

ACI EUROPE

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Istanbul's New Airport to host ACI Airport Exchange 2015

For immediate release

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Brussels, 19 November 2015: İGA Havalimanı İşletmesi A.Ş. – the company building the world's biggest new airport north of Istanbul – will host ACI Airport Exchange 2015 next month (8 to 10 December) at the prestigious new Istanbul Congress Center in the heart of downtown Istanbul. The event, which combines an extensive airport services exhibition with five specialist conferences is staged jointly by two regions of Airports Council International, ACI EUROPE and ACI Asia-Pacific.

As leading companies from around the world continue to compete to become involved with the largest new airport ever built, the exhibition attracted well over 100 exhibitors, while up to 2,500 delegates and visitors are expected. In addition to the regular five ACI Airport Exchange specialist conferences, a separate 'Istanbul New Airport Development Conference' is dedicated to the €10.2 billion new airport.

ACI Airport Exchange 2015 will be the 10th edition of this leading event in the airport development and operations calendar, which is always hosted by a major airport undertaking significant development in Europe or Asia – most recently Hamad International Airport, Doha (2013) and Aéroports de Paris (2014).

Nihat Özdemir, Board Member, İGA Havalimanı İşletmesi A.Ş. and Chairman of Limak Holdings said: *"We're taking off towards our highest dream. This year İGA is welcoming ACI and the global air transportation industry to Istanbul, to showcase to the world the vision and progress we have made in the development of our game-changing mega-hub project; Istanbul New Airport. This is the industry's exclusive chance to preview the most important new hub between New York and Shanghai before the rest of the world arrives."*

Olivier Jankovec, Director General of ACI EUROPE and Patti Chau, Regional Director, ACI Asia-Pacific commented *"Istanbul and Turkey are rising stars in global air transport. As our airport traffic reports over the past 10 years attest, Turkish airports are striding forward with double-digit growth and moving up the traffic rankings with exceptionally impressive speed. The country is steering a clear course to become one of the world's top 10 economies by its 2023 Centennial year. Just as Istanbul's New Airport is one of the foremost hub projects in the world, the İGA-hosted ACI Airport Exchange, jointly organised by ACI EUROPE and ACI Asia-Pacific, will be one of the largest ACI events ever staged, and a great bridge of airport learning between east and west."*

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About Istanbul New Airport: Facts and Timeline

- January 2013: DHMI, the Turkish state airports authority, issues a tender for a 25-year BOT concession for Istanbul New Airport to be built on a greenfield site 35km north of Istanbul.
- The mega-hub will have an anticipated capacity for up to six runways serving 150 million passengers with extendable capacity up to 200 million. 150 airlines will operate from the airport, serving more than 350 international destinations. Construction cost: €10.2 billion.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

- May 2013: The CMLKK consortium (comprising Cengiz-Mapa-Limak-Kolin-Kalyon) wins the concession for €22.152 billion – an amount to be paid as rent in addition to the €10.2 billion construction cost – the largest concession bid in Turkish history.
- October 2013: İGA Havalimanı İşletmesi Anonim Şirketi (İGA) is founded as the new airport company to manage the project.
- November 2013: Concession agreement is signed between İGA and DHMI.
- March 2014: Master Plan submitted to DHMI.
- June 2014: Construction begins with groundbreaking ceremony performed by the Prime Minister.
- January 2015: Construction proceeds rapidly as the world's biggest duty free agreement signed with Unifree DutyFree (including Gebr. Heinemann) involving a €120 million investment in a 53,000sqm airside retail space.
- February 2015: İGA and DHL sign an MoU to make Istanbul New Airport a regional hub for DHL Express.
- March 2015: İGA announces it will host ACI Airport Exchange 8-10 December 2015, the first major international event focused around this game-changing mega-hub.
- October 2015: President Erdogan and Prime Minister Davutoğlu preside over the final signing of the €4.5 billion loan agreements covering the €10.2 billion construction of Istanbul New Airport
- First-half 2018: Istanbul New Airport Phase 1 scheduled to complete with three runways and a 900,000sqm, 90-million passenger capacity terminal. Construction of three future phases continues.

Full details of the İGA-hosted ACI Airport Exchange 2015, including the specialist conference programmes, exhibition floor plans, and social/networking events are published on the ACI Airport Exchange website. www.airport-exchange.com

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*ACI EUROPE is the European region of Airports Council International (ACI), the only worldwide professional association of airport operators. ACI EUROPE represents close to **500 airports** in 45 European countries. In 2014, our member airports handled over 90% of commercial air traffic in Europe, welcoming more than **1.8 billion passengers, 18.4 million tonnes of freight** and **21.2 million aircraft movements**. These airports contribute to the employment of **12.3 million people**, generating **€675 billion each year (4.1%) of GDP** in Europe.*

EVERY FLIGHT BEGINS AT THE AIRPORT.