



## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Aito agent website

Aito Specialist Travel Agents has launched a website to profile its members to customers. Agents can select their areas of expertise, and customers can search for an agent by holiday destination, theme or agency location. More than 130 agents feature on the aitoagents.com site.

### Cendant considers sale

Cendant said this week it was considering selling its Travel Distribution

Services division after "receiving a number of unsolicited indications of interest" in buying the business. Cendant announced last week that it was to rename the division, which includes Orbitz, Galileo and Gullivers Travel Associates, as Travelport.

### Delta staves off strike

Delta has seen off the threat of a crippling strike by sealing a pay deal with pilots. The US airline, which

is in bankruptcy protection, had warned that it may collapse if crews refused a pay cut (TTG April 21). A deal to slash the wage bill by \$280 million has now been signed, and new routes to Edinburgh, Manchester, Dublin and Shannon will go ahead as planned from next month.

### Oil restrains Emirates

High oil prices have limited Emirates' profit increase to modest levels. The Dubai-based airline made

\$674 million in the year to the end of March, a rise of less than 3%. Passenger numbers increased from 12.5 million to 14.5 million.

### Thomson £12k robbery

Police in Kent are searching for a gang who made off with £12,000 in mixed currency from a Thomson agency in Strood on Tuesday. Four members of staff and three customers were locked in a toilet during the robbery, but nobody was hurt.

### Advantage/Trust deal

Advantage has signed a preferred supplier deal with Trust Accommodation, giving its 800 members access to the accommodation-only supplier. The deal will provide access to almost 40 destinations.

### Virgin email service

Virgin Holidays has signed up to technology company AXS-One's e-Delivery Service, which will allow invoices to be emailed to agents.