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US Airways  
2345 Crystal Drive  
Arlington, VA 22227

Dear US Air:

How exciting is it that we just recently celebrated 100 years of flight!?! (And today is my father's birthday, but HE isn't 100 years old). I was very excited to see all the festivities planned for last December 17th, but I wasn't able to make it down to North Carolina myself in person. It is too bad that the replica plane did not fly. But they did not have the real Orville and Wilbur there to make it work!

So many things can happen in the span of 100 years and it still amazes me how far we have come since that windy December day in 1903.

Are you Catholic? Well I am. I once wrote a paper about how the Catholic Church traces itself right back to Jesus and the 12 Apostles through the succession of popes. It was quite interesting and I enjoyed the challenge of researching the links and especially working through the period of the Avignon popes. I bet I could find a way to trace US Air directly back to Orville and Wilbur Wright if given the chance and I wondered what something like that would be worth to you -- especially just after the 100th anniversary of the Wright first flight.

Once I finished a paper like that, think about the advertising and marketing opportunities you would have! We could virtually wipe out many of the other airlines (or at least damage their credibility) by exposing them as impostors or Johnny Come Lately's.

I thought about how much research a project like this might take. We would have to make it look legitimate, even if it isn't, but if we were to utilize fuzzy research, like the fuzzy math that the accounting firms did, that shouldn't be an insurmountable problem.

My main concern at this point is that if the link appears too transparent or contrived we might be better off waiting until the 200th anniversary of the Wright first flight and spend the next 99 years putting together an air tight sequence. Then we could make sure that all the history books and other flight and airline publications published between now and 2103 can add to US Air's heritage as the true link to Orville and Wilbur. If we start working RIGHT NOW, we can have the true link blurred by the year 2050 and have the public pretty much believing that US Air

descended directly from Orville and Wilbur. Then it is simply a matter of 53 more years of persistently reinforcing that propaganda.

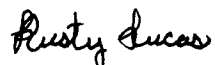
Now I know I will likely not be alive in 2103, and you probably won't be either. So we could arrange that my heirs can have some future interest in your company for my help in this process. How would that be? That way you aren't committing yourself to anything right now in your lifetime, yet you still receive the full benefit of my excellent research and spin doctoring skills. I will teach those skills to my children and they will be just as committed to the project as I.

I don't yet have an idea of what kind of compensation my heirs would be entitled to at this point. But I DO think we should make it flexible and comparable to the changing rates of inflation and cost of living in 2103. So that if we agree to \$1,000,000 in compensation, it would be adjusted up to whatever that means in 2103 money. I am not suggesting that \$1,000,000 should be our base figure, because something like this could be worth so much more than that in the long run for US Air, but that is just a 'fer instance'. Regardless of the 2004 negotiated sum, we should make sure that our 2004 figure be adjusted according to the 2103 economy. That is one point upon which I cannot budge.

I have no children as we speak today, but it is still very important to me that we provide for them in this deal and get it all in writing even before I have any kids. Don't worry! I am not looking for your direct involvement in that process. Since I intend to be the point man for the US Air research and PR plan, I also will be responsible for producing a direct heir to my future fortune. And when you think about it, what better way to score a prime wife? I can show our signed contract to women I meet, all being prospective mothers of my children. Seeing the contract terms in black and white, they will be assured of the future financial security of any children they happen to have by me! They would be wise to take a chance on it. Brilliant!

So let's get working on a deal right away to compensate me and my heirs for this project. I think we can each reap great benefits from this venture! I will of course need a regular stipend and expense budget as we begin the process, but the lawyers can work all of that out. Let's let them handle all the negotiating and posturing and we can go play golf.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rusty Lucas".

Rusty Lucas

p.s. Do you have any US Air baseball caps that you can send me? I am already in my mind picturing junior and I playing catch in the back yard and it just wouldn't seem right if we didn't have matching US Air baseball caps for that Norman Rockwell scene!