Passenger traffic growth up 7.9% during November

For immediate release 12 January 2018

Brussels, 12 January 2018: European airport trade body, ACI EUROPE today releases its air traffic report for November. The report is the only industry report that includes all types of civil aviation passenger flights: full service, low cost and charter. It reveals that during the month of November, passenger traffic at Europe’s airports grew by +7.9%, almost exactly at the same pace as in October (+7.8%).

Non-EU airports continued to lead the growth in passenger traffic, with volumes increasing by +11.6%. Georgian airports led the dynamic (+31.8%) - while Iceland, Israel, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro and FYROM also saw their airports achieving double digit passenger growth.

Meanwhile, passenger traffic at EU airports grew by +6.8% - a performance which would have been even stronger were it not for a series of airline-caused disruptions. This primarily included the full impact of Air Berlin and Monarch having ceased operations, as evidenced by traffic losses at airports such as Berlin-TXL (-21.1%), Dusseldorf (-9.1%), Vienna (-0.1%), Birmingham (-1.5%) and Copenhagen (-3.5%). It also included Ryanair’s decision to slow down its growth this winter by taking 25 aircraft out of its fleet to avoid crew rostering-related flight cancellations.

Passenger growth at the Majors (top 5 European hubs) substantially picked up in November at +10.6% – led by the strong performance of Frankfurt at +21.1%, Istanbul-Atatürk at +15% and Amsterdam-Schiphol at +10.1%. Frankfurt’s record monthly growth was partly influenced by last year’s Lufthansa pilot strike. Net of the catch up effect, the airport still grew by an impressive +11.8% on the back of significant low cost airline expansion. Paris-CDG grew by +6.6% and capacity constrained London-Heathrow still managed to increase its passenger volume by +3.5%.

Freight traffic across the European airport network remained consistent with the previous month, coming in at +8.6%. Aircraft movements also remained robust at +3.6%.

During November, airports welcoming more than 25 million passengers per year (Group 1), airports welcoming between 10 and 25 million passengers (Group 2), airports welcoming between 5 and 10 million passengers (Group 3) and airports welcoming less than 5 million passengers per year (Group 4) reported an average adjustment +7.3%, +6.9%, +9.5% and +10.5%.

The airports that reported the highest increases in passenger traffic during November are as follows:

GROUP 1: Frankfurt (+21.1%), Palma De Mallorca (+16.4%), Moscow SVO (+16.4%), Istanbul IST (+15%) and Istanbul SAW (+10.7%)

GROUP 2: Ankara (+32%), Tel Aviv (+17.4%), Lisbon (17.3%), Budapest (+16.9%) and Prague (+15.1%)

GROUP 3: Naples (+49.8%), Heraklion (47.2%), Valencia (+26.1%), Palermo (+25.5%) and Keflavik (+19.8%)

GROUP 4: Grenoble (+144.7%), Varna (+89.7%), Kos (+72.8%), Batumi (+69.4%) and Craiova (+54.8%)
The ‘ACI EUROPE Airport Traffic Report - November 2017’ includes 253 airports in total representing more than 88% of European air passenger traffic.

## ENDS ##

Want more access to the latest airport traffic data? ACI EUROPE has developed a dedicated App providing just that. The App gives you all the usual key figures, but also enabling you to make customised comparison tables & graphs that can be downloaded and shared via email or social media. The App is available for iOS, Android and as a WebApp. To find out more, go to www.aci-europe.org/trafficapp

The ACI EUROPE Airport Traffic Report is a dedicated service for journalists available in the password protected ‘Airport Traffic Report’ section of the ‘Media room’ on our website www.aci-europe.org. Accredited members of the media may also access additional traffic analysis and comprehensive traffic databases. For your password to access these sections, please contact us by e-mail at: bijana.banjac@aci-europe.org. Your request will be validated and the password will be e-mailed to your work address.

For more information, contact:

Robert O’Meara, Director, Media & Communications, ACI EUROPE
mobile: +32 (0)486 54 14 71 or tel: +32 (0)2 552 09 82.
Email: robert.omeara@aci-europe.org

ACI EUROPE is the European region of Airports Council International (ACI), the only worldwide professional association of airport operators. ACI EUROPE represents over 500 airports in 45 European countries. Our members facilitate over 90% of commercial air traffic in Europe: 2 billion passengers, 20 million tonnes of freight and 23.7 million aircraft movements in 2016. These airports contribute to the employment of 12.3 million people, generating €675 billion each year (4.1%) of GDP in Europe.

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