

Exhibit 24

Delta to start charging fee for checked luggage

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ATLANTA - [Delta Air Lines Inc.](#), the last US full-fare carrier without a fee to check a traveler's first bag, will start charging \$15 for luggage as it works to boost revenue.

The move takes effect for flights on or after Dec. 5, Delta said yesterday. Checking a second bag will cost \$25, half the current rate. Delta became the world's largest carrier by closing its purchase of [Northwest Airlines Corp.](#) last week.

The fee reverses Delta's plan to keep the first bag free and is among its initial moves to match Northwest's pricing on some services. Atlanta-based Delta said Oct. 29 it was adopting Northwest's policy of offering coach seats with more legroom for \$5 to \$25 extra.

Delta is switching to Northwest's prices for reserving tickets by phone by reducing the fee to \$20, from \$25. A \$3 fee for curbside check-in will be dropped to align with Northwest's policy, Delta said.

Also being eliminated are fuel surcharges ranging from \$25 to \$100 for frequent-flier award tickets in the United States and Canada for Delta or Northwest flights. Those fees were added this year as jet fuel rose to a record \$4.36 a gallon in July. Fuel has since dropped by half.

"Customers are not differentiating Delta as the only major airline not charging for a first checked bag," chief operating officer Steve Gorman said in a statement. "Delta is adopting proven practices from both Delta and Northwest that have been broadly accepted in the marketplace."

[Southwest Airlines Co.](#), the largest low-fare carrier, doesn't charge for the first two pieces of checked luggage, and has touted that in television ads and on its website. [JetBlue Airways Corp.](#) and [AirTran Holdings Inc.](#) both let passengers check one bag for free.

AirTran may make public a decision next week on whether to add a charge for the first bag, said Judy Graham-Weaver, a spokeswoman for the Orlando, Fla.-based carrier.

"We have the technology," she said in an e-mail. "We certainly need to evaluate it."

[AMR Corp.'s](#) American Airlines, the second-largest carrier behind Delta, initiated a \$15 fee for the first checked bag in June, prompting most other carriers including [UAL Corp.'s](#) United Airlines and [Continental Airlines Inc.](#) to follow.

Delta shares fell 80 cents, or 7.1 percent, to \$10.48 in New York Stock Exchange composite trading. ■