



Brussels Airport, 19 October 2021

Brussels Airport becomes 50% shareholder in SkeyDrone, the drone innovation company launched by skeyes in 2020

Brussels Airport Company and skeyes signed today an agreement whereby Brussels Airport will become a 50% shareholder in SkeyDrone, a subsidiary of skeyes. SkeyDrone offers a range of services that enable safe and efficient drone operations. With this acquisition, Brussels Airport intends to play an active role in the drone technology developments and in the provision of drone services to various industries in Belgium and abroad.

Brussels Airport Company and skeyes agreed today that Brussels Airport will acquire new shares to be issued by SkeyDrone, whereby Brussels Airport will own 50% less 1 share in SkeyDrone and skeyes the remaining shares. skeyes and Brussels Airport Company have also signed a shareholders' agreement that organizes the governance and the strategic development of SkeyDrone in the future.

Currently a 100% subsidiary of skeyes, SkeyDrone offers positioning, navigation, guidance and data analysis services for unmanned aircraft in Belgium and abroad. Over the past year, Brussels Airport has worked closely with skeyes and SkeyDrone on various drone projects in fields such as intrusion detection, aerodrome safety, operational efficiency, etc.

Brussels Airport's ambition is to play a leading role together with skeyes and SkyDrone in developing and applying innovative uses of drones. By sharing knowledge, expertise and aviation experience as one of Europe's leading airports, Brussels Airport also intends to support SkeyDrone's future growth ambitions.

"Brussels Airport's investment in SkeyDrone is strategic and goes beyond investing in drone know-how and technology. It is an investment in co-creating the future of unmanned air traffic together with 2 key players in this field, skeyes and SkeyDrone. With SkeyDrone, we can fully explore, develop and commercialise drone management systems and drone services that can be used on a daily basis by clients in various industries.", says **Arnaud Feist, CEO of Brussels Airport Company.**

"Drones are becoming omnipresent in the airspace. It is our task to let them take their place safely among the existing air traffic. As users of the airspace, airports know better than anyone the challenges this brings. skeyes and SkeyDrone therefore attach great importance to Brussels Airport Company's insights into developments concerning drones and the needs of airports to deal with this new reality. By participating in SkeyDrone, we can now count on their direct input. skeyes has set up these kinds of partnerships for several areas of its operation, fully in line with our strategy.", says **Johan Decuyper, CEO of skeyes.**

"We are very pleased to welcome Brussels Airport Company as a new shareholder. This capital increase comes at the right time and further strengthens our ambitions to play a central role in the European drone eco-system with a view to further activating the drone sector and implementing U-space in 2023.", says **Hendrik-Jan Van Der Gucht, Managing Director of SkeyDrone**.

The transaction is subject to approval by the relevant competition authorities and is expected to be completed early 2022.

Contact

Brussels Airport Press Office: +32 (0)2 753 53 53, media@brusselsairport.be
skeyes: +32 (0)2 206 2007, press@skeyes.be

About Brussels Airport

Brussels Airport is one of the largest airports in Europe, handling 26,4 million passengers and 667,220 tonnes of freight annually. Brussels Airport links the European capital with 236 passenger and cargo destinations worldwide that are served by 74 different airlines. (figures 2019).

Brussels Airport caters for the specific needs of the business travellers, and also has the largest low-fare offer in Belgium. Brussels Airport is the second most important centre of economic growth in Belgium providing direct and indirect employment for 64,000 people.

Brussels Airport is operated by Brussels Airport Company. The shareholders are the Belgian State (25 percent) and a consortium of private investors (75 percent). Follow us @brusselsairport on Twitter or on www.facebook.com/brusselsairport

About skeyes

skeyes ensures the safety and efficiency of air traffic in Belgium 24/7. The skeyes air traffic controllers manage over 3,000 aircraft every day, which makes up over a million flight movements per year. The autonomous public company is active at the heart of Europe, in one of the busiest and most complex sections of airspace of the continent. skeyes is active at Brussels Airport and at the airports of Antwerp, Charleroi, Kortrijk, Liège and Ostend. Thanks to its CANAC 2 control centre skeyes manages the flight movements above Belgium and a part of Luxembourg up to an altitude of 7,500 metres (*).

The company relies on its nearly 900 experienced staff members who are at the service of their customers: airline companies, airports, the aviation sector and the authorities. skeyes also develops innovating services regarding drones and contributes to a sustainable future of the aviation sector, among other things with respect to the environment.

skeyes is a member of FABEC, a joint airspace block (Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Germany, France and Switzerland) with the aim of improving air navigation efficiency in the heart of Europe in the framework of the Single European Sky.

www.skeyes.be

(*) The upper airspace of the Benelux countries and North West Germany is managed jointly with the EUROCONTROL centre in Maastricht.