

### Skies Open Over New Agreement

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On March 22 2007 the EU transport ministers unanimously approved the Open Skies Air Transport Agreement between the European Union, its member states and the United States. On April 30 2007 at the US-EU summit in Washington DC the agreement was executed by the US secretary of state, the German minister for transport and the European Commission vice president. The agreement will become effective on March 30 2008 and will replace existing bilateral air transport agreements between the United States and individual EU countries that were deemed illegal by the European Court of Justice. The agreement does not require congressional approval and no legislation has yet been introduced to curtail its efficacy.

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