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Belgocontrol statistics: movements November 2011

Belgocontrol, the autonomous public company in charge of the safety of air navigation in the Belgian civil airspace and at the Belgian public airports, presents its results for the month of November 2011 with respect to the number of controlled movements at Brussels National Airport as well as at the regional airports and for overflights.

In November 2011 Belgocontrol managed a total of 81,058 movements, or an increase of 4.22% (3,282 movements) compared to the same month of the previous year (77,776 movements). This increase is only due to the progression of the regional airports and more specifically to the increase in VFR flights that represent more or less 50% of traffic in the regional airports against only about 1% at Brussels National Airport. Recreational aviation was indeed able to benefit from exceptionally clement weather conditions in November 2011.

Brussels National Airport

November 2011 registered 18,167 movements, or a decrease of 1.75% compared to the same month in 2010 (18,490 movements). With the exception of cargo traffic that registers a significant progress (14.47%), all types of flight are on the decrease at Brussels National Airport.

Air traffic controlled by CANAC 2

The CANAC 2 centre manages all movements in the controlled civil airspace above Belgium, from ground level to flight level 245 and above the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, between flight levels 145/165 (since 10 March 2011) and 245.

CANAC 2 controlled 40,475 movements in November 2011, representing a slight decrease of 3.99% compared to the same month of last year (42,155).

The regional airports

In November 2011 the four regional airports together recorded a total of 22,416 movements. In comparison with 17,103 movements in November 2010, this results in an increase of 5,313 movements, or 31,06%. The total number of « regional » IFR flights, which was 9,989 movements in November 2010, increased with 1.196 movements, or 11.97% and reached 11,185 movements in November 2011.

The IFR flights increased everywhere except at Charleroi, where traffic decreased by 6.69%. Traffic increased by 10.14% at Antwerp, by 25.12% at Ostend and by 36.02% at Liège. The increase in Liège is partly due to the fact that the daytime traffic during the week is included in our numbers as from March 2011(*).

As regards the number of IFR movements, Charleroi ranks first (3,950), followed by Liège (3,697), Antwerp (1,934) and Ostend (1,604).

The VFR flights, which mainly consist of general aviation, increase everywhere except at Ostend (1,814 or -20.96%). The increase is steepest at Liège (3,305 or 158%) but this is partly due to statistical factors (*). Both Charleroi (3,743 or 109.11%) and Antwerp (2,369 or 35.63%) make clear headway. The steep decline in Ostend is partly the result of the harmonisation of the counting methods for the movements in the regional airports implemented in March 2011. The number of movements in the four regional airports total up to 11,231 VFR flights compared to 7,114 in November 2010 (57.87%).

Regarding the total number of movements, Charleroi ranks first with 7,693 movements, followed by Liège (7,002), Antwerp (4,303) and Ostend (3,418).

The overall statistics per regional airport are detailed on page 3 of the annex.

For your information: IFR = Instrument Flight Rule
 VFR = Visual Flight Rule

On March 1st 2011 the system used by Belgocontrol for drawing up statistics has been standardized for all regional public airports (Antwerp, Charleroi, Liège and Ostend). This harmonization can lead to discrepancies regarding the comparative evolution in the figures as far as the year 2010 is concerned.

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() Moreover since March 1st 2011 Belgocontrol ensures air traffic control 24/7at the airport of Liège. Previously the military controlled air traffic by day in this zone from Monday to Friday. This change has an impact on the evolution in figures between 2010 and 2011 for the airport of Liège.*

The statistics provided by Belgocontrol combine movements at airports (arrivals and departures) and movements performed in the airspace (holding, CTR/TMA crossing, heliport in the CTR...).Differences are possible compared to the figures provided by other sources, in particular airport operators.

ANNEX: [statistics11-16.pdf](#)

Belgocontrol is an autonomous public company, created on October 2nd 1998, with the mission to guarantee the safety of air navigation in the airspace for which Belgium is responsible. Its zone of activities extends from ground level (at Brussels Airport and the airports of Antwerp, Charleroi, Liege and Ostend) to flight level 245 (8,000 meters) above Belgium and from flight levels 145/165 to 245 for the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. The EUROCONTROL centre in Maastricht is responsible for the area above 8,000 metres, and jointly manages the air traffic of the upper airspace of Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the western part of Germany.

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