

Dick Benschop to succeed Jos Nijhuis as Schiphol CEO

Royal Schiphol Group has announced Dick Benschop as its new President and CEO, effective 1 May.



Benschop takes over the reins from airport chief Jos Nijhuis who is retiring.

Nijhuis will occupy the role until 30 April and will continue to serve Royal Schiphol Group thereafter until 1 July to ease the transition process.

In addition to being a former Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in the Dutch governments Kok-II Cabinet (1998-2002) and President & CEO of Shell Netherlands (2011-2016), Benschop has also worked as a consultant for the Schiphol Group.

Louise Gunning, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Royal Schiphol Group said: Based on his experience in the public domain, combined with his extensive experience in the business world, we are convinced that he can give a binding direction to the next phase of Schiphol.

We believe that he is capable of addressing the complex challenges of aviation. We are confident that he and his team can further develop the airport in a smart, safe and sustainable manner.



DRIVING CONNECTIVITY

The management team at Schiphol from 1 May will be comprised of Jabine van der Meijs (*Chief Financial Officer*), Birgit Otto (*Chief Operations Officer*) and André van den Berg (*Chief Commercial Officer*), as well as Benschop (*Chief Executive Officer*).

One of Benschops core mandates in the role is growing the European hubs regional connectivity footprint.

As reported, Amsterdam Airport Schiphol grew its passenger traffic by 7.7% year-on-year to reach 68.4m.

Reflecting on the appointment, Benschop said: I look forward to being able to lead one of the most dynamic organisations in the Netherlands.

Aviation faces many challenges and opportunities. How can we further develop in a sustainable way? How can we find a new balance between nuisance and economic importance based on trust?

Benschop will seek to build on the sterling achievements of outgoing CEO Jos Nijhuis in growing the European hubs global aviation standing.

Paying tribute to Nijhuis outstanding contribution to the airport and Dutch aviation, Gunning added: Jos led Schiphol to become the airport with the best direct connectivity in Europe and the second best airport

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in the world when it comes to hub connectivity.

He has, together with the airlines, KLM in particular, made an important contribution to the connection between the Netherlands and the rest of the world.

TRB BUSINESS