

**For Immediate Release**

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**Columbia Regional Airport announcing regional jet service**

(Columbia, MO) Delta Air Lines has announced plans to upgrade the aircraft on one of the currently scheduled round trip flights out of Columbia Regional Airport to a **50-seat regional jet beginning on February 11, 2010.**

“This is another firm step toward achieving the community’s vision of continuously improving air service out of Columbia Regional,” said City Manager Bill Watkins. “Delta looked at the facts and made a commitment to work with us as our passenger numbers continue to climb. We’re very pleased with Delta’s decision. ”

Regional jets will be used for the last arrival of the day from Memphis International Airport and the first departure of the morning from Columbia Regional. This change is expected to be loaded into the Delta reservations system on December 19, 2009 to allow for reservations to be made beginning with the February implementation dates. The remainder of the flights will still utilize the Saab 340.

The number of passengers boarding at Columbia Regional continues to remain high. Counts for the last three months of service include: September- 2,081 passengers; October - 2,204 passengers and November - 2,092 passengers. Delta Air Lines reports a completion factor for the year to date at 99.1% and the station's on-time performance at 94.8% for service at Columbia

Regional Airport. For more information about flying from Columbia Regional Airport, log onto the airport's website at [www.FlyMidMo.com](http://www.FlyMidMo.com) or call 573-874-7508.

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