

AIRSIDE UPDATE

What's new in the airside world?



Mallaghan caters to KCS requirements

NORTHERN IRELAND-BASED GSE manufacturer Mallaghan has supplied KLM Catering Services (KCS), a company based at Amsterdam Schiphol Airport in the Netherlands, with 30 new catering scissor trucks. KCS delivers over 55,000 airline meals every day.

Erik Koomen, vendor manager for KLM, comments: "KCS has high and specific standards for its suppliers of aircraft catering trucks, concerning technology, safety, cost and after-sales. Mallaghan has proven to meet all of these requirements. We are very pleased with the 30 new aircraft catering scissor trucks and with the great collaboration between Mallaghan and KCS."

Owen McKenna, Mallaghan sales director, adds: "Mallaghan was delighted to win this tender from such an esteemed caterer as KCS. After tender award we all worked very well together in getting the trucks into service on time, to specification and also the entry into service of the first Euro 6 Mercedes Ategos into an airline catering company. It was a pleasure to work with KCS throughout the process and I wish them well with all their new trucks."

AeroGround hits the spot in the German capital

AEROGROUND FLUGHAFEN München, the operator of Munich Airport's own ground handling subsidiary, was awarded one of the three licences to provide ground handling

services at Berlin-Schönefeld International Airport early this summer. As a result, AeroGround begin operating from Berlin, in addition to its longstanding operation at Munich International Airport in July 2015. The licence is valid until 2022.

AeroGround is providing ground handling services at Berlin-Schönefeld in the areas of baggage handling and transport, mail and cargo transport, marshalling, the loading and unloading of aircraft and transport of passengers and crew.

When Berlin-Schönefeld and Berlin-Tegel operations are brought together at the much-delayed Berlin-Brandenburg gateway, this licence for Berlin-Schönefeld will be transferred to the new facility. "This opens up outstanding growth opportunities for our company," notes Thomas Weyer, Munich Airport's chief financial officer and head of infrastructure.

Meanwhile, AeroGround has also agreed a consulting deal with Etihad, the flag-carrier of the United Arab Emirates, that will see it provide advisory services to the airline.

"For an airline customer to award us a consulting contract totalling about 400 man-days is a very satisfactory demonstration of their satisfaction with the quality of our services and our conceptual expertise," enthuses Herbert Keffel, head of AeroGround's international business activities.

The project will involve a three-stage restructuring of Etihad's ground handling business, including an organisational and operational redesign of its aircraft handling and baggage services, as well as the planning and introduction of a new training programme.

Over the course of the anticipated seven-month duration of the project, four to five AeroGround employees will sup-

TCR builds in Asian market

IN SEPTEMBER, TCR completed the acquisition of the rental and servicing activities of Malaysia's Agriquip Machinery. TCR Malaysia will, says the Belgian equipment supplier, deliver "industry leading GSE rental, maintenance, and fleet management services to Malaysian-based customers, with a view to (expansion) in the region". TCR is already present in 15 airports in the country, where 70 employees manage 1,500 units of GSE for local airlines and handling companies.

"The establishment of TCR Malaysia is an exciting stage in TCR's continued expansion to be a world-leading GSE solution business," enthuses Donald Meulebroek, chief assets officer for TCR International.

"We are very pleased to welcome the Agriquip team to TCR, who are a natural fit for our Group. Through continued focus on tailoring our services for each customer's unique needs, we have very high aspirations for the development of our Asian business," he adds. ■

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