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GLOBAL AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT NEWS

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Europe

UNITED KINGDOM

Alderney's Building and Development Control Committee has unanimously supported the airport expansion plans, which include extending the runway and constructing a new terminal and fire station. Guided by a favourable planning report, the committee believes this project is crucial for sustaining the island's transport links and economic future, particularly noting the importance of medical emergency evacuations due to the island's ageing population. Although the States of Guernsey allocated GBP 24 million (USD 30.5 million) for this project in 2022, concerns about escalating costs have prompted discussions about a potential review of the financials. The upgrades aim to accommodate Aurigny's fleet of larger ATR planes, replacing the current smaller Dornier aircraft, and are seen as essential for the long-term viability of the island. Guernsey Ports, which operates the airport, is also seeking permission to reconstruct the runway and add new approach lighting and drainage to make it suitable for Aurigny's fleet of ATR planes. #1219.1

GERMANY

Munich Airport is reporting significant progress on the new pier at Terminal 1, with construction expected to be completed by the end of 2025. The pier will consolidate non-Schengen traffic and host airlines such as American Airlines, British Airways, Delta Airlines, Emirates, Turkish Airlines, and Qatar Airways.

The 360-meter-long, six-story building will feature advanced passenger and check-in facilities, including state-of-the-art security checkpoints with CT technology. Munich Airport is investing EUR 665 million in the project, emphasising energy-efficient systems and high-quality service areas. The extension will include spacious lounges, a central marketplace, a large duty-free area, and various retail and dining options, all designed to enhance passenger comfort and efficiency. The "Bavarian Soul" theme will be a central feature, aiming to provide a pleasant and culturally immersive experience for travellers. #1219.2

FRANCE

After decades of use, the main runway at EuroAirport Basel-Mulhouse will be rehabilitated in the spring of 2026. To ensure safety, the runway will be completely closed for about one month. The renovation will focus on the central part of the main runway (1,500 metres) and taxiway Bravo (2,100 metres).

The main runway, a key infrastructure piece, undergoes regular maintenance to ensure operational safety. Previous renovations include extending the runway north in 1978, renovating the south section in 1991, and the north section in 2011. EuroAirport has two runways, the main one handling 97% of the traffic. #1219.3

PORTUGAL

Porto Francisco Sá Carneiro Airport will rehabilitate its runway 17/35. The project includes repaving the 3,480-metre runway completely, structural reinforcements, adjustments to the runway's geometry, and upgrades to the approach lighting system with LED technology. Additionally, the

renovation will encompass updates to the runway's drainage system and the installation of civil infrastructure for navigation equipment to facilitate low-visibility operations.

The project is scheduled to start on July 31 and will last for 19 months. The construction will occur from Monday to Saturday between midnight and 06:00, involving an investment of EUR 50 million. Due to the construction work, the airport will be closed on 10 September. #1219.4

SWITZERLAND

Dnata is set to enhance its cargo handling capacity by over 50% at Zürich Airport by constructing a new 9,500 m² facility named 'Rächtenwisen'. Scheduled for completion by 2027, this advanced warehouse will feature 20 docking ramps for trucks, designated areas for import and export processes, and specialised zones for hazardous goods. Additionally, the facility will include temperature-controlled sections for sensitive products like pharmaceuticals.

This expansion aligns with dnata's environmental objectives, including a commitment to halve its carbon emissions and waste to landfill by 2030. Solar PV panels will be installed on the warehouse roof to support this goal. #1219.5

SPAIN

Aena has announced the commencement of a tender process for constructing a new taxiway at the Alicante-Elche Airport, with a budget of approximately EUR 17.5 million. This project is part of broader plans to expand the airport's capacity to meet anticipated future traffic demands. The taxiway, which will link the runways with the platforms, is expected to enhance the efficiency of airfield operations.

The construction phase is scheduled to last 27 months and includes paving the new taxiway, upgrading the drainage system, and installing new lighting towers and navigation systems. Additionally, improvements will be made to the airport's perimeter fencing and roads. #1219.6

ITALY

Construction for the new runway and terminal at Florence's "Amerigo Vespucci" Airport will begin by the end of 2024. The project, part of the Master Plan 2035, aims to modernise the airport system to promote economic and social development in Tuscany. The total investment is over EUR 500 million, with EUR 150 million from public funds. Specifically, EUR 180 million will be allocated for the new passenger terminal and EUR 60 million for the new runway.

The new runway, 2,200 meters long and nearly parallel to the A11 highway, will improve operational limitations and reduce noise in nearby residential areas. The existing runway will be repurposed for taxiing, and the remaining 600 metres will host a photovoltaic plant and logistics buildings. The new terminal will boast 294,300 m² of floor space, with two above-ground floors and an underground technical area. It will feature a central plaza to separate departure and arrival areas, integrating with public transport, including trams.

Green architecture will be emphasised, with the terminal, plaza, and parking areas covered in greenery to absorb emissions, drain water, and reduce the heat island effect. The project is expected to be completed by June 2027 to accommodate the anticipated passenger increase by 2035. #1219.7

The Italian National Civil Aviation Authority (ENAC) has doubled its funding for Viterbo Airport, designating it as a "Regional airport" with a EUR 2 million investment to upgrade facilities. Additionally, there are plans to reopen Tarquinia Airport, closed for 80 years, as part of a network of small airports, including Rome Urbe, Ancona, Capua, Viterbo, and Siena. This initiative aims to enhance regional air connectivity and support tourism.

The upgrade of Viterbo Airport involves transforming it from a military to a civilian-military airport, improving the runway and other facilities. Tarquinia Airport, on the other hand, will require complete redevelopment as it has been abandoned since World War II. The plan envisions Tarquinia serving as a tourist hub, leveraging its proximity to the UNESCO Etruscan site and benefiting from good road and rail connections.

The project also includes creating a network of secondary airports to alleviate congestion at major hubs like Fiumicino and Ciampino. The integration of these airports is expected to boost tourism and economic development in the region. #1219.8

ROMANIA

The planned new Bucharest-Sud Airport could be built by 2028 or early 2029. The airport, to be built near the town of Adunații Copăceni, aims to initially serve over 11 million passengers, with provisions for expansion to accommodate over 20 million passengers and handle at least 30,000 tons of cargo in subsequent phases. A pre-feasibility study undertaken by SETEC is scheduled for completion in August 2024, followed by the feasibility study and Zonal Urban Plan by September 2025. Design and execution procedures could begin in October 2025, with a target completion within three years from the start of construction.

The airport, situated 24 kilometres from the centre of Bucharest and 43 kilometres from the Bulgarian border, is strategically located to connect with Bulgaria and decongest air traffic currently concentrated at Otopeni Airport. According to a traffic forecast, in the most positive scenario, passenger demand for the city could reach 65 million by the year 2050.

As reported earlier by Momberger Airport Information, the project could cover between 300 to 1,000 hectares and cost around EUR 2 billion. Funding options for the project include state budget investments, a potential takeover by the National Company of Bucharest Airports (CNAB), or a public-private partnership. The next steps involve a feasibility study, precise land sizing, and compensation estimations for necessary expropriations, estimated at EUR 4 million for 400 hectares.

What is not clear is whether and how this development will be coordinated with Bucharest's existing Otopeni Airport, which is planning to build a new midfield passenger terminal to address rising demand. #1219.9

On June 5th, 2024, Cluj International Airport celebrated the inauguration of its expanded Departures Terminal. The modernisation added 7,200 m² of space, 7 Schengen gates, 4 Non-Schengen gates, and 2,700 m² of commercial areas, increasing the airport's total yearly passenger capacity to 4.5 million. The total investment was USD 89.5 million.

Alin Tișe, President of the Cluj County Council, has **proposed building a new airport in Cluj, citing increasing costs of maintaining and expanding the current airport, which is too close to the city.** He suggests considering a second airport in the long term, including a cargo airport in Câmpia Turzii and an intermodal freight terminal for all of Transylvania, to enhance the region's development.

Substantial funds are currently needed to divert the Someș River and relocate the Apahida ring road for the runway extension. The existing runway is 2,100 meters, and plans to extend it to 3,500 meters are seen as unnecessary unless Cluj receives transatlantic flights, which is unlikely. #1219.10

Russia & C.I.S.

RUSSIA

Orenburg Airport, which is operated by Airports of Regions, will construct a new passenger terminal at a cost of USD 209 million. The new terminal, expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2025, will increase the airport's capacity to 1,000 passengers per hour and cover over 23,000 m². The design is inspired by the Orenburg lace shawl. The forecourt will be renovated, increasing

parking spaces to 500. This development is expected to boost passenger traffic to 2 million people over time and improve airport infrastructure quality. #1219.11

KAZAKHSTAN

TAV Airports, part of Groupe ADP, has officially opened a new USD 200 million terminal at Almaty Airport in Kazakhstan, enhancing its capacity to over 14 million passengers annually.

This expansion positions Almaty as Central Asia's busiest air hub. The terminal features advanced technology for operational efficiency and a mix of international and local retail and dining options across 3,400 m².

The new terminal is strategically located on major international transport routes, contributing to Almaty's role as a key economic and logistical hub. It supports the growth of local carriers like Air Astana and aims to attract more airlines and passengers. The terminal is also notable for its sustainable design, being Central Asia's first EDGE-certified airport.

TAV Airports holds an 85% stake in the venture and secured USD 450 million for the acquisition and further development, with significant contributions from international financial institutions. The company aims for carbon neutrality by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2050. #1219.12

Karaganda Airport is set to transform into a multimodal air hub with significant investment and development plans.

The project, dubbed "Gargohub Karaganda," involves a USD 270 million investment to upgrade the runway, terminal, and expand the cargo hub. Currently handling 15,000 tons of cargo annually, the airport aims to increase this to 200,000 tons by 2030.

Karaganda Airport already facilitates cargo flights from Ecuador, Belgium, and the Netherlands, transporting flowers and livestock products. Additionally, the airport hosts three private Kazakhstani cargo airlines, which plan to expand their fleet. #1219.13

The modernisation of Balkhash Airport has begun, focusing on reconstructing the taxiway and apron, with a project cost of USD 8.5 million. The general contractor, Kazakh dorstroy LLP, has mobilised resources and specialised equipment and initiated construction activities. Currently, 98% of the asphalt concrete pavement milling is complete, 40% of the taxiway base is dismantled, and subgrade preparation is ongoing. Concrete pavement installation is scheduled for 15 June. The project also includes overhauling the passenger terminal and constructing a VIP building.

This modernisation aims to boost the town's growth and attractiveness to tourists. The airport, built in 1967, last underwent renovation in 2007. #1219.14

UZBEKISTAN

Local media in Uzbekistan are reporting that a new international airport is set to be constructed near Bukhara, with a planned investment of USD 226 million. The project, which will be implemented under a public-private partnership (PPP), aims to develop an airport with a single runway and a passenger terminal capable of handling 1,200 passengers per hour. This enhancement is expected to improve passenger and aircraft services and attract new international airlines to Bukhara. In April 2022, authorities announced the construction of a passenger terminal at the existing Bukhara airport. It is not clear what the status of these plans is or if it is, in effect, the same project, as the quality of reporting from the country is normally quite poor. #1219.15

North America

UNITED STATES

Pittsburgh International Airport (PIT) will receive a USD 20 million federal grant for its USD 1.4 billion terminal improvement project, scheduled for completion next year. The funding, secured through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, will enhance the passenger experience, increase

energy efficiency, and replace ageing infrastructure, including seating areas at 30 gates. U.S. Senators Bob Casey and John Fetterman, along with Representatives Chris Deluzio and Summer Lee, highlighted the importance of this investment in improving airport efficiency and safety. Since the project's inception in late 2021, PIT has received nearly USD 124 million in funding, including USD 5.3 million earlier this year. #1219.16

Myrtle Beach International Airport (MYR) has commenced a USD 95 million expansion of Concourse A, a project delayed since 2018 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The expansion will add six new gates, revamped restrooms, new flooring, concessions, and improved signage throughout the terminal.

Expected to be completed by December 2025, the project aims to accommodate the airport's growing traffic, which now serves 3.4 million passengers annually. Airport director Judi Olmstead highlighted the expansion as a significant milestone toward enhancing the airport experience. #1219.17

Orlando International Airport (Florida) is undergoing major upgrades and renovations to accommodate its growing traffic, with projections to serve 60 million passengers by the end of the year. Enhancements include constructing a pedestrian walkway between Terminal C and the intermodal station and extensive renovations in Terminals A and B at a cost of USD 40 million. These renovations aim to refresh passenger areas, expand restrooms, and overhaul concessions with new food and beverage offerings.

Terminal C, which opened in 2022 with 15 gates, is already expanding to add eight more gates to help relieve pressure on the older terminals. This terminal is intended to cater primarily to international flights and newer markets. In the long term, Terminal C can be expanded up to 120 gates.

Efforts are also underway to improve the parking situation at MCO, with new spots added and future plans to implement a Parking Guidance System to help manage the increased demand more efficiently. Long-term, perhaps by the end of the decade, the aim is to eventually build a consolidated rental car facility that is accessible by the existing people mover tram system. This would then free up parking spaces in garages A, B, and C, which are currently occupied by the rental car companies. #1219.18

The City of Detroit (Michigan) will launch a significant revitalisation project for Coleman A. Young International Airport, Detroit's downtown airport, marking its first major initiative in 50 years. This partnership includes a 30-year lease for Avflight, during which the company will construct a new 280 m² passenger terminal and a heated 1,395 m² hangar to enhance the airport's services and security. This project is part of a broader 20-year development plan approved by the FAA, which allows the airport to seek federal funding for infrastructure improvements.

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Key upgrades at the airport include new taxi lighting, runway renovations, ramp pavement improvements, and an engineered material arresting system. Future plans involve constructing a new control tower and promoting educational opportunities, including potentially relocating the Davis Aerospace Technical High School back to the airport. #1219.19

Cherry Capital Airport, which serves Traverse City in Michigan, is moving forward with a significant terminal expansion, anticipated to cost around USD 120 million. The Northwest Regional Airport Authority has approved two contracts with Mead & Hunt, totalling approximately USD 1.89 million, to design the terminal expansion and the necessary apron changes.

This preliminary design work is part of a "30-percent design phase," after which a construction manager will be hired to proceed through subsequent design phases and prepare the project for bidding.

The expansion is driven by passenger growth, with the airport handling significantly more travellers than its capacity was originally designed for. The new design will expand the terminal to 14 boarding bridges from the current five and include a second concourse. The project is planned to be completed in two years and open by 2028, assuming all goes according to plan.

In addition to the terminal expansion, the airport authority has also approved zoning for a new technology and logistics hub on airport-owned land, indicating ongoing development and investment in airport infrastructure. #1219.20

Chicago O'Hare International Airport's (Illinois) expansion project has advanced with new renderings and plans for its first satellite concourse. The creation of Satellite Concourse 1 would add 19 new gates and accommodate different-sized aircraft. This expansion is part of a broader initiative to replace Terminal 2 with a new Global Terminal and add two satellite concourses, aiming to modernise the airport significantly.

The design for the new concourse, created by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, features high, rounded ceilings and garden rest spaces designed to evoke the feeling of moving through an orchard, paying homage to the airport's original name, Orchard Field. The design incorporates midwestern landscape tones and aims to offer practical yet impactful architecture.

However, the project has faced delays and is behind schedule, with contentious negotiations over costs with main stakeholders like United and American Airlines, who are covering a significant portion of the construction costs. Recently, a deal was reached to reorder the construction phases, allowing work on the first satellite concourse to proceed with plans for phased construction of the Global Terminal.

The project's total cost was initially estimated at USD 8.5 billion but has since seen significant overruns, with the terminal work alone reportedly going USD 1.5 billion over the 2018 budget. Despite these challenges, city officials remain optimistic about completing the expansion, including the second satellite concourse, though some aspects of the project may need cost adjustments.

The completion of the first concourse is anticipated by 2028, and city officials stress the importance of the project for enhancing the airport's capacity and functionality, which is crucial for maintaining its role in the national air system and local economy. #1219.21

Cedar City Regional Airport (Utah) has commenced a USD 5.2 million, 10-month expansion project to improve the traveller experience. The project, which began on 28 May 2024, includes significant enhancements such as quadrupling seating capacity, adding advanced screening equipment, new restrooms, a vending area, a service animal relief station, an additional passenger gate, and upgraded security and baggage claim systems.

This is the first major upgrade in nearly 20 years and is 96% funded by FAA grants. The airport will remain operational during the expansion, which is expected to be completed by early 2025. The improvements aim to better accommodate current needs and future air service expansions. #1219.22

The Biden-Harris Administration, through the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), has announced nearly USD 187 million in grants for airport infrastructure improvements across 34 states, benefiting 91 airports. This funding, part of the USD 25 billion Airport Infrastructure Grants (AIG) program under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, will be used for various projects, including terminal expansions, baggage systems upgrades, and runway safety enhancements.

Key grants include USD 61.8 million for Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport and USD 23.5 million for San Diego International Airport, among others. These investments are aimed at enhancing safety, efficiency, and the overall travel experience. To date, approximately USD 9 billion of the allocated USD 15 billion from AIG has been distributed, contributing to the broader goals of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, which seeks to revitalise the nation's infrastructure and strengthen its competitiveness. #1219.23

Latin America & The Caribbean

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

The Turks and Caicos Islands government has initiated the final bidding phase to redevelop Howard Hamilton International Airport (HHIA) in Providenciales. On 30 May 2024, the government issued an Invitation to Tender (ITT) to five shortlisted applicants, which include renowned construction and airport management firms.

Enhancements include a new passenger terminal covering 25,000 m² with four boarding bridges and a capacity to handle 2.5 mppa, lengthening of runway and construction of a parallel taxiway, and expansion of apron.

The project will be carried out through a Public-Private Partnership (PPP), with the government retaining ownership and covering construction costs. A concessionaire will handle management.

The government aims to select a preferred partner by the last quarter of 2024, with the successful bidder responsible for designing, building, financing, operating, and maintaining the airport. The Turks and Caicos Islands Airports Authority (TCIAA) will create a PPP Performance and Contract Monitoring Unit to oversee the partnership.

Premier Washington Misick announced that the Howard Hamilton International Airport redevelopment in Providenciales is expected to be completed by 2028. This timeline allows for extensive planning to ensure the new multi-million-dollar terminal meets industry best practices. #1219.24

EL SALVADOR

The Legislative Assembly of El Salvador has approved funding of USD 19.5 million for the future Pacific International Airport, which will serve the city of La Unión. Managed by the Comisión Ejecutiva Portuaria Autónoma, these funds will cover budgetary changes for the project, which has a total capital expenditure of USD 335 million. Of the approved funds, USD 18.7 million will be allocated to consultancy services, supplementary studies, and preliminary work, while USD 780,595 will go towards salaries.

Facilities include a 3,000-metre runway and a passenger terminal covering 11,755 m². The airport is expected to handle between 300,000 to 500,000 passengers annually, generate 20,000 jobs, and spur economic development in the coastal area. Additionally, it is seen as a strategic asset for providing prompt response in the event of natural disasters. #1219.25

GUATEMALA

President Bernardo Arévalo confirmed the expansion of La Aurora International Airport. He discussed the urgent issues identified by a World Bank expert group report, outlining a short-term action plan to address passenger comfort and flight safety by December. The expansion includes three phases: initially addressing immediate concerns, then upgrading the airport to optimal conditions, and finally, a major expansion based on a 15-year-old master plan involving a new taxiway and terminal wing. #1219.26

COLOMBIA

The National Infrastructure Agency (ANI) of Colombia is disbursing over USD 129 million to 13 municipalities for constructing and improving roads and public transport infrastructure and enhancing connectivity to airports. El Dorado International Airport in Bogotá is the largest beneficiary, with over USD 77 million. Other beneficiaries include Cartagena, Palmira, Soledad, Malambo, Medellín, Quibdó, Corozal, Carepa, Montería, and Cereté. #1219.26

PERU

The new passenger terminal at Lima Jorge Chávez International Airport is nearing completion, with 85% of the construction done. The airport will inaugurate its new terminal on 18 December 2024. The remaining seven months will focus on finalising architectural details and setting up businesses and services. The new passenger terminal is designed to enhance the airport's competitiveness by increasing destinations, connectivity, and airline offerings.

It will accommodate domestic and international flights and incorporate the Building Information Modeling (BIM) methodology in its design and construction. The terminal will feature five levels, including a basement and four floors, providing a spacious travel experience. It will also include three concourses for boarding and disembarking: one for domestic and international flights and a central mixed-use concourse. #1219.27

BOLIVIA

Bolivia has launched a USD 26.7 million international tender to repair and upgrade the main runway at Capitán Oriel Lea Plaza Airport in Tarija. The project involves the rehabilitation of a 3,050-metre runway, including a complete rebuild of an 800-meter section.

Bids for the tender will be opened on 19 July, with details available on the Sicoes procurement system. Additionally, a separate project worth 46 million boliviano to expand the airport's passenger and cargo terminals, awarded to Accidental Santa Fé, is nearing the commencement of construction, according to Bolivia's public works minister Édgar Montaño. #1219.28

The Ministry of Public Works, Services, and Housing has announced an international tender for the construction of a new passenger terminal and complementary landside works at "La Joya Andina" airport in Uyuni, Potosí. Planned works include a passenger Terminal, a control Tower, a technical block, a fire station, a parking lot, and an electrical block.

The project, with an execution period of 22 months, will receive an investment of USD 7.7 million, financed by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). Interested companies can submit proposals until 29 July 2024.

The airport, also known as Joya Andina Airport, is an airport at extremely high elevation just northwest of Uyuni, in the southwestern Potosí Department of Bolivia. *For daily alerts on global market opportunities, please subscribe to Worldwide Airport Tenders [here](#).* #1219.29

CHILE

The Viña del Mar airport modernisation project is making early progress, with initial phases involving consultancy and regulatory issues ahead of construction. The Ministry of Public Works (MOP) plans to award a 10-month engineering consultancy contract starting in July to assist with future infrastructure design. Following this consultancy, the project requires a Social Recommendation from the Ministry of Social Development to begin construction in 2025.

The Municipality of Concón, where the airport is located, is managing the regulatory plans, and in May, the MOP submitted the project for environmental impact assessment, which is necessary for approval.

The modernisation plan includes a new terminal building, and expanded runway, a new control tower, and additional parking for aircraft and vehicles, aiming to accommodate 900,000 passengers annually.

The project, estimated at CLP 76 billion (USD 82.7 million), intends to enable the airport to handle commercial flights by 2027. The development is planned in three phases, with the terminal construction set for 2025-2026, runway works between 2030 and 2031, and final enhancements by 2034.

Challenges include generating sustainable travel demand, the proximity to Santiago airport, and the need for navigation aids due to adverse weather conditions. #1219.30

Africa

CAMEROON

The planned renovation of Douala International Airport's passenger terminal, overseen by Aéroports du Cameroun (ADC), is estimated to cost USD 109.0 million. The project, which has been planned since 2018, aims to reorganise passenger flow, create a centralised screening post, separate arrivals and departures, update equipment to international standards, and reorganise aircraft parking.

Originally opened in 1977 with a capacity of 1.5 million passengers per year, the renovated terminal will maintain this capacity with the potential to expand to 2 million passengers and will include new commercial spaces. ADC plans to secure funding through a 66 billion FCFA loan from the French Development Agency (AFD).

The ADC is currently seeking a project manager with qualifications and experience to oversee the renovation, with applications due by 21 June 2024. The project has faced multiple delays and restarts since its initial proposal in 2018. #1219.31

KENYA

President William Ruto announced plans to upgrade Matuto Airstrip in Bungoma County into an international airport to enhance connectivity in the Western Region. During the 61st Madaraka Day celebrations, he urged the Bungoma County government to engage residents for land acquisition needed for expansion. The airstrip, originally allocated over 70 acres, has seen some public encroachment.

Transport Minister Kipchumba Murkomen highlighted plans to extend the runway from 1,100 metres to 2,500 metres and improve facilities, aiming to serve the region and potentially Uganda. Compensation for affected landowners will be handled fairly, ensuring proper valuation and voluntary relocation. #1219.32

Middle East

JORDAN

Hedjaz Railway (JHR) has revealed plans for a potential new airport rail link. The Jordanian Hijazi Railway Corporation issued a tender for an economic feasibility study to establish a light train between Zarqa City, northeast of the capital Amman, to Queen Alia International Airport, 30km south of Amman. JHR estimates the new railway would carry between 40,000 and 50,000 passengers each day. No timescale or costings have been revealed.

JHR runs passenger and freight trains on the 1300km line between Amman in Jordan and Damascus in Syria. The line is one of the remaining parts of a much larger 1050mm-gauge Hedjaz Railway network that contracted after the Second World War.

The Corporation has set the last date for submitting offers at twelve noon on Sunday, June 30, 2024, with offers being opened at the same time. #1219.33

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Dubai Airports CEO Paul Griffiths announced his intentions to re-engineer the airport process at the new Al Maktoum International Airport (DWC), aiming for a seamless and efficient experience with a USD 32 billion project set to be operational within the next ten years. Griffiths criticised traditional airport designs for inefficiencies and emphasised the need to eliminate outdated processes, focusing on minimising walking distances and streamlining security and immigration checks.

The new terminal will prioritise sustainability, leveraging Dubai's ample solar energy and innovative energy storage solutions. Griffiths emphasised immediate actions over distant carbon neutrality targets.

For the first phase, two new runways, a main terminal building, and two satellites with over 100 gates each will be built. The capacity will be 150 million annual passengers. In the next phase, two more runways, an additional terminal building, and two satellites will be built, bringing the total number of gates to over 400. The total capacity will reach 260 million annual passengers.

Griffiths highlighted the growth in tourist numbers to Dubai, with a significant increase in visitors staying in the city compared to those in transit. This shift enhances the city's economic impact. Kamil Al-Awadhi of IATA projected a 4% annual growth in passenger traffic in the UAE and Gulf countries from 2024 to 2030, driven by long-term regional vision and infrastructure developments, including expansions at DWC and new airports in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. #1219.34

SAUDI ARABIA

Designs for the expansion of Madinah Airport in Saudi Arabia have been approved, with construction starting later this year. The expansion will allow the airport to handle 17 million passengers annually by 2028, up from 8 million today. The existing Terminal 1 building is to be converted into an international terminal. Domestic operations are being relocated to a new 39,000 m² terminal connected to Terminal 1 via a newly constructed pier.

Designed by Scott Brownrigg, the new terminal will use the same modular steel palm-tree-shaped columns as the existing terminal, a symbol of peace and prosperity. #1219.35

Asia Pacific

INDIA

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has reintroduced plans to build a satellite terminal at Chennai Airport to manage the increasing number of international flights. The satellite was initially proposed six years ago but shelved due to logistical and land acquisition issues. The new terminal will be located near the remote bays between the primary and secondary runways, aiming to maximise the existing airport space. Current plans are still in the preliminary stages, with a detailed project report being prepared to outline specifics like the corridor's start and endpoints.

This initiative is seen as critical to enhancing airport capacity, especially as the construction of a second airport at Parandur remains some years away. #1219.36

Karnataka State will construct a greenfield airport at Vijayapura in the state's northwest region to enhance regional air connectivity and boost economic activity. The airport, costing USD 26.3 million, will be built on 727 acres between Buranpur and Madhubhavi villages, with completion expected in 18-24 months.

This will be Karnataka's 9th airport under the central government's Udan regional connectivity scheme. The airport aims to reduce travel time to cities like Bengaluru and Mangaluru and promote tourism in Vijayapura, a heritage city known for its historical monuments and architecture from the Adil Shahi dynasty.

Initial construction work, including ground levelling and building the runway and passenger terminal, will start after the state government releases USD 11.4 million for the project's first year. #1219.37

Development of a greenfield airport project in Great Nicobar Island is taking the next step, with a public hearing scheduled for 10 June 2024. The project is part of a broader plan by Andaman and Nicobar Islands Integrated Development Corporation Ltd (ANIIDCO) to develop Great Nicobar Island (GNI), which also includes an International Container Transhipment Terminal, township development, and a power plant.

The proposed airport, covering 405 hectares, would boast a runway long enough for Code F aircraft (Airbus A-380) and a passenger terminal with a peak capacity of 4,000 passengers per hour (PHP)

The project aims to improve connectivity and boost tourism, thus enhancing the local economy and creating employment opportunities. However, the land acquisition will affect around 234 families, resulting in the loss of land and livelihood for residents, particularly those involved in agriculture and commercial activities.

The authorities are urged to minimise negative social impacts by providing adequate compensation and support to affected communities. Despite the challenges, the project is seen as beneficial for the overall development and self-sustainability of Great Nicobar Island. #1219.38

CAMBODIA

The Techo International Airport, currently under construction and set to serve Phnom Penh, is expected to begin operations in the first half of 2025, as announced by Mao Havannall, the head of the State Secretariat of Civil Aviation (SSCA). The USD 1.5 billion project, now 75.8% complete, will be a class 4F airport capable of accommodating large commercial aircraft.

The first phase facilities will include a single 4,000-metre runway and a 243,000 m² passenger terminal with 22 boarding-bridge-equipped gates and a capacity of 13 mppa.

In 2023, Cambodia experienced a significant rise in airport passenger arrivals, with over 5.1 million, marking a 115% increase from 2022. In the first four months of 2024, over 2 million passengers were recorded, a 25% increase compared to the same period in 2023. Additionally, 30 airlines have resumed or initiated new services to Cambodia post-Covid. #1219.39

VIETNAM

The Ministry of Transport has proposed to the Prime Minister that the Airports Corporation of Vietnam (ACV) study and invest in phase 2 of Long Thành Airport. Phase 1 involves constructing one runway, one passenger terminal, and auxiliary facilities with a capacity of 25 million passengers and 1.2 million tons of cargo annually.

Phase 2 will add another runway and passenger terminal to increase capacity to 50 million passengers per year. Phase 3 aims to complete the project with a capacity of 100 million passengers and 5 million tons of cargo annually.

The Ministry of Transport stated that to proceed with phase 2, which includes the second runway and T2 passenger terminal, the government needs to direct the preparation of a feasibility study report and submit it to the National Assembly for approval. In 2023, the Prime Minister assigned the Ministry of Transport to study the implementation plan for Phase 2 and the second runway to be invested in after the completion of Phase 1. The Ministry then requested ACV to study the plan and report back. ACV indicated that these components are not included in phase 1 and thus lack a designated investor and land use scope. These details need clarification in the feasibility study report.

With over half of the phase 1 packages tendered, ACV has saved approximately USD 157.1 million and is considering using this fund for the second runway construction.

Long Thành International Airport is being built on a 5,000-hectare site in Long Thành District, Đồng Nai Province. Aiming to become a major regional air transport hub, the project targets a capacity of 100 million passengers and 5 million tons of cargo per year, with a total estimated investment of about USD 16.06 billion across three phases.

Currently, nearly 4,000 engineers and workers, along with over 2,000 pieces of machinery, are working on phase 1 of the project, aiming to begin operations by the end of 2025. #1219.40

Vinh International Airport is set to undergo a USD29.1 million upgrade to its 2,400-metre runway and taxiway. The current infrastructure has reached the end of its design life, while passenger numbers have increased significantly, reaching over 2.6 million in 2022.

The upgrade, requested for approval by the Ministry of Transport, includes resurfacing the runway and taxiway, adding brake strips at both ends and renovating safety strips. The new surface will use steel mesh and concrete for durability and weather resistance. The project aims to enhance the airport's capacity to handle modern aircraft like the Airbus A320/A321.

Scheduled to begin in February 2025, construction will take about four months to minimise disruption, targeting completion before the summer peak. Additional proposals include reusing approach light systems from other airports and coordinating with local authorities for land clearance and security enhancements. #1219.41

INDONESIA

The construction of Terminal 2 at Hang Nadim International Airport in Batam has commenced, with completion aimed for 2026. The project, part of a larger USD 370 million development plan for the airport, involves an investment of approximately USD 148 million for this phase. Terminal 2 will cover 50,000 m² and is designed to handle up to 9.6 million passengers annually. A consortium that includes PT Batam International Airport, PT Angkasa Pura I, Incheon International Airport Corporation, and PT Wijaya Karya (Persero) Tbk is developing the terminal. Additional future enhancements include more aircraft ramps and a new apron to increase the airport's capacity. This infrastructure project is expected to boost Batam's capacity to attract more tourists and investors. #1219.42

SOUTH KOREA

Incheon International Airport is set to become one of the world's largest airports in terms of capacity by the end of this year, with the completion of its fourth phase of development allowing it to handle up to 106 million passengers annually. This expansion of Terminal 2, a seven-year KRW 4.8 trillion (USD 3.5 billion) project, is nearly complete at 95.34% as of April and is expected to enhance the airport's capacity significantly from the current 77 million passengers.

The expansion positions Incheon in the same league as Atlanta Hartsfield Jackson International Airport, Dubai International Airport, and Istanbul Airport in terms of passenger capacity. Additionally, the airport's cargo capacity will increase to 6.3 million tons per year, and flight operations will rise to 600,000 annually. The airport is also introducing advanced technologies, such as facial recognition services, to streamline passenger processing times significantly below international averages.

The expanded terminal will feature ultra-high-definition digital screens, digital media arts, and an outdoor garden that showcases Korea's traditional aesthetics. For the future, a fifth-stage expansion will include a third terminal and fifth runway. #1219.43

THE PHILIPPINES

The Department of Transportation (DOTr) is seeking to relocate Baguio's Loakan Airport.

DOTr Assistant Secretary Enrique Antonio Esquivel III announced at a tourist investment forum that funding has been secured for a feasibility study to find a site for a new airport with a longer runway within or near Baguio. Baguio City Mayor Benjamin Magalang noted that the current flights have struggled with passenger numbers and adverse weather conditions, often leading to diversions to Clark International Airport in Pampanga.

Plans for the current Loakan Airport included a USD 4.26 million investment for a multipurpose building and parking expansion by 2025 and a USD 767,000 rehabilitation project initiated last December. The Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP) is also expanding the passenger terminal to increase capacity and improve services. #1219.44

AUSTRALIA

Qantas and Perth Airport have reached a 12-year commercial agreement, initiating a multi-billion-dollar investment to enhance Australia's tourism industry. Perth Airport will invest around AUD 3 billion (USD 2.0 billion) in new terminal facilities and a parallel runway, forming part of an AUD 5 billion (USD 3.3 billion) capital investment program, the largest private infrastructure development in Perth. This includes new terminal facilities, multi-storey car parks, access roadworks, and the airport's first hotel.

Qantas and Jetstar will relocate all services to a new terminal in the Airport Central precinct, contributing to the growth of Western Australia as a major domestic and international hub. By 2031, they plan to add 4.4 million seats annually to and from Perth.

The new terminal will offer state-of-the-art check-in, bag drop facilities, and a multi-lounge precinct with bespoke dining and wellness initiatives.

Qantas also plans to build a new engineering hangar in the Airport's central area. Upgrades to Terminals 3 and 4 will create additional capacity and enable more services and destinations, including flights to Auckland and Johannesburg from mid-2025. The new parallel runway, expected to open in 2028, will support further growth and future-proof aviation in Western Australia. #1219.45

Vertiports / Urban Air Mobility

Lilium GmbH, in collaboration with UrbanV and Aéroports de la Côte d'Azur (France), plans to launch the Lilium Jet in the French Riviera by 2026. This initiative will establish the first regional air mobility (RAM) network in Europe, connecting key destinations like Monaco, Nice, Cannes, and Marseille. The Lilium Jet, an all-electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) aircraft, aims to offer a sustainable and efficient travel option, reducing travel times compared to conventional car journeys. The network will leverage local support to develop vertiports, including those at Nice Côte d'Azur, which is the second-largest airport in France.

This project aligns with the Côte d'Azur's environmental goals, aiming for carbon neutrality by 2030 without offsetting emissions. Lilium is currently in discussions about expanding the network and establishing additional vertiports in the region. #1219.46

The Greek hospitality subsidiary of Libra Group, Aria Hotels, plans to build and operate four vertiports in strategic locations across Greece, including Athens, the South mainland, and the Aegean islands. This initiative, part of a EUR 50 million investment, aims to support the adoption of electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) aircraft and boost Greece's sustainable economy and ecotourism.

Aria Hotels has leased ten all-electric ALIA eVTOLs from BETA Technologies through LCI, an aerospace subsidiary of Libra Group. These vertiports will feature electric charging stations and relaxation areas, requiring minimal space and causing low environmental impact. The eVTOLs can carry up to five passengers or 1,400 lbs of payload, have a range of 250 nautical miles, and can recharge in under an hour—ideal for connecting the mainland to the islands efficiently.

Aria Hotels will manage the vertiports and the operation of the eVTOLs, aiming to enhance connectivity, attract more tourists, and promote sustainability while providing unique travel experiences. #1219.47



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