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Avinor, Norway's state-owned airport operator, has chosen Netcompany to assist with the digitalization of its 43 airports and airspace management. The NOK 1.2 billion (USD 116 million) contract spans three years and involves the digitalization of operational processes and commercial activities at the airports.

The partnership aims to use new technology to enhance customer experiences, improve operations for passengers and airlines, and increase value creation at Norway's airports. Avinor welcomed 49 million passengers in 2023, with Oslo Airport handling more than half of them. The collaboration with Netcompany is expected to benefit various aspects of aviation operations.

Finnish company Moventor has announced a partnership with Stansted Airport in the UK to enhance runway safety and efficiency. Stansted Airport, which experiences high traffic volume with over 159,000 aircraft movements in 2022, sought to upgrade its runway safety mechanisms. Moventor was chosen as the preferred supplier due to its expertise in friction measurement solutions, adaptable hardware and software, and positive client feedback.

As part of the partnership, Moventor provided a tailored solution, including two Skiddometer BV11 trailers and a Water Measurement System, integrated into the Web Service Premium package. This allows Stansted Airport to access real-time data for optimizing maintenance schedules and reducing operational costs.

The collaboration underscores Moventor's commitment to innovating airport safety and efficiency, with a focus on making runways safer.

BEUMER Group has secured a contract to design and install a new, state-of-the-art baggage handling system (BHS) for Heathrow Airport's Terminal 2 (United Kingdom). This six-year project is a key part of the transformation of the Central Terminal Area at Heathrow, which is the UK's primary global transportation hub and the largest airport in Europe.

The new BHS, once completed, will have the capacity to handle 31,000 bags per day, offering improved resilience and reliability. It will incorporate advanced technology, including better data analytics, ensuring a predictable and high-quality service for customers.

The BHS upgrade is a precursor to the demolition of Terminal 1, which has been closed since 2015, and will enable significant redevelopment within the airport's Central Terminal Area.

The new BEUMER BHS will be designed for 100% tracking and traceability of baggage throughout the handling process. Its modular design facilitates future expansion. The system will not only benefit passengers but also support the commitment to providing a safe and efficient work environment for airline and ground handler partners, including improvements for manual handling roles.

London Gatwick (United Kingdom) has inaugurated the first Electric Forecourt® at an international airport, a dedicated EV charging station provided by GRIDSERVE. It features 30 electric vehicle chargers, offering both high and low-power options, accessible 24/7 with contactless

payment. The facility includes amenities such as high-speed Wi-Fi, a lounge, and stores. Powered by 100% net zero energy, the chargers can add up to 100 miles of range in 10 minutes.

This move is part of Gatwick's broader sustainability efforts, aiming for a low-carbon economy and supporting the airport's journey to net zero. The Electric Forecourt® is a significant addition to Gatwick's ongoing environmental commitments, aligning with its ambition for 60% of journeys to and from the airport to be zero or ultra-low emissions by 2030.

Vision-Box, in partnership with ANA – Aeroportos de Portugal/Vinci Airports, has introduced the "Biometric Experience by Vinci Airports" at five Portuguese airports. The program initially launched at Lisbon and Porto airports and will expand to Faro, Funchal, and Ponta Delgada in the second half of 2024. This initiative allows passengers to use facial recognition technology for seamless travel experiences. Passengers can enrol at home through ANA Aeroportos' mobile app or at Vision-Box's self-service check-in kiosks at the airport.

Once enrolled, travellers can use facial recognition for security gates and boarding processes on selected flights. The technology relies on AI-enabled facial recognition algorithms, providing convenience and security.

Oshkosh Airport Products, a division of Oshkosh Corporation, has delivered two Oshkosh Striker 4x4 and one Striker 6x6 Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) vehicles to the recently opened Tulum International Airport in Mexico. This delivery is part of Mexico's effort to enhance its aviation infrastructure and emergency response capabilities. The airport, which opened in December 2023, exclusively operates Oshkosh Striker vehicles, highlighting their trustworthiness. These ARFF vehicles are equipped to handle the challenging environmental conditions in Southeast Mexico, with features like a Snozzle, advanced suspension, and cooling systems.

Hyderabad's Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (HYD) has partnered with German provider Materna IPS to integrate over 50 self-service systems aimed at enhancing the passenger experience. The self-service kiosks follow a modular approach and are designed to reduce waiting times, utilizing a 2-step process for baggage drop-off. These self-service systems are equipped with tub dispensers and shutter doors, ensuring secure and smooth bag drop procedures. IndiGo and Air Vistara are the first airlines to offer this new technology to their passengers at the airport.

Materna IPS, a prominent supplier in the airport and airline industry, views this project as an opportunity to expand its presence in the Indian market and emphasizes the significance of self-service solutions in streamlining baggage handling, particularly as passenger numbers continue to rise.

Ink Innovation, a travel technology provider, has formed a strategic partnership with Azinq, a specialist in airport software, to expand its airport solutions capabilities. This partnership offers an integrated solution combining Airport Hive and Ink Cloud to replace legacy Airport Management Systems and Common Use systems at airports.

The solution aims to help airports modernize, improve operational efficiency, and prepare for future airline needs. The collaboration is focused on streamlining airport operations, reducing costs, and enhancing non-aviation revenue through advanced retailing capabilities.

Ink and Azinq's cloud-based platforms facilitate quick and cost-effective deployment and management of their solutions.

Publisher's note: The articles in this special report, compiled for **inter airport Europe**, are a few select samples from the biweekly **Momberger Airport Information** newsletter, published since 1973. The newsletter is an advertising-free, global airport news service that consists of 9 modules and allows subscribers to customize their own newsletter package. The modules that make up the biweekly newsletter are: Airport Development (DEV), Calendar of Events (CAL), and the subscriber-selectable modules Airport Operations (OPS), Management, Ownership & Finance (MGT), 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, a sample of a complete newsletter issue, and to order an annual subscription, please visit www.mombergerairport.info