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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FAIR WIND PETITIONS INDUSTRY GROUPS / FEDERAL REGULATORS

Calls for immediate action to eliminate Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) Jet Fuel contamination threat

STUART, FLORIDA, August 27th, 2018 – A Fair Wind managed corporate Falcon 900EX jet aircraft was recently (8/14/18) subjected to fuel contamination—caused by an aviation service provider and fixed base operation (FBO) at Opa-Locka, Florida—wherein DEF was unintentionally mixed into Jet-A fuel. This contamination event resulted in fuel crystallization and fuel filter clogging subsequently leading to loss of two of three engines. The decisive action of the flight crew to declare an emergency and immediately return to the airport prevented a potentially fatal aviation accident. Additional aircraft operators were similarly affected. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is presently investigating the occurrence.

This type of contamination has happened at least once before. In November 2017, at an Omaha, Nebraska airport, numerous aircraft were accidentally fueled with DEF contaminated Jet-A fuel leading to similar anomalies and engine failures. This first confirmed event triggered the FAA to issue a Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin, HQ-18-08R1 on December 26th, 2017 (the “SAIB”). The SAIB highlighted consequences this type of contamination produces. The cause for each of these events traces back to human error which, at the least, results in substantial inspection and parts replacement expenses and, worse case, could trigger an aviation accident with resulting loss of life and property damage.

Fair Wind has taken the initiative to call upon aviation industry groups, lawmakers, and federal regulatory agencies to take immediate action to eliminate the risk and associated hazards tied to this type of jet fuel contamination. The present lack of meaningful action should be deeply concerning to aircraft operators and aviation service providers alike.

Fair Wind has reached out to the following in hopes of facilitating necessary recommendations and actions to achieve a system wide, long-term, solution based on solid Safety Management System principles.

- Department of Transportation – Secretary Elaine Chao
- Federal Aviation Administration – Administrator Michael Huerta
- Environmental Protection Agency – Acting Administrator Andrew Wheeler
- United States Senate – Senators Marco Rubio and Bill Nelson
- United States House of Representatives - Congressman Brian Mast
- National Air Transportation Association – Martin Hiller, President
- National Business Aviation Association – Ed Bolen, President
- Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association – Mark Baker, President

Fair Wind Air Charter is a leading provider of aircraft management services and also owns and operates a 14 CFR Part 135 on-demand air carrier certificate. Over its 35 year operating history, Fair Wind has established itself as provider of supplemental lift to the largest fractional and jetcard companies in the world as well as the largest jet charter company in the south-eastern United States. Fair Wind Air Charter remains one of the safest, most reliable and trusted private charter and aircraft management companies across the globe carrying third party safety seals of approvals as Wyvern Wingman, ARG/US Platinum, and IS-BAO.

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