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# NEWS

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### **Arab airline ducks the US subsidy bullet**

In a cunning piece of logic manipulation, Abu Dhabi-based Etihad Airways has ducked allegations by US airlines that it, and other Gulf carriers, are unfairly subsidised by their governments – allowing them to lower prices and push US competitors out of some markets.

But, said Etihad last week, these US airlines in turn received more than USD\$70 billion in government support since 2000, largely via bankruptcy protection and pension guarantees.

And in denying the US subsidy allegations, Etihad said there were no subsidies involved.

Rather, it received equity and loans from its sole shareholder, the government of Abu Dhabi.

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