



**HM GOVERNMENT OF GIBRALTAR
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER
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PRESS RELEASE

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Move of departure operations to New Air Terminal

The Government is pleased to confirm the movement of the Departures operations to the New Air Terminal starting on Wednesday 26 September. This move will result in a much improved passenger experience for those departing from Gibraltar airport. The Staff are looking forward to the challenge of moving across to the New Terminal having now completed all the necessary familiarisation training needed to operate the terminal's new equipment.

Commenting on the commencement of full operations from the New Air Terminal, the Air Terminal Director, Terence Lopez, said:

"I am looking forward to the move of departure operations to the New Terminal. I am very proud of my Staff, and indeed all those working at the Airport, for the efforts they have made to familiarise themselves with the new procedures and equipment they will be using. Opening a new terminal is always a challenge and we have trained hard to avoid the problems that were experienced during the opening of Terminal 5 at London Heathrow. Unfortunately, it is not possible to forecast every possible eventuality in such a large and complex building and so I would ask for patience from those travelling through the Terminal if any unexpected gremlins appear in the first few days of operations."

The Minister with responsibility for Civil Aviation, Deputy Chief Minister Dr Joseph Garcia, commented:

"Gibraltar has finally arrived at the day when full operations will commence from the New Air Terminal. I am very aware of the difficulties that operating from two terminals for so long has caused the Staff at the Airport and I would like to thank them for their considerable efforts during the last nine months and in preparing for this day. It is extremely unfortunate that the technical difficulties the Government inherited with this project have taken so long to overcome. However, the Airport is now ready to accept departing passengers and, barring any unforeseen difficulties that might be encountered in the first few days of full operations, I am sure that all users of the Airport will enjoy the facilities it has to offer."