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## Belgocontrol statistics: movements December 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 December 2011 with respect to the number of controlled movements at Brussels National Airport as well as at the regional airports and for overflights.

In December 2011 Belgocontrol managed a total of 74,554 movements, or an increase of 9.44% (6,432 movements) compared to the same month of the previous year (68,122 movements). This increase is mainly due to the good health of the regional airports that register a growth of 39.98% in December 2011 whereas the growth of overflights is low (2.56%) and even almost nil at Brussels National Airport (0.37%).

### **Brussels National Airport**

December 2011 registered 16,711 movements, or a slight increase of 0.37% compared to the same month in 2010 (16,650 movements). Freight traffic registers the sharpest rise (11.62%) whereas passenger and passenger-freight traffic is stagnating (0.73%) and the charter activity in December 2011 (-20.70%) continues its all year long decline.

### **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 39,052 movements in December 2011, representing an increase of 2.56% compared to the same month of last year (38,078).

### **The regional airports**

In December 2011 the four regional airports together recorded a total of 18,791 movements. In comparison with 13,424 movements in December 2010, this results in a marked increase of 5,367 movements, or 39.98%. The total number of « regional » IFR flights, which was 8,321 movements in December 2010, increased with 1,785 movements, or 21.45 % and reached 10,106 movements in December 2011.

The number of IFR flights increased everywhere. The IFR flights increased by 6.82% in Antwerp, by 48.01% in Ostend, by 9.99% in Charleroi and by 33.72% in 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, the airport of Charleroi ranks first (3,742), followed by Liège (3,093), Ostend (1,751) and Antwerp (1,520).

The VFR flights, which mainly consist of general aviation, are increasing everywhere. Liège registers the steepest rise (1,596 or 249.23%), but this is partly due to statistics (\*). There is also a marked increase in Charleroi (2,134 or 122.99%), in Ostend (2,934 or 36.34%) and in Antwerp (2,021 or 31.49%). The number of movements in the four regional airports total up to 8,685 VFR flights compared to 5,103 in December 2010 (70.19%). This increase is due to the weather conditions and to more clement temperatures in December 2011 compared to December 2010.

Regarding the total number of movements, Charleroi ranks first with 5,876 movements, followed by Liège (4,689), Ostend (4,685) and Antwerp (3,541).

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.*

*(\*) Moreover since March 1<sup>st</sup> 2011 Belgocontrol ensures air traffic control 24/7 at 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:** [statistics12-1.pdf](#)

Belgocontrol is an autonomous public company, created on December 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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