

## Busy July Sees MAG airports passenger numbers exceed five million

Passenger numbers at the MAG airports of Manchester, London Stansted, East Midlands and Bournemouth, continued to show robust growth in July – with the four airports handling more than 5m passengers in total.

The figure represents a 8% increase year on year compared to July 2013, and comes as MAG announced the latest stage of an £80 million terminal transformation project at London Stansted. The major investment in redeveloping facilities at the airport will deliver new restaurants, bars, cafes and exciting new retail concepts.

With new services coming online across MAG's portfolio of airports, numbers were up at Manchester and East Midlands, as well as Stansted. And, while there was a dip during July, overall passenger numbers for the year are also up 0.5% at Bournemouth airport.

Airports (passengers)	July 2014	% change	Moving annual total	% change
<b>Manchester</b>	2.41m	+6.2%	21.36m	+5.6%
<b>London Stansted</b>	1.94m	+12.2%	18.69m	+5.6%
<b>East Midlands</b>	567,048	+3.8%	4.42m	+7.7%
<b>Bournemouth</b>	83,371	- 3.2%	666,519	+0.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.008m</b>	<b>+8.0%</b>	<b>44.15m</b>	<b>+5.7%</b>

Charlie Cornish, Chief Executive of MAG, the largest UK-owned airport group, said: "July was another good month for the business and increased passenger numbers demonstrate another sign that consumers are growing more confident about the economy. Particularly encouraging is the double-digit growth we're seeing at Stansted, where passenger numbers were up 12% on last July.

"Improving customer experience and striving for operational excellence remains of importance, as it's important that we respond to and support economic growth in the regions where we are based. Continuing to look for new commercial partners and investment opportunities is also a core part of the way we do business. The major investment of £80 million at London Stansted represents an important step forward in enhancing the experience of travellers who fly from our airport in the South East; and is very much a statement of intent for our future plans for Stansted."

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