

Brussels Airport

A FLIGHT TO THE FUTURE
OF EUROPE





Brussels Airport

A FLIGHT TO THE FUTURE OF EUROPE

We recently visited Brussels Airport to find out about the new directions the airport is taking, particularly in the areas of sustainability and integrating with other modes of transport in and around the city

RESEARCH BY *Joseph Philips*



Few cities are European in the way that Brussels, the multilingual capital city of Belgium, is. This is reflected by the fact that, as the administrative capital of the EU, it is also known as ‘the capital city of the EU.’ This is where nearly all the important EU-level decisions are made on an ongoing basis - the beating heart of the European project.

In this context, Brussels Airport acts as a nexus for all of Europe. When passing through its terminal, it’s not unusual to bump into well known senior European politicians coming to and from the city. However, they’re not the only ones: in 2018, over 25 million passengers passed through

the airport, from a total of 238 destinations, shuttled by nearly 80 airlines.

We recently by Brussels Airport to find out about the new directions the airport is taking, particularly in the areas of sustainability and integrating with other modes of transport in and around the city. We started by learning about the social and economic impact that it has on Belgium at large.

Social and Economic Impact

One of the standout statistics about Brussels Airport is that it contributes almost 2% to Belgium’s GDP every year, and has an estimated added value of around €3.2 billion to the

“One of the standout statistics about Brussels Airport is that it contributes almost 2% to Belgium’s GDP every year, and has an estimated added value of around €3.2 billion to the country’s economy.”

country’s economy. In terms of employment, it directly employs 24,000 people, but that figure jumps to 60,000 people when indirect employment is accounted for.

Brussels Airport closely works together with regional public employment agencies including VDAB (Flanders), Actiris (Brussels) and Forem (Wallonia) to bring together employers at the airport and jobseekers, and promotes an improved accessibility of the airport by public transport to make sure that they arrive at work.

Making sure that thousands of jobs can be created at Brussels Airport in the coming years and continuing to connect Belgium to the rest of the world is our everyday challenge. In doing

AEROSERVICES

Aeroservices, an aviation handling company started its operations at Brussels Airport during the winter of 2017-2018.

As an expert in winter operations, particularly de-icing, we are making a difference at Brussels Airport. As a flexible and highly qualified handler, we provide support to airlines and active ground handlers for all aviation services.

External cleanings, lavatory & potable water services are some of the services that we offer today.

Our approach at Brussels Airport came after several airlines informed us about some "present" bottlenecks.

We are proud of our team and the goals we have already achieved and will continue to invest in training as well as up-to-date equipment so that we will always make the difference at Brussels Airport.

Our brand new Safeaero de-icing trucks as well as towbarless Douglas trucks can only confirm the above mentioned statement.

www.aeroservices.be

so, the airport strives to achieve the optimal balance between economic growth and the impact on the environment in a stable legal and regulatory framework.

One of the ways in which the airport has a daily impact on the social fabric of the city is by being an intermodal transport hub. That is - unlike most cities - the airport in Brussels is the centre of the action rather than a bus journey into a neighbouring commuter city. Many people already travel by public transport to the airport now, not to catch a plane, but to easily change to another means of transport.

They're using Brussels Airport as a junction where they change to another means of transport on their way to work, school or any other destination. Management at the airport wants to develop this role even more in the future, so we can contribute towards solving the mobility problems in our region.

Building on its role as a mobility hub

Recognizing its role as a mobility hub, the management at Brussels Airport have set out to improve on that for the citizens of Brussels. They envision a future with more train services,

EXPERTS IN WINTER OPERATIONS

- De-icing Services
- Aircraft Servicing
- Airside Assistance

T: +32 477 35 20 66

E: operations@aeroservices.be
aeroservices.be

AS
AERO
SERVICES



VANDERLANDE**Reliable partner for value-added logistic process automation**

Vanderlande is the global market leader for value-added logistic process automation at airports. Its systems are active in 600 airports including 14 of the world's top 20. Vanderlande's extensive portfolio of integrated solutions – innovative systems, intelligent software and life-cycle services – results in the realisation of fast, reliable and efficient automation technology.

> vanderlande.com

MOVING YOUR BUSINESS FORWARD

VANDERLANDE, SETTING THE DIRECTION FOR A LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIP

Since 2019, Vanderlande is working on upgrading the baggage handling system at Brussels Airport. Previously Vanderlande was involved in the implementation of our PAX checkpoint solutions, enabling a secure, seamless, rapid and positive traveling experience for all passengers. Brussels Airport Company is rolling out a large-scale investment programme, including the replacement of the conventional baggage handling system with Vanderlande's innovative ICS technology. New hold baggage screening machines will be integrated to comply with the latest EU standard 3 regulations. The foreseen operational improvements will allow the airport to handle an expected growth in annual passenger numbers from 25 to 40 million within the next 20 years.

Vanderlande is cooperating closely with ENGIE Fabricom, a key supplier in respect to BHS-

related activities at Brussels Airport. Integration of the new system will be executed during live operations, without impact on the passenger experience. This requires a high level of 'brownfield' experience in terms of both hardware and software. With this in mind, the strengths of Vanderlande and ENGIE Fabricom have been combined to create synergy and implement the best overall innovative and sustainable solutions to support Brussels Airport in achieving its long-term strategic vision 2040. And become Europe's best airport by 2040.

www.vanderlande.com

24/7 bus services, an airport shuttle, tram connections, connections with local cycle paths and new access roads.

This vision led them to set an ambitious target that by the year 2040, 50% of the passengers and the airport employees will come by public transport, bicycle or on foot, as compared with the current 30%. That will help to reduce traffic congestion in the region as a whole. Airport management is working with the government and with the transport companies to give substance to this plan.

The next few years will also see the introduction of an automated airport shuttle. The self-driving people mover has already clocked up its first few metres at Brussels

Airport. In the month of November 2019, the shuttle performed several demo trips without passengers to test the technology in a real-life environment. In 2021, it will be fully ready.

Developing Transport means Developing Sustainability

The increasing role of Brussels Airport as a mobility hub for the city means that it needs to get sustainability right. The good news is that it does, and it continues to improve. As recently as March 2019, the airport put in place a fleet of electric buses, dramatically reducing carbon emissions for journeys to and from the airport's terminal. They represent just a small step that the airport will make to reach its target of 40%

“The next few years will also see the introduction of an automated airport shuttle”



ENGIE

ENGIE, through its subsidiaries active in Belgium, has been a long term partner of Brussels Airport since 1989. More than 200 colleagues are present at Brussels Airport on a daily basis, putting all their energy in increasing the safety and comfort of the passengers.

Our competencies range from technical installations in airport buildings to passenger safety. Our know-how enables us to implement multi-technical airport projects, including design, development, installation and maintenance.

engie-fabricom.com

engie-cofely.be

engie-axima.be



carbon reduction (from 2010 output) by 2030.

Sustainability is one of the most important values of Brussels Airport Company. One of the key aspects of sustainability within Brussels Airport Company is care for the environment, the surrounding area and energy consumption. Its environmental and energy policy fits in with the mission and vision of the company.

The airport's environmental policy looks at a broad spectrum of environmental sustainability: Energy and CO2 reduction, waste reduction and disposal, water use limitations and treatment, soil maintenance and noise control. These goals, in turn, drive the operations at the airport, and every time a management decision is made, the environmental criteria must underpin it.

For example, all new buildings at Brussels Airport are designed setting out from particularly strict sustainability criteria. The energy consumption of the future fire stations for instance will be virtually zero, by resorting to solar panels, solar water heaters and heat pumps. Elsewhere, a study into the biodiversity at the Brussels Airport site is to be conducted in association with non-profit organisation Natuurpunt, in order to better identify how to safeguard or even improve this biodiversity.

Brussels Airport is also signing up to the Flemish Government's Circular Procurement Green Deal. This implies that, over the coming two years, the airport operator undertakes – where possible – to procure high-quality raw materials, equipment or products that can

“One of the key aspects of sustainability within Brussels Airport Company is care for the environment, the surrounding area and energy consumption.”

Partner of the zero carbon transition



engie-fabricom.com / engie-cofely.be / engie-axima.be

ENGIE





FOST PLUS, THE ENGINE OF THE CIRCULAR PACKAGING ECONOMY

The non-profit organisation Fost Plus supports the promotion, coordination and financing of selective collection, sorting and recycling of household packaging waste in Belgium.

Brussels Airport and Fost Plus are working together to prevent waste and improve waste sorting and recycling. To this end, several airport partners have signed the Brussels Airport Waste Charter in which they explicitly choose to apply the principles of circular economy. Together, they commit to reducing waste at the airport. They are also aiming to recycle at least 50% of the waste at the airport - including passenger waste - by 2030, which is double the current recycling rate.

All signatory airport partners also undertake to make their staff and passengers aware of how

to properly sort waste, with a specific attention that is put on the recovery of plastic bottles and cans.

Fost Plus, in collaboration with Brussels Airport Company, is also conducting an audit at each signatory airport partner to map the current waste sorting organisation. Each company will receive a tailored action plan to achieve the objectives of the Brussels Airport Waste Charter. www.fostplus.be



“The increasing role of Brussels Airport as a mobility hub for the city means that it needs to get sustainability right”

be recycled after use. Brussels Airport has invested heavily in renewable materials and energy in recent years.

Partners and Suppliers

Transporting 25 million passengers every year would be an impossible task without the assistance of the finest partner companies in the aviation industry. These include Vanderlande - the global market leader for value-added logistic process automation at airports and in the parcel market. It has also been invaluable in allowing the Brussels airport to implement its logistics strategy.

Vanderlande is backed up by Fost Plus, which contributes to a more sustainable waste management at the airport facility. Other services within the airport are carried out by Aeroservices sprl, Mobility Masters (which

helped with the delivery of the recently-arrived electric buses) and Swissport Belgium N. V.

The responsibility for the huge volumes of fuel required by the airport's visiting aircraft has been delegated to Skytanking Holding GmbH and Brussels Airfuels Services.

Finally, the airport also maintains close relations with Textron Sweden AB - a developer of state-of-the-art aviation technology - and Engie Fabricom NV. The latter is an engineering and consulting firm which has been central to the airport's delivery of a renovated runway in 2020 to cater for its ongoing passenger growth.

Onward and Upward

Change continues apace at Brussels Airport. In 2019, it opened a new logistics building at BruCargo, its logistics platform. This is a crucial addition for the import and export of goods to and



“In 2020, the airport will deliver a renovated runway - the first renovations which have been made on the runway since 1996.”

from Belgium. BruCargo, already has more than one hundred different countries operating on its logistics chain, making it an important logistics hub for international trade and air transport in Europe.

In 2020, the airport will deliver a renovated runway - the first renovations which have been made on the runway since 1996. This renovation has involved replacing the entire surface (which has an area of 3.3 kilometres in length by 45 metres in width). Its arrival will allow the runway's life to be extended for a further 15 years, guaranteeing the best possible landing and takeoff standards for aircraft.

Finally, the airport's Vision 2040 envisions doubling the number of airport-related jobs in the next two decades. The plan is supported by a long-term development plan by Belgium as a whole and underlines the airport's role as a growth hub for the country. It will deliver more destinations for its passengers and more import and export opportunities for business. The capital of Europe, it seems, has an airport worthy of its name. **BE**

BRUSSELS AIRPORT

✉ info@brusselsairport.be

🐦 [@brusselsairport](https://twitter.com/brusselsairport)

www.brusselsairport.be



Brussels Airport

✉ info@brusselsairport.be

🐦 [@brusselsairport](https://twitter.com/brusselsairport)

www.brusselsairport.be

Produced by:

BE Business Excellence

www.bus-ex.com