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PRESS RELEASE

FINNAIR FLIES HIGH WITH THE A350

Finnair's CEO Pekka Vauramo is set to share the airline's experience of the new Airbus A350 at an aviation industry lunch next week.

Finnair is the first carrier in Europe to operate the A350, deploying it on routes to Asia Pacific. He is also expected to outline Finnair's strategy for Asia in his speech to the UK Aviation Club on 9 November 2016, in London.

Finnair has been developing its Helsinki home base into a major hub for passenger traffic between Europe and Asia Pacific and it is now one of Europe's leading airlines serving China and Japan.

Jane Johnston, chair of the Aviation Club UK said: "Despite its home being one of most northerly European airports, with all the challenges of snow and ice, Finnair has established a record for being one of the most punctual airlines in the world. We look forward to hearing the secrets of their success and the role the new Airbus A350 is playing in its future plans."

The Fellowship of the Aviation Club UK - nominated by Committee members - is also to be formally awarded to Lord Glendonbrook*, former chief of British Midland, at the lunch. The Fellowship recognises the outstanding, long-term contribution by an individual to the civil aviation industry in the UK.

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Notes to Editors:

Pekka Vauramo has been Finnair's CEO since May 2013. Before he joined the airline he worked in Hong Kong for the Finnish cargo and load handling company Cargotec. He began his career with Swedish mining and construction business Sandvik.

*Michael Bishop

Previous recipients of the UK Aviation Club Fellowship have included Sir Ralph Robins, former Chairman and Chief Executive of Rolls-Royce; Danny Bernstein, former Managing Director of Monarch Airlines; and Mike Ambrose, who headed the European Regions Airline Association for more than a quarter of a century.

The Aviation Club, which was founded 26 years ago, aims to provide a forum for its 500 members to discuss, promote and develop all aspects of civil aviation. More information and membership details for the Aviation Club of the UK can be found at www.aviationclub.org.uk

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Michael Blunt / Mike Carrivick / Nick Fadugba / Jeremy Green
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