



**ICCSAI. IT RANKS THIRD AFTER MALPENSA AND VENICE**

## Turin Airport among the Best Connected Airports in Italy

*The low cost flights too continue to grow*

by Lorenzo Villa

“**T**his year ICCSAI, the International Centre for Competitiveness Studies in the Aviation Industry, has put Turin Airport on the podium of best connected Italian airports” said the new CEO Fausto Palombelli. “Turin Airport placed 3rd after Malpensa and Venice airports for reachability of the European GDP. Within two hours from Turin is reachable the 40% of European GDP, 73% within four hours”. The study also inserts Turin Airport among the Italian airports that have benefited most from the development of low cost carriers, together with Bologna, Treviso, Lamezia Terme, Trapani, Genoa and Forli, registering in 2010 a growth of over 10%. Currently the offer of low cost flights at Turin has reached 30%.

On international level, Turin Airport has received the ACI Europe – Best Airport Award in 2007 and 2008, while in 2009 qualified for ISO 9001/2008 certification, thus confirming SAGAT’s commitment to providing passengers and companies with efficient, top quality services.

Turin Airport lies 16 km from the city centre and it’s situated at the centre of an important network of transport links, making it extremely easy to reach both by public transport, bus and train, and by the dual carriage way which links up with the ring road and the motorway network, providing direct access to the most important cities in the region of northern Italy and southern France and the main mountain and ski resorts during the winter.

Turin Airport offers links to the major European hubs of Amsterdam, Brussels, Frankfurt, Istanbul, London, Madrid, Monaco, Moscow, Paris and Rome, allowing passengers to reach any destination in the world through connecting flights.

The 2011 year of Turin Airport was opened by the satisfactory results achieved in 2010: 3.5 million passengers carried, as the best ever. Group revenues amounted to € 66.5 million, with net profit of € 4.4 million and a scale of investment of € 9.5 million.

In 2010, Ryanair celebrated the 2 million passengers from Turin, and was launched the new airport’s website.

In April, Turin Airport and Lufthansa celebrated 40 years of the company at the airport, after the first flight to Frankfurt in April 1971. For the occasion, an Airbus 321 with a vintage livery landed in Turin. Since 1971 till now Lufthansa has added two more destinations from Turin, Monaco and Dusseldorf, for a total of 76 weekly flights during the summer of 2011.

“Lufthansa in Turin stands for reliability and represents a window to the world”, said Maurizio Montagnese, President of the Sagat - Turin Airport.

On 28 June 2011 was composed the new Board of Directors, with the confirmation of Maurizio Montagnese as president (also recently appointed president of Turismo Torino e Provincia) and the appointment of Fausto Palombelli as CEO.

In July of this year was completed the second part of runway maintenance works’, with the airport closed to flight operations between 15 and 19 July only.

Despite the closure, the number of passengers in July was in line with the previous year.

The Turkish Airlines’ new opening to the East is certainly among the most important news of 2011. The thrice-weekly flight to Istanbul, which opened in August, offers passengers the opportunity to reach many destinations of the international network of the airline.

In April was inaugurated the new passengers with reduced mobility hall, located at the Departures Level. The new area, more comfortable, improved in furniture and expanded in space, is available to passengers with reduced mobility and beautified with a selection of images of the Mole in collaboration with the Cinema Museum.

To strengthen relations with the territorial productive realities goes the agreement between Fiat Auto Var and SAGAT for supply Fiat vehicles for the assistance of flight operations. The dealership has provided to Turin Airport four FIAT Panda 1.3 Multijet 16V DPF 75 Cv 4x4 Cross Euro 5, equipped with specific equipment on board requirements ensuring better performance and security for drivers.



“The newcomers reinforced the historical collaboration between SAGAT and FIAT cars equipped for airport use, in the wake of the ongoing modernization of the car fleet of our airport, which now consists of over 30 FIAT vehicles” declared the SAGAT CEO Palombelli.

“People are the main resource of the company: in recent years I’ve seen great cohesion and strong sense of responsibility starting from managers to operators working in the yard”, concludes Montagnese. “People who have allowed us to win for two consecutive years (2007-2008) ACI Europe Best Award.”

In August 2011 passengers at Turin Airport were over 2.5 million (+ 4% over 2010), with a continuous growth of low cost passengers. ■

