

RYANAIR HOLDINGS PLC  
Form 6-K  
July 17, 2008

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 6-K**

**Report of Foreign Private Issuer**

**Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16  
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

For the month of July, 2008

**RYANAIR HOLDINGS PLC**  
(Translation of registrant's name into English)

**c/o Ryanair Ltd Corporate Head Office  
Dublin Airport  
County Dublin Ireland**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F..X.. Form 40-F.....

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant by furnishing the information contained in this Form is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

Yes ..... No ..X..

If "Yes" is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b): 82- \_\_\_\_\_

**RYANAIR UNVEILS**

**14%**  
**CAPACITY REDUCTIONS AT**  
**LONDON**  
**STANSTED THIS WINTER ('08/'09)**

Ryanair,  
London

Stansted

Airport

's largest airline today (Thursday 17<sup>th</sup>

July, 2008) announced substantial capacity cutbacks at Stansted for its Winter Schedule ('08/09). Ryanair, which last Winter had 36 aircraft based at Stansted, will this Winter reduce that number to 28 aircraft (a 25% reduction), and an approximate 14% reduction in the number of weekly flights from over 1,850 per week last year to just under 1,600 this year. Ryanair estimates that its traffic at London Stansted will decline this Winter by some 900,000 passengers compared to last Winter's schedule.

Ryanair's decision to cut back capacity at Stansted is for the following reasons:

- London Stansted is the most expensive of Ryanair's 28 bases.
- The  
BAA  
  
Airport  
monopoly has again increased airport charges by 15% this year, on top of a 100% increase last year.
- The total failure of the inadequate CAA regulatory regime to control these unjustified cost increases or to persuade BAA Stansted to meet the needs of its low fare airline users.
- The fact that oil prices have risen to \$140 a barrel.

Ryanair confirmed that it will lose less money this Winter by sitting these 8 aircraft on the ground, rather than flying them at an expensive airport like BAA Stansted, during the Winter when fares are extremely low, but oil prices remain stubbornly high. Ryanair confirmed that it had written to BAA Stansted in recent weeks offering to operate these aircraft/flights this Winter in return for a substantial discount on airport charges applicable to these flights for the Winter season only. Like most monopolies, the BAA dismissed Ryanair's reasonable requests out of hand. The BAA would rather impose high airport charges and have fewer passengers, rather than working with airline customers to lower costs and keep people flying during a Winter of crisis in the airline industry.

**Announcing these cutbacks in  
London  
this morning, Ryanair's C  
EO  
, Michael O'Leary said:**

*"These Winter*

S  
*chedule cutbacks, which are significantly greater than those of last*  
W  
*inter, show just how damaging the*  
BAA

*Airport*  
*monopoly has become to*  
*consumers and the best*  
*interests of*  
*London*  
*and*  
UK  
*tourism and the economy generally. Like most monopolies, the BAA continues to increase costs at*  
*three times*  
*the rate of inflation, while delivering*  
*miserable*  
*service and inadequate facilities. Passengers continue to suffer long queues at security and passport control*  
*and frequent baggage belt failures*  
*at Stansted because the BAA refuses to staff*  
*or operate*  
*these facilities*  
*adequately*

*"These cutbacks*  
*reaffirm*  
*the abject failure of Harry Bush and his*  
*inadequate*  
*regulatory team in the CAA who have repeatedly failed to*  
*restrain the BAA's high charges*  
*, price increases*  
*or to encourage them to meet the reasonable requirements of Stansted users*  
*by*  
*develop*  
*ing*  
*the efficient facilities we need and are willing to pay for.*

"  
*When*  
*a regulated monopoly makes it more profitable for airlines to sit aircraft on the ground rather than fly them through*  
*the winter*  
*, then obviously the CAA's laughable regulatory regime has failed*  
*. The BAA Stansted's rejection of Ryanair discount plan for this Winter*  
*proves*  
*yet again*  
*why*  
*the BAA monopoly should be broken up and replace*  
*d*  
*with three competing London airports whose*  
*primary*

*focus will be on stimulating traffic and developing low cost efficient facilities, which their customer airlines want and are willing to pay for.*

*"We hope that the Competition Commission report will in due course support Ryanair's call for the break up of the high cost BAA monopoly, and replace the inadequate and failed CAA regulatory regime with competing airports and better still competing terminals at the main London airports. Monopoly airports and the CAA's regulatory regime have delivered high prices and awful facilities. It is time we allowed competition to deliver where monopolies have failed".*

An example of these cutbacks is set out below:

**LONDON  
STANSTED WINTER '08/'09 CUTBACKS**

	Winter '07/ '08	Winter '08/ '09	
<b>Base Aircraft</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>(-22%)</b>
<b>Weekly Flights</b>	<b>1,860</b>	<b>1,590</b>	<b>(-14%)</b>
			<b>4%</b>
<b>Samples:</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>(-14%)</b>
<b>Dublin</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>(-31%)</b>
<b>Glasgow</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>(-20%)</b>
<b>Rome CIA</b>			

In addition Ryanair is also announcing 6 new routes this Winter from Stansted to Winter sun destinations including: Fuerteventura (Canaries), Ibiza, Tenerife, Malaga, Katowice (Poland) and Basel in Switzerland. These new routes are included in the above schedule, as part of the overall capacity reduction.

<b>Destination</b>	<b>Weekly Frequency</b>	<b>Start Date</b>
Malaga	3	28 th Oct'08
Fuerteventura	3	28 th Oct'08
Tenerife South	3	28 th Oct'08
Ibiza	3	28 th Oct'08
Katowice	7	27 th Oct'08
Basel	3	21 st Dec'08

Ends.

Thursday, 17  
th  
July 2008

**For further information  
please contact:**

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Consultants**

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, hereunto duly authorized.

RYANAIR HOLDINGS PLC

Date: 17 July 2008

By: \_\_\_/s/ James Callaghan\_\_\_

James Callaghan  
Company Secretary & Finance Director