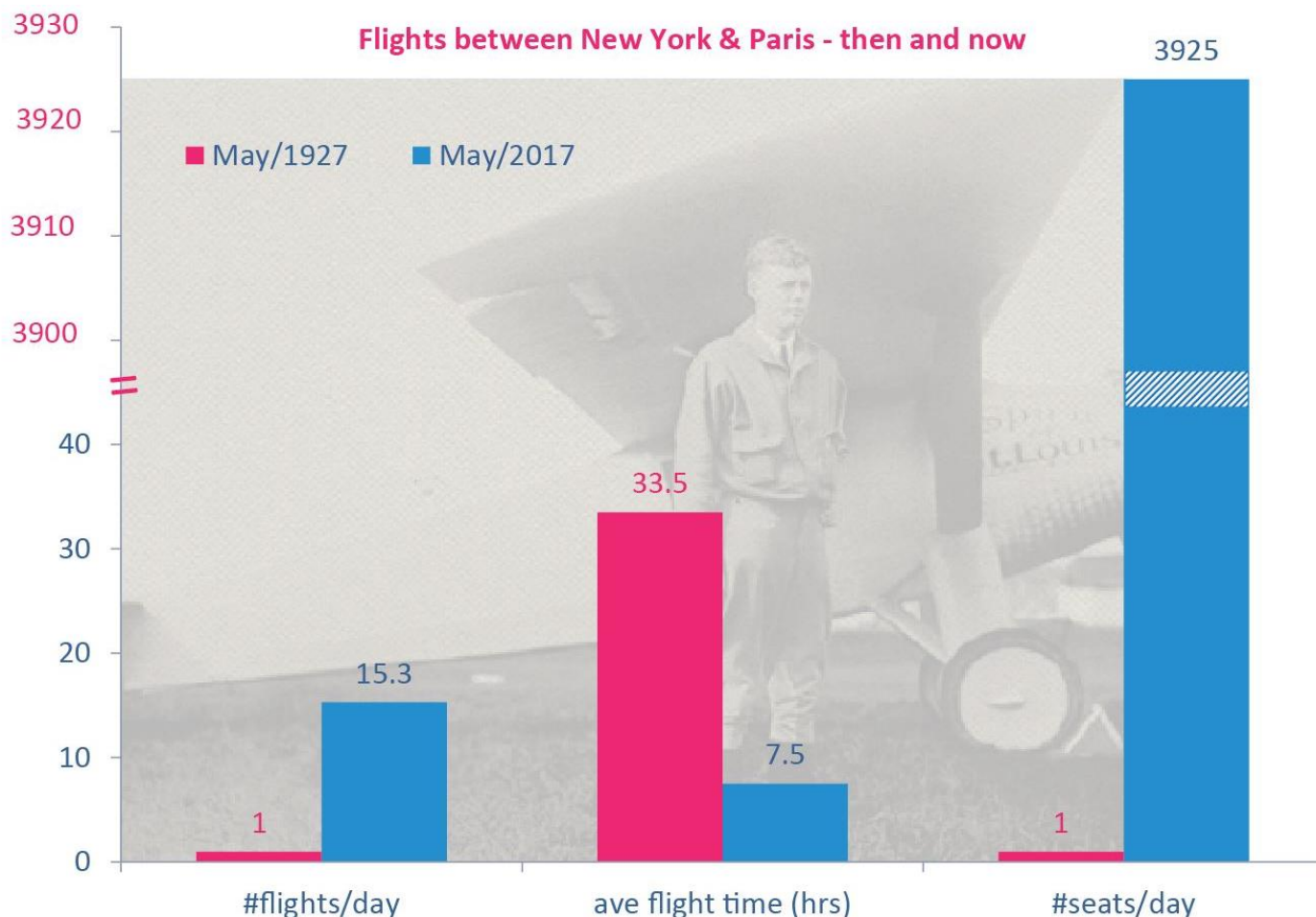




IATA ECONOMICS' CHART OF THE WEEK

26 MAY 2017

NEW YORK TO PARIS – CELEBRATING CHARLES LINDBERGH



Source: SRS Analyser

- Today's *Chart of the Week* celebrates the 90th anniversary of the first solo nonstop transatlantic flight and the first ever nonstop flight between New York and Paris. On 20 May 1927 Charles Lindbergh took off from Roosevelt Field on Long Island in the *Spirit of St. Louis* – a custom-built, single engine, single seat monoplane.
- An exhausting 33½ hours later he landed at Le Bourget in Paris, reportedly met by a crowd numbering in the tens of thousands. The momentous feat earned Lindbergh the \$25,000 Orteig Prize (around \$350,000 in today's terms).
- From that single flight in May 1927, today there are now more than 15 flights on average each day between New York and Paris, offering more than 3,900 seats. As well as being considerably more comfortable than the conditions Lindbergh endured, today's flights are also much shorter, averaging a little under 7½ hours – less than one-quarter the duration of that historic initial journey. (The Concorde was faster still, with an average transatlantic flight time of just under 3½ hours.)
- One of the industry's pioneers, Lindbergh reportedly believed that commercial aviation would play a significant role in America's future, helping to change public opinion on the value of air travel and laying the foundation for the future development of aviation globally.

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IATA Economics
economics@iata.org