Tanada (*) Canada (*)











cross country tango

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say hello to tango, low one way fares, no advance purchase, no saturday stay, aeroplan miles



Air Canada Tango Say Hello to Tango

The critics said it wouldn't fly. But it soared.

Less than three months after launch. Air Canada's President and CEO. Robert Milton. commented that Tango is "one of the most successful new brand launches in airline history." On Tango's year-one anniversary, he added, "I grew up having a favorite colour of blue, but I've got to tell you my favorite colour is now purple."

The brief was simple. Create a new airline brand to meet the growing demand for low-price leisure travel in Canada.

This meant engineering the brand for internal and external audiences - building a staff culture and personality differentiated from Air Canada, but a complementary fit within the overall brand portfolio - and creating a competitive advantage in the increasingly crowded marketplace. As well, we had to deliver a turnkey solution for internal and external audiences - from brand name to swizzle sticks and launch advertising - in two months.

We positioned the new brand on the core benefit of freedom - the freedom to visit the places and the people we love. The brand personality? Young, fresh, casual, friendly, and

The new brand name had to be memorable. Differentiable. Resonate deep in our subconscious. Evoke powerful, emotional associations. Have legs. And, well, feel right. Our team developed more than 3,000 brand names. One name came out on top.

Say hello to Tango.

Tango proved to be an exceptionally powerful brand name vessel. Staff not only rallied behind it, but all audiences - internal and external - saw it as an excellent metaphor for movement, and a great name for an airline.

The next step was to bring the Tango brand to life. Our branding and design team expressed the brand positioning and personality creatively across all visual cues - from design of brand signature and logo to colour palette, exterior aircraft livery, signage, check-in counters, and graphics standards and guidelines.

And unlike the cluttered look of most retail price ads, Tango's advertising was designed to visually demonstrate the ease and simplicity of the brand - and express the brand

"Tango is a brilliant brand name," says Charlie McKee, Air Canada's Senior Director of Marketing, "because it stands out, it's liked, and it's remembered. A brand name like Tango has wind in its sails from the start, and requires a lot less marketing dollars to support it."

And millions came forward to Tango around North America.

Be different or be damned.