

# BERLIN HAS THE WORLD'S BEST LOW-COST AIRPORT



Representatives of more than 200 low-cost airlines gathered on this year's World Low Cost Airlines Congress in London. On this meeting, professionals from the airline industry meet every year to exchange experiences or ideas and to learn from each other. To motivate the airlines to apply innovations and improvements, the representatives decided to award the best ones with the so called

"Budgie World Low Cost Award".

The Budgies have been created to honor and generate public recognition of the efforts, accomplishments, and positive contributions of companies and individuals in the low cost airline industry. A Budgie Award is more than just a trophy; it is recognition of the low cost airline industry's achievements and contributions to the forward development of the industry.

This year's winner in the category of airports, Berlin-Schönefeld, surely deserves such appreciation.

Burkhard Kieker, the marketing and PR manager of Berliner Flughäfen (Management of Berlin's Airports) says: "We are very delighted and thankful for this award. Schönefeld definitely deserves it and is absolutely entitled to boast of it. The airport has for many years offered high-quality services for the low-cost airlines, with short land-to-take-off periods and very friendly tariffs. The airport developed into one of the most successful Low-Cost-Airports on the European continent and contributes crucially to the tourist boom in Berlin."

Berlin's opponents in the competition were no greenhorns in the branch, e.g. Changi Airport Singapur or Lyon St. Exupery, to name but two, which furthermore increases the significance of the award.

Best airport is of course not the only category of the "Budgie". The Best Low Cost Airline for 2008 is Southwest Airlines, the Best Newcomer is Air Asia X, the Innovation Award was given to CarTrawler, the CEO of the Year is Adel Ali from Air Arabia, and the Special Merit for Commitment to the Environment was given to Flybe.

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