

# London Luton Airport Operation and Expansion



A major expansion program under a unique public-private partnership

**L**ondon Luton Airport, situated 40 miles north of central London, is one of four principal airports serving London and the surrounding area. The airport has embarked on a major expansion program under a unique public-private partnership.

In September 1997, the Luton Borough Council invited bids to operate and develop the airport for a 30-year term. A consortium comprising Bechtel, Airport Group International, and Barclays Private Equity was selected and, in August 1998, operating as London Luton Airport Operations Limited (LLAOL), the consortium took over operation of the airport in a public-private partnership. A unique concession award, in which a concession fee is paid to the Luton Borough Council in quarterly installments based on traffic throughput, enables the council to share with the consortium in the future success of the airport.

## BECHTEL'S ROLE

Bechtel provided engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) services to LLAOL, under a lump-sum turnkey contract, for the first phase of the expansion. This work represented \$140 million of a potential \$400 million infrastructure development program.

The project was executed in a demanding time frame, with sensitivity to the operational, safety, and security requirements of an operating airport.

Bechtel's Phase One EPC scope included a new international and domestic passenger departure building; refurbishment of the existing international and domestic terminal; new parking facilities and access roads; and new apron and taxiway work, including the installation of a Category 3 airfield ground lighting system.

## Location:

Luton, England, United Kingdom

## Client:

London Luton Airport

## Scope of Services:

Engineering  
Procurement  
Construction

## Project Duration:

1998 - 1999

## Total Installed Cost:

\$140 million



## Significant Features/ Accomplishments:

- A consortium for public-private partnership to operate the airport
- Phase One expansion was a \$140 million lump-sum design-build contract
- A new departures building apron and taxiway, lighting, parking, and access roads