

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of Earliest Event Reported): February 7, 2012



Southwest Airlines Co.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Texas
(State or other jurisdiction
of incorporation)

1-7259
(Commission
File Number)

74-1563240
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

P. O. Box 36611, Dallas, Texas
(Address of principal executive offices)

75235-1611
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (214) 792-4000

Not Applicable

Former name or former address, if changed since last report

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- ☐ Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
 - ☐ Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
 - ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
 - ☐ Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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Item 7.01 Regulation FD Disclosure.

On February 7, 2012, the Registrant issued a press release announcing its traffic results for January 2012. The press release is furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated by reference into this Item 7.01.

The information furnished in this Item 7.01 shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section, nor shall such information be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, regardless of any general incorporation language in such filing, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits:

99.1 Registrant's January 2012 Traffic Release.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES CO.

February 7, 2012

By /s/ Laura Wright

Laura Wright
Chief Financial Officer
(Principal Financial and
Accounting Officer)

Exhibit Index

Exhibit No.	Description
99.1	Registrant's January 2012 Traffic Release.

CONTACT: Investor Relations (214) 792-4415

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES REPORTS JANUARY TRAFFIC

DALLAS, TEXAS – February 7, 2012 – Southwest Airlines Co. (NYSE: LUV) today reported January 2012 combined traffic results for Southwest Airlines and AirTran. AirTran became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Southwest Airlines Co. (“the Company”) on May 2, 2011. For purposes of comparability, the Company is providing combined traffic results for Southwest Airlines and AirTran for periods prior to the acquisition date. See the accompanying tables for combined results.

The Company flew 7.4 billion revenue passenger miles (RPMs) in January 2012, compared to 7.6 billion combined RPMs flown in January 2011, a decrease of 2.7 percent. Available seat miles (ASMs) decreased 0.7 percent to 9.9 billion from the January 2011 combined level of 10.0 billion. The load factor for January 2012 was 74.3 percent, compared to the combined load factor of 75.8 percent in January 2011. For January 2012, passenger revenue per ASM (PRASM) is estimated to have increased approximately seven percent as compared to January 2011’s combined PRASM.

This release, as well as past news releases about Southwest Airlines Co., is available online at **southwest.com**.

[/more](#)

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES CO.
PRELIMINARY COMPARATIVE TRAFFIC STATISTICS

	JANUARY		
	2012	2011	CHANGE
Revenue passengers carried	7,988,962	8,205,687	(2.6)%
Enplaned passengers	9,770,133	10,007,048	(2.4)%
Revenue passenger miles (000)	7,381,309	7,586,886	(2.7)%
Available seat miles (000)	9,938,578	10,013,613	(0.7)%
Load factor	74.3%	75.8%	(1.5) pts.
Average length of haul	924	925	(0.1)%
Trips flown	109,994	111,141	(1.0)%
