

NEWS

Heathrow looks set for airport expansion

New runway at UK's largest airport is getting backing from the government

The UK government has backed a new runway at London's Heathrow Airport, and the scheme will now be taken forward in the form of a draft national policy statement (NPS) for consultation.

The government said it was the first full-length runway in the South East of England since the Second World War.

It said that expansion costs would be paid for by the private sector, not by the taxpayer. It will be for the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA), as the independent industry regulator, to work with Heathrow Airport, and airlines operating at the airport, on the detailed design and costs to ensure the scheme remains affordable, it said.

The government said that the airport expansion would be delivered through a "thorough, faster planning process" under the 2008 Planning Act and 2011 Localism Act.

It said it would set out the airport scheme it wanted, along with supporting evidence, in its NPS. Public and Members of Parliament will be consulted and there will be a vote in the House of Commons in about a year's time.

This will be followed by a planning application by the airport to the Planning Inspector who will take a view and advise government of his decision. Final sign off will be by the Secretary of State for Transport, and then construction will start.

The Heathrow scheme includes plans for improved public transport links and for an ultra-low emissions zone for airport vehicles by 2025. It also has a target of at least 50% of passenger journeys to the airport being made on public transport by 2030. **ce**

Cat's Oberhelman to retire

Caterpillar has announced that chairman and CEO Doug Oberhelman will retire on 31 March, 2017.

Oberhelman has been with the US-based equipment manufacturer for over 41 years, and led the company to its

highest ever recorded sales and revenues in 2012.

The company's board of directors have elected Jim Umpleby, Caterpillar's group president with responsibility for energy

and transportation, to succeed Oberhelman.

Umpleby has worked for Caterpillar for 35 years and he will be joining the Caterpillar board of directors and take up the role of CEO on 1 January, 2017. **ce**

Facing hydro-geological hazards

New town planning models and more efficient machinery are necessary to meet hydraulic, seismic and hydro-geological hazards in Italy, visitors to a roadshow put on by

trade fair Samoter heard.

At the roadshow's first stop, in Bari, Apulia, it was said that 12.5% of the entire territory of the Apulia region suffered from critical hydrogeological issues, with Foggia and Taranto at the top of risk tables. Structural measures as well as monitoring and prevention were all said to be needed.

Ruggiero Mennea, regional councillor and chairman of the standing committee for civil defence, said, "The Apulia region in August approved the creation

of a dedicated task force that seeks to become a replicable model throughout Italy.

"Be it a hydraulic, seismic or hydro-geological hazard, we must share resources," Mennea added, "but we also need new town planning models and more efficient machinery."

Samoter's 30th edition will be held at Veronafiere from 22 to 25 February, 2017, while the roadshow will be in Catanzaro on 18 November, and Genoa on 2 December. **ce**



Mennea, "We need more efficient machinery"

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Video looks at global market

A video has been produced outlining some of the important areas of growth in the global construction market, and giving insight into the direction it might take over the next 12 months and beyond.

It comes from the team behind CE sister-publication International Construction – editor Mike Hayes, and deputy editor Joe Malone.

The short film draws on various sources of information, including economic data from IHS Global, which regularly appears in the magazine itself, and statistics from Off-Highway Research, the consultancy firm specialising in the analysis of global construction equipment sales.

In the presentation, the pair move region-by-region around the world, giving an overview of how and why construction markets are performing above or below expectations, as well as outlining the risks and business rationale behind pitching for construction contracts in specific parts of the world.

The video is available to view by going to the Videozone at www.khl.com/videozone, or by scanning the QR code below.

BREXIT IMPACT

Off-Highway Research has taken a look at the UK's decision to leave the European Union, and says it will have far-reaching effects on the country's construction equipment industry.

Impacts include a downturn in UK equipment sales that will be more severe than previously expected, and significant overall price increases as a result of the depreciation of the Pound. However, the weaker Pound could also make UK-made construction machines more competitive overseas.

These issues are discussed in depth in the report, with detailed analysis across 14 individual equipment types and analysis of the impacts for key suppliers of these products.

Off-Highway Research's Chris Sleight discusses some of the findings of a new report on the impact of Brexit for the UK construction equipment industry in a new video.

This can also be watched by going to the KHL website at www.khl.com/videozone, or by scanning the QR code (left).



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