

# New Mobility Now

The Aviation Addendum

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#### How to use this report

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Why Consider New Mobility Options Now? Toward the Next 100 Years of Flight Exploring the Five Aspects of New Mobility Conclusion

## **The Airport Landscape**

Today's airports are about so much more than just catching a flight.

Airports are vibrant business centres, fueling local and national economies; they also provide the connectivity essential to the growth of the global economy.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) projects that the number of people flying will almost double by 2036, to 7.8 billion from the 4.1 billion people who travelled in 2017.

Increasing demand from both the global air passenger and freight sectors coupled with technological advancement are shaping a dynamic period for commercial aviation not seen since the decades following World War II. At that time, advances in technology enabled commercial air transportation to take off and become an established mode of mass transportation. Now, approaching the end of the first quarter of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, new and emerging technologies are once again creating entirely unique ways of serving passenger and operational needs, thrusting commercial aviation into an era shaped by change that is unprecedented in scope, pace and potential impact.

Concurrently, customer expectation for enhanced service continues on an upward trajectory, as passengers seek a door-to-door experience characterized by convenience, access and smooth travel. A major challenge for today's airports is to manage the process of digital transformation in order to continuously run operations, maintain passenger flow and anticipate evolving passenger needs. Actualizing technology's full potential requires integration of systems, services and processes while "cyber-securing" applied technology.

Implementing the right technologies is critical to support aviation and its contribution to the global economy. Aviation's global economic impact (direct, indirect, induced and tourism catalytic) is estimated at USD2.7 trillion, equivalent to 3.6 percent of world gross domestic product (GDP)<sup>1</sup>. Airports represent the engine behind this figure, as they enable the physical connectivity for people and products throughout the world.



<sup>1</sup> Aviation Benefits Beyond Borders



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#### Technology and Mobility

Delivering an enjoyable and stress-free travel experience for passengers requires airports to integrate enterprise-wide technologies that enable them to meet their operational targets and business objectives. Transitioning from a siloed to a holistic approach focused on sharing, analyzing and leveraging data will position airports of all sizes for continued growth.

Within this technology-based landscape, transport infrastructure must be developed to meet current capacity needs and accommodate future realities and expectations.

To support their flight networks, airports continue to invest, with current global spending, planned or underway, estimated at USD1.1 trillion for greenfield expansion, new runways and terminal buildings as well as runway and terminal extensions.<sup>2</sup> Despite capacity expansions, some regions will still require even more investment to meet capacity needs and upgrade aging facilities.

Increasing demand for air travel, particularly at the world's hub airports, has also resulted in huge pressures on the existing surface access transport systems connecting to and from these airports, with many road networks constrained by heavy congestion.

New Mobility options can support capacity needs to, from and within the airport. Evaluating these New Mobility options is an essential part of today's infrastructure planning.



## Continuing the Vision of New Mobility Now

New Mobility—the bundle of transport, technology and mobility changes that are already transforming the way we move around, live and interact with each other—will become the bedrock of future transport as the 21<sup>st</sup> century continues to unfold.

In 2017, WSP published the far-reaching <u>New Mobility Now</u> *(C)* report, which looked holistically at how transport and digital technology will evolve to meet the needs of society.

New Mobility Now established a practical framework consisting of four primary aspects—*automated, connected, electric and shared*—*plus business models and revenue generation.* The fifth aspect links together the previous four and influences the direction and speed of change for all of them.

This addendum explores New Mobility developments that can enhance aviation operations and airport capabilities toward the ultimate goal of creating a first-rate door-to-door passenger experience.

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Fair, sustainable, self-maintaining and politically acceptable operating models are key to improving growth and returns for New Mobility stakeholders. The chosen business model acts as an enabler that can link together the automated, connected, electric and shared aspects so they are mutually reinforcing.

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## Why Consider New Mobility Options Now?

#### From air hubs to ground hubs

In just over a century, airports have developed from simple airstrips/airfields to complex infrastructure sites essential for international transport. As gateways to cities around the world, airports support local communities and the world economy. A growing number are sophisticated service providers within a broad ecosystem of business and leisure offerings.

Heavily congested highways to and from airports have made a significant negative impact on travel times. To address this issue and accommodate 21st-century international passenger traffic, airports are providing multimodal mass-transit connectivity. Extending accessibility through transit connections, such as bus and train links to nearby cities and outlying regions, can be planned organically as part of airport expansion schemes. Similar timely consideration can also be given to New Mobility options in order to meet a region's evolving transport needs.

## Extending connectivity for passengers and operations

Within the airport, the aviation industry has been quick to recognize and implement digital solutions to help improve efficiency of travel for passengers, through the implementation of online check-in, automated document authentication, smart baggage tracking systems, wayfinding and other similar initiatives. To varying degrees, airports around the world are leveraging technology to support operations and meet passenger needs. The ability to successfully integrate new technologies, utilize scalable infrastructure that accommodates change, and apply analytics to learn from and leverage the wealth of generated data is essential to meet current passenger needs and anticipate heightened expectations.

The diagram shows sustained investment in technology-related initiatives and demonstrates the need for agility
in planning to accommodate new considerations and shifts in priorities.



% of airports investing resources in major programs/R&D in the next three years

Adapted from SITA 2017 Air Transport IT Trends Insights

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The Evolution of Flight 2000-2020 1900-1939 1940-1979 1980-1999 2021-2040 WWII, the WWI, Aviation **Digital Age Increasing Air** The Changing Pioneers Space Race, Traffic **Mobility Landscape:** the Next Generation Commercial of Aircraft Aviation Innovation Advances in engine Wide-scale Advancements in The International Civil Aviation Continuous and technology and development and avionics, aircraft exponential growth Aviation Organization Trends and aerodynamics make design, and (ICAO) works alongside production of the in commercial powered flight manufacturing aviation, both cargo jet engine national aviation Innovation possible for the first techniques and passenger regulators to continue Rapid military time. to harmonize and Deregulation of Introduction of new technological expand systems across 1903-the Wright airlines, among advancements large aircraft into the globe through brothers: first other factors, leads terminal planning initiatives like "No recorded powered, to unstable financial Proliferation Country Left Behind" sustained and environment of drones as controlled flight in People spend more time Community they transition a heavier-than-air at airports, creating pressure limits from military flying machine a new need to focus the utilization of to commercial on amenities and 1927-Lindbergh: small airports and applications, aided non-aviation services first solo non-stop by advancements in heliports trans-Atlantic flight Introduction of new battery technology and in composite types of aircrafts, 1939- the first materials including electric, jet-propelled hydrogen based, and aircraft hybrid Urban air mobility and new forms of lowaltitude aviation that can offer low-emission, low-noise alternatives Development of The rapid growth of Rapid increase Airport New Mobility trends Outcomes the airshow or commercial aviation in utilization of development leads impact revenue at passenger trip as a to self-contained aviation services for airports, especially Space Racecargo and freight novelty cities (aerotropolis) relating to parking Development and and amenities that Emphasis on safety proliferation of Increased access affect the passenger and airspace to/democratization aerospace and experience aviation technology of air travel deconfliction,

Simultaneous advancements (AVs, EVs) in the mobility system create opportunity to leverage electrification.

resulting from

events (9/11) and

new low-altitude

aircraft, e.g. drones

introduction of

geopolitical

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## **Toward the Next 100 Years of Flight**

In the first century of flight, many pioneering individuals transformed commercial aviation through their innovative contributions. Similarly today, diverse research from the private and public sectors is informing and driving aviation advancement. A differentiator in the process now is the ubiquity of technology and the pace at which major advancements can happen. Thirty-plus years passed from the Wright Brothers' pioneer flight in 1903 to the first jetpropelled flight in 1939. In the 21st century, innovative technologies can quickly render existing methods of operation obsolete.

In a digitally-based environment, airports must adopt a new approach to address infrastructure needs. Proactive planning that embraces agility is key in order to accommodate new technologies that work contextually in each airport. It is impossible to know the exact technologies that will exist and what the impact will be on the aviation landscape over the next 20 years. What is clear: Technology will underlie all facets of the airport, from operations to the terminal and to the airfield.

The design of airports, from fundamental space and lighting to materials used, is becoming more aesthetically sophisticated and pleasing. The types of terminal concessions offered are also changing to reflect shifting passenger buying patterns. In turn, passengers will increasingly have a brand new airport experience—one that reflects their tastes, satisfies their preferences and meets their increasingly higher expectations. How can New Mobility work to advance these processes when New Mobility itself is still evolving?

The challenges posed by New Mobility are presenting infrastructure investment opportunities to produce improved efficiencies and support the new airport experience for passengers. Here is a look at how New Mobility will make a positive impact in the airport landscape on the horizon.

Turning Challenges into Opportunities with New Mobility Developments				
Challenges =	- Opportunities			
Airport planning has traditionally been siloed from infrastructure and mobility planning processes at the metropolitan level.	As cities consider New Mobility options, airports can integrate their infrastructure planning with broader metropolitan investments in New Mobility, especially as communities are built around transportation.			
Airports must develop their infrastructure capacity to meet growing traveller demand.	New Mobility can develop on-site transport capability and alleviate congestion issues on roads to and from airports by offering alternative options for travel to and from airports.			
Disruption to existing airport operations	Operational enhancements and deployment of new business models to accommodate increased demand and mitigate risks of a potential downturn (Aviation is vulnerable to geopolitical uncertainty and economic volatility.)			
Policy/Regulatory hurdles	Influence new regulatory/policy environment to understand implications and needs			
Re-imagining the airport environment; ensure business strategy and operations are aligned toward the same goal.	New Mobility developments are coinciding with market forces driving «green technology» development and adoption.			
Revenue streams, as traditional sources of non-aeronautical revenue shrink	Airports can take advantage of New Mobility requirements by offering complementary products and services on airport facilities (e.g. electric vehicle charging).			

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## **Exploring the Five Aspects** of New Mobility

രിഗ	Context and location	77%	ул	o IT spend
	aware applications for passengers	74%	atego	<ul> <li>Investment priorities</li> </ul>
$\overline{\frown}$	Single biometric	58%	rt C	o Self-service
-51	travel token for identity management	36%	Airport Category	<ul> <li>Mobile</li> <li>Industry challenges</li> </ul>
<u>C</u>	Artificial	45%	1	o industry challenges
	Intelligence	24%		
یگ	Inanimate assistant	44%		
- <u>\</u> - 	(hologram, mobile, robot)	33%		
$\mathcal{R}\mathcal{D}$	Drones	41%		
3°S	Drones	29%		
	Wearables for staff	39%		
	(smartwatch/ smartglasses)	42%		
合	Wearables-enabled	38%		
	services enabled for passengers	36%		
~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	Cognitive	38%		
	computing	30%		
<b>G</b>	Virtual reality	36%		
	services for passengers	30%		
	Virtual reality	27%		
	services for staff	29%		

Air Transport IT Trends Insights

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Automated – the spectrum of applied technologies that automate the production and delivery of tasks

Progress regarding the integration of automated processes to advance operational efficiency is also shaping the seamless travel experience that passengers seek, no matter where they are or what type of flight they board.

#### Applying AI to operations

Interactions with passengers will increasingly be transformed as automation coupled with artificial intelligence (AI), or machine intelligence, becomes common in most, if not all, airports throughout the world. Automated digital tools, such as virtual agents and chatbots that can converse with customers and answer their questions in real-time, demonstrate AI's potential in the passenger realm.

Harnessing the full power of businesscritical AI in decision-making will result in better managed spaces and more hospitable travel environments. By applying predictive analytics to real-time data in order to gauge traffic flow, queues can be monitored and managed to avoid congestion.

Biometric scanning and recognition methods in identity management as well as automated baggage screening and tagging are also decreasing passenger congestion and expediting passenger flow throughout airports. The installation of self-boarding gates using biometrics with ID documentation represents another promising step forward, with 63 percent of airlines having implementations or plans by 2021.<sup>3</sup> Adding blockchain to the equation, using biometrics, can streamline the passenger identification process by reducing the number of ID checks.

#### Automated Vehicles (AVs)

Automated processes are only desirable if they can provide the right services for passengers and the needed efficiencies for airports. Airports were among the first locations worldwide to implement automated transport to move passengers between airport terminal buildings, thereby reducing congestion in key areas. Automated transport has traditionally been used for fixed route linkages between airport terminals and other key locations, such as car parks, car rental facilities and hotels, often utilizing dedicated infrastructure corridors. New Mobility developments can often work within existing transport networks, enabling the flexible application of transport infrastructure and precluding the need to construct high-cost dedicated corridors. Offering AV alternatives also aligns with the provision of multimodal public transport options (bus and train) available at many hub airports.

AVs also have the potential to ease passenger travel to and from the airport, introducing predictability and reliability in the first and final stages of each journey.

On the airfield, automated guided vehicles (AGVs) will be applied to multiple functions, including runway snow removal and pushback plus other routine apron movements for large aircraft.

Connected – accessing information from smartphone and tablet applications/ leveraging data available from

drones or mobile applications

As people increasingly rely on their smartphones to access information and make travel plans, they can immediately access relevant flight updates and product/service offers. Traveller connectivity also creates a well of location-based data to use toward improving operational efficiency and building business relationships with vendors, and to further personalize the passenger experience.

New Mobility connectivity on the airfield can enable better maintenance and operations. Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), aka drones, are among the cutting-edge technologies that offer widespread use. As regulations around the world allow drones to operate in airspace around airports, the challenge is of course to use drones responsiblysafely and without disrupting airport operations. In the 24/7 complex processes at airports, UAVs, which can be controlled remotely, offer the potential for time savings and cost savings; drones support asset management by capturing details difficult to spot with the naked eye, such as cracks in runways, and providing accurate comparable data over time.

On-runway drone delivery for aircraft parts, construction monitoring, perimeter security and traffic monitoring will become commonplace as the technology advances and regulatory frameworks embrace drone use.



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Electric – electric motor as the primary source of propulsion for aircraft / electric vehicles in airport transport / electrification of power/energy infrastructure

R&D and piloting efforts focused on future-focused materials and power sources will eventually shape a new airscape and landscape, including aircraft designed and constructed with lighter materials powered by electric propulsion systems. Such smaller, lighter and cleaner aircraft, some capable of vertical take-off and landing (VTOL), will not only reconfigure our skies and airfields, especially at intra-regional airports (point-to-point travel), they will also support global industry efforts to reduce carbon emissions and foster smooth, fast travel. VTOL also means using a fraction of the land that is typically used for take-off.

On the ground, battery-electric (zero-emission) vehicles, both driver and driverless, are enabling airports to transport passengers within existing airport infrastructure. They provide a swift, smooth ride for passengers between airport locations. The only rest stop is the charging stations/points, to maintain their on-the-go mode.

Airside, the tasks associated with the landing and take-off of aircraft can be supported by the use of electricallypowered vehicles, from refuelling airplanes to transporting equipment, baggage carts and food trays.

Electrification of ground-support vehicles translates into environmental and economic benefits, including reduced maintenance costs, decreased fuel costs and lower life-cycle costs.<sup>4</sup> For example, when recharging, AVs can be linked together to transfer power from one AV to another, or to act as a local battery pack providing newly generated electricity.



Shared – any transportation service that is shared by others applies to short-term access to vehicle use by one user at a time and to a transportation service that transports more than one person at a time

In the context of travelling to and from airports, shared transportation is commonplace in cities around the world, from shuttle or taxi services to transportation services that offer shared use of vehicles.

Within transportation networks, AVs offer the potential for convenient and predictable door-to-door travel for passengers, either as a group or individually in one vehicle. The outcomes of pilot projects and trials designed to prove a specific technology, currently underway for AVs, can be considered for potential application within a multimodal transport ecosystem designed to ease access on our roads leading to and from airports.



Business Models – Fair, sustainable, self-maintaining and politically acceptable operating models are key to improving growth and returns for New Mobility stakeholders. The chosen business model acts as an enabler that can link together the automated, connected, electric and shared aspects so they are mutually reinforcing.

Airports around the world are undergoing change both in terms of their physical space and how they serve customers. Many are still in transition, shifting from service-focused facilities to passengercentric ecosystems with a broad spectrum of services.

Supporting more passengers and meeting their ever-increasing expectations requires looking holistically at how airports can make necessary advancements and generate new non-aeronautical revenue streams, which have traditionally included food and retail concessions, advertising and car parking.

As parking revenues decline, for example, with the use of AVs, electric vehicle charging has the potential to boost revenue. With the opportunity to tap into relatively inexpensive electricity at airports, drivers of electric vehicles will have the incentive to drive to the airport and either leave their cars to board a flight or drop off someone else. Airports may choose to charge station fees instead of the standard parking rate, or perhaps a combination of the two.

Digitally-enabled amenities, such as way-finding applications and on-demand deliveries inside airports, have fee-forservice and advertising revenue potential. Toward the Next 100 Years of Flight Exploring the Five Aspects of New Mobility Conclusion

## Conclusion

New Mobility is already helping airports move forward, particularly with automated and connected services that facilitate the seamless travel experience passengers seek. Further progress depends on a collaborative approach involving multiple stakeholders—government, airlines, and third-party solution providers—to define the physical, digital, and organizational infrastructure to support New Mobility. Such a process must also identify the roles and responsibilities of the various stakeholders in sharing the investment needed to create infrastructure that can adapt to change. Ongoing partnerships are also key toward generating new revenue streams in the context of New Mobility developments.

### **Key Contacts**



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As one of the world's leading professional services firms, WSP provides technical expertise and strategic advice to clients in the Transportation & Infrastructure, Property & Buildings, Environment, Industry, Resources (including Mining and Oil & Gas) and Energy sectors, as well as offering project and program delivery and advisory services. Our experts include engineers, advisors, technicians, scientists, architects, planners, surveyors and environmental specialists, as well as other design, program and construction management professionals. With approximately 48,000 talented people globally, we are uniquely positioned to deliver successful and sustainable projects, wherever our clients need us.



**48,000** *Employees* 



5.4B 2017 Net Revenues\* (CAD) \*Non-IFRS measure

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#### We value our people and our reputation.

We are locally dedicated with international scale.

We are future-focused and challenge the status quo.

We foster collaboration in everything we do.

We have an empowering culture and hold ourselves accountable.



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