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PANAMA CITY, Aug. 16 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Copa Airlines, a subsidiary of Copa Holdings (NYSE: CPA - News), today announced the beginning of direct flights to the city of Rio de Janeiro, starting Nov. 15.

With the addition of flights to the city of Rio de Janeiro, Copa Airlines continues to strengthen its position in the region and the success of our Hub of the Americas, the main hub in Latin America for both business and leisure travelers," said Jorge Garcia Icaza, Commercial Vice President of Copa Airlines. "This new flight provides more direct connections between this major Brazilian city and North America, Central America and the Caribbean," he added.

Copa will operate Boeing 737 Next Generation aircraft on the new route. The flight, to be operated five times a week, will depart from Panama City at 7:11 p.m. and arrive in Rio de Janeiro at 4:02 a.m

Copa Airlines offers service to other destinations in Brazil, including twice-daily service to Sao Paulo and since July 2006, a daily direct flight to Manaus. In addition to the new Brazilian destinations of Manaus and Rio, Copa began flights to four other cities in Latin America between July and August of this year: Santiago de los Caballeros, Dominican Republic; Maracaibo, Venezuela; San Pedro Sula, Honduras; and Montevideo, Uruguay.

#### **About Copa Airlines**

Copa Airlines, a subsidiary of Copa Holdings (NYSE: CPA - News), is a leading Latin American provider of passenger service. Copa Airlines currently offers approximately 110 daily scheduled flights to 35 destinations in 21 countries in North, Central and South America and the Caribbean. In addition, Copa Airlines provides passengers with access to flights to more than 120 other international destinations through codeshare agreements with Continental Airlines and other airlines. Copa and Continental share a strategic alliance partnership that includes joint participation in Continental's award-winning frequent flyer program, OnePass. For more company information, visit <http://www.copaair.com> .