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BUSINESS BRIEFING

EasyJet finance chief resigns days after investors' backing

EASYJET'S finance chief has handed in his notice just days after winning a vote that could have cost him his job.

Andrew Findlay announced he will step down next May, despite being backed by shareholders in a bitter boardroom battle with founder **Sir Stelios Haji-ioannou**.

Sir Stelios had tried to persuade his fellow investors to oust Mr Findlay along with chief executive Johan Lundgren, chairman John Barton and a fourth director.

The quartet survived the vote, which centred on a row over a £4.5billion deal to buy 100 planes

from Airbus. Sir Stelios had argued against the deal, while the board said terminating the contract could be detrimental to the airline.

But Mr Findlay, former Halfords chief financial officer, has now decided to serve his one-year notice period. 'I would like to thank the shareholders who supported me and my fellow directors. I intend to repay that support in the coming year,' he said.

'I remain fully committed to the business to support Johan and to ensure easyJet successfully weathers this unprecedented time for the airline industry.'

Jetting off:

Andrew Findlay is quitting the budget airline

REUTERS

