



The Voice of UK Airlines

Media Comment

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Comment on APD Announcement In Budget

Simon Buck, Chief Executive of the British Air Transport Association, in response to today's Budget Statement by the Chancellor said:

"Two cheers for George Osborne for not increasing the tax on flying in the Budget but *nul points* for instituting an inflation linked increase, where none existed before, deferred to next April. Air passengers will pay £2.5 billion this year in Air Passenger Duty – far more than the assessed environmental cost of their journeys. This tax damages UK tourism and should be reduced to help boost Britain's economic recovery."

ENDS

Notes to Editors

- BATA is the trade body for UK-registered airlines, with members representing all sectors of the industry.
- In 2009, BATA members employed 76,000 people, operated four-fifths of the UK commercial aircraft fleet and were responsible for some 93% of UK airline output, carrying 121 million passengers and 1 million tonnes of cargo.
- The eleven BATA member airlines are: Air Southwest, bmi, British Airways, DHL, easyJet, flybe, Jet2.com, Monarch, Thomas Cook, Thomson Airways and Virgin Atlantic.

BATA Contacts

BATA Office: 0207 222 9494
Simon Buck: 07584 016 925
Neal Weston: 07855 736 487