The **Thomas Consultancy**

Airports Sector

1. There are 71 airports in the UK.
2. In 2004, there were 215 million terminal passengers, up 28% on 1999.
3. Regional UK air travel has grown by 150% since 1990.
4. Air travel forecast to double by 2020 (4-5% pa).
5. Retail plays an increasingly important part in airport revenues, accounting for 30% of BAA's total £2bn revenue in 2004/5.
6. White Paper (Dec 03) identified opportunities for a large number of UK airports to expand, both regional and international.
7. Global trend towards merger and consolidation amongst airport operators, leading to rise of international (rather than national) players.
8. Major UK operators include BAA (7 airports), Peel Holdings (4), Manchester Airport Group (4), Spanish ADCL (3) and Macquarie (2).
9. Top UK airports in 2004 were Heathrow (67m passengers), Gatwick (31), Manchester (21), Stansted (21), Birmingham, Glasgow (both 9), Edinburgh and Luton (both 8).
10. Many airports either have expanded recently or plan to do so in order to take advantage of the boom in travel, although there are a number of pressure groups seeking to restrict this on grounds of noise, environmental considerations and economic need.
11. Typical cost of new terminal ranges from £30m for a regional airport expansion to £500m plus for a major international airport
12. Excluding T5, UK forecast spend of £0.75-1bn pa (BAA alone c£0.5bn plus).
13. Planned expansions include:
    - Heathrow – with T5 phase 1 operational in 2008 and phase 2 in 2011, a third runway is also proposed
    - Stansted – £2.7bn plan to build a second runway and terminal at the Essex airport, which would enable it to handle an estimated 76m passengers a year by 2030
    - Birmingham – proposed runway extension, second runway and third passenger terminal to cater for 33m passengers by 2030
    - Manchester – increasing capacity by 11m per annum
    - Luton – £3m investment to increasing capacity from 8 to 14m
    - Bristol – plans to double passengers by 2015 to 9m and treble by 2030