

## News from the International Air Rail Organisation: February 2014

Please find below the **February 2014 Newsletter** of the **International Air Rail Organisation**, updating readers on current IARO developments and activities.

- The IARO is an international organisation, dedicated to spreading world-class best practice and good, workable, ideas among people involved in rail links to airports and air/rail intermodality.
- We are a portal to expertise and information in air-rail intermodality.
- Our worldwide membership includes organisations which are planning, developing, building and operating rail air links; and also people (like airlines) who have a business interest in partnerships for their success.

### ***IARO's Valuable Products:***

#### **1. IARO Members Workshops**

As part of its work to promote best practice to organisations involved in air-rail transport, the IARO holds regular Workshops for its Members. Each Workshop focuses on a specific aspect of the air-rail business, enabling participants to learn from specialists and to share their expertise and know-how through open discussion.

The Workshops are 1-day round-table meetings, with participation limited, to ensure maximum discussion and inter-action. There are usually 4 or 5 speakers, who will introduce a specific theme or share their own organisation's experiences, with plenty of time for questions and discussion after each presentation.

Four IARO Workshops are scheduled for 2014, as follows:

- **9 April 2014, Dallas, Texas, USA:** "Airport Rail Stations - The Challenges of Successfully Integrating Rail into the Airport"
- **10 June 2014, Brussels, Belgium:** "European Union measures and their impact on air-rail" - Venue:.
- **16 September 2014, Stockholm, Sweden:** "Which air-rail service - metro, express or commuter?" - Venue:
- **November 2014, London, UK:** "Air-rail links in the planning stage"

The Workshops are organised for IARO Members, although non-Members are, on occasions, invited to attend. Further information about participating in these workshops from [Patrick.hicks@iaro.com](mailto:Patrick.hicks@iaro.com)

#### **2. New-look IARO Website – with valuable information**

The IARO Website ([www.iaro.com](http://www.iaro.com)) has been completely re-designed. Please take a couple of minutes to review the information and data that is available to IARO Members, including:

- All IARO Industry Reports that have been published
- Presentations from the 2013 IARO Workshops
- Industry News – from the Weekly IARO Express

- Information about Current and Planned Airport Railways of the World (project in progress)
- Contact Details of All Members
- Information about Future Workshops and Other IARO Activities

### **3. Weekly IARO Express Industry Newsletter**

IARO Members benefit from a specially prepared Industry Newsletter, IARO Express sent direct to them every week. Recent news items include

- Russian Railways to sell half its stake in Aeroexpress.
- Schiphol Group 2013 Annual Results
- Dutch railway information system wins major design prize
- Ferrovial to buy UK regional airports?
- Union Pearson Express electrification budget
- Heathrow Express bids for Western Access
- Manchester Airport's 4th platform
- Another light rail connection for Copenhagen
- Capital plan includes \$1.5bn for Newark Liberty Airport PATH extension
- Three prequalify for Lima airport metro
- Freight as well as passenger rail for Kochi?
- Copenhagen expansion plans – with new station
- Zürich cross-city link to open in June

### **4. “Make progress quickly on UK airport rail access projects”, says International Conference**

The IARO supported the recent “Air-Rail Links 2014” Conference (London, 13 February). Delegates attending the Conference heard that there are several schemes for improving rail access to airports in the UK, where progress can be made before the Airports Commission completes its work and publishes a final report.

Projects for improving rail access at several airports are already under way, including Crossrail and Thameslink, and others such as the Heathrow western rail link and HS2 are in the planning and approval stages. The Airports Commission has recommended studies of further enhancements, some of which are related to the better use of existing airport capacity where progress can be made quickly.

The conference brought together experts from around the world to demonstrate how other countries have been able to address the issue of enabling airports to grow while keeping within environmental and road traffic constraints. The conference heard of examples from Sweden, other parts of Europe and North America where challenges like those now facing UK airports have been met. Paul Le Blond, IARO President, said "Airport rail links are a specialist niche operation and require a particular understanding of both aviation and railway markets and industries. IARO members have a unique ability to learn from each other and put these lessons into practice."

### **5. Membership Information**

For further information about the IARO, please contact: [Patrick.hicks@iaro.com](mailto:Patrick.hicks@iaro.com)

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