

# *Exeter International Airport*



## *Key information*

*Runway*            **2083 metres long**  
*First landing*    **10th May 1937**

## ***Introduction***

Regional and City Airports (RCA) is the airport development group created by Balfour Beatty. RCA has recently acquired Exeter and Devon International Airport Ltd, which owns Exeter International Airport.

The acquisition is financed through £31 million of equity, with Balfour Beatty as the lead investor. The remainder of the consideration will be satisfied by limited recourse borrowings, with HSBC as financial adviser and lead arranger.

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## ***Project overview***

- One of the fastest growing regional airports in the UK, now handling over 1 million passengers per year and serving 17 domestic and European destinations
- It is anticipated that a new departures building will be constructed by 2010.
- The initial development phase will also include improvements to the airport's surface access, stand and apron enhancements and an increase in car parking capacity.
- In the longer term, further terminal and ancillary facilities expansion is envisaged to be carried out over three phases.
- London City Airport is Balfour Beatty's operational partner at the airport.

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## ***Why Exeter International Airport***

Exeter International Airport is positioned within a strong local economy with a high propensity to fly and has significant opportunities to increase both its share of the regional market and the use of the airport by the population in the surrounding area. In 2005 the growth of 36 per cent over the previous year eclipsed all other UK airports.

Ambitious airline Flybe has its headquarters at the airport. Flybe has been a main driver of growth at the airport in recent years and has recently entered into exclusive negotiations to acquire BA Connect from British Airways.

An important agreement has been reached between RCA and Flybe which will underpin the fast-growing airline's commitment to the airport for the foreseeable future and through this, RCA are working with Flybe on detailed plans which should see the creation of a much expanded maintenance centre and a new training centre at the airport.

*"The bid submitted by RCA **was outstanding** and we are confident that the **future success of Exeter International Airport for the people of the county will be assured**. It is also very good news for the employees of EIA and the airlines that use the airport."*

*Councillor Brian Greenslade, Leader of Devon County Council*