

17 March 2010

## Belgocontrol statistics: movements February 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 February 2010 with respect to the controlled movements at Brussels National Airport as well as at the regional airports and for overflights.

In February 2010 Belgocontrol managed a total of 71,083 movements, or a decrease of 3,273 movements (- 4.40 %) compared to the same month of the previous year (74,356 movements).

### **Brussels Airport**

16,361 movements were recorded in February 2010, representing a decrease of 4.62 % compared to the same month of 2009 (17,153 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 36,965 movements in February 2010: a decrease of 2.64 % compared to the same period last year (37,966).

### **The regional airports**

In February 2010, the four regional airports together recorded a total of 17,757 movements, in comparison with 19,237 movements in February 2009, or a decrease of 1,480 movements (-7.69 %).

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The total number of « regional » IFR flights, which was 8,120 movements in February 2009, increased by 729 units (+8.98 %) and reached 8,849 movements in February 2010. The IFR flights are increasing everywhere except in Antwerp. They increased by 16.30% in Charleroi, by 4.93% in Liege and by 24.86% in Ostend , but decreased by 7.51% in Antwerp. The IFR flights have a more important economic impact. For Charleroi, the rise is due to an increase in the « low-cost » activity, and for Liege to a recovery of cargo flights. These are the first encouraging signs of an economic revival after months of crisis.

Because of much less clement weather conditions than last year, the VFR flights are decreasing everywhere except in Charleroi. The number of VFR flights, which was 11,117 in February 2009, decreased by 2,209 movements (-19.87%) and reached 8,908 movements in February 2010.

Regarding the total number of movements, Charleroi ranks first (6,359), followed by Ostend (4,434), Antwerp (3,983) and Liege (2,981). 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 is different. Charleroi is in pole position (3,218), followed by Liege (2,254), Antwerp (1,785) and Ostend (1,592).

At **Antwerp-Deurne** 3,983 movements (1,785 IFR and 2,198 VFR) were registered in February 2010. This means a decrease of 17.00 % compared to the same period in 2009, when 4,799 movements (1,930 IFR and 2,869 VFR) were recorded. There is a decrease in the number of IFR flights (-7.51 %) and in the number of VFR flights (-23.39 %).

**Charleroi-Brussels South** registered 6,359 movements (3,218 IFR and 3,141 VFR) in February 2010, or an increase of 10.80 % compared to the same period in 2009, when 5,739 movements (2,767 IFR and 2,972 VFR) were recorded. There is an increase in the number of IFR flights (+16.30 %) and in the number of VFR flights (+5.69 %).

At **Liege-Bierset** 2,981 movements (2,254 IFR and 727 VFR) were registered in February 2010, or a decrease of 2.13 % compared to the 3,046 movements (2,148 IFR and 898 VFR) recorded the previous year. The number of IFR flights increased by 4.93 % but the number of VFR decreased by 19.04 %.

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**Ostend-Bruges** recorded 4,434 movements (1,592 IFR and 2,842 VFR) in February 2010. This means a decrease of 21.56 % compared to the 5,653 movements (1,275 IFR and 4,378 VFR) that were registered in February 2009. The number of IFR flights increased by 24.86 % but the number of VFR decreased by 35.08%.

**ANNEX:**  
[statistics10-6.pdf](#)

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

Belgocontrol is an autonomous public company, created on October 2<sup>nd</sup> 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).

**Contact:**