titles, interests or remedies hereunder, and no course of dealing or performance with respect thereto, shall constitute a waiver thereof. The express waiver by a party hereto of any right, title, interest or remedy in a particular instance or circumstance shall not constitute a waiver thereof in any other instance or circumstance. All rights and remedies shall be cumulative and not exclusive of any other rights or remedies.

13. AMENDMENTS IN WRITING

No amendment, modification, waiver, termination or discharge of any provision of this Agreement, nor consent to any departure therefrom by either party hereto, shall in any event be effective unless the same shall be in writing, specifically identifying this Agreement and the provision intended to be amended, modified, waived, terminated or discharged and signed by Alaska and Executive, and each such amendment, modification, waiver, termination or discharge shall be effective only in the specific instance and for the specific purpose for which given. No provision of this Agreement shall be varied, contradicted or explained by any oral agreement, course of dealing or performance or any other matter not set forth in an agreement in writing and signed by Alaska and Executive.

14. APPLICABLE LAW

This Agreement shall in all respects, including all matters of construction, validity and performance, be governed by, and construed and

enforced in accordance with, the laws of the state of Washington, without regard to any rules governing conflicts of laws.

15. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of this Agreement shall be held invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any jurisdiction, for any reason, including, without limitation, the duration of such provision, its geographical scope or the extent of the activities prohibited or required by it, then, to the full extent permitted by law (a) all other provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect in such jurisdiction and shall be liberally construed in order to carry out the intent of the parties hereto as nearly as may be possible, (b) such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability shall not affect the validity, legality or enforceability of any other provision hereof, and (c) any court or arbitrator having jurisdiction thereover shall have the power to reform such provision to the extent necessary for such provision to be enforceable under applicable law.

16. HEADINGS

All headings used herein are for convenience only and shall not in any way affect the construction of, or be taken into consideration in interpreting, this Agreement.

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17. COUNTERPARTS

This Agreement, and any amendment or modification entered into pursuant to Section 16 hereof, may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which counterparts, when so executed and delivered, shall be deemed to be an original and all of which counterparts, taken together, shall constitute one and the same instrument.

18. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Agreement, including exhibits hereto incorporated by reference, on and as of the date hereof constitutes the entire agreement between Alaska and Executive with respect to the subject matter hereof and all prior or contemporaneous oral or written communications, understandings or agreements between Alaska and Executive with respect to such subject matter are hereby superseded and nullified in their entireties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed and entered into this Agreement on the date set forth above.

-----  
George D. Bagley  
-----  
John F. Kelly  
Chairman

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