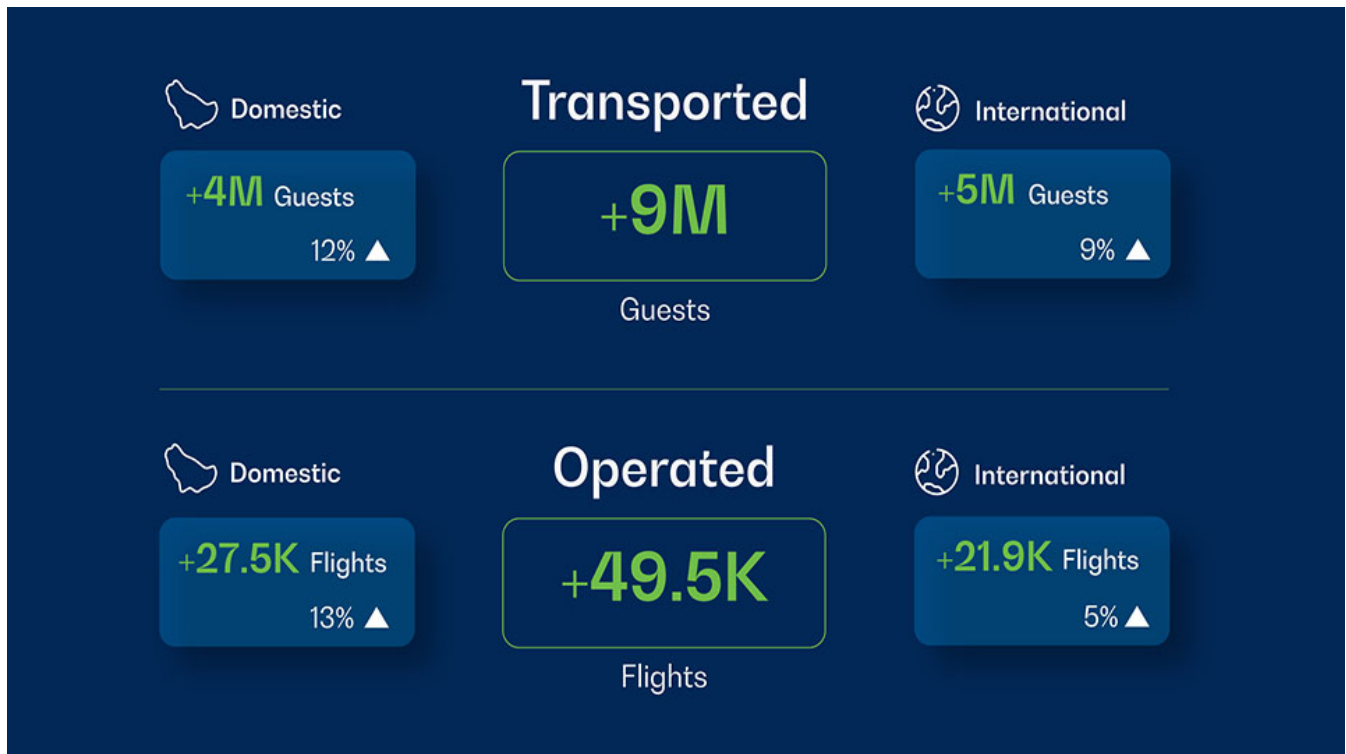


Saudia reports 10pc growth in passenger transportation during Q3 2024

- A Monitor Desk Report

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Dhaka: Saudia, the national flag carrier of Saudi Arabia, transported over nine million guests during the third quarter of 2024, marking a 10 per cent increase, compared to the same period in 2023, according to its latest performance report.

The achievement was supported by more than 49,500 flights, reflecting a 9 per cent increase in flight operations. Additionally, Saudia logged 146,700 flight hours, representing an 11 per cent increase over last year, with an on-time performance rate of 87.8 per cent.

Engr Ibrahim Al-Omar, Director General, Saudia Group, stated, “The aviation industry is uniquely defined by its skilled workforce and cutting-edge systems that ensure sustained operational excellence. We remain committed to delivering innovative services that enhance the travel experience for our valued guests, and our new strategy

meticulously addresses every aspect of air travel—from security and safety to expanding seating capacity to meet growing demand."

For Bangladesh, the growth is particularly noteworthy as it could lead to expanded flight services and increased connectivity between Saudi Arabia and Bangladesh. Enhanced travel options can facilitate easier access for Bangladeshi expatriates, tourists and pilgrims, strengthening ties between the two nations.

Notably, Saudia serves a significant number of routes connecting Saudi Arabia with major cities in Bangladesh, facilitating travel for both business and leisure.

Internationally, Saudia carried over five million guests, reflecting a 9 per cent growth, on more than 21,900 flights—a 5 per cent increase compared to last year. The airline's international fleet logged over 102,400 flight hours.

On the domestic front, Saudia served over four million guests, demonstrating a 12 per cent increase, with more than 27,500 flights operated, marking a 13 per cent increase. Domestic flight hours surpassed 44,200, with a commendable on-time performance rate of 91.5 per cent.

From January to September 2024, Saudia successfully transported over 25.3 million guests across 143,800 flights. Looking ahead, the addition of 131 new aircraft to Saudia's fleet will significantly expand flight offerings and seating capacity across its network of over 100 destinations spanning four continents, particularly for routes connecting to Bangladesh.

This growth will also introduce new international routes, aligning with the airline's strategy to connect the world to the Kingdom and support the ambitious goals of Saudi Vision 2030, thereby fostering stronger ties and collaboration between Saudi Arabia and Bangladesh.

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