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Topping-out ceremony at Budapest Airport as the new pier reaches highest point.

(Text prepared by Budapest Airport)

Budapest 15 November 2017: only eight months after construction commenced, the building of the new pier on the T2B side at Budapest Airport (Pier B) has already reached its top level. At the roof topping ceremony, Budapest Airport and KÉSZ Építő Zrt, construction contractor, jointly announced that the pier would be completed by the second half of 2018.

The physical construction of Pier B at Budapest Airport started in March 2017. Fully-financed by the Hungarian gateway, the project will increase the passenger area of Terminal 2B, the non-Schengen terminal, by more than 10,000m². With ten new boarding bridges and the architectural solutions of the building, the 220m long pier will offer 27 different boarding options in total, in line with different airline needs (via contact gates, bussing, or walk-on boarding).

The pier, which is connected to Terminal 2B, harmonises with the architecture of both SkyCourt and T2B. Ensuring the capability of simultaneously serving up to ten narrow-body aircraft (737s and A320s), or three wide-body aircraft (777s and A330s) and four narrow-body aircraft, it is estimated that the new pier will increase the annual passenger service capacity of Budapest by five to six million.

At the joint topping-out ceremony of Budapest and KÉSZ Építő Zrt, Stephan Schattney, Chief Technical Officer, Budapest said: "I am very glad that we have kept to the project milestones so far. It is important that we can now start to close the building with roof and facades. This allows us to continue with the interior finishes during the winter season. We are now targeting late spring for completion of the building shell. After testing and commissioning of Pier B we hope to be ready to serve passengers by late summer 2018. We are happy to receive a number of new long-haul flights, such as the New York and Chicago routes by LOT Polish Airlines and the Philadelphia flight by American Airlines, and we wish to provide the best environment possible to our new passengers."

László Szalados, Country Manager, KÉSZ Group said: "We are not only happy but also quite proud to see that after the impressive SkyCourt building Budapest Airport and the KÉSZ Group are now further developing the main gateway to Hungary. Construction has progressed according to schedule; the new pier is growing at the airport minute-by-minute."

The construction of the pier connected to Terminal 2B is one of the key components of Budapest's five-year, 50 billion HUF (approximately €160 million) airport development project called BUD 2020. Completely self-financed by the airport operator, to be completed by the end of 2020, the total cost of construction of Pier B is over €25 million (HUF 7.8 billion).



Photo caption: As the new Pier B at Budapest Airport reaches its top level, the Hungarian gateway's CEO Jost Lammers officially announces that the new construction – which will increase capacity by up to six million passengers per year – will be completed next summer.

Notes for Editors

- Budapest Airport Zrt. is the operator of Budapest Airport. It is owned by an international consortium of investors, led by the privately-owned German company AviAlliance, an independent airport manager holding a 55.438% stake, together with Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (21.228%), and Malton Investment Pte Ltd. (23.334%).
- Budapest Airport welcomed more than 11.4 million passengers in 2016, flying on the airport's services to 111 destinations across 38 countries.
- Monthly passenger traffic growth October 2017 has exceeded +13.4%.
- Budapest Airport's route development includes:

Launched since June:

- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Astana, 8 June 2017;
- Ukraine International Airlines, daily service to Kiev Boryspil, 15 June 2017;
- TAP Portugal daily service to Lisbon, 2 July 2017;
- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to St Petersburg, 27 August 2017;
- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Bordeaux, 22 September 2017;
- Ryanair five times weekly service to Prague, 29 October 2017;
- Ryanair twice-weekly service to Palermo, 29 October 2017;
- Ryanair twice-weekly service to Marrakech, 30 October 2017;
- Ryanair twice-weekly service to Valencia, 30 October 2017;
- Ryanair twice-weekly service to Edinburgh, 30 October 2017.

To launch:

- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Agadir, starting 31 October 2017;
- Ryanair three times weekly service to Naples, starting 31 October 2017;
- Wizz Air daily service to Frankfurt, starting 15 December 2017;
- Wizz Air daily service to Berlin Schönefeld, starting 18 December 2017;
- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Stavanger, starting 15 March 2018;
- Wizz Air four times weekly service to Athens, starting 25 March 2018;
- Ryanair three times weekly service to Paphos, starting April 2018;
- Ryanair three times weekly service to Santander, starting April 2018;
- Wizz Air five times weekly service to Basel, starting 3 May 2018;
- LOT Polish Airlines four times weekly service to New York (JFK), starting 3 May 2018;
- LOT Polish Airlines twice-weekly service to Chicago, starting 5 May 2018;
- American Airlines daily service to Philadelphia, starting 5 May 2018.

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