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**ADB Safegate has announced its airfield-related OFDM-based power line communication platform, LINC 360.** This solution provides a 360°, real-time view of the airfield, facilitating quicker control and monitoring of airfield assets, along with the collection of sensor data. The telemetry uses the current airfield lighting power circuit to transmit the data at high rates that are unaffected by external interference. ADB Safegate global product manager Nicholas Ververken said: "For assets and tools to be able to communicate with each other in real-time, a robust, fast, and reliable communications infrastructure is essential. LINC 360 is one of the building blocks of this communications infrastructure that we're creating. What sets it apart from existing power line communication systems is its ability to transmit data two ways to and from assets at high speeds to fulfil the data needs of tomorrow, thus moving beyond pure ILCMS." The solution's data rate has the capacity to transmit bigger payloads downstream for addressing signage with 'flexible' messaging. To ensure cost-effective migration, the current airfield ground lighting cabling infrastructure is utilised as a communication channel.

**SITA has made its Digital Travel Declaration solution for sharing passenger travel and health documentation available free of charge to governments globally.** Recent research from IATA highlighted that of 50 countries surveyed, 38 had some form of Covid restriction on who could enter. For many countries, economic recovery from the Covid pandemic relies heavily on travel and tourism. However, inefficiencies and a lack of common standards around managing health documentation remain the single biggest obstacle to rebuilding the travel and tourism industry and supporting economic growth. David Lavorel, CEO of SITA at Airports and Borders said: "In many cases, today's onerous health requirements are discouraging travellers from flying or leading to long lines at airports. As an industry-owned organization working at the crossroads of airlines, airports, and governments, we are able to connect the dots and streamline processes around health documentation. Making Digital Travel Declaration freely available to governments will be an investment in the recovery of our industry, and we hope will go some way towards addressing the challenges we all face today."

SITA has worked closely with governments, leveraging its Electronic Travel Authorization solution to deliver a health-oriented travel declaration that informs governments on passenger health status in advance of travel and optionally issues authority to travel. Digital Travel Declaration has been operational and used by governments around the world since October 2020, making it easy for travellers to complete health declarations in a few quick steps. A response is shared as proof of approval to travel, so the passenger can demonstrate to airlines and airports that they have all the correct documentation. SITA is offering the entry level configuration of its Digital Travel Declaration solution free of charge to all governments for a period of 12 months.

While SITA's Digital Travel Declaration addresses the current health documentation required during the Covid pandemic, it can be used to streamline the introduction of other travel requirements, such as future pandemics, local health concerns, or more traditional security and immigration travel authorizations.

**A new report by market research provider Valour Consultancy has predicted that the total number of biometrically enabled passenger touchpoints in airports globally will rise to almost 51,000 by 2030 – up from 12,079 at the end of 2020.** This shift will be driven by airlines and airport operators working to modernise the sector, improve operational efficiency and reassure travellers of Covid safety measures. The 12-month research project was conducted in partnership with P.A.ID Strategies, an expert in payments, authentication, identity, security, and connectivity technologies. Despite the ongoing disruption and uncertainty affecting the aviation industry, the market for self-service and automated passenger-facing touchpoints in airports has continued to grow. As of 2020, more than 50,000 smart touchpoints have been installed at airports globally, with nearly 24% of these possessing biometric capabilities. According to the report, biometric integration into touchpoints will only gather pace, hastening the transition to the long-promised seamless passenger journey.

“While many installations in 2020 were part of projects initiated pre-Covid, growth toward the end of the year was aided by airports and airlines investing to encourage travellers back and provide safety reassurance,” said report co-author and senior research consultant, Craig Foster. John Devlin, senior analyst and co-author, went on to highlight differences in the adoption of biometrics by touchpoint. “Most of us will be familiar with a biometric face scan when we use automated border control (ABC) e-gates, and this kind of technology will increasingly be found in check-in kiosks, self-bag-drop machines and other e-gates going forward. The self-boarding gate market looks particularly promising, with vendors attracted by high volumes, while airlines and airports can realize efficiency gains, reduce turn time, and redeploy staff to focus on travellers in most need of assistance. Further, growing use within a border control context will help push biometric penetration in self-boarding gates to 78% by 2030. Meanwhile, next year’s deadline for the EU’s Entry-Exit System is boosting installation of immigration kiosks and smart border infrastructure and platforms.”

The report also reveals how self bag-drop is expected to be one of the most lucrative touchpoints, generating USD 502 million in revenues over the 10-year forecast period. Integration of biometrics into this touchpoint is currently quite low at 14% but is set to grow rapidly over the next few years.

“There exists a sizeable installed base of non-biometric units in certain key markets like Europe, many of which will be upgraded to include biometrics as privacy concerns are overcome and stakeholders look to further improve passenger processing times,” said Foster. “In the USA, TSA regulations stating that passenger identity must be verified by an agent and linked to checked luggage are being relaxed, adding further impetus to biometric integration.”

Aside from how smart, biometrically enabled touchpoints can free up existing airport space to be used in more flexible layouts and generally enhance the passenger experience, the report delves into various other elements of the business case for these technologies. This includes how airlines and airport operators can benefit from the development of new business and operational models with a reduced budget and workforce. The study also considers how self-service and automation technology has the potential to dramatically increase ancillary revenues on-site, off-site and even in the air.

**Perth, Australia-based industrial fabricators, and manufacturers OEM Group Pty Ltd has recently acquired AMS GSE, a global supplier of ground support equipment.** OEM Group supplies a number of industry sectors with a wide range of manufactured products and services that includes high pressure cleaners, industrial vacuums, and space heaters. It also supplies industrial equipment like safety access work platforms, safety jacking stands and other engineered custom solutions that have been fabricated to a clients’ specifications. CEO Vincent Allegre said that the company has been involved in manufacturing maintenance access platforms for the aviation industry for airlines throughout Australia, which makes the acquisition of AMS GSE a natural extension for OEM Group, significantly expanding its aviation component. AMS GSE had been long regarded as an innovator in the GSE marketplace with its bespoke manufactured product range having patented designs specialising in manufacturing aircraft passenger access boarding stairs (fixed and self-levelling), assisted passenger access lifts (DPLs), baggage trollies and de-icing units.

AMS GSE’s Tasmanian workshop has now been closed and moved to Perth in August 2021. Allegre said that the newly expanded aviation department is “doing very well, with orders already exceeding budgeted projections in the first few months for local operations”.

**Ground support equipment supplier Rushlift is to lease 650 new vehicles to Menzies Aviation's ground handling operations at London Heathrow and Gatwick airports for six years.** The multimillion-pound contract will provide a fleet of pushback tugs and Hi loaders from Trepel; and mobile conveyor belts and electric baggage and pushback tugs from TLD. The staged rollout, which is already underway, will continue to July 2022 and is timed to align with the expected resurgence in passenger air travel.

Tim Willett, operations director at Rushlift: said, "This contract further underscores Rushlift's capability to support large corporations. In line with Menzies' environmental objectives, we will be introducing a number of electric GSE vehicles over the six-year term of the contract. We are also exploring alternative fuel options, including biofuels and hydrogen. One of the huge advantages of being a subsidiary of Doosan – a global engineering enterprise – is that we have access to a world-leading team of specialists dedicated to researching sustainable, alternative fuels."

**Leonardo in Italy recently announced SnowBOSS, a Runway Incursion Warning System (RIWS) module and a part of the AeroBOSS Airport Safety and Operations Suite.** The hardware and software are deployed in airport ground vehicles, which allows staff to track movements of the vehicles while also giving operators an embedded RIWS, which is fully compliant with the FAA Advisory Circular (150/5210-25A) for RIWS. "It allows the snow removal team and airport supervisors to see in real time where the fleet is, to see in real time where aircraft are located on the surface and in the air, and gives them situational awareness," said Carlos Nevarez, product manager for the AeroBOSS suite. "They're able to coordinate snow removal operations in all areas of the airport – not just the movement area, during all types of winter weather and during irregular operations (IROPS)."

The units are mounted inside the cab of ground and snow removal vehicles track the vehicle location. The SnowBOSS RIWS functionality warns operators if they're going to enter a runway safety area before entry is made. If they're not cleared to enter the runway safety area, the operator has sufficient time to stop or change direction before creating a Vehicle Pedestrian Driver (VPD) incursion.

"When a snow removal team is out there, often times it's not the best visibility," Nevarez said. "By having that RIWS component, it's improving the safety of that operation in relation to the runway safety areas or any other areas the airport flags as critical spaces." The SnowBOSS allows snow removal team leads to coordinate where the crew goes to work around traffic flow of aircraft. This reduces idle time and reduces costs to clear the airfield in a snow event.

## **Inter Airport Europe**

**The 23<sup>rd</sup> annual inter airport Europe show takes place from 9 to 12 November 2021 at the Munich Trade Fair Centre Munich, Germany.** A total of 332 exhibitors from 29 countries present their latest developments and solutions for aircraft, passenger and cargo handling, security and airport IT, architectural components as well as ground support. The most important exhibitor countries, besides Germany, are Italy, France, the Netherlands, and the UK.

At this year's show, visitors can expect a comprehensive seminar programme which is organised in partnership with SMART Airports for the first time. The seminars take place in hall B6 and are available to all attendees.

The Online Show Preview contains hundreds of exhibitor profiles and product descriptions and is available on the inter airport Europe website: [www.interairporteurope.com](http://www.interairporteurope.com).

**Innovation Awards 2021:** This year, inter airport Europe once again presents the Innovation Awards in four categories: Terminal, GSE, Data/Digitalisation and Sustainability. The entire airport industry was invited to participate in the vote on the official inter airport Europe website and have voted the winners in each category.

**Terminal Award:** Covers the latest products & services in the vast array of terminal operations, infrastructure and technical installations as well as interior specifications and furnishings, architectural components and other design elements. **Winner: Dynel GmbH, Austria.**

**Data Award:** Showcases the latest products & services of specialist hardware and software for a modern, interactive airport. **Winner: MC Solutions Srl, Italy.**

**GSE Award:** Encompasses the latest products & services in the key areas of ground support equipment, ground handling and airfield construction and installations. **Winner: S.C. Electro Max Srl, Romania.**  
**Sustainability Award:** This special award rewards visionary, innovative and striking new ideas, products and services that are providing sustainable solutions for the future airport. **Winner: Midstream Lighting Ltd, UK.**

**Publisher's note:** The articles in this special report, compiled for **inter airport Europe**, are samples from the biweekly **Momberger Airport Information** newsletter, published since 1973. The newsletter is an advertising-free, global airport news service that consists of 8 modules and allows subscribers to customize their own newsletter package. The items in this report represent only a small sample of **Momberger Airport Information**. The modules that make up the biweekly newsletter are Airport Development (DEV), Calendar of Events (CAL), and the subscriber-selectable modules Airport Operations (OPS), Ground Support Equipment (GSE), Air Traffic Services (ATC), Consultant & Contractor / Sustainable Aviation (CON), Airport Information Technology (AIT), and Maintenance Base & FBO (MRO). For more information and to order an annual subscription, please visit [www.mombergerairport.info](http://www.mombergerairport.info)