

ARDIAN



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## **Acquisition of London Luton Airport**

The joint venture consortium of Ardian and AENA today confirms that it has completed the acquisition of the London Luton Airport (“LLA”) concession for £394.4 million in equity value from TBI, itself a joint venture 90% owned by Abertis Infraestructuras S.A, and 10% by AENA. The LLA concession, granted by Luton Borough Council, continues until 2031.

The joint venture partners will now look to work with the airport management and all stakeholders to deliver a planned programme of changes to London Luton Airport which will transform the airport and deliver an enhanced customer experience.

London Luton Airport is the fifth largest airport in the UK in terms of passenger numbers. Last year the airport served 9.6 million passengers with departures to over 100 destinations worldwide.

AENA is the world’s largest airport operator with some 200 million passengers a year, and Ardian is an independent private investment company.

AENA operates 46 airports in Spain, including Madrid (45 million annual passengers) and Barcelona (35 million passengers) and participates directly and indirectly in the management of another 15 airports worldwide. Ardian, through its Infrastructure funds, is a major European long term investor in assets that provide people with essential services in transport, energy, water and telecommunications.

Jose Manuel Vargas, AENA’s executive chairman, said: “We are looking forward to working closely with Ardian and the London Luton Airport management team, the local council, the carriers and all stakeholders to help deliver an airport that delivers a quality experience for more customers and supports strongly the local economy.”

Mathias Burghardt, Head of Infrastructure of Ardian, said: “As shareholders who hold to a long term perspective, we look forward to providing the certainty and stability necessary for the management of London Luton Airport to succeed. London Luton Airport must fulfil its role within the London airport system and add to the life and economy of Luton and the surrounding area in a sustainable way.”

**Ends**

## **Notes to Editors:**

### **AENA**

AENA is the world's leading airport operator in terms of passenger numbers and serves some 200 million passengers a year. It manages all Spain's major airports and owns minority stakes in 15 more airports around the world. Madrid-Barajas, a key European hub for South Atlantic flights, handled 45 million passengers in 2012 and is Europe's fifth largest airport and Barcelona-El Prat, with 35 million, passengers is Europe's ninth. Other large airports operated by AENA include Palma de Mallorca (22.6 million passengers), Malaga (12.5 million) and Alicante (8.8 million). AENA's modern and functional airports are designed to improve passengers' experience in the airport and offer a wide range of top quality retail and catering services.

### **Ardian**

Founded in 1996 and led by Dominique Senequier, Ardian is a premium independent private investment company with assets of US\$36bn managed or advised in Europe, North America and Asia. The company, which is managed and majority-owned by its employees, keeps entrepreneurship at its heart and delivers investment performance to its global investors while fuelling growth in economies across the world. Ardian's investment process blends discipline and conviction with a long-term philosophy.

Ardian maintains a truly global network, with more than 300 employees working through ten offices in Beijing, Frankfurt, Jersey, London, Luxembourg, Milan, New York, Paris, Singapore, and Zurich. The company offers its 255 investors a diversified choice of funds covering the full range of asset classes, including Funds of Funds (primary, early secondary and secondary), Direct Funds including Infrastructure, Small and Mid-Market Enterprise Capital, Innovation & Growth, Co-Investment and Private Debt.

[www.ardian-investment.com](http://www.ardian-investment.com)

**London Luton Airport** is one of the UK's largest airports and carried 9.6 million passengers in 2012. The Airport directly and indirectly employs over 500 and 8,000 staff respectively, is a key economic driver for the region and a major base for 'low cost' or 'no frills' air travel.

easyJet, Wizz Air, Ryanair, Monarch, Thomson, EL AL, Blue Air and Flybe operate from the airport, departing to 100 destinations including services to Europe, Africa, and Asia, with onward connections to Mumbai, Hong Kong, Johannesburg, Beijing and Bangkok via Tel Aviv.

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