



International Civil Aviation Organization

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## ICAO NEWS RELEASE



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### ICAO AND ACI COLLABORATE TO ENHANCE SAFETY STANDARDS AT AIRPORTS

**MONTREAL, 15 June 2012** — Today, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and Airports Council International (ACI), signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) to provide a framework to jointly pursue the highest possible levels of safety at airports worldwide.

The *Memorandum of Cooperation between the International Civil Aviation Organization and Airports Council International for Enhanced Cooperation to Improve Safety Standards at Airports Worldwide* was signed by ICAO Council President, Mr. Roberto Kobeh González and ACI Director General, Ms. Angela Gittens during a ceremony at ICAO Headquarters in Montréal.

It will allow both organizations to join forces to improve aviation safety.

#### Objectives of the Memorandum of Cooperation

- Supporting the development of the ACI Airport Excellence (APEX) in Safety Programme, designed to help airports worldwide to identify and address safety vulnerabilities;
- Joint technical assistance projects;
- The regular exchange of safety-relevant information and data and by providing mutual access to databases;
- Exchanging experts and providing training; and
- Promoting regional cooperation.

“ICAO and ACI have a long history of cooperation. The Memorandum that we are signing today provides a framework for enhanced cooperation between our two organizations and reflects ICAO’s continuing efforts to take a more action-oriented approach to promoting safety,” said Mr. Roberto Kobeh González, President of the Council of ICAO.

Ms. Angela Gittens, ACI Director General, commented, “Today is a significant day for ACI and ICAO, and for all of us who rely on a safe and secure global air transportation system. The signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation signals the official start of a collaboration to grow ACI’s Airport Excellence in Safety Programme (APEX). Through APEX, we help airports around the world identify and remedy safety vulnerabilities by on-site peer reviews, information sharing, training, assistance with implementation of management structures and the technical assistance in applying the Standards and Recommended Practices of Annex 14. This collaboration with ICAO takes global airport safety to the next level. We applaud the leadership that ICAO has demonstrated for continuous improvement in the safety mission.”

A specialized agency of the United Nations, ICAO was created in 1944 to promote the safe and orderly development of international civil aviation throughout the world. It sets standards and regulations necessary for aviation safety, security, efficiency and regularity, as well as for aviation environmental protection. The Organization serves as the forum for cooperation in all fields of civil aviation among its 191 Member States.

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**Note to Editors:**

To learn more about the ACI APEX in Safety Programme, visit: <http://www.aci.aero/apex>

About Airports Council International

In 1991 airport operators around the world created Airports Council International – the first worldwide association to represent their common interests and foster cooperation with partners throughout the air transport industry. Through ACI, the airport community now speaks with a single voice on key issues and concerns and, despite regional diversity, can move forward as a united industry. ACI pursues airports interests in discussions with international organizations. The most important relationship is with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), where international standards for air transport are debated and developed. ACI defends airports positions and develops standards and recommended practices in the areas of safety, security and environment initiatives.



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