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Africa

Kenya To Build New Air Traffic Control Tower

Kenya is set to modernize its air traffic control system with the construction of a new control tower in the north.

The Kenya Civil Aviation Authority has commissioned a new control tower with a modern ATC system at

Upcoming Events

U.S./Europe ATC/Airport Capacity Summit...Brussels, Belgium, June 30-July 2, 2008

2008 Airports Conference of the Americas...St. Maarten, Netherlands Antilles, July 20-22, 2008

AAAE ACE-Operations Review Course...Tamuning, Guam, Sept. 30-Oct. 4, 2008

U.S./Pacific Airport Issues Conference...Tamuning, Guam, Oct. 5-7, 2008

Airport Tourism and Impact of Low-Fare Airlines Conference...Antalia, Turkey, Oct. 6-8, 2008

14th Annual Central Europe/U.S./Canada Airport Issues Conference...Athens, Greece, Oct. 20-22, 2008

Third Annual AAAE/IAAE International Airport Geographic Information Systems Conference...Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Nov. 11-13, 2008

Lokichogio Airport at a cost of \$2.4 million.

Transport Minister Chirau Ali Mwakwere said the tower will improve accessibility into Southern Sudan and also will improve the safety of Kenya's airspace.

"This airport has greatly contributed to the success of the relief food operations in Southern Sudan, provision of food in refugee camps, both inside and outside Sudan and evacuation of victims of war," Mwakwere said.

"As the situation in Southern Sudan continues to improve and traffic at the airport declines, there is need to ensure that strategies are put in place to ensure sustainability of the airport by replacing relief efforts with commercial cargo, tourists and passenger traffic," he added.

South Africa Airport Work Stays On Target

The Airports Company of South Africa (ACSA) said that its three large airports will be ready for the 2010 FIFA World Cup and stressed that its construction upgrades are on target for completion in 2009.

ACSA has spent \$361 million on revamping its airports and announced that it is expecting 350,000 more passengers to arrive in South Africa for the sports tournament.

"Regarding construction, we believe that we are on track with all the infrastructure being ready by 2009," said Chief Executive Monhla Hlahla. O.R. Tambo International in Johannesburg has expanded its international terminal and a central terminal is being built with an additional multi-story car park. A rail

terminal for the Gautrain Rapid Rail Link also is being constructed above the new terminal.

Cape Town International has seen expansion, with upper and lower terminals being constructed, and Durban has welcomed a new airport at La Mercy. The smaller airports of Bloemfontein, Port Elizabeth and East London also are being refurbished to take advantage of traffic related to the soccer event.

Senou Int'l To Increase Passengers By 51 Percent

Senou International, Mali, in West Africa is on track to increase passenger traffic by 51 percent in the next 13 years to more than 1 million annually.

To accommodate the increase in passengers, HNTB Federal Services Corp. said that the airport will need a new terminal and runway extension.

According to the Millennium Challenge Corp. (MCC), the U.S. government corporation overseeing the U.S. contribution to Senou International's economic development program, the expansion will create hundreds of new jobs and establish trade links for the landlocked country. MCC is investing \$461 million into the country's infrastructure, agriculture and private sector.

"Our goal is to remove constraints to air traffic growth and increase the airport's efficiency in handling passengers and freight," said Hugh Weaver, HNTB federal aviation practice leader. Weaver also said a comprehensive approach to the airport's design will coordinate utility distribution, improve vehicle and passenger traffic flow and provide

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flexibility to accommodate future growth.

Asia

India To Get Czech Built Mobile Airports

Mobile airports will soon take a place in India's aviation sector, with the Czech Republic planning to introduce its latest innovation in the Northeastern part of the country.

The Czech Republic claims to have expertise in the field and plans to introduce airports that can be transported in trucks and set up anywhere in 20 minutes in the Northeastern states like Mizoram and Meghalaya.

"We are interested in the region because the Czechs are all over India but drew a blank in the Northeast," the Czech Republic Ambassador Hynek Kmonicek said.

"The Republic provides integrated airport control and monitoring system and mobile airports that can be carried in trucks and set up within 20 minutes. We have been in the aviation sector since the beginning of the 20th century. Our skills in portable heliports and mobile airports are recognized world over," said Kmonicek.

The portable airports can take aircraft loads of 26-40 tons. Czech aviation companies are providing their services in as many as 27 countries.

Two Taiwan Airports Gain New Cargo Facilities

Taiwan Air Cargo Terminal Ltd., a consortium operating company of China Air, is expanding its cargo capacities in Taipei and Kaohsiung, Taiwan.

Siemens Mobility is equipping the existing cargo center at Taipei International with a modern material handling system and constructing a new handling system for the air cargo terminal at Kaohsiung International.

The overall order, including a service agreement for two years after commissioning, totals almost \$45 million. The project is scheduled for completion by March 2010 in Taipei

and by March 2011 in Kaohsiung.

The new facilities will increase throughput at each location by 500,000 tons per year. The existing air cargo center at Taipei Airport will be modernized and equipped with a modern material handling system. Both locations feature a lift-and-run system in which the unit load devices only are moved by transfer vehicles and cargo hoists

Europe

England's Exeter Airport Undergoes Rebranding

Exeter Airport in the U.K. has undergone a rebranding and introduced new terminal signs and a new Web site.

The airport says its new logo "reflects the vibrancy of the region and emphasizes the focus on people."

The logo is displayed on the terminal atrium's external glazed wall and shows seven silhouetted characters in a variety of poses and colors, including someone pulling his luggage on wheels and someone with a backpack. The name Exeter has been rendered in a freehand style. The Web site now features an interactive world map and uses pictogram icons for site navigation.

"Since the change of ownership, we have been keen to show that we are in a new era for the airport," said Stephen Ayres, the airport, communications manager. "We have already received some very positive feedback. Our passengers seem to like the new bright signs as they arrive at the airport, and the Web site has been very well received."

Repair Hanger To Be Built in Italy

SEM Spa (SEM South European Aircraft Maintenance Center Spa) will soon start the construction of one of the largest maintenance hangers in Europe at 40,000 square meters.

The hanger will be built at the Saint Anna Airport, Italy, at a cost of approximately \$233 million and will create 400 new jobs when inaugurated

in late 2010. The hangar will be used for servicing widebody aircraft and will be able to accommodate six A380s or 10 747s.

The development and pre-planning phase was finalized this month. The next steps will comprise the approval and detailed planning as well as all the preparatory work for the beginning of the construction, scheduled for later this year.

The entire plant will be erected on an area covering approximately 180,000 square meters. The total floor space of the hangar comprises 40,000 square meters. The plant will include six independent service bays, including administration, storage and social rooms.

Take-Off Approved At Scotland's Oban Airport

Flights can finally take off from Scotland's new controversial airport, Oban—but only in daylight and good visibility.

The Civil Aviation Authority has licensed the aerodrome and two airstrips on the islands of Coll and Colonsay, but only after years of delays, technical glitches, legal wrangles and cost overruns.

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INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT REPORT

Editor Kevin Eaton
kevin.eaton@aaae.org

Spencer Dickerson, C.M.
Executive Director

Will James, C.M.
Senior VP, International Programs

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT REPORT is published monthly by the International Association of Airport Executives, an affiliated company of the American Association of Airport Executives, the largest professional organization for airport executives in the world.

The final bill for the three airports is thought to have topped \$17.6 million, twice the original budget set by Argyll and Bute Council—the body behind the project.

Duncan MacIntyre, the council's transport spokesman, speaking shortly before CAA approved the airfields, said "It's been worth the effort, but it's been a big effort."

The project started off as a plan to provide lifeline air services to outlying islands and was carried out despite warnings, as long ago as 2000, that obtaining a licence for Oban, which has a hill at the foot of its runway, would be difficult and costly.

The plan, however, grew in ambition and cost with one of its champions, former Argyll council leader Allan Macaskill, saying Oban would eventually have flights to Glasgow, Scotland, and even the European continent.

First Transatlantic Flight 'Fast Lane' Opens

The first transatlantic "fast lane" was opened for flights between the Netherlands and the U.S. for passengers with Dutch or American passports.

During a one-year trial, passengers from both countries will have the opportunity to use automated facilities to pass quickly through both American and Dutch border controls. Other countries will be invited to participate in the initiative later.

The International Expedited Traveler (IET) Program, an initiative of the Dutch and American governments, links Schiphol Group's Privium program with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) Global Entry program. The program will be implemented in the Netherlands by the Immigration and Naturalization Service (IND), the Dutch Border Police (Koninklijke Marechaussee), and Dartagnan (a wholly owned subsidiary of Schiphol Group).

Privium is Schiphol Group's membership program that allows members to pass through automated border controls, quickly and safely by means of iris verification. Privium has

been operating for seven years and currently has more than 42,000 members. U.S. Customs recently launched the Global Entry program to allow U.S. nationals and lawful permanent residents fast and automated passage through U.S. border controls.

Three American airports are participating in the trial: New York's Kennedy International, Bush Houston Intercontinental and Washington Dulles. Other American airports are expected to join at a later date. Amsterdam Airport Schiphol is the first airport in Europe to participate in the trial, which starts in early 2009.

Prague Airport Looks For Strategic Partner, Investor

The planned privatization of Prague's Letiste Praha airport already has attracted queries from 65 possible investors, according to the Czech Republic's minister for transport issues, Ales Rebicek.

"I am not looking for a purely financial investor — the airport needs a strategic partner. That could be the owner of a comparatively distant airport, perhaps someone from Europe — but better yet, someone from Canada, America, Asia or Australia," Rebicek said.

Rebicek said he could not rule out the operator of Vienna International, Flughafen Wien AG, as an investor as the outcome of the privatization tender ultimately will be determined by which bidder offers the highest price. "However, I don't think that someone from the immediate vicinity of Prague is likely to be willing to put forward the highest bid," said Rebicek. "The airports in Vienna, Prague and Warsaw are likely to remain competitors in the future."

At the start of June, the Czech government approved a plan to sell Letiste Praha to a strategic investor by the end of 2009 in a sale likely to raise approximately \$6.3 billion.

State Funds Awarded To Polish Airports

The European Commission has approved millions of Euros in state assistance to build and renovate Polish airports. The effort is designed to make the regional airports in Poland as efficient as those in other EU member states.

The EC has approved \$466 million in state aid to finance regional airports in Northern and Eastern Poland. The city of Lublin alone will receive \$458 million for the construction of a new airport.

Provincial governor Krzysztof Grabaczuk says the country could prosper from such an investment because, "It is a window to the world for the residents of Lublin. This is where the EU starts. In 2012 we are organizing a football championship, and I hope the airport will be finished by then."

Approximately \$2.7 million will go toward modernizing the regional airport in Gdansk, which has seen passenger traffic increase by 40 percent in recent years.

Gdansk Airport Vice President Tomasz Kloskowski says the money will be spent on "security and for special systems. Plans are also to rebuild the terminal cargo bays and build a new entrance to the airport. The European money will allow us additional parking spaces for aircraft. In the next three years we expect \$32 million from the EU. This additional funding will be used for a new passenger terminal."

North America

Ottawa Airport Trims Terminal Fees 5 Percent

The Ottawa International Airport Authority is reducing its terminal fees by 5 percent, effective July 1.

The airport operator said it "recognizes that this is an industry in crisis, given the skyrocketing cost of fuel and the weakened economies in Canada and the U.S."

Air Canada and WestJet Airlines expressed gratitude for the Ottawa

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move and expressed optimism that other airports would offer similar cost reductions.

"This is not just an airline crisis, but one that impacts the entire industry and ultimately our communities," stated Paul Benoit, president of the airport authority, an independent non-profit corporation.

Oceania

Airlines Lobby For Second Sydney Airport

Airlines operating in Australia are calling on the government to begin planning for a second Sydney airport. Virgin Blue, Qantas and other carriers say the existing facility is becoming a bottleneck.

Virgin Blue Chief Executive Brett Godfrey says he does not accept operator MacQuarie Airport's assertions that there is adequate opportunity to expand Sydney Airport, according to local media.

"[A new airport] will mean lower airfares, less congestion and it will provide an economic stimulus not just for this state but for travelers," he says.

Godfrey says on-time performance for all airlines declined 5 to 10 percent in the past 18 months as a result of congestion.

"We'll happily support any initiative to build a satellite or ... secondary airport for Sydney," he said.

Record Numbers Pass Through Aussie Airports

A record number of international passengers passed through Australian airports last year, new data shows, but those figures may be hard to repeat as the nation's biggest airline cuts its services.

Just a day after Qantas announced significant cuts in its international services, Transport Minister Anthony Albanese released a report from the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics, which

showed passenger traffic at record levels in 2007.

Albanese said in a statement that the number of international arrivals and departures rose 6 percent last year to almost 22.8 million, the biggest number in a calendar year.

"Despite global economic uncertainties and rising oil prices, Australia remains a favorite destination of overseas travelers, and the desire of Australians to holiday and do business abroad remains strong," he said.

In addition to passenger traffic, airports also handled 760,000 tons of freight.

Albanese said a major challenge was accommodating the growing numbers at airports, with many at capacity during peak periods.

"If Australia is to continue reaping the economic and social benefits of international air travel, we need to plan ahead, particularly given many of our major airports are already close to capacity during peak periods," he said.

The report showed that passenger numbers had the biggest growth in Perth, where they jumped 17 percent during the year.

A.B. Won Pat Int'l To Upgrade Facilities

A.B. Won Pat International, Guam is set to upgrade its facilities and services after the Guam International Airport Authority (GIAA) received \$23.8 million in grants from FAA.

The grant is expected to fund four ongoing capital improvement projects including the extension of the airport's runway, construction of a parallel taxiway, demolition of the former Naval housing and noise insulation.

Jess Torres, GIAA's general manager, said around 109 projects are currently being undertaken to improve the airport as Guam prepares for the 2014 relocation of thousands of U.S. Marines from Okinawa, Japan.

"Guam competed with airports across the nation for this funding," said Torres. "The awarding of these grants (is) indicative of the FAA's continuing support of airport development in

Guam."

South America

Ezeiza Airport Preps For 13 Million Passengers

Argentina's main international airport, Ezeiza, will undergo a remodeling program expected to cost \$400 million, it was recently announced.

The company that manages Ezeiza and most of the country's main airports, Aeropuertos Argentina 2000, said the project includes a new terminal for international flights, another for domestic passengers and expansion of the parking lots. The construction should prepare the airport for handling 13 million passengers annually.

A new control tower also has been planned together with improved fire and safety facilities, an energy distribution plant and relocation of the radar system.

The airport will have 19 gates with expanded cargo and ramp services, improved illumination plus a greater operational area for commercial aircraft. The project is expected to be completed in two years and have the capacity to receive 2.5 million domestic flights and 10 million international.

Quito International Targets 2010 Opening

The new Quito International in Ecuador is expected to open October 2010 at a cost of \$410 million.

The construction project is being undertaken by the Toronto-based Aecon Group and its Brazilian joint venture partner, Andrade Gutierrez Constructores.

Doug Steels, president of business unit Aecon Constructors, has said that earthworks grading operations are about 85 percent complete on the mountain plateau site.

The project includes a 3,600-meter runway, a 38,000-square-meter terminal and a 40-meter-tall air traffic control tower.

Back Page Briefs

Africa

Durban International, South Africa, was closed, June 18, after an aircraft veered off the runway while landing. The British Airways Flight 6203, operated by Comair, was arriving from Johannesburg, South Africa, with 87 passengers and six crew on board when the incident occurred. On landing, the aircraft went off the runway after the flight encountered extremely bad weather upon landing in Durban. No serious injuries were reported.

Asia

Delhi's **Indira Gandhi International Airport** is slated to get India's first dedicated terminal for private jets and chartered flights. The facility would serve a developing need for separate terminals for business travelers at busy metro airports, such as those of Delhi and Mumbai.

Construction of a second terminal at **Noi Bai International** in Vietnam is scheduled to begin in the third quarter of 2008. The new \$419 million terminal will raise capacity at the airport to 50 million passengers a year. Due to begin operating in October 2010, the terminal initially will be able to receive 10 million passengers annually, reaching 15 million passengers a year in a second phase.

Abu Dhabi International recently unveiled a new look to its Terminal 1 with a range of artwork promoting a "Travelers' Welcome" message. Based on the artwork developed by the Office of the Brand of Abu Dhabi, the installations reflect the "value of respect."

Beijing Capital International is boosting security measures designed to deter terrorists during the Olympic Games later this year. The Civil Aviation Administration of China said it is installing high-tech devices to

monitor the flying area. The devices can identify vehicles passing through the airport and scan their undercarriage to prevent unwanted entries. Covert police booths will be built along the fences to look for trespassers.

Taiyuan Wusu International in China has been completed and a government inspection has approved the facility for use as a back-up airport for the 2008 Beijing Olympics. The expansion includes a new 55,000-square-meter terminal and an extension of the runway and taxiway by 400 meters to 3,600 meters.

Europe

Airbus estimates that airlines in Germany will need more than 900 new 100-seat aircraft and freighters, over the next 20 years. These additional aircraft will include some 600 short-haul, single-aisle aircraft, more than 200 twin-aisle, medium-to long-range wide-body aircraft and nearly 100 very large aircraft and freighters. The new aircraft are valued at \$109 billion.

Manchester Airport is preparing to mark its 70th anniversary with a series of celebrations. A family day and a dinner for dignitaries are among the events planned for its "platinum" year. The airport only had two check-in desks when it handled its first passengers in 1938; it now has 233 check-in desks and claims to be the U.K.'s biggest regional airport.

Budapest Airport has purchased state-of-the-art X-ray machines, magnetic gates and other passenger screening equipment for more than \$5.4 million. The airport will use the devices to replace the passenger screening systems used on the departure levels of all three terminals. The machines show the contents of the baggage being screened from two angles.

North America

The Canadian lobby group Commuter Air Access Network of Alberta (CAANA) is pressuring Edmonton Mayor Stephen Mandel to reopen debate about **City Centre Airport**. The group wants commuter planes with up to 19 passengers to be able to use the airport. Currently planes are restricted to a maximum of 10 passengers. CAANA has taken out full page newspaper ads and is urging locals to contact city officials to make the airport a hub for commuter flights.

The Canadian government has agreed to give **Mont Tremblant International** the use of publicly funded border agents during the winter. Earlier, the regional airport threatened to close because it could not afford the cost of paying the government for the use of border agents. The airport will have to pay for its own service during other times of the year.

Oceania

Qantas security boss Geoffrey Askew has backed a proposal to take small knives, scissors and sewing-needles off the list of banned carry-on items in Australia. The proposal also would lift the ban on liquids, gels and aerosols as new security technology is adopted by the country's airports. Askew is part of a government appointed advisory group charged with recommending ways of better detecting security threats among travelers.

South America

Lima Airport Partners recently began the second phase of investment in the **Jorge Chavez International**, with the injection of \$61 million. The new construction will allow the terminal to receive 10 million passengers a year by 2014. The terminal will be expanded by 8,916 square meters and is expected to hold seven boarding gates.