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CITY Sun

Tel:
020 7782 4050
e-mail:
rhodri.phillips@the-sun.co.uk

EDITED BY RHODRI PHILLIPS

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● STELIOS AIRLINE PROTEST VOTE ● PASSENGER SPENDING WORRIES

easyFret

EASYJET'S founder is to lodge a "protest vote" over how the airline is run, saying shareholders are "extremely unimpressed" by falling revenue.

Sir Stelios Haji-Ioannou, whose **EASYGROUP** still owns a third of the carrier, said he wanted to send "a public message" to the board.

His harsh words on the airline he set up in 1995 came as it published its results for the last three months of 2016.

It flew a record 17.4million passengers, up 8.2 per cent on 2015. But significantly, and Sir Stelios's main gripe, its revenue per seat was down 8.2 per cent.

This is due to cheaper tickets, customers buying fewer extras and more empty seats.

Shares fell more than nine per cent in early trading yesterday.

Sir Stelios said: "Clearly other investors are unimpressed by the decline in the revenue per seat."

He said he would vote "a token 15million shares", around three per cent of easyJet's total, next month to protest against the company's ambitious fleet growth plan, which he wants to see cut.

EasyJet said yesterday the Christmas market terror attack in Berlin had cost it in the "low millions" of pounds.

Weak sterling and higher fuel costs hit it by £35million more than forecast. It is also spending £10million on an air operation certificate as it prepares for Brexit by setting up a new company in mainland Europe.

Chief exec Carolyn McCall said it delivered "solid" results in "tough" conditions.

8.2%
more flyers in
last 3mths of
2016 but revenue
per seat down



Message . . . Stelios

