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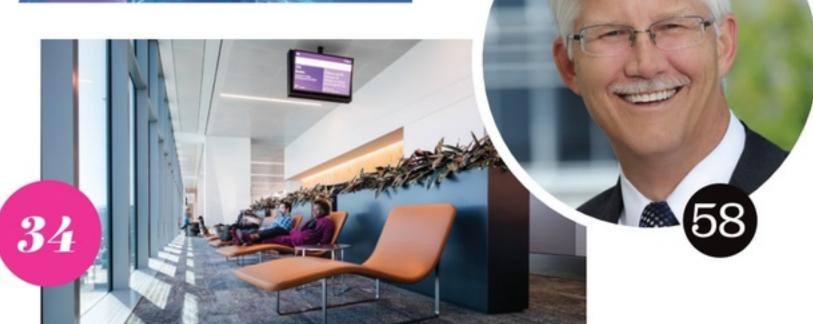
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Providing **innovative**

activities and exclusive

shopping experiences

for passengers is

imperative for airports

looking to boost

non-aeronautical

revenue

EDITOR'S COMMENT

Passenger Terminal Expo and Conference welcomed thousands of visitors to Amsterdam on March 14, 15 and 16. Unfortunately, after several canceled flights owing to bad weather, I couldn't attend the event myself but the feedback has been brilliant. The event was jam-packed with innovations from across the industry, as well as plenty of insightful conference sessions to get delegates talking, and you can read about some of those innovations in our exclusive Passenger Terminal Expo 2023 supplier interviews on pages 64-69.

One of the major themes at the conference was 'commercial development, retail, concessions, media and experience' – a vital revenue source for airport operators. As Errol McGlothan, managing director of EMEA & APAC at Airport

Dimensions, which specializes in operating airport lounges and experiences, says in *Money well spent* on page 46, "A happy passenger is a spending passenger." Providing innovative activities and exclusive shopping experiences for passengers is imperative for airports looking to boost non-aeronautical revenue, especially as the industry continues to recover from Covid-19.

Airport parking is an oft-overlooked area for non-aeronautical revenue growth. On page 26, Kevin Rozario explores the technologies being developed to enhance the parking experience for travelers and examines how the design of airport parking facilities is changing.

Elsewhere at Passenger Terminal Expo, there were discussions around the development of advanced air mobility (AAM) and vertiports. On page 52, our assistant editor, Elizabeth Baker, talks to VPorts about the establishment of an AAM integrator world center in Dubai, in partnership with the UAE General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) and the Mohammed bin Rashid Aerospace Hub (MBRAH) at Dubai South.

This issue also looks at hydrogen fuel developments in the UK as part of Project NAPKIN (page 40) and explores 12 trends from SITA's *Meet the Megatrends* report that are set to change the travel landscape by 2033 (page 14). I'm sure these trends and many others will be up for discussion at the next Passenger Terminal Expo and Conference, in Frankfurt, Germany on April 16, 17 and 18, 2024. I hope to see you there!

Hazel King, editor

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A holistic vision

IDOM believes the success of the advanced air mobility sector rests on collaboration between industry stakeholders and intelligent, future proof vertiport design

Advanced air mobility (AAM)
promises to shake up the
transportation of people and goods by
offering faster, cleaner and more flexible
air travel. Electric vertical take-off and
landing (eVTOL) aircraft are set to
revolutionize aviation and promote
sustainable air transportation. Despite
some challenges to be overcome, leading
OEMs anticipate obtaining eVTOL type
certificates by 2024 or 2025.

Making AAM a reality

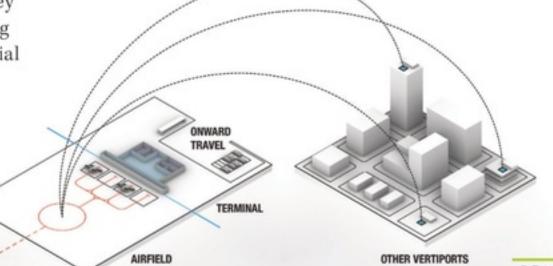
In addition to recent advances in vehicle technologies, AAM will require further development in two key areas: air traffic control and physical infrastructure in the shape of vertiports.

IDOM has been analyzing and conceiving a practical approach for the real application of these facilities since 2018, using information provided by OEMs. From 2018 to 2021, IDOM conducted studies and created preliminary designs for key AAM players, which allowed the company to contribute to the world's first design specifications for vertiports – the EASA Prototype Technical Design Specifications for Vertiports, released in March 2022.

Currently IDOM is working on feasibility studies concerning energy management – the biggest challenge in terms of the required ground infrastructure – and assisting in the delivery of the first ENVISION certification for a vertiport.

Overcoming the limits of traditional mobility

The arrival of AAM also calls for adapting our territories and urban fabric to the new infrastructure. For instance, good road connections and railways have historically led to growth, while less well-connected regions become isolated. Flexibility is key to overcoming the limitations of existing infrastructure and AAM has the potential to level up isolated areas, improving





mobility and fostering changes on a regional and urban scale. On-demand AAM would ensure sustainable territorial growth and avoid densification around land-based transport infrastructure.

Aiming to provide stakeholders with insight for future development, IDOM is developing research to propose a systematic approach to the categorization of AAM types, to analyze their implications at both urban and building scales. For example, existing unused infrastructure in suburban and rural areas can be repurposed for AAM implementation. Vertiports, located on low-value land, can transform areas into transportation and charging hubs.

In denser urban areas, AAM will contribute to solving the problems of traffic congestion and public transport overcrowding. This will require careful analysis for its implementation, looking at the best places from an urban perspective ABOVE
IDOM has
worked with
Ferrovial to
envision a
network of
vertiports
in Spain

AAM will enable better connectivity on a regional and urban scale as well as what is technically, environmentally and socially acceptable.

THE EASA

PROTOTYPE TECHNICAL

DESIGN SPECIFICATIONS

FOR VERTIPORTS

A new infrastructure typology

IDOM takes a holistic approach to vertiport network planning, negotiating requirements for successful location and operation. The nature of eVTOL high-tempo processes demands that vertiports are designed as timesavers. At infrastructural scale, IDOM is assessing how the different services can be automated, enabling successful complex operations in high-density AAM ecosystems. To achieve cost-effective operations, the company is exploring innovative solutions such as on-site energy generation, advanced energy management and storage systems. When combined with optimized management of eVTOL operations, these aim to help reduce peak power demand from the grid.

At the building scale, the architecture of the terminal must first adapt to the airfield, considering the as yet undefined details of eVTOLs. Vertiports must also easily adapt to the urban environment. IDOM is developing predesigned components to enable easy configuration of vertiports in various locations and urban environments. These components are further classified as front-of-house areas for passengers and back-of-house areas for staff and eVTOL

vehicle maintenance, making it easy to adapt vertiports to the demands and type of operation.

READER 102

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MAINTENANCE AREAS