

VASP—Viacao Aerea Sao Paulo SA—was founded in 1934 and began scheduled operations in 1935. Most of the company's stock is held by Sao Paulo State Government, the State Bank and the city municipality. The airline operates over more than 16,000 miles of domestic routes from Belem in the north to Porto Alegre in the south and connects several state capitals to Brasilia. High-frequency services are operated in pool with Cruzeiro and Varig over the Rio-Sao Paulo and Rio-Belo Horizonte-Brasilia routes—the Ponte Aerea (Air Bridge). In 1962 VASP acquired complete financial control of Loide and NAB and their operations have since been integrated into those of VASP.

Head Office: Rua Libero Badaro No 89, Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Executives: Dr Helio Tornaghi, president; Brig Paule Cunha Mello, superintendent; Mario Tarares Leite, commercial manager; Paulo de Tarso Leite Soares, operations manager; Boaventura Scott Hood, traffic manager.

Fleet: five Viscount 827, nine Viscount 701, four DC-6, eight DC-4, 13 C-46, 14 DC-3, nine Scandia (on sale).

Venezolana Internacional de Aviacion SA—VIASA—was formed in 1961 at the instigation of the Venezuelan Government to take over the international routes of Avensa and LAV, who now concentrate on domestic operations. VIASA is owned 55% by the Government and 45% by Venezuelan private interests, including LAV and Avensa. KLM provides technical and operational assistance and operates DC-8 services to Paris, Amsterdam, Lisbon, Madrid and Rome for the airline. These are integrated with the DC-8 services of KLM, Iberia and Alitalia. Other DC-8 services are operated to Panama City, Bogota, Curaçao and Lima. Convair 880s operate services to Maracaibo, Curaçao, Kingston, Santo Domingo, Aruba, Miami, New Orleans and New York. Convair 880s are leased to KLM for its Caribbean services.

Head Office: Edificio Seguros Caracas, Apartado 6857, Caracas, Venezuela.

Executives: Dr O. M. Zuloaga, president; Capt G. O. Tucker, general manager; R. van den Branden, assistant to the president; M. Villanueva, assistant to the president.

Employees: 300.

Fleet: one DC-8 (leased from Alitalia), three Convair 880/22M. On order: one DC-8-50.

Vias Internas Orientales was established to operate internal services from Quito down to points east of the Andes.

Head Office: Olmedo No 654, Quito, Ecuador.

Fleet: one Cessna 180, one Howard DGA-15.

Vieques Airways Corp was authorized by the CAB in 1961 to operate air taxi services between points in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. No recent information is available.

Head Office: Puerto Rico International Airport, San Juan.

Virgin Island Airways was authorized by the CAB in 1963 to operate air taxi services in Puerto Rico linking San Juan, Fajardo, Vieques and Culebra. No recent information is available.

Head Office: St Thomas, US Virgin Islands.

Wardair Canada Ltd. This Canadian bush operator's history goes back to 1946 when

Maxwell Ward started operations from Yellowknife as the Polaris Charter Co Ltd with a single Fox Moth, flying charters in support of the rapidly developing mining industry of the Northwest Territory. Wardair Ltd was formed in 1952 to continue this work, and started operations with an Otter. The company's name was changed in 1961 to Wardair Canada Ltd and its licence is now amended to include international charters.

Head Office: Macdonald Hotel, Edmonton, Alberta.

Executives: Maxwell Ward, president; D. C. Braun, vice-president and manager, northern operations; J. A. McGuire, general manager; W. R. Worrall, sales manager; W. R. O'Hara, supervisor of operations.

Employees: 53.

Fleet: one DC-6B, one Freighter 31, three Otter, one Beaver, one Beech C-45H.

Westair is the operating name adopted by the Aviation Corp of Seattle, a US non-scheduled and supplemental carrier.

Head Office: Boeing Field, Seattle, Washington, USA.

Fleet: L.749A Constellation, DC-4, C-46.

West Coast Airlines, Inc—WCA—is the oldest US local service airline in point of actual service. WCA was founded in 1941 under the laws of the State of Washington for the operation of passenger, mail and express services in the Pacific Coast area, but the CAB held the application over until after the war and only granted certificates in 1946; operations began in December that year. In August 1952 WCA took over Empire Air Lines, inaugurated in September 1946, WCA was the first airline in the world to operate F-27s, with which services were started in September 1958. WCA now serves over 60 cities along some 4,000 route miles in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, California, Montana and Utah. Services now extend over the Canadian border to Calgary, Alberta and as far south as San Francisco.

Head Office: Boeing Field, Seattle 8, Washington, USA.

Executives: N. Bez, president; J. N. Bez, Jr, vice-president and assistant to the president; L. J. Hawkinson, treasurer; S. R. Severston, vice-president operations; Jack Vidal, vice-president, maintenance; T. Croson, vice-president public relations; E. N. Altman, vice-president community and industrial relations; H. E. Wallis, vice-president sales.

Employees: 860.

Fleet: nine F-27, nine DC-3. On order: three DC-9.

West Coast Air Services Ltd operates charter and flying training services in British Columbia.

Head Office: Vancouver, BC, Canada.

Executives: L. J. Michaud, president; A. L. Michaud, general manager.

Fleet: one Beaver, one Cessna 210, one Cessna 182A, two Cessna 172, one Cessna 175, three Cessna 180, four Cessna 150, six Cessna 140.

West Coast Airways Ltd, a subsidiary of Southern Scenic Air Services Ltd, was formed in 1956 and took over certain services from NZNAC. It currently operates to Franz Josef Glacier, Fox Glacier, Haast and Milford Sound from its base at Hokitika, South Island.

Head Office: Seaview Airport, Hokitika, South Island, New Zealand.

Executives: D. W. Davies, director; C. B. Topliss, director; M. W. Rumsey, manager.

Employees: 5.

Fleet: two DH Rapide, one Cessna 180 float-plane, one Cessna 185.

Western Airlines Inc—WAL—claims to be the United States' oldest airline, having been founded in 1925 as Western Air Express. The present name was legally adopted on March 11, 1941. WAL now operates over 9,500 miles of routes in the Western and mid-West states, flying as far east as Minneapolis/St Paul, northwards across the Canadian border to Calgary and southwards to Mexico City.

Head Office: 6060 Avion Drive, Los Angeles, California, USA.

Executives: T. C. Drinkwater, president; D. P. Renda, vice-president legal/secretary; J. J. Taylor, vice-president treasurer; S. R. Shatto, vice-president operations; M. W. Landes, vice-president service; A. F. Kelly, vice-president sales.

Employees: 4,092.

Fleet: 13 Boeing 720-047B, 12 Electra, 14 DC-6B. On order: five 720-047B.

Western Alaska Airlines Inc operates services radiating from Dillingham and King Salmon, south-west Alaska, many of which used to be operated by Pacific Northern Airlines. It was formed in January 1953 from two former partnerships formed in 1943 and 1946.

Head Office: Dillingham, Alaska.

Executives: Albert W. Bell, president and general manager; Myron Moran, vice-president; Clarence Wren, secretary/treasurer.

Fleet: Grumman Goose, Lockheed 12A, Bonanza, Cessna 180/185.

Wheeler Airlines (1960) Ltd is Canada's oldest existing air service. It was founded in 1921. The company is primarily engaged in providing charter services in Northern Quebec and the Arctic. The TBM-3 Avengers and Stearman biplanes are used for forest and crop spraying. Wheeler Airlines sold its heavy transport division to Nordair in April 1960. Fish cultivation and ice reconnaissance is also undertaken.

Head Office: St Jovite Station, Quebec, Canada.

Executive: F. H. Wheeler, president.

Fleet: five PBY-5A Catalina, two Otter, four Beaver, four Norseman, one Husky, one Cessna 180, two Super Cub, one Aztec, and ten spray aircraft.

Widerøe's Flyveselskap A/S is an old-established company (formed in 1934) engaged in many forms of air activity including charter flying, air ambulance and air survey work. Widerøe's operated various pioneer aerservices around the Norwegian coast before the war, and for several years since the war the company has been operating the North Norway services in cooperation with SAS.

Head Office: Wergelandsvelen 7, Oslo, Norway.

Executives: V. Widerøe, general manager; H. G. Kjaestad, manager; K. F. Barstad, chief of operations; E. Karlsen, chief engineer.

Employees: 330.

Fleet: two DC-3, three Otter seaplanes, five Norseman seaplanes, one Cessna 320, one Cessna 185.

The Venezuelan carrier VIASA's long-haul services have previously been operated by KLM with DC-8s. The airline now has its own DC-8 on order

