

PRESS RELEASE

European Business Aviation applauds deferral of air traffic control charges

7 April 2020 (Brussels). Today, the European Business Aviation Association (EBAA) warmly welcomed the financial package agreed by EUROCONTROL and European Member States enabling operators to defer the payment of air traffic control charges.

The EUROCONTROL Member States have [agreed](#) a financial package enabling operators to defer the payment of up to €1.1 billion of air traffic control fees due for payment to Europe's air traffic management industry in the coming months.

The announcement comes as the 374,000 people who work in the European Business Aviation sector are facing a crisis of unprecedented magnitude and uncertain futures. In the last week of March, EUROCONTROL observed a decrease of 72% in Business Aviation traffic, and estimated revenue losses for the thousands of SMEs that make up the sector range from 50-90%.

Commenting on the announcement, **EBAA Secretary-General Athar Husain Khan** said: *"We thank EUROCONTROL and the national governments for this measure which will ease the immediate burden on operators and help the Business Aviation sector continue to play its vital role in the fight against COVID-19"*.

Many operators specialised in medical and emergency flights are currently providing essential services to communities fighting the pandemic, including for the transport of health workers. But all other medical emergencies have not stopped, and are being handled by Business Aviation operators despite numerous operational challenges and restrictions.

Along with medical and emergency flights, Business Aviation also provides cargo flights, ensuring the transport and delivery of critical medical supplies in Europe and around the world. Business Aviation is also supporting European and national governments' efforts in reuniting families through repatriation flights.

In an [open letter](#) last week, the European Business Aviation community urged European policy-makers and regulators to protect the continuity and survival of the Business Aviation sector in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. EBAA will continue to work in close partnership with policy-makers and regulators across Europe to overcome the crisis, maintain the essential functioning of the sector in the immediate future, and ensure its prompt recovery once the outbreak is under control.

EBAA members who have questions on the package should contact Vanessa Rullier-Francaud (vrullier@ebaa.org).

-ENDS-

Media contact: Frederique Luca, fluca@ebaa.org, +32 479 66 08 13



Square de Meeus 37
BE - 1000 Brussels
Belgium

Phone: +32 2 318 28 00
Fax: +32 2 318 28 01

About EBAA: The European Business Aviation Association (EBAA) is the leading organisation for operators of business aircraft in Europe. Our mission is to enable responsible, sustainable growth for business aviation, enhance connectivity and create opportunities. EBAA works to improve safety standards and share knowledge, to further positive regulation and to ease all aspects of closely tailored, flexible, point to point air transportation for individuals, governments, businesses and local communities in the most time-efficient way possible. Founded in 1977 and based in Brussels, EBAA represents +700 members companies, corporate operators, commercial operators, manufacturers, airports, fixed-based operators, and more, with a total fleet of +1,000 aircraft. Follow us on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#), or visit our website on www.ebaa.org.