



Interview with	Hanna Surma <i>Press Officer</i>
Organization	Airport Poznań Ławica
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Location	Phone interview

General information

Poznan's airport is officially called the Henryk Wieniawski Airport, but is commonly referred to simply as Lawica (for the locality it's in). The airport is located 8 km west of the city centre following the route towards Berlin. The northern part of the airport dates back to 1913, when it was established as a military air base by the Prussian military. The airport territory passed into Polish hands in 1919, though it was retaken during the Second World War, and then reclaimed again afterwards. However, it wasn't until 1993 that Lawica began to function as an international commercial airport, when the first international flight (to Dusseldorf) took place. Since then, the 1990s saw an explosion of international direct connections, mostly between German cities and Poznan. Today, thanks to low-cost airlines like Wizzair, you can fly direct from London and Liverpool (or many Polish and European cities).

The new connections have brought many visitors to Poznan both for business and pleasure, and in 2001 a new cargo terminal opened at Lawica, followed by a new passenger terminal later that year. In 2006, Lawica saw almost 700,000 passengers pass through its gates, and that number is sure to grow.

Euro 2012

Soon begins the final phase of preparing Poznan Airport infrastructure to handle passenger traffic during the Euro 2012 tournament. Key investment fields include the expansion of the airside – building the taxiway parallel to the existing runway with rapid exit ways as well as the expansion of the apron. Another one is the first stage of the passenger terminal extension. In both cases bid selection procedures have been completed, the financial aspects of the entire investment program have been finalized. Currently, we expect the conclusion of the administrative proceedings concerning the issue of so-called environmental approval, needed to obtain all final permits to start construction works.

The current infrastructure of the Airport meets the basic requirements of UEFA experts in terms of



capacity. However, we declare that Poznan Airport will be ready to handle intensified passenger traffic during the Euro 2012 tournament, no matter how the last phase of the investment process goes.

Current tenders can be found on the website of Airport Lawice, unfortunately the information is only in Polish available:

<http://www.airport-poznan.com.pl/pl/przetargi/index.html>

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