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| **REFERENCE FOR MEDIA – SIR MAURICE FLANAGAN’S BIOGRAPHY**    **SIR MAURICE FLANAGAN KBE, CBE, BA, Hon.FRAeS, FRAeS, FCILT**  **Former Executive Vice Chairman, Emirates Airline & Group** |
| In 1953, Maurice Flanagan joined BOAC, the forerunner of British Airways, as a graduate trainee, after serving in the Royal Air Force as a navigation officer. He ascended through a variety of overseas posts to area manager level and returned to the United Kingdom in 1965 as a route planning manager. He joined British Airways' senior management team in 1974.  In 1978, Mr Flanagan left British Airways to become Director and General Manager of Dnata, the forerunner of Emirates and now its sister company. He became Managing Director of Emirates in 1985 when the airline began operations and was appointed Group Managing Director of the Emirates Group in 1990. He became Vice Chairman and Group President in July 2003 and was appointed Executive Vice Chairman in 2006.  He regarded himself as fortunate in having served since the start of the airline under Emirates' charismatic and brilliant chairman, His Highness Sheikh Ahmed Bin Saeed Al Maktoum, and with the support of an exceptionally talented group of colleagues.  Emirates has prospered despite, or maybe because of, receiving no element of subsidy from its owner, the Government of Dubai, and absolutely no protection against competition in its home market, and minimal injections of capital.  Mr Flanagan was invested with his award as Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in the Queen's Birthday Honours List in 2000, in recognition of his contribution to community relations in the UAE and services to aviation.  In 2004 he was honoured by Flight International as its Personality of the Year and received an award from Airline Business for his role in the development of Emirates into a global aviation force.  In May 2005, Mr Flanagan was inducted into the British Travel Industry Hall of Fame during the 11th edition of its annual ceremony, for his significant contribution to the travel industry.  Mr Flanagan received the Official Airline Guide (OAG) Lifetime Achievement Award during the 23rd annual OAG Airline of the Year Awards 2005 ceremony. It was presented both for his part in developing the Dubai-based international carrier into a major global airline, and also for his more than 50 years of dedicated service to the aviation industry. Mr Flanagan is only the second recipient of the award.  In 2007, Mr Flanagan was honoured with the Centre for Asia Pacific Aviation's (CAPA) Legends Award and inducted into the CAPA Hall of Fame.  Shortly after, in November 2008, Mr Flanagan was made a liveryman of the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators and a Freeman of the City of London, in recognition of his services to aviation and to the Guild.  In 2010, Mr Flanagan was appointed Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire (KBE) in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. Later in the year, he was presented with the Award of Honour by the Guild of Air Pilots and Air Navigators. This was presented to him for an outstanding lifetime of achievement and enduring contribution to aviation.  -ends |