



The Voice of UK Airlines

Media Release

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For Immediate Use**

BATA Response to HM Treasury APD Announcement

Commenting on the announcements made by HM Treasury today about Air Passenger Duty (APD) Simon Buck, Chief of Executive of the British Air Transport Association said:

“Despite the chorus of voices united against the highest rates of taxation on flying in the world, today’s announcement by the Treasury still leaves Britain’s hard pressed families facing a double inflation increase in the tax from next April.

Rather than carrying out consultations such as this, the Government should have funded an independent study of the effect of Air Passenger Duty on Britain’s tourism industry and on the national and regional economies of the UK. The Government claims to support tourism and inward investment but is in effect damaging both through a bizarre combination of high taxation and bureaucracy.

The result of the continued imposition of this tax is that Britain will lose tourist revenue from overseas, will lose inward investment from foreign business and lose British jobs.”

ENDS

Notes to Editors

- BATA is the trade body for UK-registered airlines, with members representing all sectors of the industry.
- In 2010, BATA members employed over 71,000 people, operated four-fifths of the UK commercial aircraft fleet and were responsible for some 96% of UK airline output, carrying 119 million passengers and 1 million tonnes of cargo.
- The ten BATA member airlines are: bmi, British Airways, DHL, easyJet, flybe, Jet2.com, Monarch, Thomas Cook, Thomson Airways and Virgin Atlantic.

BATA Contacts

BATA Office: 0207 222 9494/Simon Buck: 07584 016 925/Neal Weston: 07855 736 487