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## Newsletter

We are delighted to present our latest Newsletter with general news and some of our recent projects.

### GMR Consortium wins Istanbul BOT

A consortium led by Indian infrastructure company GMR has won with a final bid of \$2.7 billion, a 20-year build-operate-transfer agreement (BOT), for the second airport for Istanbul at Sabiha Gokcen.

Malaysian Airports Holdings, which has a 20% stake in the consortium, will be the operator for the airport. GMR Infrastructure and Limak Insaat Sanai San Ve Tic A S Turkey have 40% each and will jointly run the airport company.

Located on the Asian side of the Bosphorus the airport processed 2.9million passengers in 2006. Istanbul is one of the fastest growing markets in the world with traffic for the combined airports up 12.3 million to 24.2 million passengers in the last 3 years.



Sabiha Gokcen Airport, at the crossroads of two continents

### Dubai Aerospace Enterprise



Dubai Aerospace Enterprise set to change the face of the world's aerospace

Seeking to match the aspirations of UAE airline Emirates, Dubai Aerospace Enterprise (DAE), is rapidly expanding its aerospace manufacturing and services division and has announced the formal completion of its acquisition of aviation service providers Standard Aero and Landmark Aviation from The Carlyle Group. The transaction, which joins SR

Technics and Doncasters, brings together key players in the world of maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO).

DAE's ambition is to build a global aerospace, manufacturing and services corporation, which in the next 10 years will become an integral part of the global aerospace industry and a leading player on the world stage. It is programmed to invest over \$15bn in key strategic investments and has established six divisions: DAE Capital, DAE Manufacturing, DAE Airports, DAE University, DAE Engineering and DAE Services.

DAE is planning an integrated aerospace cluster, based at Dubai World Central – the new 140 square kilometre airport and logistics city being constructed in Jebel Ali, Dubai.

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- Very Light Jets—The Future?
- Six-month period of proving trials at T5.
- Singapore Airlines gets ready for its big day.

# Air Astana Traffic up in 2007



Team Astana “supporting” one-another during this year’s Tour de France

zakhstan’s flag airline, must be thrilled with its current results carrying 970,000 passengers in the first half of 2007, up 42% on the previous year. It hopes to carry more than 2 million passengers for the full year.

Air Astana is a joint venture owned by the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan (51%) and BAE Systems (49%). It has a fleet of 18 aircraft with a recent delivery of two 767-300ERs, two A320s and two A321s. It expects to nearly double its fleet in the next five years.

Air Astana and Lufthansa recently signed a code-share agreement. LH operates a daily Frankfurt-Almaty service with twice-weekly ongoing service to Astana. Currently LH Cargo uses Astana airport as an intermediate hub.

Working on the principle that any publicity is good publicity, despite the ramifications of the Alexander Vinokourov drug scandal in this year’s Tour de France, Air Astana, Ka-

The City of Astana itself has an estimated population of 577,300, is the capital and second largest city (after Almaty) of Kazakhstan .

## Vancouver gears up for XXI Winter Olympics

Vancouver International Airport, the second largest airport in Canada after Toronto Pearson, handled 16,929,233 passengers in 2006, an increase of 3.1% on the previous year.

The airport is currently developing a 2007-2027 Master Plan and Land Use Plan. A key part of the plan is integration of a rapid transit line running from Richmond to the airport to downtown Vancouver which is planned to be completed in time for the 2010 XXI Winter Olympics. This will be only the third Olympics that have been hosted by Canada, and the first by the province of British Columbia itself.

The rapid transit for which Vancouver International Airport is contributing up to \$300 million out of a total cost of \$2 billion will include a Link Building which has cost \$117 million, completed in March 2007 to allow a docking area for users of the line and a link to the international and domestic terminals. Further developments include a nine-gate international terminal expansion with new gates for conventional wide-bodied aircraft and two gates able to accommodate the Airbus A380. All this is planned to be complete in time for the opening of the Games.



Vancouver gears up for XXI Winter Olympics which start in February 2010

## Very Light Jets—The Future?

Manufacturer	VLJ
Adam Aircraft Industries	A700
Aviation Technology Group (ATG)	Javelin MK-10
Cessna	Cessna Mustang
Eclipse Aviation	Eclipse 500
Embraer	Embraer Phenom 100
Epic Aircraft	Epic Elite Jet
Eviation Jets	EV-20 Vantage Jet
Honda Aircraft Company	HondaJet
Spectrum Aeronautical	Spectrum 33
Cirrus design Corp	Cirrus Jet
Diamond Aircraft Industries	*Diamond D-JET
Epic Aircraft	*Epic Victory
Excel-Jet	*Sport-Jet
Maverick Jets, Inc.	*SoloJet
Piper Aircraft, Inc.	*PiperJet
* Single Engine VLJ	

Much talk is currently being made of Very Light Jets which are claimed will revolutionise executive travel in the near future. As their name suggests VLJ’s are jet aircraft, made of lightweight composite materials (typically weighing 10,000 pounds or less) with a ticket-price of as little as \$1.0M, putting them well within the reach of businesses, groups or wealthy individuals. The key feature is that they are certificated for single pilot operations making them potentially viable for cheap air taxi operations. Flying higher (and therefore smoother and quicker) than current propeller aircraft, they are also able to operate from short runways and will allow travellers to bypass busy airports.

These aircraft will possess advanced cockpit automation, including moving map GPS, automated engine and systems management; and integrated flight-guidance systems. Could this be the way forward for travel in the future?

## Seats on the first A380 flight auctioned on eBay

Airbus will deliver the first A380 to Singapore Airlines on October 15<sup>th</sup> 2007, with the carrier's first flight planned for October 25<sup>th</sup> from Singapore to Sydney. Seats on the first flight are being auctioned via eBay with all the proceeds being donated to charity. The return Sydney-Singapore flight is scheduled for Oct. 26.

Clearly everyone at the airline will be keenly anticipating the delivery of this new plane and the first flight will indeed be one of the most exciting occasions in aviation history. Much fanfare will herald the departure of the plane which will be configured with 471 seats in three classes.

Under the original A380 delivery programme the first aircraft was scheduled to be delivered to SIA in May 2006 but following much publicised program delays Airbus will be pleased to see its first baby start commercial operations. Total orders and commitments for the A380 stand at 173 by 14 customers. The manufacturer claims the aircraft will have a per-passenger fuel efficiency of 2.9 lit. per 100 km.



Singapore Airlines gets ready for its big day.

## Flybe leads the way with Exeter College



New aviation college for Flybe

Regional airline Flybe has appointed Exeter College as its lead academic partner for its new training academy, scheduled to open in the autumn. The college, in collaboration with Exeter University, beat off competition from eight regional providers, and will be involved in training the existing 3,000 Flybe staff, and joint planning for the academy. Based in Exeter, the new training facility will house learning solutions for employees across the airline's range of job functions and is expected to create further job opportunities in the South West, according to Flybe.

A new world-class training facility at Exeter will provide a range of resources and learning solutions for employees across the airline's range of job functions and is hoped will significantly underpin its future success.

## Astraea Programme

There is growing awareness in the defence sector that the capability and cost advantages presented by unmanned air vehicles (UAVs) could mean decreasing need for manned military aircraft. UAVs could also revolutionise other aviation areas with potential uses ranging from aerial mapping and border control to traffic management and search and rescue.

Several of the key players in the UK Aerospace industry are gathering in Bristol in October at the Astraea Programme Unmanned Systems National Conference to discuss the implications of this new technology. These include partners in the ASTRAEA programme which stands for Autonomous Systems Technology Related Airborne Evaluation & Assessment which is looking at ways for using our air space for unmanned systems.

A neat example of the use of the technology was at a pop festival in Staffordshire recently where a remote control drone was being used in the festival's car park to catch criminals attempting to break into vehicles.



Unmanned Aerial Vehicles have increased uses and will be under discussion at the Astraea conference details can be found on [www.astraea.aero](http://www.astraea.aero)

# Heathrow Terminal 5



Date set for big opening of Heathrow Terminal 5

Thursday 27 March 2008 will be an important day in the history of London Heathrow Airport. That will be the date Terminal 5 (T5) will open for the first time to the world's passengers.

Airport operator BAA has at last announced the opening date for the new facility which will become a new home for British Airways. It will be expected to serve around 30 million passengers a year.

An intensive six-month period of proving trials will begin in September when over 16,000 people will be recruited to act as passengers and thoroughly test every aspect of the building including car parking, check-in, baggage systems, IT systems and security.

BAA is using the opening of T5 as an opportunity to transform the rest of Heathrow into a world-class international gateway. Over the next few years almost the entire airport will be rebuilt, refurbished or redesigned.

## Nice luggage...

Security officers at Cairo Airport have recently thwarted an attempt by a passenger to smuggle reptiles including 265 baby Nile crocodiles. The Saudi-bound passenger was stopped at the departure gate when the X-ray machine revealed something strange in his two carry-on bags. A large number of reptiles, including live snakes, baby crocodiles and chameleons were found in the bags when police opened them. A technical committee, including experts from Giza Zoo, has been formed to inspect the reptiles carried in the luggage of the passenger, who said he bought the animals for scientific research.

One other spokesperson said "I'd say these crocodiles were going to be sold to [Gulf] princes so they could wallow in pools at luxury villas"- I suppose that might liven up a refreshing midnight dip!



Bag courtesy Jill Moger

"Did you pack this bag yourself?"

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