FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

EU-RUSSIA AVIATION SUMMIT

12-13 OCTOBER 2011
ST. PETERSBURG, RUSSIA

Jointly organised by
the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation
and the European Commission
Why, what, where and when?

Air transport is vital for EU-Russia relations both for trade and people-to-people contacts. Air transport between the Russian Federation and the EU has significantly increased over the past five years (+9% per year for passenger traffic). Growth rates for 2010 were particularly impressive, both for passenger traffic (+18%) and even more so for freight (+38%). In 2010, EU destinations accounted for more than 40% of Russia’s international air traffic. And there is potential for further growth.

With such a rapid development in air traffic, important opportunities are emerging. At the same time, both the EU and the Russian Federation face important challenges in further modernising their air traffic management systems, increasing the level of safety and security, developing air transport infrastructure as well as contributing to the sustainable development of air transport. In addition to compatible standards and rules, the cooperation of the aviation manufacturing industry will play a key role in future EU-Russia aviation relations.

As close neighbours and strategic partners as well as important aviation markets, the EU and the Russian Federation have much to gain from closer cooperation and coordination of their air transport policies. This is why the European Commission and the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation decided to organise jointly an EU-Russia Aviation Summit in St. Petersburg on 12-13 October 2011. This high-level event will lay the foundations for building closer EU-Russia aviation relations in the 21st century.

The main venue of the Aviation Summit will be Hotel Corinthia in St. Petersburg.

The EU-Russia Aviation Summit is intended to bring together top-level policy makers and industry executives from all sectors involved in the European and Russian aviation and aerospace industries and services. The Aviation Summit will provide a platform for fostering a policy dialogue as well as identifying priority areas and ways forward to strengthen future EU-Russia relations in aviation.

The agenda of the EU-Russia Aviation Summit will include the following topics:

- Policy framework for the development of EU-Russia aviation relations and market prospects
- Aviation safety and security policies and co-operation
- Ensuring sustainable air transport
- Air traffic management and new technologies
- Business opportunities in the aeronautical industry
- Airport policy and the development of airport infrastructure
Who is expected to participate?

The EU-Russia Aviation Summit will be attended by key players from the public and private sectors in Russia and the EU. These are expected to include representatives of governments, civil aviation authorities, airlines, airports, air navigation service providers and aerospace industries.

It is expected that the Prime Minister of the Russian Federation, Mr. Vladimir Putin, will open the Summit. The Minister of Transport of the Russian Federation, Mr. Igor Levitin, the Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of Transport, Mr. Siim Kallas, and the Minister of Infrastructure of the Republic of Poland representing the Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union, Mr. Cezary Grabarczyk, will participate.

What will the planned exhibition offer?

In parallel to the main Aviation Summit conference, an exhibition is planned at which aviation and aerospace companies from the EU and Russia will present their products and services.

If you are interested in knowing more about participating in the exhibition, please contact the European Commission or the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation (see details below).

Can anyone take part – and what will it cost?

The number of participants is limited by the capacity of the Summit venue. The organisers therefore reserve the right to refuse registration. There is no registration fee for participating in the EU-Russia Aviation Summit. Registration will, however, be binding.

How do I register?

Details regarding registration can be found on the websites of the Aviation Summit:  
http://ec.europa.eu/transport/air/events/eu-russia-aviation-summit_en.htm  
http://www.aviasummit2011.ru

The programme including a list of speakers will be uploaded on the Summit website. Here you can also find further practical information regarding the venue.
The EU-Russia Aviation Summit is jointly organised by the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation and the Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport of the European Commission.

For general inquiries about the EU-Russia Aviation Summit, please contact:

- At the European Commission
  - Mr. Klaus Winkler [Klaus.Winkler@ec.europa.eu] or
  - Ms. Suvi Järvelä [Suvi.Jarvela@ec.europa.eu]
- At the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation
  - Ms. Inga Kholkina [kholkinaIV@mintrans.ru]
  - Mr. Yury Stupnikov [supnikovYuYu@mintrans.ru] for the exhibition

For more information on the EU-Russia Aviation Summit, please visit:

http://ec.europa.eu/transport/air/events/eu-russia-aviation-summit_en.htm
http://www.aviasummit2011.ru

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN ST. PETERSBURG!