

IMPROVING THE SLOT ALLOCATION REGULATION

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DGTREN European Commission 29 January 2008

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IMPROVING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SLOT ALLOCATION REGULATION

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TODAY'S TOPICS

- Lack of capacity is the key problem – the “capacity crunch”
- The Lisbon Agenda objectives must be the overriding objectives for slot allocation

The ERA Perspective



- Economic and social viability of Europe's regions depends on good transport links to major centres for point-to-point and connecting passengers and freight
- Only air transport can provide these links for the majority of Europe's regions

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. Ensure good airport capacity analyses are performed**
 - Allows benchmarking of airport capacity
 - May identify some quick capacity gains
 - This is the only provision within the slot allocation regulation that may lead to increased capacity

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. Ensure “local rules and guidelines” do not jeopardise the Lisbon Agenda objectives

To meet the Lisbon Agenda objectives:

- Europe’s regions need good access to major centres
- Europe’s regions need good access to international and intercontinental connections through hub airports

Effect on a European Region: Billund – the home of Legoland

- Billund airport serves Legoland
- The region needs to attract inward tourism and inward investment in the face of declining employment by Lego
- The region needs multiple links to Europe's major population centres and to major hubs for connecting flights
- Routes between Billund and major hubs are typically flown by one airline with small aircraft

Effect of “efficient” use of slots



Local rules at major airports that seek to

- maximise number of passengers
- increase competition

may jeopardise services to regions such as Billund

**The impacts on European regions,
measured against the Lisbon Agenda objectives,
must be included in impact assessments
of any local rules and guidelines**

Conclusion

*The Lisbon Agenda objectives
are at risk without
good quality intra-EU air services*

**THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
SLOT ALLOCATION RULES
SHOULD HELP, NOT HINDER,
THE LISBON AGENDA OBJECTIVES**