AVIATION BUSINESS

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Epson's airport operations printers rolling out globally

EPSON'S RANGE OF business terminal printers configured for airport and airline support systems is successfully being installed in airports worldwide as the reliability and cost efficiency of the printers makes them a natural choice in these high print volume locations.

One of the first major aviation installations was Epson's TM-L90 single-station thermal printer for boarding pass printing across five UK airports: BFS (Belfast International Airport), DSA (Robin Hood Airport), HUY (Humberside International Airport), LBA (Leeds/Bradford Airport) and MME (Durham Tees Valley Airport).

Combined, these five UK airports transport over two million passengers to 241 destinations each year. The rollout was completed by Servisair, a leading global provider of aviation ground services with over fifty years of industry experience.

The Epson thermal printers were chosen for their ability to deliver operational efficiencies and reduce the costs associated with printing boarding passes using traditional proprietary printers.

"With the wallet style boarding card no longer required airports can take advantage of more affordable and highly reliable Point-of-Sale (POS) printers," said Business Unit Manager for Epson Australia, Craig Heckenberg.

Servisair reported that the Epson TM-L90 printers were easily integrated into the airlines' PC-based systems and proved to be extremely reliable in an environment where thousands of boarding passes are printed every day.

In Australia Epson's TM-T88V transaction printer is installed in major airports around the country producing high quality, reliable receipts and boarding passes for tens of thousands of travellers.

And more recently Korean Air began introducing Epson's latest TM-L500A special purpose airline boarding pass and baggage label printer in ten airports across the country.

The TM-L500A supports airline industry standards including AEA 2009 and Windows print commands, and is IATA CUSS/CUPPS compliant so it can be used with existing airline applications and new open platform solutions.

It handles large fan-fold or roll media up to 184.1 mm diameter, has print speeds up to 200mm/sec, and USB, serial and Ethernet interfaces.

"The airline industry is moving toward the adoption of POS printers for their overall robustness, long lifecycle and ease of use," Craig said.

"POS printers deliver a faster return on investment than proprietary peripherals, while requiring significantly less space. Open architecture design, easy integration, small footprint, durability and high reliability make POS printers very attractive for a multitude of airline and airport uses." ▲