

*The First Aviation Leaders Forum on*  
**Airports and Airlines Winter Operations**  
*10 October 2011, Andrews Theater, Keflavik Airport, Iceland*

*Organized by the Keilir Aviation Academy in cooperation with AirTransportNews, ACI, AEA, SITA, Icelandair. Kadeco and the Ministry of Transport in Iceland.*

***Patron of the Forum: H.E. Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, President of Iceland***

***Chairman: Dr. Kostas Iatrou, Managing Director Air Transport News***

***Vice-Chairman: Mr. Ulrich Schulte-Strathaus, Secretary General AEA***

***Vice-Chairman: Mrs. Catherine Mayer, Vice President – SITA***



***"I am looking forward to this new and unique forum in Iceland. Safety is our enduring number one priority for airports world-wide and this event will focus our attention specifically to winter conditions. I encourage your attendance at this high level meeting."***

***Angela Gittens, ACI World Director General***



**A Greeting  
from  
the President of Iceland  
Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson**

**Patron of the Conference**

Last year the Keilir Aviation Academy hosted a timely and successful conference on the lessons to be learned from the surprises Mother Earth can still come up with. The Eyjafjallajökull eruption became both the core and the symbol of that much-needed debate. The distinguished gathering of aviation leaders, experts, representatives and officials contributed to making the industry better prepared for next time.

Now Iceland is again bringing aviation stakeholders together. The reason is the need to improve winter operations. The failures last December are still vivid in the minds of millions of people. To be stopped at the airport when you are already in Christmas mood is not a formula for enjoyment!

Why Iceland? – you might ask. The reason is simple. Not only is our country the home of the largest collection of volcanoes in Europe but we also host the biggest glaciers in Europe and guard some gateways to the Arctic. For centuries, winter weather has been a challenge to our nation.

Yet, despite these testing conditions, Iceland has become a successful airline hub in the North-Atlantic, connecting America to Europe for decades; flying when others decided to wait. Short airstrips in narrow fjords have trained our pilots to cope with winter conditions; an experience which has served them well in the international arena.

For all these reasons – and many more – the Keilir Aviation Academy decided to build on last year's success and serve again as a venue for a global dialogue on how airports and airlines can successfully maintain winter operations.

It will be a pleasure to welcome you all.

# Airports and Airlines Winter Operations

## PROGRAM

### Sunday 9 October 2011

- 16 -17.30 Reception by the President of Iceland for Conference Speakers, Sponsors and Press only at *The President's Residence, Bessastadir*
- 18 - 20 Welcoming Reception in Reykjavik's Town Hall by the Mayor of Reykjavik and the Minister of Interior and Transport

### Monday 10 October 2011

**08.00 Registration opens and refreshment coffee.**

**08.45 Opening Ceremony.**  
**Welcome and introduction of the President of Iceland**  
*Hjalmar Arnason, Director of Keilir Atlantic Center of Excellence\**

**Airports and Airlines – The bridge between continents and countries**  
*President of Iceland H.E. Olafur Ragnar Grimsson\**

**09.00 Introduction of the Chairman of the Forum; *Dr Kostas Iatrou, Managing Director Air Transport News***  
*Hjalmar Arnason, Director of Keilir Atlantic Center of Excellence.*

**09.05 Introduction of the Forum and the Keynote Speaker**  
*The Forum's Chairman; Dr Kostas Iatrou, Managing Director Air Transport News\**

**09.10 Keynote speech**

**The priorities and pressures facing airports and their regulators in winter operations.**  
*Angela Gittens, Director General - Airports Council International\**

**09.30 FIRST SESSION – Airports and Airlines Winter Operations - What happened in the winters in 2009 and 2010 and what needs to be done?**  
*Moderator: Catherine Mayer, Vice President - SITA\**

*Catalin Radu, President, ECAC and Director General of Civil Aviation for Romania\**  
*Mr Gernot Kessler, Airport Section Manager – ATM/Airport Department\**  
*Maurice Georges, CEO, DSNA (French ANSP)\**  
*Ulrich Schulte-Strathaus, Secretary General, AEA\**

*Each speaker has 15 minutes to outline their view on the impact of the winter snowfalls in Europe 2009-2010 on the global air transport and tourism. After these presentations, there will be a 20-minutes discussion period including questions from the audience.*

**10.50 Coffee Break**

**11.05 SECOND SESSION – Airports Winter Operations**  
*Moderator: Corinne Belveze, DG Mobility and transport (MOVE)–Airports, European Commission*

*Nic Nilsen, Managing Director - Oslo Airport\**  
*Robert Deillon, CEO - Geneva Airport\**  
*Michael Ehl, Director of Aviation Operations - Seattle-Tacoma International Airport\**  
*Ken Greene, Deputy Manager of Maintenance – Denver International Airport\**

*Paul Baxter, VP Operations – Halifax International Airport\**

*Each speaker has 10 minutes to outline their view on the impact of the winter snowfalls in Europe 2009-2010 on the global air transport and tourism. After these presentations, there will be a 20-minutes discussion period including questions from the audience.*

**12.30 Lunch**

**13.30 THIRD SESSION – Airlines’ Winter Operations – The Impact on European and Global Air Transport**

*Moderator: Dr Andreas Papatheodorou, Senior Advisor DATTEA\**

*Birkir Holm Gudnason, CEO, Icelandair\**

*Janis Vanags, VP Corporate Communications, airBaltic\**

*John Hanlon, Secretary General, ELFAA*

*Arni Gunnarsson, CEO Icelandic Airlines*

*Representative, IFALPA*

*Each speaker has 10 minutes to outline their view on the impact of the winter snowfalls in Europe 2009-2010 on the global air transport and tourism. After these presentations, there will be a 20-minutes discussion period including questions from the audience.*

**14.45 Coffee Break**

**15.00 FOURTH SESSION – Airports and Airlines Winter Operations – the Global Economic and Business Dimension**

*Moderator: Ulrich Schulte-Strathaus, Secretary General, AEA\**

*Narjess Teyssier, Chief Economic Analyses and Databases Section – ICAO\**

*Dr Andreas Papatheodorou, Senior Advisor DATTEA\**

*Dr Rico Merkert, Head of the Centre for Air Transport in Remoter Regions, Cranfield University\**

*Dr. Thorgeir Palsson, Professor Reykjavik University and former Director General of Icelandic Civil Aviation Administration*

*Each speaker has 15 minutes to outline their view on the impact of the winter snowfalls in Europe 2009-2010 on the global air transport and tourism. After these presentations, there will be a 15-minutes discussion period including questions from the audience.*

**16.15 FIFTH SESSION – Weather forecasting, snow removal of runways, aircraft de-icing, training, etc. – Airports and Meteorological Technical Dimension**

*Moderator: Catherine Mayer, Vice President - SITA\**

*Brian Flynn, Head of Network Operations Services, EUROCONTROL\**

*H.J. (Harmen) Abma, Senior R&D Engineer Training, National Aerospace Laboratory\**

*Richard van Bruygom, EVP – Swissport\**

*Leena Neitiniemi-Upola, Training officer, meteorologist, Finnish Meteorological Institute\**

*Søren Brodersen, Senior Meteorologist and Weather Forecaster for Aviation, Danish Meteorological Institute\**

*Theodór Freyr Hervarsson, Director Warning Systems, Icelandic Meteorological Office\**

*Each speaker has 10 minutes to outline their view on the global risk of snow and available technologies for snow removal, deicing technologies weather forecasts, etc. and what development work is in progress for improving these technologies. After these presentations, there will be a 15-minutes discussion period including questions from the audience.*

**17.30 Forum Conclusions and Declaration**

*Forum Chairman: Dr Kostas Iatrou, Managing Director Air Transport News\**

## **The Main Objectives of the Forum:**

During the winter 2010-11 a number of major airports in Europe was taken by surprise and reacted slowly or lacked the equipment needed to cope with the conditions like last winter. Other airports in Europe, Canada, the US, Russia, etc., equally affected by the weather, performed excellently, showing that adverse weather need not necessarily to disrupt operations

Aviation, airports and airlines leaders, experts and policy-makers from all over the world will assemble in Iceland on October 10, 2011 to discuss the lessons learned from the airports and airlines winter operations in Europe in 2009 and 2010 and how technology, rules, regulations, airports equipment, weather forecasts and personal training must be improved before the next winter snowfalls and storms in Europe. We will also like to address the effects of "extreme weather conditions" on airports and airlines operations like in Queensland, Australia, US, etc.

- What has been learned?
- What are the effects of winter snowfalls on airports and airplanes and can they be reduced?
- Technology for snow removal of runways, aircraft de-icing, etc.
- Weather monitoring, reporting and forecasting systems and models.
- What steps are to be taken by airports to minimize the threats that winter snow falls and storms poses to aviation?
- Training of airport operators, etc.

Invited speakers come from civil aviation authorities in Europe, Russia and the US, the European Commission, ACI, AEA, ECAC, EASA, SITA, ICAO, IATA, EUROCONTROL, airlines, airports and air navigation service providers, meteorological offices, as well as personnel from research organizations directly involved in supporting the aviation business and international and regional organizations. Top scientists will address the issues of snowfalls and snow distribution.

### **Discover how the aviation, airports and science communities can work together to increase safety and efficiency in dealing with future winter snowfalls and storms.**

We recommend that you enter these dates into your calendar and confirm your participation without delay by contacting the Forum's Icelandic Secretary. Please refer also to the conference website for details and to download the latest program and register;

<http://en.keilir.net/keilir/conferences/airlinesandaviationwinteroperations>  
<http://www.airtransportnews.aero/aaoperations.pl>

For further information please contact: [conference@keilir.net](mailto:conference@keilir.net)

#### **Organizing Committee**

- *Mr. Hjalmar Arnason - Director of Keilir - Atlantic Centre of Excellence*
- *Capt. Kari Karason, Head of Keilir Aviation Academy*
- *Dr. Thorgeir Palsson, Professor Reykjavik University and former Director General of Icelandic Civil Aviation Administration*
- *Mr. Jóhannes Tómasson, Press Secretary, Ministry of Transport*
- *Mr. Jon Hjaltalin Magnusson, Conference Manager Keilir - Atlantic Centre of Excellence*
- *Mr. Arnbjörn Olafsson, Conference Webmaster, Keilir - Atlantic Centre of Excellence*
- *Dr Kostas Iatrou, Managing Director, Air Transport News*
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