

## for inter airport Europe from Momberger Airport Information #1225 / September 16, 2024

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**Munich Airport (Germany) has received its first delivery of ten electric passenger buses from MAN Truck & Bus Germany as part of its "Net Zero 2035" sustainability strategy.** By the end of the year, AeroGround, a subsidiary of Munich Airport, will operate 27 additional electric buses, with the option to purchase 25 more. This shift aims to make 50% of the apron vehicle fleet emission-free by year's end, and the entire fleet climate-friendly by 2030.

The electric buses, including 12-meter solo and 18-meter articulated models, feature innovations in comfort, safety, and energy efficiency, such as improved air conditioning systems. Munich Airport's electrification project, funded by the German Federal Ministry of Digital and Transport with EUR 23.8 million, aligns with the airport's goal of eliminating CO2 emissions by 2035. The airport is also expanding its charging infrastructure to support the growing e-bus fleet.

**ADB SAFEGATE has selected Searidge Technologies to provide its Virtual Ramp Control System (VRCS) and Smart Stand technology for The New Terminal One at JFK Airport (New York, United States).** As part of JFK's USD 19 billion transformation, The New Terminal One will feature 23 gates, with the first phase opening in 2026. Searidge's VRCS and AI-powered Smart Stand will enhance safety and efficiency by autonomously tracking aircraft turnaround processes and providing real-time updates to ramp controllers, helping to manage traffic and prevent delays. This collaboration aims to deliver the most efficient and safest ramp operation in America, integrating advanced technologies to optimise resource utilisation and improve passenger satisfaction. Full system implementation is expected by Fall 2025.

**Aurrigo International plc, a leading provider of smart airside solutions, has opened its first U.S. office at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (Kentucky) inside the Delta Cargo building.** This new facility will support the deployment of Aurrigo's Auto-DollyTug, a fully electric, autonomous vehicle designed to transport cargo and baggage efficiently, reducing carbon emissions by up to 60% compared to traditional diesel tugs. The site will house a new team, including the company's first U.S. Autonomous Vehicle Safety Operator, and will focus on expanding operations and exploring new ventures in the U.S. market.

The Auto-DollyTug integrates the functions of a baggage tractor and an airport dolly, enhancing efficiency by carrying 30% more than a traditional tug setup and autonomously loading and unloading cargo using robotic arms.

**Greenville-Spartanburg International Airport (South Carolina) has begun demonstrating the EZTow autonomous tow tractor, developed by TLD and powered by EasyMile technology.** The driverless vehicle is being used for cargo loading and unloading, operating on a one-mile route in mixed traffic and assisting with baggage handling for Piedmont Airlines. EZTow autonomously transports baggage from arriving planes to the baggage claim carousel, showcasing GSP's commitment to advanced technology for safer, more efficient, and sustainable airport operations. Previously proven at airports like

Singapore's Changi and Japan's Narita, EZTow's deployment at GSP positions the airport as a leader in integrating autonomous solutions into airport logistics.

**Alstom has secured an USD 84 million contract to upgrade the automated people mover (APM) system at Harry Reid International Airport in Las Vegas, Nevada (United States).** The project includes delivering ten new Innovia APM cars, upgrading the Urbalis Flo signalling system, enhancing telecommunications, and integrating a cybersecurity solution. The upgrades aim to improve efficiency, safety, and sustainability, continuing Alstom's long-standing partnership with the airport. This project follows similar upgrades by Alstom at airports in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, and Dallas Fort Worth, Texas.

**BEUMER Group introduced its innovative SECTRO security screening solution at the Airports Council International (ACI) 2024 event in Grand Rapids.** SECTRO is a centralised screening system designed to replace traditional linear security screening lines, enhancing operational efficiency by optimizing the flow of passengers and baggage at checkpoints. It uses biometric technology to securely link passengers with their baggage in an automated environment, significantly reducing queues and the risk of lost possessions.

The SECTRO system guides passengers through an automated process that simplifies baggage divestment and body scanning, using self-service stations and biometric data integration to streamline the experience. This flexible design allows for smoother handling of peak passenger flows, preventing bottlenecks and enabling slower passengers to be overtaken without delays. Capable of processing up to 1,000 passengers per hour, SECTRO can integrate seamlessly into existing terminal layouts, providing airports with up to 30 percent savings in operational resources and projected financial benefits of millions of euros over the next decade.

The system addresses the inefficiencies of current manual security screening procedures, offering a modern, efficient, and stress-free alternative that enhances both security and passenger experience. For further information, BEUMER Group is available at Booth 1027 during the ACI 2024 event.

**dnata, a global air and travel services provider, has transitioned all its non-electric airside vehicles and ground support equipment (GSE) at its largest hub in Dubai to operate exclusively on a biodiesel blend.** This shift, achieved in partnership with Dubai Airports and the Emirates National Oil Company Group (ENOC), is expected to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by over 3,500 tonnes annually, equivalent to driving 21 million kilometres in a diesel car. The initiative covers 2,500 vehicles operating at Dubai International (DXB) and Al Maktoum - Dubai World Central (DWC) airports, supporting over 220,000 flights annually.

The move aligns with dnata's broader sustainability strategy, contributing to the UAE's Net Zero 2050 goal. In recent years, dnata has achieved significant environmental improvements, including an 8-26% reduction in carbon intensity across its operations. The company continues investing in renewable energy, modernising its fleet, and promoting responsible driver behaviour to minimise environmental impact. dnata's efforts have earned it the IATA environmental management certification, highlighting its commitment to sustainability.

**TK Elevator (TKE) has renewed a multi-year service contract with Dubai Airports, covering maintenance of nearly 5,000 elevators, escalators, and other equipment, marking a significant milestone for its Universal Service platform in the Middle East.** The contract ensures TKE's continued support at Dubai International Airport (DXB), the world's busiest international airport, servicing 87 million passengers in 2023.

The Universal Service platform enables streamlined maintenance of mobility assets across all brands, enhancing safety and reliability for passengers and staff. Over 100 TKE professionals will service the airport's units, reinforcing TKE's longstanding partnership with Dubai Airports, which began in 2004. The renewed agreement highlights TKE's ability to provide comprehensive maintenance services for multi-brand equipment, supported by a global network of 25,000 technicians and over 1,000 service

centres in more than 100 countries. This approach prioritises safety, sustainability, and efficiency, ensuring high standards of service across diverse vertical transportation systems.

**Peach Aviation announced the introduction of the "Peach BAGGAGE TAG KIOSK," a self-service baggage tag machine, to streamline departure procedures at airports in Japan.**

Starting September 11, these kiosks will be gradually installed at Naha, Narita, Kansai, and New Chitose airports, targeting domestic flight departures.

Passengers who have checked in via the app and registered their baggage can print their tags at the kiosk and drop off their luggage at the designated area without visiting a staffed counter, making the process faster and more convenient. The kiosks support smoother boarding when combined with app check-ins, which can be done 90 to 35 minutes before departure. Peach Aviation continues to enhance customer experience while prioritising safety and expanding its network, including a new Osaka-Singapore route opening in December 2024.

**Green Cubes Technology has introduced a new lithium-ion (Li-ion) battery designed specifically for ground support equipment (GSE) at airports.** The Li-ion batteries offer up to 98% electrical efficiency compared to 80% for traditional lead-acid batteries, and their superior cycle life allows a single battery to efficiently power each piece of equipment.

Utilising LFP (lithium iron phosphate) chemistry, these batteries provide enhanced safety, environmental benefits, and long cycle life. Designed to handle airport challenges, the batteries feature heaters for extreme temperatures, IP54-rated control modules, and advanced diagnostics for reliable performance, supporting the industry's push toward sustainability and reduced carbon emissions.

**SITA, an air transport technology provider, has been selected by the Amazon Airport Concessionaire, part of the VINCI Airports Network, to implement its Airport Management solution across seven airports in Brazil, including Manaus, Porto Velho, and Rio Branco.** The system will enhance operational efficiency, reduce aircraft fuel consumption, and improve passenger experience starting from the second half of 2024.

SITA's solution will optimise airport resources such as check-in counters, baggage carousels, and ground staff, while the "SITA Operations Manager" and other modules will help manage flight data, resource allocation, and passenger information displays. These technologies will enable the eight airports under VINCI's management to consolidate and monitor key performance indicators, improving overall service quality and operational efficiency.

SITA's President for the Americas, Shawn Gregor, emphasised that the technology will help Brazilian airports meet increasing air traffic demand by enhancing operational capabilities. The multi-airport solution will also help reduce costs, increase revenue, and improve airline and passenger satisfaction. Julio Ribas, CEO of VINCI Airports in Brazil, praised the partnership as crucial for post-pandemic growth and operational advancements, particularly in the Brazilian Amazon area. The collaboration continues SITA's expansion in providing advanced technologies that drive efficiency and sustainability in aviation.

**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](http://www.mombergerairport.info)