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Wizz Air get a new aircraft hangar at Budapest

(Text prepared by Budapest Airport)

Wizz Air will have a new aircraft maintenance hangar in Budapest within a year's time according to the agreement signed on Tuesday 24 June, by Budapest Airport and Wizz Air. The signing of the new lease agreement for 15 years was timed to coincide with the 10th anniversary of Wizz Air's operations in Hungary and the arrival of the 8th aircraft to its base in Budapest.

A new maintenance and overhaul hangar will be built exclusively for Wizz Air aircraft at Budapest's Liszt Ferenc International Airport according to the lease agreement signed today in Budapest by Jost Lammers, CEO, Budapest Airport and József Váradi, CEO, Wizz Air. Budapest Airport will build the new facility by summer 2015 for Wizz Air to lease for 15 years. The investment by Budapest Airport is over 3 million euros (or 900 million HUF) and the new facility will be handed over by August 2015 to Wizz Air.

The new hangar will be built in-between the existing aircraft maintenance hangars operated by Lufthansa Technik and Aeroplex, with direct access to the maintenance apron. The new hangar, approx. 2,000 sq meters, will be able to accommodate one aircraft at a time and its size will allow the new, sharklet-equipped Airbus A 321 Neo type aircraft that might join the Wizz fleet in the coming years.

The signing ceremony of the hangar lease agreement was timed to coincide with the 10th anniversary celebrations of the start of Wizz Air operations at Budapest. It was on 24th June 2004 when the first Wizz Air flight to London Luton took off from the runway of Budapest. Since then Wizz Air has continued to grow its operations in Budapest and today offers 35 destinations from the Hungarian capital. To support this growth Wizz Air has recently based its 8th aircraft at Budapest when the flight to Alicante was opened a week ago. It is expected that Wizz Air will pass the 2 million passenger per year threshold this year in Budapest.

"We are very proud to have Wizz Air as our airline partner at Budapest Airport and we highly value the airline's growth potential in the Hungarian market." said Jost Lammers, CEO, Budapest Airport. He added: "By signing the hangar lease agreement today we have made yet another step to widen the presence of Wizz Air at Budapest who already have their office administration (HQ), the operations and crew center, and simulator and training center at our airport. This investment shows our commitment to create growth and new job opportunities at Liszt Ferenc International Airport. The new hangar will provide an opportunity to make Wizz Air's operations smoother and enable them to perform high quality service from line maintenance to full overhaul of aircraft in Budapest."

Wizz Air's CEO József Váradi, said: "This is a memorable milestone for a company with its roots in Hungary and over 500 Hungarian staff. Over the past 10 years we have earned the trust and loyalty of our Hungarian passengers and we will continue to offer low fares and excellent service to them. The opening of our new hangar, planned for 2015, will create more highly qualified aviation jobs in the country and retain talent for Hungarian aviation."

Photos of the signing ceremony and 10th anniversary celebrations here: <http://goo.gl/BCgHHS>

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 49.67% stake, together with Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (18.17%), Malton Investment Pte Ltd. (18.17%), Aero Investment S.á.r.l. (10%) and KfW IPEX-Bank GmbH (4%).
- Budapest Airport welcomed 8.5 million passengers in 2013, flying on the airport's services to 99 destinations across 34 countries.
- Budapest Airport's route development for 2014 include:
 - Already launched:
 - o Norwegian thrice-weekly service to London Gatwick, 30 March
 - o Air Serbia daily service to Belgrade, 30 March
 - o Jet2.com twice-weekly service to Leeds Bradford, 3 April
 - o transavia.com France thrice-weekly service to Paris Orly, 15 April
 - o Wizz Air weekly service to Alicante, starting 14 June
 - o Vueling thrice-weekly service to Barcelona, 20 June
 - To launch:
 - o Pegasus four times weekly service to Istanbul Sabiha Gökçen, starting 16 July
 - o Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Kutaisi, starting 30 September

To find out more on Budapest Airport, visit www.bud.hu

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