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Africa

Zambia Commits To Triple Upgrade

Zambia's National Airports Corp. (NACL) has earmarked \$19.2 million to upgrade three airports in the southern African country.

Renovations will be carried out at Lusaka, Ndola and Livingstone international airports with work at the terminals to be completed by 2010. Acting managing director of NACL, Robinson Misitala, said that part of the funding for the projects comes from international donors and external development funds.

Infrastructure at Lusaka and Ndola

airports will be enhanced and the number of departure gates at Lusaka International Airport will be increased to 10 from the current four, said Misitala. Livingstone Airport will also have its runway extended to 3,000 meters from 2,300 meters.

Asia

Jeddah Airport Set For Major Expansion

The King Abdul Aziz International Airport in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, will be expanding with a new terminal expected to be completed by 2012.

The new state-of-the-art terminal

with 74 jet bridges will receive both foreign and Saudi Arabia Airlines planes and is designed to receive 30 million passengers annually.

The new terminal, which will replace the present Northern and Southern terminals, will accommodate aircraft of varying sizes, including the A380.

The airport also is planning to construct a new air control tower with advanced aviation systems and an air cargo facility with an annual capacity of 3 million tons. The facility also will be adding new tarmacs and aircraft parking facilities.

A railway station near the passenger lounges is set to be built as well as

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Upcoming Events

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

AAAE/IAAE To Offer Airport Issues Conference In Greece, Oct. 28-30

AAAE and the International Association of Airport Executives will present the 14th Annual North America/Central Europe/Central and South Asia Airport Issues Conference, to be held Oct. 28-30 in Athens, Greece.

The program is designed to promote the export of aviation/airport-related North American products and services by providing direct contacts and dialogue between aviation-related companies and key airport/aviation officials in the region.

Aviation officials from the region who will participate in the conference include representatives from Austria, Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic and the Ukraine. In addition, U.S. Commercial

Service officers from U.S. embassies throughout the region will be in attendance.

The U.S. Trade and Development Agency will bring to this year's conference public sector ministry and civil aviation authority, airline, major airport and air navigation services officials from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, Pakistan and other neighboring states to discuss policy issues and opportunities to liberalize passenger and cargo aviation. Financiers and U.S. and regional private sector officials, including North American companies that are current suppliers or users of the aviation infrastructure, will also participate.

For registration information, visit <http://events.aaae.org/sites/081004/>.

a multi-story parking lot, roads leading to the new terminal, an internal road network, aircraft parking areas and new tarmacs, as well as investment and commercial areas.

Dubai Plans Airport City To Be Ready By 2015

Crews have begun work on the second three-mile-long runway and the first of six terminals at Al-Maktoum International in Dubai.

When finished in 2015, the airport will be able to handle 120 million passengers a year, four times the figure at the existing Dubai airport. Dubai is spending \$35 billion on building the first resort airport, with golf courses, swimming pools and even its own beach.

The project's backers say the leisure facilities and new innovations, such as luggage delivered directly to passengers' hotels, will transform air travel from an ordeal into a pleasure at the "airstropolis."

The five main long-haul terminals will be the first to have separate stories for departing and arriving premium passengers. Premium-class travelers will enjoy their own private airport on the upper level, with fast-track security and lounges. Since most of the long-haul aircraft using the airport will be the new double-decker A380s, business and first-class passengers will embark and disembark the aircraft separately and take their seats on the upper deck, without seeing coach passengers.

Manila's Terminal 3 Opens For Business

A mothballed terminal at Manila's crowded international airport opened for business on July 22, after a six-year delay. A bitter dispute between the government and the consortium of builders, headed by German airport operator Fraport, kept Terminal 3 closed.

The contract to build the new terminal was first awarded in 1997 when annual passenger traffic was 7.7 million. Around 23 million passengers

use the Manila airport annually, although capacity at the older terminals is just 18 million.

Officials said the new terminal, which has a capacity of 13 million passengers, would be fully operational for international flights within six months.

The Philippine government seized Terminal 3 in 2004 after a contract dispute with the Fraport-led consortium. Fraport and the joint venture company for the project are pursuing compensation claims for more than \$400 million.

Tianjin Airport To Build Second runway

China's economic planning agency, the National Development and Reform Commission, has approved Tianjin Bihai International's plan to build a second runway.

Total investment in the project, which will also serve Airbus' planned A320 assembly plant in the city, will cost \$212 million. Airbus began construction in May of an assembly plant in Tianjin, 110 kilometers east of Beijing, its first outside of Europe. The facility is slated to begin operations in early 2009. The manufacturer hopes to begin producing four A320 planes a month by 2011.

Israel's Sde Dov Airport Shuts For Repairs

Sde Dov Airport, in northern Tel Aviv, Israel, will have flights shifted to Terminal 1 at Ben-Gurion Airport for two months due to construction work intended to improve safety.

Work on the lighting system of the airport's runway will start on Oct. 26 and will last for two months, during which domestic flights to and from Eilat and Rosh Pina and private commercial flights will be shifted to Ben-Gurion's Terminal 1.

Terminal 1 will be in operation through the summer, after which it will also be closed for construction, to be reopened permanently next summer. The terminal will aid in easing the load of short-haul flights in and out of Ben-

Gurion.

The construction work at Sde Dov, a domestic airport that has an annual passenger throughput of 750,000, will be carried out by the Israel Air Force and financed by the air force and the Israel Airports Authority.

Old Hyderabad Airport To Host Air Shows

The old Hyderabad, India, international airport is being proposed to be used for various aviation activities, including international air shows.

Officials are suggesting that the facilities be used during times of national emergency or by aircraft owned or operated by the Indian Air Force or other armed forces.

The airport has been idle since the opening of the city's new international airport, Shamshabad Rajiv Gandhi International Airport.

Europe

EU To Probe Financing Of Munich Airport

The European Commission has opened a formal inquiry into financing for

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INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT REPORT

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Terminal 2 at Munich Airport in Germany.

The commission's inquiry concerns certain loans that may have been granted at below-market rates and that may have benefited from public guarantees. An EU executive said the investments made by the publicly owned Flughafen Munchen GmbH (FMG) in the terminal do not amount to state aid as the airport has operated as a private investor.

The commission also decided that the use of Munich Airport by Lufthansa does not involve any state aid.

Following a complaint from a competing airline, the commission launched an initial investigation into the financing of the construction of Terminal 2 and into the exclusive use arrangement between Lufthansa and FMG with regard to this terminal.

Czech Government To Sell Prague International

The Czech government is seeking an advisor on the sale of state-owned Letiste Praha AS, or Prague International Airport.

The ministry, which handles privatization on the government's behalf, is seeking to sell 100 percent of the airport by early next year.

Preliminary bids in the advisory tender for the planned sale are due by Aug. 29, the ministry said. In September, the ministry will choose the five best preliminary bidders and ask them to submit formal and binding bids. Analysts have estimated that the government may garner as much as \$5.8 billion from the sale.

Among others, Aeroports de Paris and Indian infrastructure companies GMR Group and Reliance Airport Developers Ltd. have said they may bid for Prague Airport.

Albania's Tirana Expands New Terminal

Construction has begun on the \$31.4 million expansion of the terminal at Albania's Tirana International Airport, known as Mother Teresa Airport.

The facility is the country's only commercial airport and is also known as Rinas International Airport. The Mother Teresa name was given in 2001 as the famous humanitarian was of Albanian descent.

The expansion, on the north side of the terminal, was designed by Malaysian architect Hin Tan and will add 5,000 square meters of space.

The existing terminal was only opened last year, but almost immediately hit capacity problems with up to 1 million passengers using the facility annually.

One shortcoming that has attracted particular attention is the lack of jetway facilities at the terminal, forcing passengers to go outside the terminal to board aircraft.

North America

Bermuda Streamlines Passenger Screening

The Bermuda Department of Immigration has installed a high-speed data network to streamline the screening of airline and cruise ship passengers entering the country.

Bermuda hosts more than 500,000 visitors every year and joins a growing list of countries adopting Advance Passenger Information System (APIS) rules that require commercial airlines, charter airlines and cruise lines to forward electronic identification lists of passengers and crew well before actual arrival at their destinations.

The system comprises a primary APIS data connection using the private global AviNet network, and a back-up data connection using the Internet. The system also provides a custom software capability to accommodate private vessels and charter vessels. Last year, ARINC, the company that installed the data network, installed a similar APIS network for 10 Caribbean countries.

Airport Branded Green By Int'l Real Estate Network

Aéroports de Montréal (ADM), the

federally appointed authority that operates Pierre-Elliott Trudeau International in Dorval, Canada recently was awarded a certificate marking the environmental friendliness of its terminal building.

Called Go Green Plus, the certificate is awarded by BOMA Quebec, the local branch of BOMA (Building Owners and Managers Association) International, a network of real estate owners and managers across the world.

To earn the Go Green Plus certificate, candidates must demonstrate high standards in a number of different fields, according to BOMA Quebec's Web site. These include energy consumption, reduction in water consumption, the quality of air, lighting and noise in an interior environment and environmental management.

New Flights To Serve Cuba From Windsor

A new jet service taking off in December from Windsor Airport will bring the allure of a forbidden Cuban vacation within minutes of downtown Detroit.

Sunwing Airlines, a Canadian leisure carrier, will offer weekly flights to Varadero, Cuba, a popular beach resort about 50 miles east of Havana.

While U.S. citizens are mostly barred from spending money on travel to Cuba, officials with the airline and airport expect Americans to make up at least half the passengers on the route.

The Sunwing flights from Windsor bring access to Cuba four hours closer to Detroit; the next closest direct flight leaves from Toronto's Pearson International.

Sunwing also plans direct flights to Cuba from an airport in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, within minutes of Michigan's border. The fast-growing airline also plans to add a flight to Santo Domingo in the Dominican

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Republic.

The addition of Sunwing is part of Windsor Airport's \$600,000 expansion that will include a new 10,000-square-foot pre-flight lounge.

Oceania

Wellington Airport Project Wins Builder Award

The design and construction firm that worked on the Wellington International terminal alterations has won the supreme commercial award during the New Zealand Registered Master Builders Awards.

Mainzeal Property & Construction won in recognition of excellence in workmanship, construction practices and innovation.

The redevelopment was complicated by the need to keep all aspects of the international terminal operational. The project involved demolition, infill, strip out and refurbishment to the existing international departures area and neighboring domestic gates.

The terminal improvements doubled the processing capacity of international passengers at Wellington to 1,000 passengers per hour. The international arrivals and departures area includes a new backlit feature wall, aquarium, new duty-free shops and larger processing areas for security, customs and an extra baggage collection area.

Two Northern Australian Airports to Expand

Passenger traffic at Darwin Airport in northern Australia is forecast to grow considerably in future years. To accommodate this growth, officials announced a major expansion to the passenger terminal.

Public consultation on the proposed \$54.6 million expansion has commenced, with the airport working with airline partners to finalize design details and commercial arrangements. International passengers using Darwin Airports increased by 33 percent in the last year, while

domestic traffic grew by 9 percent. At the same time, domestic passengers at Alice Springs grew by 6 percent last year on the back of increased capacity.

Sydney Airport Curfew To Remain

Australian Transport Minister Anthony Albanese said he would not agree to Qantas Airways and Singapore Airlines' call for a night curfew and cap on hourly flights to be lifted at Sydney Airport Corp.

"The curfew and cap are legislated and they are not up for negotiation," Albanese told Australian Broadcasting Corp. radio. He added they would not be lifted "on my watch."

There is a cap of 80 flights per hour at Australia's busiest airport and it has an 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew. The *Sydney Morning Herald* reported the two airlines would lobby the federal government for them to be scrapped to ease congestion.

Albanese went on to say that the cap strikes a balance between commercial interests and the interests of communities neighboring the airport.

Mount Gambier Airport Passenger Numbers Up

The Mount Gambier Airport in Australia experienced an increase in passenger numbers of more than 7 percent in the 2006-2007 financial year.

Figures released from the Australian Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics show that Mount Gambier has been responsible for significant growth in the overall passenger movements at South Australia's regional airports.

A report into air transport services in regional Australia has found more people are flying to and from regional areas. Between 1984 and 2005 passenger numbers on regional routes increased by 9.5 million.

The annual growth in passenger numbers was strongest on routes between major cities and tourist destinations, but there was a drop on

flights between regional centers.

Federal Transport Minister Anthony Albanese has announced the government will develop the nation's first aviation white paper to guide industry growth into the future.

South America

Brazil To Spend \$2.5 Billion On Airports

Brazil's airport authority vowed to spend about \$2.5 billion to overhaul the country's largest airports, which critics warn are unprepared to handle millions of additional travelers expected during the 2014 World Cup.

The government plans to spend \$2.5 billion to expand and modernize airports in Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Brasilia by the end of 2010, the country's airport authority said.

Brazil's 67 airports now handle 4 million passengers a month, but that number is expected to double as soccer fans flood 18 Brazilian cities set to host World Cup games in 2014, Brazilian General Aviation Association vice president Adalberto Febeliano said.

Upgrades must begin immediately in order to meet that deadline, he said. Sao Paulo Airport is in most urgent need of work, although a new terminal is already under construction there, he added.

One of Rio de Janeiro's international airport terminals also is being expanded, and plans are under way to enlarge the airport in Brasilia, the nation's capital.

Brazil's aviation sector faces chronic under investment in radar, runways and other infrastructure, pilots and aviation experts say.

Safety upgrades, backup systems and air traffic control training have been delayed for years, even amid a boom in flights across robust South American economies.

Radar failures and air traffic controller strikes prompted days of mass cancellations and delays nationwide last year, stranding thousands of passengers.

Back Page Briefs

Africa

Strikes by air traffic controllers disrupted travel in parts of West Africa, with flights cancelled, one airport shut down and armed police forcing staff to work at another. Some workers from francophone Africa's aviation safety agency ASECNA called for a two-day strike with "radio silence" in control towers, seeking better working conditions, higher pay and more training. Kenya Airways said it had suspended flights to some of its African destinations, citing the Comoros, Mayotte, Abidjan, Bamako and Dakar as those affected.

Asia

Changi Airport officially opened the airport's Terminal 3 on July 25, after a soft opening that took place in early January. Since the initial opening, more than 5 million passengers have passed through the terminal, which currently handles more than 900 weekly scheduled flights. Changi Airport's passenger movements for the first six months of 2008 have increased 5.4 percent increase from the previous year for a total of 18.7 million passengers.

Management of Sialkot International Airport Limited (SIAL) has signed two pacts with Emirates International Airlines and Arabian Airlines to initiate cargo and passenger flights direct from Sialkot to Dubai, Sharja and other Gulf States. Under the agreements, the Emirates International Airlines will start weekly two direct cargo flights from Sialkot to Dubai.

Fraport has begun work on a six-year management contract, sending 13 employees to the Saudi Arabian airports of King Khaled International Airport, Riyadh and King Abdulaziz International Airport, Jeddah. During the six-year contract period for both airports, the Fraport management teams will be responsible for daily operations.

Changbai Mountain Airport in Northeast China's Jilin Fusong County, near the border of North Korea, received its first flight only a few days after its original planned opening. Construction of the airport began in July 2006 and was completed at a cost of \$80 million. The airport is expected to handle 540,000 passengers a year by 2015.

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has asked the Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES) to conduct a feasibility study to look into the commercial viability of developing 32 non-operational airports across the country for commercial use.

Europe

A recent study revealed that as many as 900 laptops go missing at London Heathrow Airport each week; most aren't reclaimed and fewer than half are security protected, a recent study discovered. Business flyers are more likely to lose their laptop at Heathrow than at any other airport in Europe, Africa or the Middle East.

London-based Hightex Group has won a \$2 million contract to provide a new fluorocarbon-based polymer canopy for the entrance of London Heathrow Terminal 4. The canopy will be 190 meters long and extend 12 meters from the facade. In the event of a nearby explosion the canopy will deflate with no risk of flying glass and other dangerous materials.

Spain's government plans to privatize around 30 percent of the airport authority. Under the plan, a new state company will be created to manage state airports but not air traffic.

The 10 airports run by Highlands and Islands Airports Limited, U.K., have reached record passenger numbers of 1.2 million. The airports that saw the greatest gains in passenger numbers

in Kirkwall on Orkney with a 9 percent increase and Sumburgh on Shetland up 13 percent.

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) is considering a \$29.5 million loan to the state-owned Chisinau International Airport in Moldova to enable refurbishment of the passenger terminal, bringing it up to international standards. Chisinau has seen passenger numbers increase by 28 percent in a single year.

North America

A Singapore-based specialist in building airport logistic systems, Inter-Roller Engineering, has won a \$10 million contract to design and install a baggage handling system for Calgary International Airport. The project covers the design, supply and installation of mechanical, electrical and control systems that will integrate with the current bag screening system. The existing system includes security tracking, baggage sorting and automatic baggage tag scanning.

Oceania

Brisbane Airport has been voted the best in Australia and the Pacific in the 2008 Skytrax World Airport Awards. Auckland Airport came in second, followed by Adelaide. The awards, voted by more than 8 million passengers at more than 190 airports worldwide, cover 40 categories including facilities, cleanliness, security, efficiency and customer service.

South America

A power outage shut down radar systems at four airports, Aug. 2, serving Sao Paulo, Brazil, causing the cancellation of 51 flights and delaying more than 200 others. The cause of the 90-minute radar outage appeared to be a breakdown in the generators that supply energy to Sao Paulo's airports.