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Left to right: Tony Farmer, Head of Sales/Route Development, London Oxford Airport; Marcos Caramalengos, Chief Commercial Officer, Minoan Air; Andi Pargeter, Managing Director of London Oxford Airport; George Marvantonakis, Chairman, Minoan Air and James Dillon-Godfray, Business Development Director, London Oxford Airport

Minoan Air debuts at London Oxford Airport with Edinburgh, Dublin flights

London Oxford Airport today (Monday, 4th March) welcomed new scheduled services to Edinburgh with expanding European airline Minoan Air. The first scheduled flight touched down at Edinburgh Airport, three minutes early. Regular services to Dublin follow on Wednesday this week.

Together, London Oxford Airport and Minoan Air are creating up to 30 new local jobs in support of the new routes. Minoan has appointed a new marketing manager Monica Slottensjo, dedicated to supporting the new routes. She, together with 10 new local cabin crew, will be based at Oxford, while Oxford Airport has added extra customer services, admin and ground personnel, to handle the new Fokker 50 flights.

These past five years London Oxford Airport has focused mainly on the business aviation market with its smart FBO terminal, Oxfordjet, which Minoan Air passengers will also pass through when they check in. And with aircraft parked just 50ft away from the departure lounge, Minoan Air passengers will experience a pleasant and stress free experience. Car parking is £7.50 a day, or £35.00 for a week.

Minoan's lead in fares on both routes are £51 one way, including taxes. All passengers will enjoy complimentary refreshments prepared by Oxford based firm, Eagles in Flight.

Flights timed for the business traveller

Oxford-Edinburgh will be served initially three times weekly at 07:30 and 17:30 hours and Edinburgh-Oxford at 09:40 and 19:45 (Monday, Tuesday and Thursday). Dublin will be served on Wednesday Friday and Sunday with departures from Oxford at 06:30 and 16:30 and from Dublin 08:45 and 18:45 catering for business travellers. Frequencies on both routes increase to week-daily, plus Sunday services, from 10th May.

Minoan Air, based in Heraklion, Crete is the first Greek airline to establish an operational base outside its own country. In addition to the Oxford flights, the company, headed by Chairman George Mavrantonas, will introduce scheduled flights between Lugano, Switzerland and Venice at the end of March.

www.minoanair.com
www.oxfordairport.co.uk



Punjabi music's biggest stars Mika Singh and Yo Yo Honey Singh will lead an unforgettable night in Atlantis, The Palm in Dubai

Bringing the best of live entertainment to Dubai, Live @ Atlantis will host a night dedicated to the hottest Punjabi acts on Thursday, 14 March 2013. The centre stage will see two of the biggest Punjabi and Indi-pop music icons Mika Singh and Yo Yo Honey Singh & Mafia Mundeer perform in the same line up for the first time ever.

Promising to be an all-night-long music spectacular, both Punjabi favourites will each sing live, accompanied by a full band. To keep the beats and dance moves rocking, Bollywood mix master from Mumbai, DJ Aman, will be spinning an eclectic mix of Bollywood's finest tunes.

Referred to as the "King of Bollywood", **Mika Singh** is considered one of the most highly acclaimed musicians of his genre and has enjoyed award-winning success with prominent hit songs including "Singh is King", "Mauya Iti Mauya" and "Ibe-e-Batuta". As Bollywood's "Powerhouse Entertainer", he delivers unforgettable performances and always gets the crowd pumped.

Aviation catering packaging specialist Airware celebrates successful first year of operations.

Aviation food service packaging company, Airware, is celebrating its successful first year of business since it launched operations in December 2011. The Atlanta, Georgia-headquartered company provides high quality aviation packaging for on board food provision and serves the business aviation and commercial airline charter sectors. In the last twelve months, Airware has grown from a small initial client base to a current customer portfolio of over 50 active accounts, including many Fortune 500 companies.

Founded by experienced business aviation catering professionals Amanda Kraft, CEO and Eric Posey, MD, Airware was established to meet the needs of small inflight caterers that require attractive catering products for their clientele that work well in the niche general aviation market. Airware uniquely allows caterers and flight departments to order a wide variety of packaging in small quantities. The capacity to order lower amounts is a real bonus for clients that want specific items but don't have requirements for thousands of each piece. "It saves space in their own facility, enables them to present their catering exactly as they want and keeps their customers happy," says Kraft. "Private aviation passengers are discerning. They require food to be served in attractive, quality, contemporary packaging that is eco-friendly, sustainable, and increasingly, in smaller portion sizes. The traditional trays and boxes that have been used for years are tired and overdone. Our clients want something fresh that fits the confines of the aircraft

Galley. We spotted a need in the market, and haven't looked back."

The company's complete product line of 750 items includes everything from fine china and crystal to environmentally friendly disposables and Kraft continues to seek out new items for the growing portfolio. The young business also supports aircraft owners and operators who wish to select crockery and cutlery options beyond the manufacturer options during the completion or refurbishment process of their aircraft. In addition Airware provides a bespoke service that seeks out client's preferred designs and has found this to be a key driver of Airware's expansion as it saves clients both valuable time and effort. In response to customer demand, the company is now exploring the opportunity of designing and marketing its own line of packaging exclusively for private aviation.

The client portfolio features flight departments, corporate air charter operators and individual customers. Laura Friedrich, Head of Inflight Catering at Rita's Catering in Boston comments: "It is refreshing to work with a company that is specifically focused on this industry and supplies such a wide variety of products. It has made my life so much easier to work with one vendor instead of multiple, many of whom didn't understand the nuances of inflight service."

www.myairware.com

Yo Yo Honey Singh & Mafia Mundeer, one of the world's most successful Bollywood artists, shot to success by reviving the Indipop scene with chart busting bhangra hip-hop numbers. He is recognised as one of the most-down loaded Asian artists, and has inspired passionate fans of all ages with his catchy beats and dance moves which he will rock the stage with in Atlantis.

Held from 7pm to 2am, Live @ Atlantis will showcase the best of today's Desi Beats at an incredible beachside location where the stars, sand and stage come together for the ultimate live entertainment experience.

Admission is AED150 for presale tickets, AED250 at the door and AED450 for VIP. Advance ticket sales are available online at the 'Live at Atlantis' section of Atlantis, The Palm website atlantisthepalm.com and through the mobile version of the site at m.atlantisthepalm.com under 'specials'

For guests who wish to enjoy the weekend at Atlantis, the "Party & Stay" package combines an overnight stay in a luxurious room with breakfast for two, plus two regular tickets to Live @Atlantis. Exclusive to party rockers who wish to attend the gig, the package starts from AED2,095++. Guests staying in Atlantis, The Palm can also enjoy unlimited access to the underwater world of The Lost Chambers Aquarium and Aquaventure Waterpark, as well as preferential rates to swim with the dolphins at Dolphin Bay.

FreeWiFi access for passengers at Helsinki Airport a huge success

The free online access provided by Finavia at Helsinki Airport increases in popularity every year.



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The Golden City Gate

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Budapest Airport sees bolstered O&D traffic in 2012 Handles total 8.5 million passengers

Budapest Airport handled 8.5 million passengers in 2012, just 4.7% less than in 2011 and a satisfactory result taking into account the failure of the country's flag carrier Malev in February. Notably, the airport welcomed a record number of originating and departing (O&D) passengers (8.3 million) with only 200,000 passengers using the hub airport for their transfers - bringing a positive benefit to the local economy. This compares with the previous high of point to point traffic in 2011 of 7.4 million passengers, at a time when almost half of Malev's passengers transferred through BUD.

The average load factor was 74.1%, 2.5% up on 2011. Traffic carried by low cost airlines increased 91.8% - accounting for 4.38 million passengers. Budapest Airport handled 61,938 tonnes of freight (31,185 tonnes by truck 93.123 tonnes by air and truck).

The airport also improved its punctuality in 2012 reporting a year round average of 82.4% of flights departing on time compared with 79% in 2011. Airport related delays (which accounted for 4.6% of the year's total delays) were reduced by just under 50% (for a total of 30,000 minutes). This was 10% down from 2011's result. With airlines reporting that a delay costs them up to 90 Euros a minute, year on year savings from this improved performance contributed over 2.5 million Euros. Productivity was further enhanced with the introduction of walk on / walk off boarding gates, which processed a record 250,000 passengers during October-December. Further enhancements are planned in readiness for the summer 2013 schedules (www.bud.hu/english).

Following the closure of Terminal 1 all operations were centralised in T2, resulting in further efficiency and cost savings for ground handler who were previously dividing their time between T1 and T2. Service quality also improved in spite of handling a mix of new airlines and consolidation into Terminal 2. ACI satisfaction ratings gave BUD a score of 3.86 from a maximum rating of 5, compared with a 3.80 score in 2011. The greatest improvements highlighted were a good selection

of restaurants/eateries and shopping facilities, positioning BUD close to the top of its peer group of airports across Europe. Improved queuing times and courtesy and attentiveness of security screening staff was also recognised.

By year end Budapest Airport's network embraced 110 airports (17% up on 2011) in 93 cities (up 17%) in 41 countries. With many carriers leaping to pick up routes abandoned by Malev, today only 13 destinations previously served have not resumed.

"We will continue to drive home service improvements during 2013 to ensure that both our airline partners and our passengers continue to receive high quality and best value services," said Budapest Airport CEO Jost Lammers, reflecting on a positive year.

Budapest Airport looking forward to hosting Routes Europe in May

Budapest Airport has the opportunity in a few months' time to showcase both the attractions of the city and its airport when it teams with the Hungarian National Tourist Office and Hungarian Convention Bureau to host *Routes Europe 2013*. The event will be staged at the SYMA Sport and Event Center during 12-14 May.

Budapest Airport Zrt. operates Budapest Airport. This is privately owned with German company HOCHTIEF AirPort, one of the world's biggest independent airport managers holding a 49.67% stake, together with a further four financial investors: Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec, Montreal holding a 18.17% stake; Malton Investment Pte Ltd. Holding a 18.17% stake; Aero Investment S.á.r.l. holding a 10% stake and KfW IPEX-Bank, Frankfurt holding a 4% stake.

Budapest Airport aims to be the best airport in the Central and Eastern European region and has been recognised for their development projects, customer services approach and marketing activities.

www.bud.hu

Flying Colours Corp.



Flying Colours Corp. continues to rise in the East

As ABACE 2013 approaches, April 16 - 18, Flying Colours Corp. the Canadian-based business aircraft maintenance, completions and refurbishments company continues to bolster its position in the Asian market. Since ABACE 2012 it has delivered a further four Bombardier Challenger 850s to the region and has a further five of the same model in the pipeline with completion and delivery to China planned within the next twelve months. In addition Flying Colours Corp. has completed two major refurbishments of Global Express models for Chinese-based clients in the last year. By year end Flying Colours will have delivered a total of 15 Challenger 850s to China. All of the aircraft headed for China were delivered to corporate owners or private high net worth individuals who have placed them with members of the growing Asian based aircraft management fraternity.

Asia continues to be a leading market for Flying Colours Corp. which has seen a widening of the geographical spread of its aircraft completion clients with aircraft destined for Beijing, Shenzhen, Shanghai and Hong Kong, as well as other cities in mainland China. To expedite efficient delivery times across the region Flying Colours Corp. has strengthened its relationship with the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC) for aircraft certification. "There is a very specific process that has to be followed and it takes time," says John Gillespie President, about the paperwork. "We have now had extensive experience so we can anticipate what the authority needs. Likewise the CAAC officials know they can rely on us to provide the necessary documents. This is a real bonus for our clients as it means an aircraft can enter service as soon as it arrives," he continues.

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Helitech International attracts new exhibitors

With seven months still to go, booked stand space at Helitech International 2013 is already 10% larger compared to the 2011 show, with the number of new international exhibitors steadily rising. Reed Exhibitions, the organiser of Helitech International, are staging this year's event at ExCeL in London from 24 - 26 September, which continues to attract growing interest from around the world.

Representing a spectrum of services ranging from helicopter parts, electrical distribution, training and flight operations new exhibitors include Able Engineering & Component Services (USA), Aerosonic Corporation (USA), Air Ambulance Technology (Austria), Alpine Air Support GmbH (Switzerland), Flight Operations in Control (Netherlands), Heli Aviation GmbH (Germany) and Jett Support Services, Inc. (USA).

Since its launch, Helitech International has attracted a wide range of companies committing to the new format that will shape the exhibition and conference towards a more international audience. With its new positioning, it will provide a networking platform for exhibitors, visitors and industry bodies such as the European Helicopter Association and British Helicopter Association.

Although supported by leading primes such as AgustaWestland, Bell Helicopter, Eurocopter, MD Helicopters, Pratt & Whitney, Sikorsky and Turbomeca, the exhibition will feature, in addition to new exhibitors, a broad section of industry including small to medium size companies as well as differing supply chain tier manufacturers and specialists.

"Our overall objective is to create an international helicopter show in Europe

to raise the profile of the rotorcraft industry, particularly on this continent. We believe that Helitech International is the only rotorcraft show of its type in Europe," confirmed Vittorio Morassi, Chairman of the European Helicopter Association.

He added: "We believe that it is only by having a wider international presence that you can hope to expand debates and generate new ideas in thinking and opinions from all parts of our industry. It is not only manufacturers, the supply chain and other related industry groups that we need to involve at Helitech International, but also key regulatory authorities such as the European Aviation Safety Agency, as well as financial and legal institutions."

John Hyde, Event Director for Helitech International, said: "I couldn't agree more with Vittorio. By focusing on the expansion of the international component for Helitech International, we are already seeing the results in the form of new exhibitors from around the world. In addition, with the continuing interest from many key stakeholders in the rotary arena, the exhibition will represent an ideal opportunity to engage the international helicopter community on many levels."

The Helitech International conference will also be expanded to enhance its appeal to international audiences, creating an unrivalled educational forum for the helicopter industry. There will be a strong programme covering industry trends and will look to address current and future challenges for the rotorcraft industry, thereby building on the success of the conference staged in conjunction with Helitech 2011.

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Flying Colours Corp has also developed a unique understanding of specific Asian trends. Gillespie notes vivid interiors are often asked for with red frequently being the underlying palette colour. One completion features a visually dramatic red interior featuring red leather upholstery, carpets and even cabinetry stained cherry red, whilst another includes a midnight black based interior. Styles influenced by fashion brands such as Hermes and Calvin Klein are regularly requested which sees the Flying Colours design team adapting materials to ensure they will pass the required safety certification.

Complementing the unusual interiors Flying Colours Corp. has also implemented technically challenging features. The latest round of Challenger completions included the incorporation of a complete smoke extraction system to remove cigarette smoke during flight and installation of global swift broad band. Completion times for the aircraft average eight months with work being split between the Flying Colours Corp. Peterborough facility and the St Louis based US subsidiary JetCorp Technical Services which mirrors the Canadian site in terms of capability.

As Flying Colours Corp continues to focus on Asian business development it has begun to explore further opportunities with a number of different Chinese based business aviation companies. "We value this market as it is where our principle growth has come from over the last three years said Gillespie. Its a constantly changing landscape from a business perspective and in order to better serve our client base we have considered opening our own facility as well as the option of working with a Chinese based partner via a joint venture. We anticipate having a base and capability to carry out refurbishment work in the region by the end of 2013.

www.flyingcolourscorp.com

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