

---

# Dubai Concourse A is fully operational

By **Rick Lundstrom** on February, 11 2013 | Airline & Terminal News



Dubai Airports and Emirates yesterday celebrated the completion of the phased launch of Concourse A – the world’s first purpose-built facility for the for A380 aircraft.

All 20 A380 capable contact gates and Emirates’ First Class and Business Class lounges, which comprise 29,000 square meters of the facility, are now fully operational after a five-week phase-in period.

The inaugural flight took place January 2 when Emirates operated EK003 bound for Heathrow from one of the four contact stands. Concourse A has handled 461,972 pieces of luggage carried on more than 2,450 flights serving 589,234 passengers.

Emirates has a fleet of 31 A380s and 59 on order. Concourse A, is part of the Terminal 3 complex built for use by Emirates. Passengers can travel to its network of 21 A380 destinations across Europe, North America, Australia and Asia.

“Much like the opening of Terminal 3 in 2008, the phase in of Concourse A has resulted in the seamless introduction of world-class infrastructure that responds to the rapid growth of Emirates and caters to the needs of its discerning and truly global customer base,” said Paul Griffiths, CEO of Dubai Airports in a February 10 announcement of the opening. “Concourse A is a vital element of our \$7.8 billion investment in the continued expansion of Dubai International which will see it become the

world's busiest airport for international passenger t



With 11 floors and a total area of 528,000 square meters, Concourse A is connected to Concourse B and Terminal 3 by underground train. First Class and Business Class lounges have dedicated floors, which extend the length of the concourse. They offer customers' fine dining with showcase kitchens, conference rooms, business centers, a Timeless Spa, entertainment zones, dedicated smoking areas and child play areas. In the First Class lounge, passengers also have the added convenience of a dedicated duty free shopping area and a Le Clos wine cellar.

Concourse A duty free shopping and dining included Paul, Umaizushi Bistro, Picnic, Wafi Gourmet, Carluccio's, Cho Gao, Pulp Juice Bar, McDonalds and McCafe, Shake Shack, Costa Metropolitan, Starbucks, Le Pain Quotidien, Giraffe, Heineken Lounge, Jack's Bar & Grill and Moët & Chandon Champagne Bar.

Concourse A boosts capacity at Dubai International from 60 million to 75 million passengers per year. It is an important part of Dubai Airports' \$7.8 billion Strategic Plan 2020 which will increase airport capacity to 90 million by 2018.

