



## REGIONAL AIRPORTS LIMITED

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### **PRESS STATEMENT**

**2<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER 2008 AT 15.00 hrs**

Regional Airports Ltd has announced today that its London Southend Airport has been acquired by the Stobart Group Ltd, with a view to Stobart making the airport their southern base, developing the airport potential for 2 million passengers per annum and building the approved airport railway station. The excellent management team under the Managing Director Alastair Welch will still be running the airport.

Andrew Walters, Chief Executive of Regional Airports said "As soon as the Government published its Airports' White Paper, our local councils Southend, Rochford, Castle Point, Essex and the Thames Gateway organisation started to provide the practical and policy support for the airport to develop as a regional airport with 2 million passengers per annum. Now, with the Joint Area Action Plan in progress, the airport is well positioned to be developed with the financial and development experience of the Stobart Group".

"Stobart are a well financed public company with the resources, drive and experience of infrastructure and railway development to bring the plans into fruition, particularly in time to provide easy access for the 2012 Olympics, nearby at Stratford".

RAL will continue to own and operate London Biggin Hill Airport and other aviation related projects.

**For further information please contact Andrew Walters Chief Executive,  
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