

Study suggests seaplanes could ease pressure on world's airports

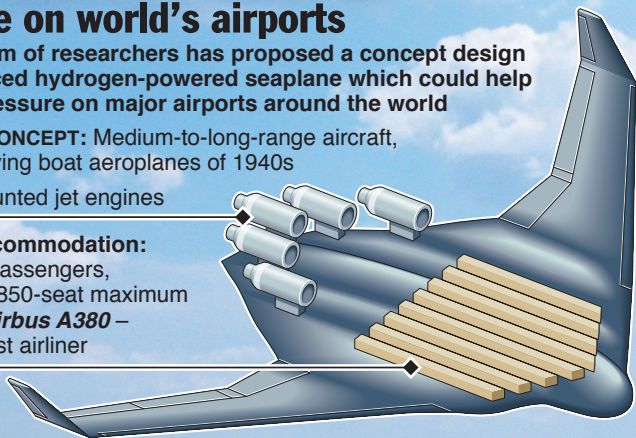
A British team of researchers has proposed a concept design of an advanced hydrogen-powered seaplane which could help to relieve pressure on major airports around the world

SEAPLANE CONCEPT: Medium-to-long-range aircraft, inspired by flying boat aeroplanes of 1940s

Five rear-mounted jet engines

Potential accommodation:

Up to 2,000 passengers, compared to 850-seat maximum capacity of **Airbus A380** – world's biggest airliner



Research shows feasibility of using seaplanes as alternative to conventional airliners for **transatlantic travel**, with further design refinements

KEY FEATURES

- **V-shaped hull:** Gives seaplane buoyancy and navigability when landing and taking off from water
- **“Blended wing body”:** Lends streamlined appearance and reduces air resistance when in flight, which could make aircraft more fuel-efficient
- **Colossal size:** Allows aircraft to use hydrogen fuel, which produces no harmful emissions, but requires four times more fuel tank volume than jet-grade kerosene

A380 to scale

