



For Immediate Release – November 12, 2003

Media Contact:
ASTAR Air Cargo
Ray Lutz
(305) 982-0500

STATEMENT BY ASTAR AIR CARGO, INC. CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT, AND CEO JOHN DASBURG IN SUPPORT OF MEASURE THAT WOULD ALLOW SPECIALLY TRAINED CARGO PILOTS TO BEAR ARMS

Miami, FL – “On behalf of the employees of ASTAR Air Cargo, I applaud the Senate’s action this week on a measure that would allow specially trained cargo pilots to carry weapons to defend against potential terrorist attacks. I strongly urge the Congress to send President Bush legislation so that he can sign this important provision into law.

Obviously, many of the risks and threats that confront passenger carriers also apply to cargo carriers. Troubling recent published reports have demonstrated that cargo carriers must be equally vigilant in providing security for our equipment, for our cargo, for the communities we serve and for our valued crew members. This critical legislation, supported by ASTAR’s pilots, would close a loophole that prevents thousands of cargo pilots from further protecting their aircraft from terrorist takeovers.

Since the tragic events of September 11, 2001, many steps have been taken to protect our planes, passengers and crews from such horrible attacks. Congress must ensure that the same tools that have been given to our passenger crews to fight terrorism now extend to our cargo crews.

A stated company value of ASTAR is SAFETY and SECURITY first in all services we provide to our customers and to each other. We are committed to supporting efforts to ensure that our air cargo operation is safely and securely managed and protected.”

About ASTAR Air Cargo, Inc.

ASTAR Air Cargo maintains a cargo hub at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport and operates 40 aircraft in the United States. The company is headquartered in Miami, Florida. ASTAR Air Cargo and its employees were actively engaged in providing service to the U.S. Department of Defense during the recent Iraqi conflict. The airline currently serves the U.S. military with missions to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico, and other military bases around the world. Additional information can be found at www.astaraircargo.us.