News Release

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PRINCE CHARLES VISITS LONDON DOCKLANDS AND LAYS FOUNDATION STONE OF LONDON CITY AIRPORT

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales today toured London Docklands and laid the foundation stone of a new airport which will link continental European cities with central London.

The new London City Airport is one of the most dramatic and significant among a series of major developments in London's Docklands, being implemented by the London Docklands

Development Corporation. John Mowlem & Company plc are promoters and developers for the project which is scheduled for completion in 1987. It will provide business and leisure users with a fast, reliable service only minutes away from the City of London.

The airport is located only 10km from the heart of London's financial district, no other European city has an airport so close to its financial centre. De Havilland Dash 7 short take-off and landing aircraft, with a 50-seat capacity, will serve the airport (also known as STOLport). The plane's 400 mile viable radius puts other UK cities and Europe's capitals within easy reach.

London City Airport is designed to allow rapid embarkation and disembarkation of passengers. Total travel times from the City of London to other UK cities will be halved and to European cities by approximately 1 hour compared with flights to and from the major London airports.

The airport is situated in the Royal Docks, a 270 hectare site at the eastern end of London's docklands. Reg Ward, chief executive of the London Docklands Development Corporation, commented:

"London is unique in having this great asset so close to its centre. The new London City Airport is a vital ingredient in the successful regeneration of London Docklands, and will further strengthen the lines of communication between the UK and her European partners".

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