

BRITISH AIRWAYS PLC  
Form 6-K  
September 04, 2003

FORM 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

Report of Foreign Issuer

Furnished Pursuant to Rule 13a - 16 or 15d - 16 of the  
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

For the period ending 4 September 2003

BRITISH AIRWAYS Plc

Waterside HBA3, PO Box 365, Harmondsworth UB7 0GB

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1. S198 Notification by the Capital Group 3 September 2003
2. August Traffic and Capacity Statistics 3 September 2003

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, thereunto duly authorised.

BRITISH AIRWAYS Plc

Date: 4 September 2003  
Sarah Billington Manager Shareholder Services

SCHEDULE 10

NOTIFICATION OF MAJOR INTERESTS IN SHARES

1. Name of company

British Airways Plc

2. Name of shareholder having a major interest

The Capital Group Companies Inc.

3. Please state whether notification indicates that it is in respect of holding of the shareholder named in 2 above or in respect of a non-beneficial interest or in the case of an individual holder if it is a holding of that person's spouse or children under the age of 18

As above

4. Name of the registered holder(s) and, if more than one holder, the number of shares held by each of them

State Street Nominees Limited 5,429,663  
Chase Nominees Limited 35,726,400

5. Number of shares / amount of stock acquired

N/A

6. Percentage of issued class

7. Number of shares / amount of stock disposed

12,378,159

8. Percentage of issued class

1.14%

9. Class of security

ordinary shares of 25p

10. Date of transaction

Not known

11. Date company informed

3 September 2003

12. Total holding following this notification

41,156,063

13. Total percentage holding of issued class following this notification

3.80%

14. Any additional information

15. Name of contact and telephone number for queries

Alan Buchanan, 020 8738 5119

16. Name and signature of authorised company official responsible for making this notification

Alan Buchanan, Company Secretary

Date of notification

3 September 2003

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## TRAFFIC AND CAPACITY STATISTICS - August 2003

### Summary of the headline figures

In August 2003, overall load factor increased 0.1 points to 69.6 per cent. Passenger capacity, measured in Available Seat Kilometres, was 3.6 per cent above August 2002 and traffic, measured in Revenue Passenger Kilometres, was higher by 4.8 per cent. This resulted in a passenger load factor up 0.9 points versus last year, to 77.4 per cent. The increase in traffic comprised a 1.1 per cent increase in premium traffic and a 5.3 per cent increase in non-premium traffic. The statistics are distorted by the power outage in Canada and the East Coast of the United States. Cargo, measured in Cargo Tonne Kilometres, fell by 0.3 per cent.

### Market conditions

Overall market conditions are broadly unchanged with traffic volumes remaining very sensitive to yield. Premium volumes have stabilised, but are however still significantly below levels seen previously.

### Strategic Developments

British Airways announced further steps to reduce its distribution costs in order to improve profitability. From December 1, 2003, the airline will introduce a commission based payment scheme of 1 per cent for UK travel agents who make British Airways' bookings. This replaces sector payments, which were introduced in April 2001.

The airline announced its first set of codeshare flights with oneworld partner American Airlines that will ultimately add more than 100 new destinations to its network. The codeshare routes, on destinations beyond British Airways' 18 US gateway cities and American Airlines' UK gateways, will be introduced in phases. The first cities are Raleigh Durham, Nashville, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Minneapolis St Paul, Pittsburgh, New Orleans, Panama City and San Antonio, bookable now for travel from September 17.

Speedwing International Limited, a subsidiary of British Airways Plc, disposed of its trading division Speedwing Mobile Communications to AirRadio Limited - a company forming part of the Spice Holdings Plc Group. The consideration for the sale of the business and assets is £4.6 million.

British Airways was given permission to start flights to Basra in Iraq. The airline plans to fly twice a week, via Kuwait, using a Boeing 777 aircraft, once safety and security clearances have been finalised.

September 3, 2003

## BRITISH AIRWAYS MONTHLY TRAFFIC AND CAPACITY STATISTICS

	Month of August			Financial year to date			
	April through August						
BRITISH AIRWAYS GROUP				Change		Change	
SCHEDULED SERVICES	2003	2002	(%)	2003	2002	(%)	
Passengers carried (000)							
UK/Europe	2234	2240	-0.3	11452	11406	+0.4	
Americas	649	614	+5.8	3113	2918	+6.7	
Asia Pacific	135	135	-0.5	534	651	-18.1	
Africa and Middle East	250	232	+8.1	1092	1027	+6.4	
Total	3268	3221	+1.5	16191	16002	+1.2	
Revenue passenger km (m)							
UK/Europe	1990	1882	+5.7	9649	9213	+4.7	
Americas	4314	4130	+4.5	20805	19649	+5.9	
Asia Pacific	1415	1395	+1.5	5723	6644	-13.9	
Africa and Middle East	1640	1527	+7.4	7302	6807	+7.3	
Total	9359	8933	+4.8	43479	42313	+2.8	
Available seat km (m)							
UK/Europe	2685	2526	+6.3	13708	13033	+5.2	
Americas	5503	5359	+2.7	26554	26414	+0.5	
Asia Pacific	1834	1779	+3.1	8527	8642	-1.3	
Africa and Middle East	2068	2012	+2.8	10066	9958	+1.1	
Total	12090	11675	+3.6	58856	58048	+1.4	
Passenger load factor (%)							
UK/Europe	74.1	74.5	-0.4 pts	70.4	70.7	-0.3 pts	
Americas	78.4	77.1	+1.3 pts	78.3	74.4	+3.9 pts	
Asia Pacific	77.2	78.4	-1.2 pts	67.1	76.9	-9.8 pts	
Africa and Middle East	79.3	75.9	+3.4 pts	72.5	68.4	+4.1 pts	
Total	77.4	76.5	+0.9 pts	73.9	72.9	+1.0 pts	
Revenue tonne km (RTK) (m)							
Cargo tonne km (CTK)	341	342	-0.3	1723	1745	-1.3	
Total RTK	1282	1242	+3.3	6068	5974	+1.6	
Available tonne km (m)	1842	1787	+3.1	8983	8913	+0.8	
Overall load factor (%)	69.6	69.5	+0.1 pts	67.6	67.0	+0.6 pts	

\* Comparative numbers from 1 July 2002 have been adjusted to remove the impact of dba following its disposal on 30 June 2003

Certain information included in this statement is forward-looking and involves risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by the forward looking statements.

Forward-looking statements include, without limitation, projections relating to results of operations and financial conditions and the Companys plans and objectives for future operations, including, without limitation, discussions of the Companys Future Size and Shape programme, expected future revenues, financing plans and expected expenditures and divestments. All forward-looking statements in this report are based upon information known to the

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Company on the date of this report. The Company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

It is not reasonably possible to itemise all of the many factors and specific events that could cause the Companys forward looking statements to be incorrect or that could otherwise have a material adverse effect on the future operations or results of an airline operating in the global economy. Information on some factors which could result in material difference to the results is available in the Companys SEC filings, including, without limitation the Companys Report on Form 20-F for the year ended March 2003. Investor Relations

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