

25 May 2010

Belgocontrol statistics: movements April 2010

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 April 2010 with respect to the controlled movements at Brussels National Airport as well as at the regional airports and for overflights.

In April 2010 Belgocontrol managed a total of 79,022 movements, or a decrease of 14.07 % (12,937 movements) compared to the same month of last year (91,959 movements). This decrease reflects the impact of the Icelandic volcano eruption on air traffic, causing complete or partial closure of the Belgian airspace and public airports from 15 to 19 April 2010.

Brussels Airport

15,718 movements were recorded in April 2010, representing a decrease of 20.21 % (3,981 movements) compared to the same month of 2009 (19,699 movements).

Air traffic controlled by CANAC

The CANAC 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 135 and 245.

CANAC controlled 36,453 movements in April 2010, which is a decrease of 19.07% (8,588 movements) compared to the same period last year (45,041).

The regional airports

In April 2010, the four regional airports together recorded a total of 26,851 movements. In comparison to the 27,219 movements in April 2009, this represents a decrease of 368 movements (-1.35 %).

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The volcanic ash cloud had less impact on the movements in the regional airports, mainly because of the training activity there, which takes place more locally according to VFR and IFR, and which was less affected than the commercial flights.

The total number of « regional » IFR flights, which was 10,060 movements in April 2009, decreased by 585 movements, or - 5.82 % and reached 9,475 movements in April 2010. The IFR flights are decreasing everywhere, except at Ostend.

The number of VFR flights increases from 17,159 movements in April 2009 to 17.376 movements for the same month of this year, or an increase of 217 movements (1.26 %).

Regarding the total number of movements, Charleroi ranks first (8,933), followed by Ostend (8,004), Antwerp (6,163) and Liege (3,751). We remind you that in Liege, Belgocontrol assures the air traffic control only at night during the week and 24/24h during weekends. The movements controlled by the military by day during the week are therefore not included in our statistics. As regards the number of IFR movements, the ranking looks different. Charleroi is in pole position (3,623), followed by Liege (2,128), Ostend (2,056) and Antwerp (1,668).

At **Antwerp-Deurne** 6,163 movements (1,668 IFR and 4,495 VFR) were registered in April 2010. This means a decrease of 17.47 % compared to the same period in 2009, when 7,468 movements (2,103 IFR and 5,365 VFR) were recorded. There is a decrease in the number of IFR flights (-20.68 %) and in VFR flights (16.22 %).

Charleroi-Brussels South registered 8,933 movements (3,623 IFR and 5,310 VFR) in April 2010, or a decrease of 6.60 % compared to the same period of 2009, when 9,564 movements (4,019 IFR and 5,545 VFR) were recorded. The number of IFR decreases by 9.85 % and the number of VFR flights by 4.24 %.

At **Liege-Bierset** 3,751 movements (2,128 IFR and 1,623 VFR) were registered in April 2010: a decrease of 9.20 % compared to the 4,131 movements (2,413 IFR and 1,718 VFR) that were recorded the previous year. The number of IFR flights decreased by 11.81 % and the number of VFR by 5.53 %.

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Ostend-Bruges recorded 8,004 movements (2,056 IFR and 5,948 VFR) in April 2010, or an increase of 32.17 % compared to the 6,056 movements (1,525 IFR and 4,531 VFR) registered in April 2009. There is an increase in the number of IFR 34.82 %) and VFR movements (31.27 %). This impressive increase is mainly due to an increased intensity of training flights, in spite of the airport closure from 16 to 18 April.

ANNEX:
[statistics10-10.pdf](#)

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

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 8,000 metres for Belgium and from 4,500 to 8,000 metres 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. Belgocontrol manages the air traffic at five public airports: permanently at Brussels Airport, Antwerp, Charleroi, and Ostend, and only at night during the week and 24/24h during weekends in Liege (the military is responsible for the traffic control by day during the week).

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