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Top story



Mostotrest completes phase one of bridge crossing over the Don river in Rostov-On-Don

Press release

The Rostov firm of Mostootryad-10, a Mostotrest's branch, has completed the first stage of the bridge over the Don River aligned with Siversa Street in Rostov-on-Don. The bridge was put into operation today. This is one of the largest transport infrastructure projects completed in the Rostov region over the past decade.

Construction on the project began in November 2007. The customer is Rostov-on-Don Highway Department. The North-Caucasus Branch of the GIPRODORNII Road Design, Survey and Research Institute served as the general designer, with the Giprotransmost Institute and Promos and Transmost institutes as co-designers.

The bridge is 4.5km in length. In the phase 1 of construction, Mostootryad-10 built a 460m long main bridge and flyovers on the left and right banks, 829 and 966 metres long, respectively, with three lanes in each direction (the first section of the right-bank

ramp has two lanes in each direction). The contract for these projects was valued at 7.3 billion rubles (VAT inclusive).

The construction of the bridge was carried out in challenging restrained urban conditions with a large number of underground and overland communication lines and structures that had to be moved, and involved the construction of compensatory structures. Moreover, active navigation continued during the construction period through the draw span of the railway bridge 64 metres downstream.

State-of-the-art technology has been used by Mostotrest in the project. Modular formwork system PERI VARIOKIT formwork system has been used for the first time in the history of Russian bridge construction to build reinforced concrete deck of composite bridge. This technology reduces labour costs and increases the speed of concreting (using three formwork

carriages, 54 running metres of reinforced concrete deck slabs per week were casted).

The bridge will ease traffic on the city's main streets with a traffic capacity of 60,000 automobiles per day. From now on, the traffic flow will be redirected from the centre of the city to Siversa Street - Lokomotivnaya Street - Nansena Street. The new bridge will close the transport ring around the city centre, linking Bataisk and southern approaches to Rostov, as well as the left-bank areas to the city's central and eastern districts, as well as the Rostov Airport to the city centre, north-eastern and suburban areas. The bridge will provide direct access to the M4 DON Federal Road. The Siversa Street Bridge will also help to ease traffic on the Voroshilov Bridge, which was built in 1965 and needs total reconstruction. Part of the traffic from the Zapadny

(Western) Bridge and the Aksaisky Bridge will be redirected to the new bridge, thus facilitating the scheduled repair works.

"The development of large federal centers such as Rostov-on-Don requires intensive development of their transport infrastructure," said Vladimir Vlasov, General Director of Mostotrest. "The Siversa Street Bridge is one of the largest transport infrastructure projects in Rostov-on-Don over the past ten years. In the future, the new bridge will become the first section of a bypass road around the city centre - a large semicircular road including over a dozen of multi-level interchanges to be constructed over the next few years. To implement such an important infrastructure project and meet the responsibility undertaken by Mostotrest, the company had to concentrate significant industrial resources, using state-of-the-art technology, equipment and materials." ●

Moscow to build 43 new metro stations

bne

Moscow metro will build 43 new metro stations by 2015 and 73km of new track, First Deputy Mayor Vladimir Resin said in an interview with Russian paper Komsomolskaya Pravda, RIA-Novosti reported Tuesday.



Of the new stations 27 will be light-rail metro stations, Resin said.

The new stations will link the centre with the satellite regions such as Moscow's Zelenograd Administrative District, located some 20 kilometers to the northwest of the city limits. ●

Aeroflot to pay \$10m for Decembers snow delays in compensation

bne

Russia's state-controlled national carrier Aeroflot Russian Airlines says it will pay out over \$10m in compensation to passengers delayed over the Christmas holidays after flights were cancelled due to heavy snow in the Russian capital.

Compensation will be paid using personalized vouchers which can be redeemed for new tickets through to the of this year. ●

First airport-style security to be set up at Moscow subway station

Ria Novosti

The first airport-style check point is soon to go up at a central subway station in downtown Moscow.

Several metal detectors and scanning devices have been delivered to the Okhotny Ryad subway station near Red Square but have not yet been set up, a policeman safeguarding the new equipment told RIA Novosti on Thursday.

"The equipment was delivered two days ago, but the engineers have not yet arrived," he said.

Tighter security measures have been put in place in the capital's rapid transit system since two suicide bombings killed 40 people and injured another 160 on March 29, and plans for a comprehensive security system have been put forward.

Moscow and other large Russian cities plan to outfit their subways with security screening equipment that includes devices able to detect explosives and hazardous chemical agents by January 1, 2014.

In the latest security threat, hundreds of nationalist youths angered by the killing of a football fan rampaged through the subway last week, causing massive disturbances.

The murder of Spartak Moscow fan Yegor Sviridov in a brawl with migrants from Russia's mainly Muslim North Caucasus region on December 6 has sparked race-hate riots and ethnic clashes across Russia, including a brawl between over 5,000 football supporters and police outside the Kremlin walls. ●

Moscow Mayor nixes plan for fourth ring road

bne

Moscow city hall has scrapped plans to build a fourth ring road around the capital. The mayors office says it will redirect funds from road construction to public transportation and "carefully study" allegations of corruption by city officials, Mayor Sergei Sobyenin said, reports Moscow Times.

But in what seemed like a nearly fatal blow to one of Luzhkov's major initiatives, Sobyenin said the road would cost RUB1.5 trillion (\$49 billion) and that it was probably better to invest the funds in public transport.



"The effectiveness of such roads is clearly doubtful, which is why we will consider again whether it is worth spending such money while there's a budget deficit," he said in the show, broadcast on TV Center, the channel controlled by City Hall.

Construction of the road - a 74-kilometer ring between the Third Ring Road and the Moscow Ring Road - began in 2007. Sobyenin said the section under construction would be finished. ●

Metro builder sold for \$250mn, bid contested

bne

The Federal Property Management Agency has said that a company linked to businessman Valery Abramson won the bidding to buy a Moscow subway builder that could benefit from a planned increase in spending on subway construction, reports The Moscow Times.

The newspaper report says that engineering company E4 said immediately afterward that it could dispute the victory by Tsentrstroj that offered the highest bid of RUB7.6bn (\$250mn), more than triple the starting bid of RUB2.2bn. ●

Russian transportation level almost back to pre-crisis levels

bne

Russia's transport levels are almost back to pre-crisis levels, Transportation Minister Igor Levitin said at a meeting on December 25.

All types of cargo traffic was up 7.2% in 2010 and passenger traffic up 5.5% in 2010, Levitin said according to initial estimates.

Air transport grew the fastest in 2010, up 30% to 55m people by the end of the year, the minister said.

In 2009, the total passenger traffic of all Russian airlines fell 9.4% on the year to 45.108m people, according to earlier reports.

Investments in the Russian transport industry are projected to increase 8.4% in 2010 to RUB988bn in 2010. ●

Moscow City to tackle traffic jams

bne

The Moscow government has kicked off its campaign to end the legendary traffic jams, Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyenin says.

Amongst the initiatives are plans to build 100 pedestrian underpasses over the next two years, to upgrade public transport

and commuter train services as well as create a planned 1 million parking spots in downtown Moscow, he said.

Amongst the bigger projects is a new overpass on the Leningradskoye Highway - the main road from the centre of Moscow to the north. ●

Mosmetrostroy subway builder sold to Centrstroy for 7.6 bln rubls

Ria Novosti

Russia's Federal Agency for State Property Management has sold 100% of Mosmetrostroy, a core metro-building company in Moscow, to Centrstroy, the Moscow-based city infrastructure building company, for 7.559 billion rubles (\$244 million) at auction, the agency said on Thursday.



The starting price for the lot was 2.199 billion rubles.

The sale of Mosmetrostroy brought about a third of all revenues under the Moscow government's 2010 privatization plan of 18 billion rubles. ●

VTB Capital, UFG invest \$54m in Russia's Brunswick Rail company

bne

Russian investment banks VTB Capital and UFG say they have bought shares in Russian freight car leasing company Brunswick Rail for \$54m, Brunswick Rail said in a statement on Thursday.

VTB Capital, an investment arm of major Russian bank VTB Bank, bought an unspecified stake in Brunswick Rail for \$30m, while UFG Private Equity bought a stake for \$24m, the leasing company said.

These funds are in addition to the \$500m that the company raised in equity and debt financing earlier in December. ●

Russia infrastructure news

Khimki Highway Construction to restart

bne

The controversial 43-kilometer section of the Moscow-St. Petersburg highway running through the Khimki forest could be completed in three years, Sergei Kelbakh, first deputy head of state highway company Avtodor, announced Thursday.

"The road will be built in 36 months after construction resumes," Kelbakh told reporters.

Moscow govt in talks to sell Moskva Airlines to UTair

bne

The Moscow city government is holding talks to sell its 51% stake in Moskva Airlines, previously known as Atlant-Soyuz, to airline UTair, says Transportation Minister Igor Levitin, reports Prime-Tass.

The news agency quoted Levitin as saying that the sides are currently discussing terms of the possible deal.

Moscow to sell stakes in Vnukovo Airport, Gostiny Dvor '11

bne

Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyenin has said that the Moscow city government plans to sell stakes in Vnukovo Airport, the Gostiny Dvor business, culture, and shopping center, as well as in other companies in 2011, reports Prime-Tass.

The news agency quoted Sobyenin as saying that he city government also plans to sell its stakes in holding Mospromstroy,

United Confectioners, Stolichnaya Insurance Group, and the World Trade Center in Moscow.

Putin-Linked firm to bid on Moscow traffic contracts

bne

A company linked to a friend of Prime Minister Vladimir Putin will bid on all Moscow traffic contracts, the Moscow Times reports.

The company, Tolltec was set up by executives of Neftegazoptimizatsiya, a company linked to St Petersburg businessman Arkady Rotenberg, a close friend of Prime Minister Putin.

The firm's original mandate is toll roads, such as the much-disputed Moscow-St. Petersburg highway, for which Tolltec is currently doing the project conception, the paper reports.

Tolltec is also working on St. Petersburg's major ring road, known as KAD, where a test phase was started earlier this month.

Russian government to sell stakes in several ports and shipping companies in March

bne

Russia's Federal State Property Management Agency says it will auction off stakes in several seaports and shipping companies in March this year, reports Prime-Tass.

Amongst the companies are: Northwestern Shipping Company (25.5% stake), Tuapse Seaport (25% stake), Tolmachevo Airport (51% stake) and Rostov Port (25.5% stake).

Russian ministry to selling 52% in First Cargo company

bne

Russia's Transportation Ministry has proposed selling 51.75% in First Cargo Company sometime in January-June, Transportation Minister Igor Levitin said in an interview.

First Cargo Company, established in July 2007, is a subsidiary of state-owned railroad monopoly Russian Railways. It is Russia's largest operator of rail-based cargo transport.

Russia's Transportation Ministry earlier suggested selling a 75% minus one share stake in First Cargo Company to a strategic investor, Deputy Transportation Minister Andrei Nedosekov said earlier. The sale of shares through an initial public offering (IPO) should be carried out at least a year after the sale to a strategic investor, he said.

Yakunin said earlier that Russian Railways may sell up to 10% of First Cargo Company through an IPO.

First Cargo Company is Russia's largest operator of cargo transportation by rail. It was established in July 2007.

Russian ministry proposes selling 52% in First Cargo Co January-June

bne

Russia's Transportation Ministry has proposed selling 51.75% in First Cargo Company sometime in January-June, says Transportation Minister Igor Levitin, reports Prime-Tass.

The news agency says that First Cargo Company, established in July 2007, is a subsidiary of state-owned railroad monopoly Russian Railways.

Russian Railways sees RUB132bn revenue from sale of units 2011

bne

The revenue of state-owned railroad monopoly Russian Railways from the sale of subsidiaries is projected to amount to RUB132bn

in 2011, says Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Zhukov, reports Prime-Tass.

The news agency says that Russian Railways' revenue from the sale of subsidiaries in 2010 is planned at about RUB20bn.

Russia's Acron Group merges port assets into Balttrans

bne

Russian fertilizer producer Acron Group has merged various ports into a new logistics sub-holding Balttrans newswires report.

Acron contributed 85% in the AS BCT terminal in the Estonian port of Sillamae into Balttrans. Balttrans also controls 100% in the Andrex terminal in Russia's Kaliningrad Sea Fish Port and 100% in the AS DBT terminal in the Estonian port of Muuga.

After amendments to constituent documents pass state registration, Acron and Dorogobuzh, another unit of Acron Group, are to hold 65% and 35% in Balttrans, respectively.

Interros to build logistics complex at Sheremetyevo

bne

Russia's Interros Group, that belongs to oligarch Vladimir Potanin, plans to build a transport and logistics complex at Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport, according to reports.

Interros Group signed a memorandum to prepare and implement the project with the Federal Air Transportation Agency and the Federal Customs Service and will invest RUB1.5bn (\$50m) into the project. The government will invest another RUB2bn.

The first stage is to be completed by the end of 2012. The logistics complex is planned to reach its annual projected capacity of 250,000 tonnes of cargo by 2017.

Russia infrastructure finance & statistics

Invest in Russia's transport sector up 8% in 2010

bne

Total investment in Russia's transport sector was up 8% in 2010 to RUB987.6bn in 2010, Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Ivanov told ITAR-TASS.

The federal government share of the investment spending was RUB418bn, Ivanov said.

Cargo transportation was up 8.6% in 2010 to RUB2.32 trillion tonne-kilometers, Ivanov said, with cargo transport by trucks up 10.5%, and by rail 8.7%, by seaports by 6.7% to 530m tonnes.

Eurasian Development Bank to invest \$100m in infrastructure fund

bne

The Russian-Kazakh investment quango Eurasian Development Bank says it will invest \$100m into the Macquarie Renaissance Infrastructure Fund, the bank said Tuesday taking the total in the fund to \$630m.

Macquarie Renaissance Infrastructure Fund finances infrastructure projects in Russia, Ukraine, and Kazakhstan.

Eurasian Devt Bank to invest \$100mn in infrastructure fund

bne

Eurasian Development Bank plans to invest \$100mn in Macquarie Renaissance Infrastructure Fund, reports Prime-Tass.

Citing the bank, the news agency says that the fund is expected to increase to \$630mn.

Government to grant RUB3bn guarantees for Russian Highways bonds

bne

The Russian government says it will offer guarantees on RUB3bn of bonds from state-owned highway operator Russian Highways, or Avtodor, in 2010, to help the company raise money.

Russian Highways is expected to publicly offer a RUB3bn 5-year bond issue. The bonds are to be offered in 1,000-ruble denominations.

Govt to provide RUB3bn guarantees for Russian Highways bonds

bne

The Russian government plans to provide RUB3bn worth of guarantees for the bonds of state-owned highway operator Russian Highways, or Avtodor, in 2010, reports Prime-Tass.

Citing a ruling, signed by Russia's Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, the news agency says that Russian Highways is expected to publicly offer a RUB3bn 5-year bond issue.

Huge Budget Overruns on 4 Highways

bne

The state highway company Avtodor received 39.5 billion additional rubles (\$1.3 billion) for construction and redevelopment

of four federal highways, up from 17.3 billion rubles (\$402 million) originally allocated in the 2010 budget, the Moscow Times reports.

Costs will include environmental surveys, planting new trees to compensate for those cleared, and relocating houses and associated infrastructure along the route, the representative said.

Russia roads

Irkutsk region roads eye \$65m development in 2011

Marchmont

Over \$65m is to be spent on auto roads maintenance, construction and repairs in Irkutsk region in 2011, regional officials report.

Of the total funding, \$23m is reportedly to be allocated from the regional budget.

Ob bridge in Novosibirsk eyes \$115m finance in 2011

Marchmont

About \$115m is to be spent on construction of the third bridge over the Ob river in the city of Novosibirsk, city officials report.

Of the total funding, \$65m is to be taken out in a budget loan with the federal government, \$25m is to be allocated from the regional budget, and \$25m is to be put up by city authorities.

Construction of the bridge started in 2010. The bridge is scheduled to be put into commission by the end of 2014.

Kaluga region's \$96.5m roads development plan for 2011

Marchmont

A total of \$96.5m is to be allocated on roads maintenance and development in Kaluga region in 2011, regional officials report.

Specifically, under plans, \$27.5 is to be spent on roads and road structures maintenance, officials said.

RF gives \$65m budget loan on bridge in Novosibirsk

Marchmont

Authorities in Novosibirsk region have taken out a \$65m budget loan with the federal government, Interfax reports.

The funds are reportedly loaned for five years at 2.7% interest rate.

Under plans, the funds are to be invested into construction of the third Olovozavodsky bridge over the Ob river in Novosibirsk.

Second toll road section to be launched in Rostov Reg by 2014

bne

State-owned highway operator Russian Highways, or Avtodor, plans to launch the second toll section of the M-4 Don federal highway in the Rostov Region before the 2014 Winter Olympics, Avtodor CEO Sergei Kostin said on December 25.

Ukravtodor opens 7 km of bypass road around Simferopol

bne

The State Road Service, also known as Ukravtodor, on December 20, 2010, opened a 7.3-kilometer section of a bypass around the city of Simferopol following repair work.

As Ukravtodor's press service reported, the renovation of the road is proceeding in three phases. The second phase includes the development of blueprints for the renovation of the section from the Simferopol-Mykolaivka road to the Simferopol-Sevastopol highway.

The third phase yet to start includes the construction of a road southward from the Simferopol-Sevastopol highway to the Simferopol-Yalta highway. The blueprints of this road are being drawn up now.

Russia trains

Altai republic to build new railroad in 2013

bne

Russia's Altai republic will build a new rail line starting in 2013 the local authorities said.

The railroad, running from the vicinity of the regional city of Biisk to the vicinity of the republic's capital city of Gorno-Altaysk. The work will take two years.

Novosibirsk-based engineering company Sibgiprotrans has provided two designs for the road.

increase spending by 17.3% to RUB115.6bn the local government said.

The additional costs are to be financed by the Yenisei Industrial Company, while the contribution from the federal government's Investment Fund remains at RUB49.3bn.

Kyzyl-Kuragino to increase spending on new railroad

bne

The Russian region of Kyzyl-Kuragino will build a new rail line and

Moscow-Yekaterinburg high speed rail link to cost RUB2.5 trillion

bne

The cost of building the latest high speed rail link - the so called Sapsan train - to link Moscow and Yekaterinburg is expected to be RUB2.5 trillion, Alexander Misharin, the governor of the Sverdlovsk Region, told reporters.

The travel time from Moscow to Yekaterinburg could be cut to between five and six hours from over 20 hours currently.

Omsk to spend RUB1bn on metro construction in 2011

bne

The Russian region of Omsk plans to spend RUB1bn (\$33m) on construction of a new metro in the city in 2011.

The construction of Omsk's metro system started in 1993. A total of 8.5 billion rubles has been spent on the project so far.

The revenues will be put towards the company planned RUB315bn in 2010 and RUB349.2bn in 2011 investment programme.

The Russian government plans to decide in January-March 2011 how and when Russian Railways' subsidiary First Cargo Company would be sold, Zhukov said.

The company made a net profit RUB70bn in 2010, the company's President Vladimir Yakunin told reporters. This follows the RUB14.4bn it made in 2009.

The revenue of Russian Railways is expected to increase 13% on the year to RUB1.081 trillion in 2010, according to the company's statement. And the net profit of Russian Railways is expected to be RUB2.7bn in 2011 due to lower tariff hikes, Yakunin said.

Russian Railways to raise RUB132bn from asset sales in 2011, earns RUB70bn in 2010

bne

Russia's state-owned rail company expects to earn RUB132bn from asset sales in 2011, Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Zhukov told reporters.

Russia planes

Aircarriers traffic recovers in 2010

bne

The passenger traffic of Russia's S7 Group increased 6.5% on the year to 5.493 million people in January-November, the group said Wednesday.

The passenger traffic of Russian low-cost airline Sky Express rose 7.2% on the year to 1.06 million people in January-November, the company said in a statement Wednesday.

The passenger traffic of Russian airline Transaero rose 19% on the year to 6 million people in 2010, Transaero said in a statement seen by PRIME-TASS on Tuesday.

The passenger traffic of Russian state-owned airline Rossiya rose 4.3% on the year to 3.073 million people in 2010, the airline's press office said Friday.

Basel Aero to invest \$656.5m in Krasnodar airport reconstruction

Marchmont

Oleg Deripaska's company Basel Aero has announced plans to carry out \$656.5m reconstruction of its Pashkovsky international

airport, based in Krasnodar.

Of the total funding, \$201.5m is to be allocated from the state budget, and \$455m is to be invested by the company.

Under plans, \$201.5m is to be invested in reconstruction of the aerodrome, \$230.8m is to be invested into the air passenger terminal, \$182m is to be spent on service and technical facilities, and \$45.5m is to be used to overhaul infrastructure.

Dagestan Airlines auctioned at min. \$26m

Marchmont

The federal property management agency Rosimuschestvo has announced an open auction to sell 100% shares in Dagestan Airlines.

The starting price for the lot is reportedly set at \$25.8m.

The bids are accepted till February 10, with the auction to be held on February 17, 2011.

The airline's fleet includes 11 aircrafts - three Tu-154M planes, one Tu-154B-2 planes, two Tu-134B planes, one An-24PB planes, as well as helicopters Mi-8 and Mi-8MTB.

Vladimir to building RUB1.5bn airport in 2011

bne

The Russian "golden ring" city of Vladimir says it will build a new RUB1.5bn (\$50m) airport this year, Nikolai Vinogradov, the regional governor, told reporters.

The federal government will provide RUB200m of the funding in 2011, RUB500m in 2012, and RUB800m in 2013, Vinogradov said, with the region coming up with the rest.

The airport will be built in the Suzdalsky district, as plans to upgrade Vladimir's small existing airport were deemed unsuitable due to urban development around the airport, Vinogradov said.

Russia ships

25.5% in Volgograd River Port auctioned at min. \$2.12m

Marchmont

The federal property management agency Rosimuschestvo has announced an open auction to sell 25.5% shares in Volgograd River Port.

The starting price for the lot is reportedly estimated at \$2.12m.

The auction is scheduled to be held on March 1, 2011.

25% in Tuapse Sea Commercial Port auctioned at min. \$53m

Marchmont

The federal property management agency Rosimuschestvo has announced an open auction to sell 25% shares in Krasnodar region-based Tuapse Sea Commercial Port.

The starting price for the lot is reportedly estimated at \$52.7m.

The auction is scheduled to be held on March 1, 2011.

Novorossiysk Port to buy Primorsk Port for \$2bn

Marchmont

Krasnodar region-based Novorossiysk Sea Commercial Port (NSCP) has announced plans to buy 100% shares in Leningrad region-based Primorsk Trade Port (PTP) for \$2.153bn.

The deal is reportedly to be partly financed with a \$1.95bn loan from Sberbank.

PTP's beneficiary owners are oil company Transneft and investment group Summa Capital.

Novgorod Region to build €250m seaport

bne

Russian developer Shipbuilding Group is planning to build a €250m river port Krechevitsy in Russia's Novgorod Region, the

regional government's press office says that can handle 2.5m tonnes of cargo a year. Work will start in 2011 and take three years.

The project consists of the construction of logistics terminals, administrative buildings, waste treatment facilities, a trading and hotel complex, parking facilities, a fuel terminal and pumping station, and a thermal power plant, among other facilities.

25.5% in North-Western Shipping Company auctioned at min. \$30.5m

Marchmont

The federal property management agency Rosimuschestvo has announced an open auction to sell 25.5% shares in St. Petersburg-based North-Western Shipping Company.

The starting price for the lot is reportedly estimated at \$30.5m.

The auction is scheduled to be held on March 1, 2011.

CIS infrastructure

Belarus to double export of transport services doubling by '15

bne

Belarus plans to double the export of transport services by 2015 to over \$1bn, the Transport Ministry said in a statement.

The core of the plan is to double the car and bus fleets.

"Also in 2011-2015, it is planned to attract an equivalent of \$10 million in foreign investments to acquire vehicles for international transportation of passengers and cargoes," the press service said. End (Br3,000 - U.S. \$1)

Turkish company to upgrade Boryspil airport for UEFA Euro football competition 2012

bne

Turkish company Apron has won the contract to upgrade Ukraine's main Boryspil airport ahead of the UEFA Euro football competition in 2012.

"Apron works have been finalized by half and to be finalized in full in 2011 spring and summer," is stated in the press release of the JV.

Workforce as of today is 1,500 where 60% is Ukrainian nationals. The terminal building will have latest technology as regards equipment and flight safety.

Ukraine's airports see traffic recover in 2010

bne

Ukrainian airports saw passenger flows rise by 13.6% January through November 2010 year-over-year, to 9.529 million people, reports Interfax.

Ukrainian airlines serviced 6.57 million people over the period under review, which was 17.7% up on January-November 2009.

Ukrainian transporters shipped 364.92 million tonnes of cargo in January-November 2010, which was 6.3% up to the same period last year, according to the State Statistics Committee.

The committee said cargo turnover went up by 8.7% year-over-year, to 686 billion tonne-kilometers.

Ukraine's Simferopol International Airports saw passenger traffic recover by 12% in 2010 to 845,000 passengers, according to an official report by the company.

The airport serviced over 6,500 flights in 2010. The international passenger flow rose by 23%, to 4.772 million people. Mail transportation over the 11 months grew by 17.6%, to 2,000 tonnes.

According to a forecast by Simferopol Airport, passenger flow will reach one million people in 2011.

The Odesa International Airport estimates passenger turnover increased by 8% in 2010, the airport's press service has told Interfax-Ukraine, servicing 13,684 flights.

"The most popular tourist routes are Antalya, Larnaca, Greece's Iraklion, Athens, Thessaloniki, Kos, and Rhodos islands in summer, and Sharm el-Sheikh and Hurghada in winter. Stable high demand is seen on flights to Istanbul, Kyiv, and Moscow, which are the traditional business activity routes of Odesa residents," reads the press release.