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Editorial office / Subscriptions; Phone: +1 519 833 4642, e-mail: [info@mombergerairport.info](mailto:info@mombergerairport.info)  
Managing Editor / Publisher: Martin Lamprecht [martin@mombergerairport.info](mailto:martin@mombergerairport.info)

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**Birmingham Airport (BHX) in the UK has upgraded its airport management and aeronautical billing system to Veovo's Intelligent Airport Platform, to improve partner collaboration and decision making across the airport.** Veovo's Intelligent Airport Platform is a total airport management system. Applications are available as standalone modules or integrated components that include flight management and AODB, resource management, guest engagement (FIDS), revenue management, passenger flow and queue management, capacity optimisation and forecasting. These modules have been designed to work together to deliver the insights, AI-powered recommendations and automation needed to ensure an all-around improved airport.

BHX has also upgraded to Veovo's Revenue Management, its aeronautical charge management and billing engine. With new capabilities, including end-to-end billing cycle automation and smart exception handling, the airport has seen a reduction in cost and time spent invoicing airline customers.

Veovo's web-based flight management and airport operational database (AODB) connects data from multiple airports, air traffic and airline systems to provide staff with real-time situational clarity wherever they are, ensuring faster aircraft turnaround. With role-specific views, alerts and recommendations, the airport and its aviation partners can take proactive decisions as events unfold, which is expected to deliver improvements to flight operations and the passenger experience. The platform also addresses passenger communications, with flight information display (FIDS) content automatically tailored by flight, location, and traveller needs.

### **Transoft Solutions updates its aviation obstacle clearance and limitation tool, SkySAFE**

In a live release webinar, Transoft Solutions unveiled the new features available in version 2.2 of its obstacle clearance and limitation tool, SkySAFE. Primarily used for safeguarding the operational areas in and around airports, SkySAFE is an advanced CAD-based software that assists airport planners with obstacle limitation analysis and clearance compliance. Being able to analyze the impact of permanent and temporary obstacles both at the airport and within its extended operational environment is a vital safety task that every airport must perform.

SkySAFE allows accurate and efficient analysis of fixed and temporary obstacles, to avoid penetrating or threatening the obstacle limitation surfaces defined in regulatory guidelines. The software can be used to assess compliance with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) regulations, as well as several other national regulatory frameworks. This latest version includes support for FAA AC 150/5300-13B and EASA CS-ADR-DSN Issue 6 regulations.

SkySAFE 2.2 offers several new and improved functions, with the most significant being an all-new command to perform ICAO, EASA, and PSA (France) PAPI/APAPI surface analyses. The tool can be used to define the PAPI/APAPI parameters for each runway end in terms of the glidepath slope, the pilot's eye height in relation to the instrument landing system (ILS) antenna (if applicable), the main gear height above the runway as it crosses the threshold, and the wingbar displacement from the runway end. This is

to ensure the proper light color visibility for the pilot upon approach. SkySAFE 2.2 also includes compatibility with the latest 2023 editions of Autodesk's AutoCAD® and Civil 3D® products.

**INFORM in Germany has announced that it has recognised Singapore's SATS, Asia's leading provider of food solutions and gateway services, and the chief ground-handling and in-flight catering service provider at Singapore Changi Airport (SIN), with its first INFORM Aviation Award.** INFORM's senior vice president and head of the Aviation Division, Uschi Schulte-Sasse, stated that the award was given to SATS in recognition of its innovative approach to implementing a complex software solution completely remote in close cooperation with INFORM's team across continents. The award was presented to SATS senior vice president and group head of technology Donald Lum at INFORM's recent GroundStar User Conference 2022 in Seattle, Washington. "Our SATS project was barely signed when the pandemic hit. Thus, there was no familiarity with GroundStar at all, but the SATS team was highly motivated to be up and running when the COVID-19 restrictions lifted. With that said, together SATS and INFORM embarked on a new, pioneering approach wherein all implementation activities would be conducted virtually and fully-remotely, something unheard of before the pandemic," Schulte-Sasse said.

Despite the time and cultural differences, the SATS and INFORM teams worked tirelessly and seamlessly to implement the INFORM software. Extensive joint digital sessions, full technical set-up, meetings, and trainings were conducted remotely. Full project and management activities were all done virtually. In the end, SATS even gained further valuable benefits from the remotely implemented project over the traditional method. Specifically, the combination of live and recorded sessions made reviews and follow-up training easier. Additionally, SATS had the option of relying on earlier training content and past configurations for iterations, as well as conveniently tracking them. From a fiscal standpoint, the elimination of considerable travel also generated cost savings.

In addition to proving that remote implementation of complex software projects is not only viable but beneficial, SATS' fully integrated and implemented software project has provided the organisation with enhanced decision-making, increased productivity, improved performance, and better communications.

**Leidos has announced the first Terminal Flight Data Manager (TFDM) system operational at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport (CLE).** The system, developed for the FAA, will reduce runway departure queues, and allow for streamlined operations in the airport's air traffic control tower. TFDM is a tower-based Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen) technology that improves surface management and efficiency. The system shares electronic data among controllers, air traffic managers, aircraft operators and airports to stage arrivals and departures while managing surface traffic flow.

Leidos is the prime contractor and lead integrator developing and implementing TFDM. Leidos teams perform program management, systems engineering, design and development, system integration and testing, adaptation, hardware production and site implementation. With its deployment, Leidos will continue to provide maintenance support services to maintain the system's functionality.

A second deployment build is planned for Charlotte Douglas International Airport (CLT) in 2024. Build 2.0 will provide additional tools and expand data sharing to flight operators and other stakeholders. TFDM implementation will continue to additional airports across the US over the next several years.

**Threat detection company Liberty Defence Holdings has begun beta testing of its Hexwave walkthrough security detection portal with the Greater Toronto Airports Authority (GTAA) at Toronto Pearson International Airport in Canada.** The trial began on 1 November 2022 and will continue for a period of two weeks.

Hexwave uses 3D radar imaging and AI technologies to detect and identify metallic and non-metallic concealed weapons and other threats, providing security operators with a real-time, automatic go/no-go decision. According to Liberty Defence Holdings, there is no need to stop and remove keys, cell phones or other items from pockets while passing through the system. The system protects privacy by not personalizing image data, and images can never be seen by an operator. The operator only receives real-time information about threat type and location as people pass through the system.

The airport plans to operate the trial in multiple areas of the airport by conducting voluntary screening in an employee area and a location at the perimeter of the airport, including an entrance from the terminal parking garage. Liberty Defence will use the beta site as an opportunity to further test and train the system to continue improving Hexwave's AI and machine learning algorithms, while also gathering user feedback.

**Birmingham Airport (BHX) in the UK has begun work on its new GBP 20 million security screening area.** The airport's contractors, Tilbury Douglas, began work on 25 October 2022. Initial steps include setting up site compounds before moving on with the project itself. BHX's landside Burger King and Frankie & Benny's eateries have closed to accommodate the new screening area. The facility, which is being built within the existing terminal building, is expected to result in a speedier, simpler pre-flight security screening process for customers. The project coincides with the UK Government's requirement for all airports to be compliant with its new standards by June 1, 2024 – which is also the completion deadline for the project. In its 2018 masterplan, BHX outlined its intention to grow customer volumes from 12 million a year (before the Covid-19 pandemic) to 18 million a year by 2033. The improved security screening area is expected to support growth of up to 18 million passengers a year and, in turn, help drive economic growth in the West Midlands region.

**Munich Airport (MUC) in Germany has begun a 60-day trial of an express queue reservation system.** The system is expected to improve passenger flow ahead of security checkpoints in Terminal 1 (T1), thus reducing waiting times. Air travellers departing for destinations in non-Schengen countries now have the option to secure a 30-minute window for access to security checkpoints and passport control, free of charge. Passengers can book an express queue slot on the airport's website. The service is available daily from 6:00am to 3:00pm at the security checkpoints in departure areas B and C of T1. The last available slot is no later than 90 min before departure time. Once through check-in, passengers wishing to use the express queue must arrive at the express queue entrance in front of the security checkpoint within their time slot. By scanning the QR code on their booking confirmation, passengers can go straight to the security checkpoint via this separate entrance. The same QR code also provides fast-track access to passport control.

**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)