



## *BELGOCONTROL STATISTICS*

### *Movements: February 2008*

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 2008 with respect to the controlled movements at Brussels National Airport as well as at the regional airports and for overflights.

As 2008 is a leap year, there are 29 days in February instead of 28. This means there is an additional day of activity compared to last year. This should of course be taken into account for the comparisons with the previous period.

In February 2008, Belgocontrol managed a total of 91,527 movements, or an increase of 19.47 % (+ 14,916 movements) compared to the same month of the previous year (76,611 movements). The sharpest rise can be observed in the number of VFR flights at the regional airports, which reflects the growth of pilot school activities, in response to a strong demand for new pilots.

#### Brussels National Airport

21,094 movements were recorded in February 2008, which represents an increase of 11.91% compared to the same month of 2007 (18,849 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 45,988 movements in February 2008: an increase of 12.89% compared to the same period last year (40,737).

#### The regional airports

In February 2008, the four regional airports together recorded a total of 24,445 movements, in comparison with 17,025 movements in February 2007, or an increase of 7,420 movements, which is not less than 43.58 %!

The total number of « regional » IFR flights, which was 7,400 movements in February 2007, increased by 1,072 movements (+14.49%) and reached 8,472 movements in February 2008. The IFR flights are increasing everywhere, except in Ostend.

The VFR flights increased everywhere, thanks to a strong demand for training new pilots so as to cope with the growth of air traffic, and also thanks to favourable weather conditions. The number of VFR flights increase from 9,625 movements in February 2007 to 15,973 movements for the same month of this year, or a spectacular increase of 6,348 units, or not less than 65.95 %.

Regarding the total number of movements, Charleroi ranks first (8,386), followed by Ostend (6,116), Antwerp (5,733), and Liege (4,210). 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 looks different. Charleroi is in pole position (2,816), followed by Liege (2,368), Antwerp (2,043), and Ostend (1,245).

At **Antwerp-Deurne** 5,733 movements (2,043 IFR and 3,690 VFR) were registered in February 2008. This means an increase of 24.55 % compared to the same period in 2007, when 4,603 movements (1,745 IFR and 2,858 VFR) were recorded. Both the number of IFR flights (+17.08%) and the number of VFR movements (+29.11%) increased.

**Charleroi-Brussels South** registered 8,386 movements (2,816 IFR and 5,570 VFR) in February 2008, or an increase of 51.95 % compared to the same period in 2007, when 5,519 movements (2,176 IFR and 3,343 VFR) were recorded. There is an increase in the number of IFR flights (+29.41 %) and in the number of VFR flights (+66.62 %).

At **Liege-Bierset** 4,210 movements (2,368 IFR and 1,842 VFR) were registered in February 2008, or an increase of 41.89 % compared to the 2,967 movements (2,153 IFR and 814 VFR) the previous year. There is an increase in the number of IFR flights (9.99 %) and in the number of VFR flights (126.29 %).

**Ostend-Bruges** recorded 6,116 movements (1,245 IFR and 4,871 VFR) in February 2008, or an increase of 55.39 % compared to the 3,936 movements (1,326 IFR and 2,610 VFR) in February 2007. The number of IFR flights decreased by 6.11 % whereas the number of VFR increased by 86.63 %.

Annex: statistics08-06.xls

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).



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