

# Terminal 5 on Schedule for Next Year

Heathrow Airport's vast new Terminal 5 is reaching 90% completion and looks all set to open on schedule during March 2008. One of Europe's largest construction projects, Terminal 5 represents a £4.2 billion investment by the airport's operator, BAA, and will secure Heathrow's position as Europe's leading gateway airport.

Initial plans for a 5th terminal at Heathrow began in 1985 with a final design application being submitted by BAA in February 1993. The public enquiry that followed was the longest in British planning history with the Government finally granting approval late in 2001 for construction to commence the following summer.

The project – a hugely complex programme comprising 16 major projects and almost 150 sub-projects – has progressed well and looks set to become a template for major construction projects of the future. Through the summer of 2006 the 7,500 workforce on the site worked for two million man hours without one reportable accident.

Catering for around 30 million passengers annually, T5 will consist of a main terminal plus two satellite buildings (T5B and T5C), 60 aircraft stands, a new air traffic control tower, a 4,000 space multi-storey car park, a new spur road from the M25, a 600-bed hotel, the diversion of two rivers and over 13km of bored tunnel which includes extensions to the Heathrow Express and Piccadilly Line services.

The T5B building is almost complete and will be used for British Airways' long haul departures. Completion of T5C is planned for 2011. Passengers will travel between the terminal buildings using an underground driverless rail system known as TTS (Track Transit System).

