

## ACI EUROPE Best Airport Award winners for 2014 announced

For immediate release

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**Frankfurt, 18 June 2014:** The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual **ACI EUROPE Best Airport Awards** were announced during the gala dinner of the 24<sup>th</sup> ACI EUROPE Annual Congress hosted by Fraport. The award ceremony marked the end of an intensive day of debate, discussion and networking amongst more than 300 industry leaders, including senior representatives from airports, airlines, air traffic management, national governments and the EU institutions. The theme of this year's event is "Compelling Connectivity for our Cities, Regions and Europe".

This year's judging panel was drawn from a well-respected group of independent experts including EUROCONTROL, ECAC, World Tourism Forum and Air Transport World. ACI EUROPE counts over 450 airports in 44 European countries among its membership and this year's competition saw a high level of entries in each of the five categories.

The ACI EUROPE Best Airport Awards\* cover 4 traffic categories of airport and aim to recognise achievement in core activities such as customer service, retail, security and corporate responsibility. There with a separate award devoted specifically to airports' environmental efforts.

The awards were presented to the winning airports by Olivier Jankovec, Director General ACI EUROPE, Angela Gittens, Director General ACI World, Catherine Mayer, Vice-President at SITA, Emmanuelle Maire, Head of Unit for Airports & Infrastructures at the European Commission and Salvatore Sciacchitano, Executive Secretary of ECAC.

The first award, recognising airports in the '1-5 million passenger' category, went to **London City Airport**. The judges awarded the prize to the airport for its eagerness to innovate (i.e. 'The Smarter Airport Experience', free WIFI/shoe shine and CAA Just Culture pilot), as well as for its quality of services, active sustainability and active agendas (i.e. airport tours).

The winner of the '5-10 million passenger' category was **Stuttgart Airport**. The airport has proved to be a very good performer in all areas of operation but the judges singled it out for its focus on the quality of its services as well as on the hard work on strengthening relations with its local community.

This year's award in the '10-25 million passenger' category went to **Athens International Airport**. Athens secured this award due to its high economic performance, excellent work in redeveloping its traffic and quality of services.

And in the final category, for airports with 'over 25 million passengers', this year's ACI EUROPE Best Airport award went to **Barcelona El Prat Airport**. A previous winner in 2010, the judges deemed that the airport demonstrates a strong performance in key areas, thanks to its great investments in infrastructures as well as good management. The high commitment to environmental sustainability together with the increase of new routes and of international traffic in 2013 also impressed the jury.

This year's **Eco-Innovation Award**, which is awarded by the independent Advisory Board of *Airport Carbon Accreditation*, went to **Oslo Airport** in recognition of its integral and systematic environmental management. The airport has worked tirelessly to improve the energy efficiency of its operations, to minimise waste and to engage in active environmental relations with its partners, local communities and stakeholders.

**## ENDS ##**

**Note to editors:**

Photographs of the winners can be downloaded here:

<http://www.aci-europe.org/component/downloads/downloads/3276.html>

\*The **ACI EUROPE Best Airport Awards** are separate from the **ACI World ASQ Awards**.

For any other information, please contact

**Robert O'Meara**, Director, **Media & Communications, ACI EUROPE**

mobile: +32 (0)486 54 14 71 or tel: +32 (0)2 552 09 82.

email [robert.omeara@aci-europe.org](mailto:robert.omeara@aci-europe.org)

*ACI EUROPE is the European region of Airports Council International (ACI), the only worldwide professional association of airport operators. ACI EUROPE represents over 400 airports in 46 European countries. Member airports handle 90% of commercial air traffic in Europe, welcoming nearly a billion and a half passengers each year.*