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Unit: 1

The scale of the UK aviation industry

ASSESSMENT METHOD: Investigation/report – Research and Reporting

D1: Discuss the scale of the industry commenting on trends, operating characteristics and the organizations within it.

Sustainable Aviation (2016), states that the UK Aviation industry has turnover of over £60 billion with annual aerospace exports of £26 billion. The sectors of aviation are aerospace manufactures, airlines, airports, and air navigation service providers who all work together to sustain aviation. Sustainable Aviation (2016), also arranged some of the key facts and figures of the UK aviation industry which are;

- ✓ That it supports 961, 000 jobs in the UK
- ✓ Contributes £52 billion to the UK GDP
- ✓ Supports 3,500 education and training program
- ✓ Pays almost £8.7 billion UK tax
- ✓ Invest over £15 million in charity annually

Iata.org (2011) shows the country's (UK) report and states that airlines that are registered in the UK and travel to and from the UK carries 125 million passengers and approximately 1.1 million tonnes of freight annually. The five (5) largest airports in the UK are Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted, Manchester and Luton and they handle nearly 150 million passengers per year. The total of passengers who arrive and depart from the UK is 218 million and the freight handling yearly is 2 million and over. The aerospace sector of aviation employs 105, 000 people with 159,000 jobs available. This sector contributes £10.3 billion to the UK economy (GDP).

There are a lot of plans in place to sustain the future of the aviation industry. A popular aircraft manufacture 'Airbus' (2016) states that in the year 2050 a lot of changes will take place some of which are passengers and aircrafts and a that there will be more flights, lesser emissions and passengers will travel quicker. According to Clayton & Hilz (2015), trends in the aviation industry includes; increase customer expectation and Shifting airline landscape and Consultancy.uk, (2014) states that some trends in the near future are technology, economic and the environment.

The aviation industry comprises of airports, airlines, general aviation operations, regulatory bodies and ancillary services. There are 3 types of airport which are major international, regional and local airports. Each airport has its own geographical location and its own ownership structure. The major international airports are the largest airports in the UK and they process nearly 150 passengers per annum (iata.org, 2011). These airports have facilities that can't be found in other airports, some of the facilities are; kids playing area, multitask prayer room, executive lounges, hotels, shops and restaurants. An example is the Manchester airport. Regional airports (Newcastle Airport) normally operate flights in their region or continent. They have facilities as well but not as much as Major airports do. Regional airports are sometimes called domestic airports. A Local airport in the UK is Blackpool airport and it operates flights within the country having the route network known as 'domestic'. The airport is very small and it process less than 34,000 passengers in 2015.

The types of commercial aircrafts are full service scheduled, low-cost scheduled, charter and cargo. Aircrafts types are made by aircraft manufactures such as Airbus and Boeing which can be operated as full service and low-cost schedule airlines. The route networks in aviation include long/short haul, point to point, hub and spoke and international/domestic. Airlines issue timetables yearly so that people can know which flight will go where and when and they can book these flights either on their phones by downloading an app or online. When traveling in aircrafts, passengers can choose their class options and service levels but they might be charged more than the typical passenger fair cost.

According to Merriam-Webster (2016), General Aviation is “the operation of civilian aircraft not under the control of a common carrier” Aircraft operator, airfield operator and management and control are three (3) types of General aviation organization (GA). Flight school, flying club, air taxi, aircraft traffic control and airstrips are all apart of General Aviation. General Aviation organizations (GA) help airlines, aircrafts and management and control operate effectively. Regulatory bodies regulate rules to keep the industry safe and trade associations promote their interest. CAA is a regulatory body that works with drones, airlines and airports and a trade association is the British Business and General Aviation Association (BBGA). Ancillary services are provided by some of the general aviation organizations. Ground handlers, engine manufactures, in-flight catering companies, fuel suppliers, cleaning companies all provide services that helps to keep the airport and airstrip in good conditions.

References

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