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and Swiss  
Airtainer Win  
2023 IATA  
Air Cargo  
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Awards

### Turkish Cargo

Joins the IATA CEIV Lithium  
Battery (CEIV Li-batt)  
Certification Program

### Lufthansa Cargo

leads the  
transformation  
course of the  
airfreight industry





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# CARGO NEWSWIRE

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# EDITOR'S LETTER

## CNS Partnership Conference to Focus on Maintaining Air Cargo Momentum

**G**lobally, passenger traffic is now at 88% of March 2019 levels, WHO has declared that COVID is no longer a public health emergency of international concern, and the air cargo decline continues to be moderate.

The CNS Partnership Conference is a key component of CNS' work. It has brought together the leaders and decision-makers of the industry to explore and influence the future development of air cargo. Lasting business relationships, strategic partnerships and life-long friendships were initiated at our annual conference.

The CNS Partnership Conference is an annual event organized by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and Cargo Network Services Corporation (CNS) that focuses on maintaining air cargo momentum. This year's conference will be held in Miami from June 4-6 at the JW Marriott Miami Turnberry Resort & Spa. The theme of this year's conference is "Momentum: Maintaining and Gaining" which will focus on how air cargo proved its worth during the pandemic by delivering critical medical supplies

and vaccines while maintaining supply chains in the face of near-global border restrictions.

The CNS Partnership Conference maintains a 3-day action-packed program! Mixing fun social events and content sessions, enabling you to:

- Create connections with potential partners and prospective new businesses.
- Learn about the latest trends and developments affecting the air cargo supply chain through a conference-type set-up in addition to a variety of panels and break-out sessions.
- Stay up-to-date with the latest government regulations and their impact on the industry.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) and Cargo Network Services Corporation (CNS) announced that the theme of this year's CNS Partnership Conference will be "Momentum: Maintaining and Gaining." The CNS Partnership Conference is taking place in Miami, 4-6 June.

*"Air Cargo proved its worth during the pandemic, delivering critical medical supplies and vaccines, while maintaining*

The **CNS Partnership Conference** will take place at the **JW Marriott Miami Turnberry Resort & Spa**. Across its 300-acre setting, you'll find Mediterranean-inspired architecture, marble walkways, sparkling fountains and a tropical garden with a 100-year-old Banyan tree. The closest airports are the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (12 miles from the hotel) and the Miami International Airport (18 miles from the hotel).

Miami is most famous for its amazing weather and beaches. Its tropical climate helps to make Miami one of America's great winter resorts, and tourism is a major component of the city's economy. The city is also a centre of international banking and finance, business services, manufacturing (including apparel, medical equipment, pharmaceuticals, printing, and metal products) and international commerce.





# CNS

# PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE

Miami, USA  
4-6 June, 2023

supply chains in the face of near-global border restrictions. Today, we must recall the pandemic resilience as we address issues of sustainability, a slowing global economy and weakening trade, and skilled labour shortages. The CNS Partnership Conference brings together all parts of the air cargo supply chain to discuss and debate these challenges and opportunities,” said **Laura Pullins, President CNS.**

Opening keynote addresses will be presented by: **Tom Owen, Director, Cathay Cargo, Jeff Euler, Vice President, Global Air Freight, FedEx Logistics, Andrés Bianchi, Chief Executive Officer, LATAM Cargo**

**Plenary sessions will address**  
**Air cargo economic outlook -** Dangerous goods, Air cargo security, Digitalization, Sustainability,

**Attracting and retaining -** upskilling your team.

The popular Innovation Stage, sponsored by Dallas Fort Worth International Airport returns this year.

**Topics to be presented include:**

**Air Cargo Compliance -** Digitally Transforming DG Acceptance, **CBTA -** Dangerous Goods Training, **Drones in cargo, Trade Facilitation and Policy**

And more...

*“The CNS Partnership Conference brings together the forwarding and the airline communities to work toward improving the value proposition of air cargo in the supply chain,” said Pullins.*



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We are on



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# Emirates SkyCargo's new campaign spotlights the people impact of its air logistics expertise and how it makes 'The World Work Better'



*has established its market-leading capabilities in several key specialist air logistics areas by continually investing in technology, facilities, equipment, and people. We also work closely with our customers and partners to develop highly effective and efficient solutions. This campaign's inspirational and aspirational approach conveys our ambitions to make the world work better through our trusted logistics expertise. We want people to realise that we're not in the business of moving boxes but rather, we are in the business of ensuring that important things in life, whether it is a pet, a medicine, or a diamond ring, reach those who need it, when they need it."*

Emirates SkyCargo has announced the launch of a new creative advertising campaign ahead of air cargo Europe, the world's leading trade fair for air cargo and logistics, which takes place between 9-12th May in Munich.

Showcasing how **'The World Works Better with Emirates SkyCargo'**, the creative brings to life six of its specialist air logistics product areas: pharmaceuticals, flowers, fruits, pets, horses and valuables.

In a departure from functional USP-focussed advertising messages often seen in the cargo industry, Emirates' new campaign uses everyday scenarios to showcase the tangible impact that Emirates SkyCargo's safe and reliable logistics expertise has on the lives of people around the world.

The 60-second advert documents moments in a person's life, such as holding a bouquet of flowers on their wedding day, receiving life-saving healthcare, or

even something as simple as buying and eating fresh produce. The voiceover explains that 'before that moment, a chain reaction takes place, often starting on the other side of the world – people tend not to think of that reaction, or even care – welcome to the world of logistics'. It then goes on to highlight where the world would be without it.

**Nabil Sultan, Chief Cargo Officer at Emirates airline said:** "Over the years, Emirates SkyCargo

The campaign will run in a series of digital and print adverts, as well as out of home adverts hosted at Munich Airport and on billboards around the city during air cargo Europe. It will also be featured at Emirates stand B1401/502 at air cargo Europe.

Filmed in Barcelona, the campaign was scripted in-house by the Emirates Brand Team, directed by Vaughan Arnell, and produced by Jessica Stott of Hogarth London. Photography was directed by Martijn van Broekhuizen.





**THE WORLD WORKS  
BETTER WITH  
EMIRATES SKYCARGO**

Providing thoroughbreds with special care and attention at every step of their journey.



**THE WORLD WORKS  
BETTER WITH  
EMIRATES SKYCARGO**

Keeping fruits fresh throughout their journey to more than 140 destinations worldwide.





# THE WORLD WORKS BETTER WITH EMIRATES SKYCARGO

Ensuring the finest delicacies are delivered fresh  
to over 140 destinations worldwide.

A romantic scene where a man with curly hair and a beard is proposing to a woman with long dark hair. He is holding a small red ring box open, showing a diamond ring. The woman is smiling and looking at the ring. They are in a restaurant setting with a stone archway in the background.

# THE WORLD WORKS BETTER WITH EMIRATES SKYCARGO

Ensuring peace of mind, we transport the  
most precious items across 6 continents.

The logo for Emirates SkyCargo, featuring the airline's falcon emblem above the text "Emirates SkyCargo" in white on a red background.



A photograph of a family in a hospital room. A female doctor in a white lab coat stands on the left, smiling and holding a clipboard. A man and a woman sit on the right, smiling at a young child who is lying in a hospital bed. The room is equipped with medical monitors and IV stands.

**THE WORLD WORKS  
BETTER WITH  
EMIRATES SKYCARGO**

Transporting critical pharma and medical devices  
across 6 continents.

A photograph of a woman with dark hair, wearing an orange shirt, sitting on a grassy lawn and hugging a golden retriever. The dog is looking towards the camera with its tongue out. The background shows lush green trees.

**THE WORLD WORKS  
BETTER WITH  
EMIRATES SKYCARGO**

Keeping families together.  
We carry pets to over 140 destinations worldwide.





# cargo-partner celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary

In 2023, cargo-partner is celebrating its 40th global anniversary with various events for customers and employees around the world. In addition, several cargo-partner country organizations are also celebrating anniversaries this year, including the 30th anniversary in Slovakia and the Czech Republic, the 25th anniversaries in Poland and Croatia as well as the 15th anniversary in Thailand and Singapore.

## **Founding in Vienna and expansion to Europe, USA and Asia**

cargo-partner started out in 1983 as an air freight specialist with only five employees at the Vienna airport. Soon after, the company began to expand its

*This year marks the 40th anniversary of cargo-partner's founding in 1983. From a small air freight specialist at Vienna International Airport to a global transport and logistics provider with over 4,000 employees in 40 countries, the company has grown steadily over the past 40 years, continuously adding new innovations to its service portfolio.*

service portfolio to provide integrated air and sea cargo solutions, supported by a growing network of trucking partners.

After the reunification of Europe in 1989, cargo-partner was one of the first Austrian companies to recognize the market potential of Eastern Europe and to expand to include Austria's neighboring countries. From 1993 on, the logistics company began to grow its presence outside national borders, starting with Bratislava, Prague and

Budapest, followed by other major cities in Europe. In 2001, cargo-partner founded its first branch office in the USA, and in 2004, the logistics provider ventured into the Far East with the opening of an office in Taiwan. Today, the company is represented with over 4,000 employees at 160 offices in more than 40 countries worldwide.

## **Innovative info-logistics solutions**

In 2000, cargo-partner implemented





the first version of its SPOT Visibility & Collaboration Platform, recognizing early on that digitization would soon become a critical success factor in the industry. What started as a simple tracking tool has since evolved into a comprehensive supply chain management platform, with features ranging from order and transport management to warehousing, reporting and parcel dispatch. SPOT can be accessed from any browser and as a mobile app. The platform is continuously updated and enhanced, with the next major relaunch scheduled for 2024.

In 2020, the company established a Digital Office with the goal of creating an end-to-end customer experience along the transport process. Company founder Stefan Krauter explains: *"Following our motto 'we take it personally', we want to focus on the customer journey to better understand our customers' expectations and optimize our systems accordingly."*

*"Our goal is to provide a seamless digital experience enabling a more intuitive and efficient management of transport processes."*

#### **Strategic focus on warehousing**

Over the past decade, cargo-partner has placed a strategic focus on warehousing and successfully established contract logistics as the third and rapidly growing main pillar of its service portfolio. With over 300,000 m<sup>2</sup> of storage space in Europe, Asia, Australia and the USA, cargo-partner covers all major logistics hubs worldwide, creating a solid basis to support its customers' international production and distribution networks.

#### **Sustainability: "the most important challenge of our time"**

cargo-partner has always been aware of its social and environmental responsibility as a major player in the global logistics market.

The establishment of the internal association "Environmental cargo-partners e.V." in 2006 was a major milestone in this regard. In 2018, the company opened its all-timber iLogistics Center in Austria, a lighthouse project for sustainable architecture. cargo-partner consistently supports the development of fuel-efficient aircraft, is increasingly using electric vehicles and photovoltaic systems, and is further reducing its resource consumption through digitalization. At the same time, the logistics provider also helps its customers to track and reduce their CO<sub>2</sub> footprint.

In the words of **company founder Stefan Krauter**: *"The ongoing global climate crisis is perhaps the most important challenge of our time. We will continue to support environmental initiatives and implement sustainable technologies to work towards a better tomorrow."*

# Abu Dhabi International Airport Welcomes First SF Express Flight



**A**bu Dhabi Airports, the owner and operator of five airports in the emirate of Abu Dhabi, welcomed the first SF Express cargo plane to Abu Dhabi International Airport.

The inaugural flight signalled the launch of operations for the global freight leader for the first time in the region. This strategic partnership is in collaboration with Etihad Cargo and Kerry Logistics, and further strengthens Abu Dhabi International Airport's position as a key regional cargo hub.

Chinese-based SF Express, one of the world's largest providers of express logistics services and solutions, has gained significant attention in the logistics industry due to its recent international expansion strategy. With its sights set on strengthening its position as a major logistics and cargo player, SF Express has made impressive breakthroughs by launching operations between China's Wuhan and Abu Dhabi.

Speaking about this achievement, **His Excellency Eng. Jamal Al Dhaheri, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer**

**of Abu Dhabi Airports** said: "We are proud to welcome SF Express to Abu Dhabi. This marks a new milestone in our efforts to become a leading cargo and logistics hub in the region. We eagerly anticipate further partnerships as we continue our growth journey to establish Abu Dhabi as a major air cargo hub in the region."

By partnering with industry leaders Etihad Cargo and Kerry Logistics, SF Express is set for success in the Middle East. With Etihad Cargo's prominence in the air cargo and logistics industry and Kerry Logistics' strong presence in the region, SF Express will be able to tap into the expertise and resources of these global providers, resulting in higher-quality and more reliable service delivery for their customers.

**Li Sheng, Chairman of SF Airlines**, said "Working with Abu Dhabi Airports will undoubtedly be a significant milestone and we are confident that this partnership will be beneficial for all parties involved. Abu Dhabi Airports is an important cargo hub in the region, and we are eager

to work together as we connect and create value for our customers and strengthen our growing network."

Commenting on the partnership, **Martin Drew, Senior Vice President – Global Sales & Cargo at Etihad Airways**, said: "Etihad Cargo is fully aligned with the emirate of Abu Dhabi's vision of becoming a global logistics hub. The inaugural SF Express cargo flight's arrival in Abu Dhabi marks the beginning of a partnership between Etihad Cargo, Abu Dhabi Airports, SF Express and Kerry Logistics that not only supports SF Express's Middle East expansion plans but also benefits Etihad Cargo's customers, adding another mega hub gateway in China to Etihad Cargo's growing global network, further strengthening cooperation between Abu Dhabi and China."

Abu Dhabi International Airport has been determined to establish itself as a prime air cargo and logistics hub by forging new strategic partnerships. This new announcement further bolsters its standing in the region and is an important move to foster the growth of logistics business in the Middle East.



# Swedavia is developing Cargo City at Arlanda – a new center for air cargo and logistics



*Stockholm Arlanda Airport is currently in a development phase. Cargo City, a new centre for air cargo, logistics and manufacturing, is being developed in an area close to the terminals, with land for development there covering a total of 144,400 m<sup>2</sup>. Swedavia is looking for one or more partners for a long-term joint venture.*

**C**onstruction is in full swing at Stockholm Arlanda Airport. In the summer of 2023, a new security checkpoint will open in Terminal 5, and in the autumn the first step of the new Marketplace will open – the largest commercial investment ever at Arlanda.

But construction is also under way elsewhere at Arlanda. In the southwest section of the airport, Cargo City is taking shape. Cargo City will be a new centre for air cargo, logistics and manufacturing. Situated one kilometre from Sweden's largest airport and with good connectivity to road networks, it is an optimal location for companies that need efficient premises and facilities.

Swedavia's Real Estate business segment is looking for one or more partners that want to work in partnership with Real Estate to develop land covering a total of about 144,400 m<sup>2</sup> and with estimated building rights for a gross building area

of about 58,000 m<sup>2</sup>. Swedavia sees great advantages in working together with one or more operators that have good skills and experience in property development with a focus on logistics and/or manufacturing. Real Estate is primarily looking for one or more partners for long-term work in one or more joint venture companies.

"The area around Arlanda has become one of the most important development areas for manufacturing and logistics in the Stockholm region. We think it is exciting that we can now offer this opportunity for collaboration and partnership on such a large area at Airport City Stockholm and look forward to many interesting business proposals," says Stefan Stenberg, CEO of Swedavia Real Estate.

## 5 investment aspects:

### Opportunity for a JV partnership

- Opportunity for a joint venture

partnership with Swedavia, which entails shared risk and shared responsibility for developing the area chosen.

### Strategic and optimal location

-The development area has a strategic and optimal location for both logistics and manufacturing in close proximity to Stockholm Arlanda Airport and the logistics hub Stockholm Nord, near the E4 motorway.

### Priority development area

- The property is located in a priority development area that will be a new centre for air cargo, logistics and manufacturing.

**Generous zoning plan** - The development area is subject to a generous zoning plan that sets a generous building height and site coverage ratio.

**Good transport options** -Part of Airport City Stockholm and the regional metropolis of Märsta-Arlanda with good transport options.



# UAE

**issues licence**  
for electric cargo  
aircraft amid shift  
to eco-friendly  
transport

*The move aims to boost the use of sustainable options in the logistics sector*

**T**he UAE Regulations Lab has issued a licence for electric cargo aircraft as the country seeks to accelerate the shift towards eco-friendly transport and enhance the sustainability of the air cargo industry.

This licence was issued in collaboration with logistics company United Parcel Service to test electric vertical take-off and landing aircraft





in the UAE, said a statement from the Government Media Office on Tuesday.

It will “contribute to reducing the carbon footprint by encouraging the adoption of clean energy and harnessing the potential of technology and innovation in redefining the future of the logistics sector and its impact on the environment and climate”. The licence also provides a strong legislative structure to operate a new generation of cargo aircraft that use clean energy.

“The UAE is keen to adopt international best practices and advanced technologies in the air cargo industry,” **Abdulla bin Touq, Minister of Economy and chairman of the General Civil Aviation Authority** said.

“Our country has become one of the most developed countries in the efficiency of air cargo operations. The application of the electric air cargo system will impact this sector positively, in accordance with the best standards of sustainability.”

The global all-electric aircraft sector is expected to grow by 14 per cent to about \$20 billion by 2030, up from \$6 billion in 2021, a study last year by

Dublin-based consultancy Research and Markets found.

Industry stakeholders are developing core aircraft components and adopting technologies to transition the sector into a more sustainable means of air transport and cut carbon emissions.

Air taxis will begin flying in Dubai within three years, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid, Vice President and Ruler of Dubai, said during the World Government Summit in Dubai.

Sheikh Mohammed added that he had approved designs for air taxi stations.

The RegLab, launched in 2019, seeks to “align regulation speed with innovation speed” by facilitating the development of regulations that keep pace with developments in sectors such as mobility, health, 3D printing technologies and artificial intelligence.

Its latest aircraft licence will “provide the legal provision on a temporary basis to advance the UAE’s journey towards net zero emissions by 2050”, Mr bin Touq said.

The UAE is seeking to increase investments in the eco-friendly air

transport sector and enhance its contribution to the country’s gross domestic product, the minister added.

Under the licence, UPS will be able to start its cargo operations through a new sustainable aircraft that conforms to the specifications and standards adopted internationally in the electric air cargo and transport system.

The GCAA possesses the capabilities and the necessary legislation to provide a safe operating environment for electric cargo aircraft through the issuance of regulations concerned with licensing runways for electric aircraft, as well as those related to airworthiness and operation, its **director general Saif Al Suwaidi** said.

While the entry of electric cargo flights could lead to congestion of airspace, this will also provide ease and flexibility of movement, lower noise and operate on clean energy, he said.

UPS has committed to 100 per cent carbon neutrality by 2050. The company will source 30 per cent of its aviation fuel from sustainable sources by 2035.

# LATAM Group

## becomes the first MIA Foreign Trade Zone operator



**L**ATAM Airlines Group has begun to ship its aircraft parts from Chile to its maintenance facility at Miami International Airport for repair and then send them back to South America, all without paying federal import taxes, thanks to its new status as an operator within MIA's Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) magnet site.

LATAM Group is the first approved operator within MIA's FTZ magnet site, which allows airport tenants to import materials that can then be manufactured, repaired, stored, and/or re-distributed anywhere on MIA property, with the federal tariffs on those materials deferred, reduced, or eliminated – providing valuable time and cost savings.

*"Congratulations to LATAM Group for becoming our launch partner in this innovative program at MIA,"* **Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava.**

*"MIA is already the leading U.S. airport for international freight, and its FTZ magnet site creates yet another competitive advantage for airlines and businesses looking to expand their operations at the premier cargo gateway of the Americas."*

Companies within an FTZ are able to defer paying duties until the products exit the site, reduce duties on combined finished products instead of on each individual product, and eliminate duties on products being imported to the site and then re-

exported. Companies handling high-traffic commodities at MIA such as pharmaceuticals, electronics, textiles, auto parts, aircraft parts, avionics, machinery equipment, consumer goods, and perishables are ideal operators for MIA's FTZ magnet site.

*"We are very proud and excited to be the first airline to achieve this important certification at MIA,"* **Ricardo Zuniga, Supply Chain and Logistics Director at LATAM Airlines USA.**

*"This opens the door to significant benefits and savings opportunities for cross-docking technical materials entering and leaving the United States. In the long run, this certification is going to provide LATAM Airlines with further opportunities to expand in the FTZ."*



# Lufthansa Cargo adds new destinations to its short- and medium-haul network

- New in the A321F flight schedule: Larnaca, Athens and Milan
- Intra-European route network grows: more than 50 weekly flights to twelve destinations on offer in the summer timetable
- Two more Airbus A321 freighters expected in summer



Starting in April, Lufthansa Cargo is adding new destinations to its European route network and thus successively expanding it further. The new freighter destinations include Larnaca (Cyprus), Athens and Milan. In total, Lufthansa Cargo will serve twelve destinations in the intra-European short- and medium-haul network on more than 50 weekly flights with Airbus A321 freighters.

As of April 12, Lufthansa Cargo's summer flight schedule will be expanded to include two weekly connections to Larnaca on Cyprus in a combined routing with the Greek capital Athens, offering customers a fast connection for their cargo on a direct route to the hub in Frankfurt with onward transportation to destinations worldwide. In addition, a weekly connection to Milan complements the service and in this way links the economically strong region of Lombardy in northern Italy

with Central Europe and the rest of the world.

For a year now, Lufthansa Cargo has been successfully offering customers fast and flexible transport solutions with its A321F connections, whether in scheduled or charter business. Lufthansa Cargo currently operates two A321F freighters. By late summer, the fleet will be expanded to a total of four aircraft. As a twin-engine, technically advanced narrow-body aircraft, the Airbus A321 freighter is very powerful and at the same time fuel-efficient. A total of 28 tons of payload is available on 14 pallet and container positions on the main deck and ten on the lower deck. The adjustments and extensions to the flight schedule on short- and medium-haul routes associated with the further expansion of the fleet are currently still in the planning stage.

*"We look back with satisfaction on the first year of A321 operations and are*

*delighted with the positive response and increasing demand from our customers. All signs are pointing to growth at Lufthansa Cargo. With Larnaca, Athens and Milan, we have now added further very promising destinations to our route network. We want to expand our presence with our well-known service and product quality both in the fast-growing e-commerce segment and in the field of individual transport solutions according to customer needs," says*  
**Ashwin Bhat, Chief Commercial Officer at Lufthansa Cargo.**

In addition to its expanded short- and medium-haul services, Lufthansa Cargo offers its customers 79 weekly connections with 16 Boeing 777 freighters to intercontinental destinations in this year's summer flight schedule and markets the belly capacities of more than 7,000 flights operated by Lufthansa, Austrian Airlines, Brussels Airlines, Eurowings Discover and SunExpress.



## Lufthansa Cargo leads the transformation course of the airfreight industry

- On the occasion of Logistics Day on April 20: Air freight is indispensable, so is reducing the carbon footprint
- Every action counts: Sustainable Aviation Fuels, fleet modernization, use of innovative technologies, digital services, loading equipment optimization and recycling in focus of measures





**A**ir freight is one of the most important forms of goods transport worldwide. It offers the possibility of transporting time-critical goods such as aid supplies, sensitive goods such as medicines, or valuable goods such as works of art to their destination safely and without interrupting the transport chain. Sustainable developments are driving

the future of air freight logistics. And even though there is still a long way to go before climate protection goals are achieved, the industry is already doing a lot. On Logistics Day, Lufthansa Cargo once again appeals to aviation's potential for change: "Air freight is indispensable." But we need sustainable change if we want to reduce the carbon footprint. To this end, we have set ourselves ambitious goals, and we see in practice that efficient flying, e.g. by using sustainable fuels, work. But to make a difference in terms of reducing emissions overall, the entire air freight logistics industry must follow suit. To this end, current developments must be used throughout the industry and future technologies must be recognized in good time," explains Brian Kowalke, Environmental Manager at Lufthansa Cargo.

#### **Lufthansa Cargo is one of the industry pioneers in the field of sustainability**

Lufthansa Cargo's efforts clearly show that climate protection can also be successfully implemented in airfreight logistics. By 2030 at the latest, the company aims to halve its carbon footprint compared to 2019 and to be completely CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral by 2050. In this regard, Lufthansa Cargo plays a pioneering role within the industry, as can be seen, among other things, in the implementation of the EU regulation ReFuelEU: In the new ReFuelEU Aviation Regulation, the EU Commission has defined a binding quota of renewable fuels for aviation. By 2025, for example, at least two per cent and by 2030 at least five per cent of SAF must be blended. Compared to fossil fuels, SAF reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by up to 80 per cent. Today, Lufthansa Cargo is already scratching at the set first mark of two per cent: In 2022, the SAF share in the fuel consumption of Lufthansa Cargo freighter aircraft was already 1.8 per cent. Together with its partner DB Schenker, the company also offers the only regular full-charter freighter connection with 100 per cent non-fossil fuel.

*It offers the possibility of transporting time-critical goods such as aid supplies, sensitive goods such as medicines, or valuable goods such as works of art to their destination safely and without interrupting the transport chain.*

#### **Every action counts: Potentials of the air freight industry**

As a forward-looking company, Lufthansa Cargo invests not only in renewable fuels but also continuously in the modernization of its fleet and operates the most fuel-efficient cargo aircraft on the market. To further improve the fleet's fuel efficiency, the company relies on new technologies such as AeroSHARK, a special surface film that reduces the aircraft's frictional resistance. Extrapolated to Lufthansa Cargo's entire 777 fleets, this alone can save approximately 13,000 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and more than 4,000 tons of kerosene annually. Other measures, such as reducing weight on board and flight optimization, further reduce the fleet's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Digitization offers great potential: Lufthansa Cargo has already integrated this into its own service and today offers its customers, for example, extensive digital options along the transport chain - starting with eBooking and ending with eTracking. "If we want to improve the industry's carbon footprint, we have to use every opportunity to further reduce our CO<sub>2</sub> emissions," says Kowalke. "This is the only way we can get closer to CO<sub>2</sub> neutrality, step by step. Sustainability must always be thought of holistically. So we also take smaller measures such as loading equipment optimization and recycling seriously. We are firmly convinced that every action counts."

# Saudia Cargo

## agreement with Tower Cold Chain extends choice in Middle East pharmaceutical shipments





**S**audia Cargo has added Tower Cold Chain to its approved roster of temperature-controlled containers for shipping pharmaceutical, biotech and life science products, in a new global rental agreement.

The deal reinforces Saudia Cargo's commitment to having the broadest possible selection of cold chain products (both in terms of cargo size and temperature requirements) to serve the growing requirements of pharmaceutical customers from around the world.

A key benefit of Tower Cold Chain's technology is its reliability in maintaining product integrity without the need of electricity even in extreme heat, meaning that a robust solution

is required to prevent temperature excursions.

*"Given these conditions, we have an extra duty of care to customers to ensure due diligence in choosing our pharmaceutical cold chain partners," commented Adel Elshazly Global Product Manager at Saudia Cargo.*

*"Tower's passive solutions are proven to maintain temperatures up to 120 hours, without any need for intervention or external power.*

*The Tower range offers effective physical and temperature protection for internal payloads from 3075 litres down to 26.4 litres – the latter made possible by the launch in 2022 of the KTEvolution, the company's first hand-held container, ideal for small-batch,*

*direct-to-patient shipments.*

*Tower containers ensure up to 120-hour protection for products that require an internal temperature of -80°C (ultracold), -60°C (ultracold), -20°C (frozen), +5°C (refrigerated) or +20°C (controlled room temperature).*

*"The breadth of the Tower range means we can extend our network and provide customers with greater choice, including the ability to ship pharmaceuticals on narrow-bodied as well as wide-bodied aircrafts" Adel Elshazly stated.*

With hubs in Saudi Arabia's three biggest airports – Jeddah, Riyadh and Dammam – Saudia Cargo is a key partner for companies shipping pharmaceuticals into the Middle East. The European market in particular is a major source of pharmaceutical and life science cargo, a factor that was integral to Saudia Cargo's selection of Tower Cold Chain.

*"Tower has a growing network of hubs, including locations where much of our business hails from airports such as Frankfurt, Zurich and Milan. The proximity and availability of Tower containers at these hubs mean we can offer seamless and direct delivery to our airports".*

Customers wanting to use Tower containers should discuss their requirements with Saudia Cargo, who will then lease the chosen solution using Tower's intuitive 24/7 online ordering system.

*"We choose our partners carefully and we know Tower is a pillar of the pharmaceutical container market, we are delighted to announce this partnership which will take us to new heights for global customer satisfaction" added Adel Elshazly.*

**Tower's Chief Executive Niall Balfour said:** "As a global company, this partnership is a vital part of our commitment to customers. "Saudia Cargo gives us a valuable gateway into the Middle East, and in turn, we are honoured to be able to help them meet customer demand for robust, reliable, and reusable pharmaceutical cold chain solutions."



# Challenge Group: Establishing excellence in Chinese e-commerce



China and e-commerce go hand-in-hand, and Liège, at the heart of the golden triangle in Europe, has quickly become a preferred European air cargo gateway.

*“Challenge Group’s activity out of China is currently based on e-commerce demand which already makes up 30% of our business at Liège airport and saw 10% year-on-year growth in 2022,” says Yossi Shoukroun, CEO of Challenge Group.*

*The commodity requires a very different operational set-up to general air cargo since shipments are handled at piece level and sorted according to destination and last-mile delivery. “e-commerce from China must reach*

*its European end-destination within a maximum of three, preferably two days,”*

**Yossi Shoukroun explains.**

ULDs from China’s leading e-commerce vendors, arriving in Liège mainly from Zhengzhou Xinzheng International Airport (CGO) and Hong Kong (HKG), are transferred to Challenge Handling’s dedicated second line warehouse, where they are broken down to house air waybill level and then built-up according to their destination country.

The main European destinations are all within comfortable trucking reach from Liège: Paris (CDG), Frankfurt/Main (FRA), London-Heathrow (LHR), Amsterdam (AMS), Malpensa (MXP),

and Riga (RIX). Challenge Logistics provides the middle mile service directly to the distribution center at the destination, where the last mile provider takes over domestic deliveries.

This smooth end-to-end e-commerce solution speeds up the delivery process and is a more sustainable solution as it avoids multiple incoming trucks to Liège for shipment collection.

*“e-commerce is the fastest growing commodity in air cargo and comes with its own highly specific requirements,” says Or Zak, Commercial Vice President of Challenge Group.*

*“End-to-end solutions from a single source remove the complexity*



for customers who otherwise need to individually engage with multiple supply chain stakeholders. “Instead, using Challenge Group enables them to guarantee reliable timeframes to their end customers while we take care of all the logistical necessities.”

This includes customs clearance in Liège, for example, which Challenge Group recently launched as a product offering together with the middle mile delivery to the first distribution point in the country of destination, which then becomes a domestic delivery for the last mile operator.

“In establishing a solid e-commerce product, Challenge Group is adding a core vertical to its product portfolio in perfect alignment with its own growth plans, which sets it up as a perfect

strategic partner for e-commerce,” he concludes.

A strategic partner that is experienced in dealing with one of the major challenges of e-commerce: Lithium Batteries (ELI & ELM).

“Electronics containing Lithium Batteries are the main e-commerce commodities coming into Europe from China,” Or Zak explains. “Challenge Airlines is one of very few carriers transporting items containing UN3480 and UN3090. Our experts are alert and rigorously trained to comply with all international regulations regarding Lithium Batteries, to ensure maximum safety on board and in the warehouse.”

“With Liège firmly established as the main European e-commerce gateway for China, the next logical

step for Challenge Group is to expand its footprint in China,” states Yossi Shoukroun.

“Having noticed the change that is taking place in the supply chain business model in terms of stock management and delivery times, we are looking at new markets, China in particular, with a view to offering short and medium-haul air cargo network destinations. “Our new, more agile fleet of four B767F, the ideal aircraft for e-commerce, could be deployed to link China and the Indian Subcontinent or Africa, for example.” Partnership discussions are already underway with a major Chinese airport partner regarding a warehouse location. “A Chinese base will help us to further develop our end-to-end solution and reduce the delivery time to the final customer.”

## Ontario International Airport commercial freight decreases 10.3% in March

Shipments of commercial freight and mail at Ontario International Airport, which measured more than 65,000 tons, decreased 10.3% in March compared with 2022. Cargo tonnage was 9% lower on a year-to-date basis. Even so, ONT continues to outperform the industry as a whole as higher interest rates and slowing consumer demand have impacted shipping volumes.

Worldwide cargo volumes were 11% lower in the first quarter, according to WorldACD Market Data, an Amsterdam-based publishing enterprise which compiles market data for shippers, airlines, airports and others in the air cargo market.



Air cargo (tonnage)	Mar 2023	Mar 2022	% Change	YTD 2023	YTD 2022	% Change
Freight	60,440	67,795	-10.85 %	170,531	188,332	-9.5 %
Mail	5,080	5,303	-4.19 %	13,951	14,208	-1.8 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>65,520</b>	<b>73,098</b>	<b>-10.37 %</b>	<b>184,482</b>	<b>202,540</b>	<b>-8.9 %</b>

# Etihad Cargo and SF Airlines connect their mega hubs and expand network



- Etihad Cargo and SF Airlines have signed a comprehensive agreement to operate flights connecting their respective mega hubs
- The agreement will see Etihad Cargo increasing cargo capacity and expanding its network reach into 25 domestic destinations in the Chinese market
- SF Airlines will benefit from Etihad Cargo's global network of destinations, further expanding the carrier's international presence

Etihad Cargo, the cargo and logistics arm of Etihad Airways, has reinforced its commitment to the Chinese market with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with China's SF Airlines. Following the MoU, both carriers will start operating flights via their respective fleets to the other carrier's hub in April, which will enable the UAE's national carrier to expand its reach into China via SF Airline's extensive in-country network.

The new partnership between Etihad Cargo and SF Airlines will provide Etihad Cargo's customers with greater connectivity to 25

domestic destinations in China via SF Airlines' road feeder service trucking network, further enhancing Etihad Cargo's capabilities in the region. In February 2023, the carrier launched an additional direct freighter service to Shanghai, increasing the total number of freighter flights per week to eight. This MoU is the latest step by Etihad Cargo in expanding its operations in China and will see the carrier utilising SF Airlines' Chinese network to transport cargo to other destinations in China via the Chinese carrier's Hubei Province mega hub. Etihad Cargo will operate the flights on a Boeing 777 freighter, with services commencing on

28 April 2023 in line with this partnership.

**Martin Drew, Senior Vice President – Global Sales & Cargo at Etihad Airways,** said, "Etihad Cargo is committed to establishing partnerships that add value to customers across the supply chain. Strengthening the connection between Abu Dhabi and one of SF Airlines' major Chinese hubs will enable Etihad Cargo's customers to benefit from SF Airlines' exhaustive distribution

capabilities in China, and SF Airlines will reap the benefits of Etihad Cargo's global network for its express product. Etihad Cargo is committed to the country's ambitious growth vision, and this partnership supports the further development of Abu Dhabi as a major logistics and express hub for the region."

**Li Sheng, Chairman of SF Airlines,** said "Etihad Cargo is an industry-leading company, with a competitive cargo network from Abu Dhabi to the world. SF Airlines is excited the two companies can work together to connect hubs and strengthen the network of both airlines. SF Airlines is looking forward to this cooperation, which will offer good value to customers and enable them to develop their international business with more convenient and diversified global transportation options."

SF Airlines, the cargo arm of SF Holding, operates the largest cargo air fleets in China. Via the capacity-sharing agreement with SF Airlines, Etihad Cargo will provide greater market access to key destinations in mainland China, Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan.



# Hermes extends contr with Groundforce Portugal

**H**ermes Logistics Technologies (HLT) is set to upgrade long-term customer Groundforce Portugal to its latest cloud-based Hermes 5 cargo management system, Hermes Software as a Service (SaaS), bringing major enhancements to security and increasing the speed, volume, and accuracy of cargo processing at three of the handler's Portuguese stations.

Groundforce Portugal's operations at Lisbon, Porto, and Funchal airports will all benefit from the migration to Hermes SaaS, with Faro station expected to follow in the near future.

The upgrade represents the expansion of a long-term collaboration between HLT and Groundforce Portugal, the Portuguese leader for ground handling services and HLT customer of more than fifteen years.

*"Hermes SaaS is our best software solution to date, representing the optimal way to host a cargo management system, allowing Groundforce Portugal to focus on their core business whilst benefiting from better system performance at a lower cost," said Yuval Baruch, Chief Executive Officer, HLT. "The system upgrade pays close attention to improving Groundforce Portugal's messaging, with the solution customised*



*to meet specific local requirements to increase the speed, volume and accuracy of the data that is processed."*

The migration of the cargo management system from a server to the cloud will bring increased security for Groundforce Portugal, which will also benefit from HLT's full NG ecosystem, a collection of applications including NG Business Intelligence and Datalakes, Track and Trace, and NG Landside Management.

Key highlights of Hermes SaaS include a new import flight monitor, which provides a comprehensive overview of the status of each import flight, as well as a one-button manual NOTOC, which can be prepared before a shipment has been loaded.

*"Our long-standing use of Hermes'*

*software has proven to be stable, problem-free, and a perfect match for our digital and operational needs, so upgrading to Hermes SaaS was a natural next step for us," said Paulo Colla Carneiro, Planning, Processes and Innovation Director, Groundforce Portugal. "Upgrading to Hermes SaaS will help push forward our digitalisation strategy, and we will gain additional functionality, reliability, and the promise of scalability for our full operations network."*

Groundforce Portugal serves major airlines flying to Portugal, namely TAP, SATA, Air France, KLM, Royal Air Maroc, Azul, Delta, United Airlines and Beijing Capital Airlines, having processed more than 165,000 tonnes in 2022, an increase of 18% compared to 2019.

## Kuehne+Nagel partners with Atlas Air and SR Technics Group to form the “Sustainable Engine Alliance”



**A**t the MRO Americas 2023 conference in Atlanta, Georgia, Kuehne+Nagel, Atlas Air, Inc., a subsidiary of Atlas Air Worldwide Holdings, Inc., and SR Technics Group introduced the “Sustainable Engine Alliance”. Representing a wide range of the aerospace industry, the Alliance pledges to set new industry standards for low-carbon aircraft engine supply chains in line with the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi). The alliance members aim to reduce their collective environmental impact through networks for sustainable engine supply chains and a portfolio of sustainable services.

Some of the first joint initiatives carried out by the alliance include the deployment of sustainable fuels, engine stand management solutions and a global digital interface for emission transparency, reduction and avoidance. The initiative is expected to reduce engine supply chain

related scope 3 emissions ahead of the Aerospace 2050 sustainability targets.

**Erik Goedhart, SVP Global Head of Aerospace at Kuehne+Nagel, comments:** “Collaboration is key to industry-wide improvements in aerospace sustainability. “With the “Sustainable Engine Alliance”, we will set new standards for responsible sourcing and engine transportation, while creating further awareness within the industry to minimise the environmental impact of engine supply chains jointly. “I am confident that together with Atlas Air and SR Technics we will pave the way for future sustainability efforts in aerospace. “And we invite other value chain companies to join us”.

**Jean-Marc Lenz, Chief Executive Officer at SR Technics states:** “Sustainability is a strategic pillar of SR Technics’ organization and service portfolio. “By extending the engine

life cycle and delivering best-in-class on-wing performance, SR Technics contributes to the environmental impact of airline operations. “We are very pleased to be joining with the leaders in this growing market, and we look forward to working with them to pilot this zero-emission journey together. “With Kuehne+Nagel and Atlas Air, we have experienced partners on board who support our major cornerstone in our company development to sustainable growth in future.”

**James Forbes, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Atlas Air Worldwide said:** “We look forward to working with Kuehne+Nagel and SR Technics to accelerate decarbonization in our combined value chain. “Through our partnership, we will be developing maintenance and supply chain best practices that will guide us well into the future and help us achieve our environmental stewardship goals.”



# Forto partners with Cozero to upgrade its emission insights



**F**orto, the first European digital freight forwarder, today announces a partnership with Cozero to measure its greenhouse gas emissions in its 21 locations across Asia and Europe.

By creating full transparency on Forto's emissions, Cozero informs important company-level decisions such as travel and procurement policies, office and IT infrastructure, and logistics offerings.

Looking ahead, this partnership will enable Forto to track progress against its science-based targets and take concrete action to meet them.

Cozero's approach is

comprehensive, granular, and transparent. It includes numerous up-to-date emission factors – such as building and transport energy use, purchased goods and services, and server usage – to understand which activities produce the most emissions. Cozero's extensive in-platform guidance empowers companies to manage their own decarbonization journey.

The quality and transparency of emission data and the platform's outstanding user experience earned Cozero the German Sustainability Award in November 2022.

"It is a pleasure to work with a company that has put

sustainability at the core of what it does and that has been measuring and managing its greenhouse gas emissions since day one" **said Helen Tacke, founder and CEO of Cozero.**

"Together, we will both implement data-driven accounting of emissions and work on achieving Forto's science-based targets. "Forto is leading by example in an industry that dramatically needs to evolve and we look forward to building innovative software solutions that drive decarbonization across the whole logistics value chain." "It is important to work with partners who share our mindset of constantly questioning the status quo to

improve the way we operate," **Pia Schwanenberg, Senior Sustainability Manager at Forto.**

"This is what we owe our customers who measure their emissions, offset, and use biofuel to ship with us. "We have been impressed by the quality of Cozero's data and their willingness to go above and beyond to explain the methodology behind their calculations. "We strongly share Cozero's emphasis on partnership and value their focus on transparency. Both enable us to take informed decisions today to achieve necessary emission reduction tomorrow."



Andres Diez



Karen Cox

# Swissport announces changes to executive team

*Effective 1 April 2023, Karen Cox was appointed CEO for the UK & Ireland region. Andres Diez takes on the role of Chief Commercial Officer for the Americas*

**S**wissport, the world's leading aviation services company, makes two key changes to its executive team. **Karen Cox, formerly Global Director of Operations & Safety and Co-Head of UK and Ireland, assumes the role of CEO for the group's UK & Ireland region. Andres Diez, Director of Global Commercial, becomes the new Chief Commercial Officer for the Americas,** taking on the task of driving top-line business growth and improving profitability across the US, Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Both appointments became effective on 1 April 2023.

*"Karen and Andres have both made significant contributions to Swissport since joining the company in 2021," says Warwick Brady, President and CEO of Swissport International AG. "As we put all our energy into taking the company to the next level of global service excellence, we also want to further commercialize our offering across countries and regions, especially for airlines operating worldwide. With Karen and Andres, we had top candidates from within our own ranks who have the skills and experience to help drive the business forward on this path."*

**Karen Cox reports to Warwick Brady, President & CEO of Swissport International AG.** As she takes up her new role as CEO of Swissport's UK & Ireland region, she is stepping down as Director of Global Operations & Safety. This post will be taken over ad interim by Richard Male, Global VP for Ground Handling. Karen joined Swissport in October 2021. She has been driving the implementation

of more consistent operations and safety practices and more robust processes across Swissport's global organization. In September 2022, Karen additionally took on the role as Co-Head UK & Ireland to drive operational excellence and prepare the regional organization for the post-pandemic travel peaks. Prior to joining Swissport, Karen was with easyJet for 18 years, most recently as Director of Ground Operations and Customer Management Centers.

**Andres Diez reports to Frank Mena, CEO of Swissport's US & Canada region,** and to Rene Pascua, CEO of Latin America & the Caribbean. Andres joined Swissport as Director of Global Commercial in September of 2021. Until a successor has been appointed, he will also continue to serve Swissport in this capacity. Andres has established Swissport's new, globally aligned commercial processes along with tools to accelerate business wins and increase the retention rate of existing businesses. In addition, he was instrumental in deploying the company's Key Account Management program. In his new role as Chief Commercial Officer Americas, Andres, who is of US and Spanish-Venezuelan background, will focus on further strengthening the US & Canadian business as well as Latin America & the Caribbean — two key regions, which together account for some 40 per cent of Swissport's global business. Andres has more than 20 years of experience in business development and financial planning and has worked for major logistics organizations such as DHL and most recently GXO Logistics.



# IATA World Cargo Symposium (WCS)

## Started as Hosted by Turkish Cargo



*IATA World Cargo Symposium, the greatest air cargo event in the world, is being held in Istanbul between April 25 and 27. The event, hosted by Turkish Cargo.*

IATA World Cargo Symposium, the greatest air cargo event in the world, is being held in Istanbul between April 25 and 27. The event, hosted by Turkish Cargo, stands out as a significant item in respect of global air cargo transportation. Being held in various cities on an annual basis, IATA World Cargo Symposium is globally accepted as the most prestigious organization in the air cargo industry. The event brings the industry leaders, airline companies, cargo operators, air cargo agents and other industry stakeholders together to discuss the latest trends, best practices and innovations in the air cargo industry.

It is expected that IATA WCS 2023 will not only make a significant contribution to the sustainability and digitalization journey of the global air cargo industry but also solidify the safety and security awareness in the industry. The event offers Istanbul the opportunity to attract the business world with its potential to become a logistics center, beyond being the junction point of world trade.

Making the opening speech for the symposium, **Turkish Airlines Chairman of the Board and the Executive Committee Prof. Dr. Ahmet Bolat** said; "We are more



Willie Walsh

*than glad to host the World Cargo Symposium 2023 event in a manner to mark the 100th year of establishment of our Republic. Air cargo transportation plays a critical role with respect to the world economy and continuity of the supply chain. Our convention at the hub of global aviation, today, highlights once again the potential of Istanbul for the future of the logistics industry."*

**Willie Walsh, the Director General of the International Air Transport Association (IATA)** remarked; "For the next three days



Prof. Dr. Ahmet Bolat

*Istanbul will become the air cargo capital of the world. The last time we met in Istanbul, for the World Cargo Symposium was in 2011 and we are delighted to be back in the year that marks the 100th year of the establishment of the Republic of Türkiye. This year's WCS promises to be another memorable occasion as the cargo industry comes together to discuss how to improve sustainability, safety, and reliability, as well as emerging opportunities with new markets, technologies, and digitalization."*

# Turkish Cargo Joins the IATA CEIV Lithium Battery (CEIV Li-batt) Certification Program



*Turkish Cargo, joined the 'CEIV Lithium Battery' certification program, established by the IATA.*

For the purpose of certification of its competence to carry lithium battery products safely, Turkish Cargo, the air cargo brand of Turkish Airlines, joined the 'CEIV Lithium Battery' certification program, established by the International Air Transport Association (IATA). Participation of the Carrier in the certification program, which consists of the training, assessment and validation processes, became formalized at the signing ceremony held during the symposium.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, **Turkish Airlines CEO Bilal Ekşi** said; "As a global air cargo brand, we are strongly committed to maintaining the supply chain for the lithium battery products and diligently fulfilling

our responsibilities in this regard. Thus, participation in the CEIV Li-batt certification program, which is globally accepted as one of the highest standards, is a great source of pride to us. Such a new certification program underlines the adherence of Turkish Cargo to the high-quality standards and its commitment to provide safe, fast and secure air cargo service to our customers, once again."

**Brendan Sullivan, the Global Head of Cargo at the International Air Transport Association (IATA)**, remarked; "The European freight market is one of the largest in the world, accounting for close to a quarter of total global trade. Having Turkish Airlines, one of Europe's largest cargo carriers achieve CEIV Li-batt certification is a significant

boost for meeting shippers' expectations in terms of the safe transport of goods containing lithium batteries."

Developed for the purpose of performance of global air cargo operations at a high standard, the CEIV Li-batt certification program is designed to improve the safety during the handling and shipment of the lithium batteries throughout the supply chain. Such a new program also validates that the related policies, processes and procedures are implemented by the companies in accordance with the new CEIV program in line with the standards set by IATA.

IATA World Cargo Symposium, where the future standards of the air cargo industry are formalized, will end on April 27, Thursday.



# Turkish Cargo and Avianca Cargo sign an MoU to further enhance their cooperation with global reach



*Turkish Cargo and Avianca Cargo enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the purpose of exploring potential additional cooperation opportunities and strengthening air cargo connections.*

**T**urkish Cargo, the successful air cargo brand of Turkish Airlines, and Avianca Cargo, leading cargo airline in the Latin America region, enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the purpose of exploring potential additional cooperation opportunities and strengthening air cargo connections. The agreement will serve as a guide to further enable both carriers to offer a smooth and productive cargo service to their customers by combining resources and expertise.

Turkish Cargo and Avianca Cargo will consider potential collaboration initiatives such as freighter capacity agreements. These enhancements aim to provide air cargo customers of both airlines access to greater capacity in a wider and more connected global network. In addition, Turkish Cargo

will be able to offer enhanced access to destinations in South America by leveraging Avianca Cargo's network in the region, while Avianca Cargo will increase its access to major destinations worldwide through Turkish Cargo's wide interconnecting network.

Commenting at the signing ceremony held within the scope of IATA World Cargo Symposium in Istanbul, **Turhan Ozen, Chief Cargo Officer of Turkish Airlines**, said; "This MoU represents a significant enhancement in air cargo services between Türkiye and Latin America. For this reason, we chose Avianca Cargo as our strategic partner in the region, because it allows us to advance our firm purpose of improving our global cargo operations. Through this cooperation, in line with our customer-oriented approach, we are reinforcing our intercontinental

connections and expanding our cargo services to destinations in South America."

**Gabriel Oliva, CEO of Avianca Cargo**, commented; "This agreement represents the possibility of strengthening bilateral cooperation between both airlines, new commercial opportunities, and a closer operational, technological, and product collaboration. The extensive trajectory and leadership of Avianca Cargo in Latin American markets, added to the worldwide experience of Turkish Cargo and its positioning, will ultimately allow us to achieve the highest levels of product offer, service, and value for the benefit of our customers."

The two carriers will continue to explore new areas of partnership and further deepen their cooperation in the future.



## Turkish Cargo and DHL Global Forwarding Sign a “Memorandum of Understanding” for Strengthening Their Cooperation

For the purpose of reinforcing the bilateral relation, a “Memorandum of Understanding” is now executed by and between Turkish Cargo, the air cargo brand of Turkish Airlines, and DHL Global Forwarding, the air and ocean freight specialist of Deutsche Post DHL Group, at the IATA World Cargo Symposium which has started on April 25 in Istanbul. The cooperation between the two global air cargo providers will not only further improve each other’s operational efficiency, but also enhance Istanbul’s potential to become a leading logistics hub for the world.

Based on the MoU DHL Global Forwarding will leverage SMARTIST, the mega cargo facility of Turkish Cargo at Istanbul Airport, as one of its global hubs. This will increase the air cargo traffic handled via Istanbul significantly. The combination of Turkish Cargo’s intercontinental air cargo network

*Turkish Cargo and DHL Global Forwarding Sign a “Memorandum of Understanding”*

with Türkiye’s unique geographical advantages, enables Turkish Cargo to support DHL Global Forwarding global hub concept with its vast specialized knowledge and advanced operational capabilities at Istanbul Airport.

Commenting on such cooperation, **Turkish Airlines Chief Cargo Officer, Turhan Özen** said; “Integration of SMARTIST, our mega cargo hub, with the global network of DHL Global Forwarding will enhance our service quality and strengthen the hub position of Istanbul further. This cooperation will also enable us to offer more effective, productive and uninterrupted air cargo service to our

customers and add value to the industry upon the establishment of a powerful partnership by and between Turkish Cargo and DHL. We hereby wish that this MOU, which stands out as a great source of pride and excitement to us, be beneficial to both parties thereto.”

**Thomas Mack, Global Head of Air Freight, DHL Global Forwarding** states; “Spanning the European and Asian continents, Türkiye is geographically well-positioned to act as a logistics hub for Europe, Asia as well as the MEA region and the US. We are happy to intensify our long-lasting partnership with Turkish Cargo, that not only provides us with reliable air cargo capacity, but also state-of-the-art logistics infrastructure to handle air freight.”

Turkish Cargo and DHL will continue to explore new areas for partnership and deepen their cooperation further in future.



# Hosted in Istanbul by Turkish Cargo, IATA World Cargo Symposium (WCS) Attracted a Great Deal of Attention

*IATA World Cargo Symposium, the most prestigious organization in the global air cargo industry, took place in Istanbul between April 25 and 27.*

IATA World Cargo Symposium, the most prestigious organization in the global air cargo industry, took place in Istanbul between April 25 and 27. During the event, hosted by Turkish Cargo, over a thousand aviation professionals met and discussed the future of the air cargo industry. Starting with the opening speech of Turkish Airlines Chairman of the Board and Executive Committee Prof. Dr. Ahmet Bolat, the symposium witnessed the triumphant initiatives of Turkish Cargo.

## **Turkish Cargo joined the IATA CEIV Lithium Battery (CEIV Li-batt) Certification Program**

Turkish Cargo participated in the 'CEIV Lithium Battery' certification program, established by the International Air Transport Association (IATA). Turkish Airlines CEO Bilal Ekşi, attended the signing ceremony held as part of the symposium.

Following the panels, held for two days, IATA WCS 2023 continued with the gala dinner organized by Turkish Cargo. The dinner, held at the **BinbirDirek Cistern**, hosted approximately 800 international senior executives. During the gala night, the orchestra of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism performed a Turkish Classical Music recital for the guests. Besides, the winners received one UEFA ticket and 2 international Business Class tickets, all complimentary, at the draw held by Turkish Cargo.

Making a speech at the gala dinner, **Turkish Airlines Chief Cargo Officer Turhan Özen**, remarked; "We, as Turkish Airlines, are fortunate to have



*Istanbul as our hub which is unique in all aspects. Being aware of this fact, we are maintaining our efforts in order to move the aviation industry forward and strengthen the pivotal role of Istanbul in the aviation industry. We are glad to host the aviation professionals, coming from all corners of the world, here. We hope that each one of us has gained something from the World Cargo Symposium with its busy agenda where items such as sustainability, digitalization and security were discussed."*

## **Turkish Cargo signs Memorandums of Understanding with the aim of reinforcing the international air cargo bridges**

**Turkish Cargo executed a Memorandum of Understanding with DHL Global Forwarding**, the international air cargo carrier, and another one with **Avianca Cargo**, the leading air cargo provider in the Latin American region. The cooperation agreements, executed with both air cargo providers, became formalized at the signing ceremonies held at the IATA World Cargo Symposium. Such memorandums of understanding where

the resources and expertise are united, will not only enhance the operational processes, but also accelerate the potential of Istanbul to become the logistics center in the world.

## **The industry press members, arriving from all corners of the world, visited the SMARTIST facility**

Turkish Cargo organized a press tour to SMARTIST, its mega cargo facility, for the press members attending IATA World Cargo Symposium. Being provided with the opportunity to observe the operational processes of Turkish Cargo closely, the reporters toured the advanced cargo handling systems and special cargo areas of SMARTIST.

Being held in various cities on an annual basis, IATA World Cargo Symposium is globally accepted as the most prestigious organization in the air cargo industry. The event brings the industry leaders, airline companies, cargo operators, air cargo agents and other industry stakeholders together to discuss the latest trends, best practices and innovations in the air cargo industry.

# LATAM Cargo and Swiss Airtainer Win 2023 IATA Air Cargo Innovation Awards



The International Air Transport Association (IATA) announced that LATAM Cargo and Swiss Airtainer (SAT) are the recipients of the IATA Air Cargo Innovation Awards for 2023. The awards were presented at the 16th World Cargo Symposium (WCS) in Istanbul, Türkiye.

LATAM Cargo received the Corporate Innovation Award for its plastic reduction projects in its cargo operations in Chile and Brazil, initiatives that are part of its commitment to become a zero waste to landfill group by 2027.

Swiss Airtainer (SAT) received the Start-ups and Innovators Innovation Award for the development of a temperature-controlled container for the transport of pharmaceutical products. SAT “reinvented” the container from scratch with the following proprietary components:

composite material (IP); architecture (IP), inflight detector (IP), control system, cooling system with redundancy, new battery packs, and a battery management system & solar panel system to render the container sustainable and energy self-sustaining.

“Innovation holds the key to development, sustainability, and success in the air cargo industry, that’s why we launched the IATA Air Cargo Innovation Awards. I am honored to present the Corporate Award to LATAM Cargo for their innovation efforts in sustainability and to Swiss Airtainer for the development of an innovative temperature-controlled container for the transport of pharmaceutical goods. It’s important to recognize the individuals and companies that are driving change,” said Brendan Sullivan, IATA’s Global Head of Cargo.

An independent jury which included industry experts, academics and CEOs evaluated 42 entries from across the industry from small start-ups to large multinationals. Projects were evaluated based upon the idea, its potential to create value, and the likelihood of achieving success.

The jury selected the winner of the Corporate Innovators Award and the three finalists for the Start-ups and Innovators Innovation Award. The finalists presented their projects to over 500 audience members during the IATA WCS closing plenary, who subsequently cast their vote for their preferred innovation project. SAT received \$15,000 to further develop their innovation.

The IATA Innovation Awards were launched in 2014 to encourage and promote innovation in the air cargo industry.



# IATA's Statement on Refuel EU Proposals



**T**he International Air Transport Association (IATA) reacted to the political agreement reached in the EU trilogue on ReFuelEU. The agreement sets out the high-level expectations for use of Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) from flights within and departing the EU between 2025 and 2050.

Some of the key elements of the agreement include:

- Setting of mandates for minimum SAF uplift at EU airports of 2% by 2025, 6% by 2030 and 20% by 2035, up to a maximum of 70% by 2050. Of these amounts, 1.2% in 2030, and 5% in 2035 must be power to liquid (PtL) or E-Fuels, increasing to 35% by 2050.

- A requirement for the Commission to report by 2024 on the feasibility of a Book and Claim (B&C) system for airlines to manage the supply of SAF in a flexible way across the EU.

- A call for States to adhere to a single EU SAF mandate and avoid a patchwork of national SAF mandates.

**Conrad Clifford, IATA Deputy Director General**, said:

*"This agreement provides important clarity on expected future SAF levels in the EU, and we thank the EU Parliament and Member States for their work with the Commission. While mandates for SAF use send a signal to producers and the market, without a comprehensive policy framework to incentivise cheaper production and more flexible rules of supply, mandates alone simply risk a huge increase in cost and a licence to print money for fuel suppliers, while raising the price of mobility throughout the EU."*

*At minimum, it is essential that a book and claim system be established to create a flexible market for SAF across*

*the EU. We expect that the report the Commission will produce will confirm this. The reality is that the Commission has already conceded that supply will be uneven across the EU, which therefore makes it all the more essential to have a proper B&C system in place before the 2% mandate comes into force. Alongside expert stakeholders, IATA is working on a robust global framework for applying a harmonized B&C system for the aviation industry, and we hope to work together with the Commission to apply this framework in the EU."*

*The establishment of a 'SAF fund' to redistribute fines and some ETS revenues into encouraging more SAF production is a welcome proposal, but there is scope to do more. The Inflation Reduction Act in the United States shows the power of significant incentives in driving production. Without similar firepower being deployed in the EU, the EU faces having to import SAF in order to meet its own targets, increasing costs and diminishing the environmental gains."*

# IATA World Cargo Symposium addresses challenges, lays out air cargo plans

IATA's Global Head of Cargo, Brendan Sullivan, talked about the focus areas of sustainability, digitalisation, and safety for the air cargo industry



It's a pleasure to welcome you to the 16th IATA World Cargo Symposium. I want to extend my thanks to Turkish Airlines for hosting this event. As we gather in this magnificent city that links two continents, we are reminded of its rich heritage as a center of commerce and trade, and the role it has played in shaping the global trade landscape that we have today. However, it is with a heavy heart that we remember the devastating earthquakes that have struck the country recently. Our thoughts and condolences go to all those affected by this tragedy.

We can take some solace in the knowledge that air cargo has provided much-needed assistance and relief to those impacted by this disaster through the timely delivery of aid and essential medical supplies.

## So where are we today?

We are a different industry than the one that entered the pandemic. Revenues are greater than they were pre-pandemic. Yields are higher. The world learned how critical supply chains are. And the contribution of air cargo to the bottom line of airlines is more evident than ever.

Yet, we are still linked to the business cycle and global events. So, the war in Ukraine, uncertainty over where critical economic factors like interest rates, exchange rates and jobs growth are headed are concerns that are real to the business today.

But they are also ones that we have long experience in dealing with. And they are offset with some certainties:

- The middle class continues to grow---if more slowly than pre-pandemic

- High value goods and pharmaceuticals need to get to people quickly

- And e-commerce is growing at around 10% per year.

- Complementing these growth drivers are the efficiencies the industry realized during the pandemic from accelerating digitalization.

## Priorities

As we navigate the current situation, air cargo's priorities have not changed. We need to continue to focus on:

- Sustainability, Digitalization, and safety

## Sustainability

Sustainability is our industry's license to do business and a critical priority. That is not just for air cargo. It is for all of aviation. That's why we



have committed to net zero carbon emissions by 2050. And in October last year, governments have come on board with the Long-Term Aspirational Goal (LTAG) agreed at the 41st ICAO Assembly. Governments now share the same aim. And that should provide critical policy support.

The most critical area is Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF). We estimate that 65% of carbon abatement will come from SAF. SAF is being produced. And every single drop is being used. The problem is that the quantities are small. The solution is government policy incentives.

Through incentivizing production, we could see 30 billion liters of SAF available by 2030. That will still be far from where we need to be. But it would be a clear tipping point towards our net zero ambition of ample SAF quantities at affordable prices.

While we increase SAF production, we know that many shippers, customers, and regulators want immediate carbon-neutral shipping options or assurances that we are operating our businesses as sustainably as possible. I am pleased to report progress in four key areas that could meet this need:

- **First** is progress to support effective CO2 emissions calculations for air cargo, with accurate and standardized emissions calculation methodology. This responds to the growing demand for CO2 data transparency linked to airline-specific data and actual fuel burn. CO2 Connect for Cargo will be powered by actual airline operational data and based on the industry-approved methodology RP1678.

- **Second** is IEnvA for Cargo. Expanding the IATA Environmental Assessment to airports, cargo handling facilities, freight forwarders, and ramp handlers will allow the industry to drive commercial success, build trust in our sustainability actions, and positively impact the industry.

- **Third** is environmental, social and governance (ESG) related metrics. IATA is cutting through the many

methodologies in circulation with ESG Metrics Guidance for Airlines. This guide will be launched soon and will be updated regularly to keep pace with this rapidly evolving landscape.

- And lastly, I'm proud to report that the cargo industry is reducing waste generated across the cargo supply chain, including plastic waste. American Airlines, Lufthansa, WFS, and others are moving towards the use of less-harmful plastics, while other stakeholders are aiming to reduce all plastic in their operations, such as LATAM and ANA Cargo.

### Digitalization

In addition to specific efforts on sustainability, like any business air cargo needs to continuously improve its efficiency. And the area with greatest potential is digitalization.

We have three goals:

#### First – 100% airline capability of ONE Record by January 2026

This initiative will replace the many data standards used for transport documents with a single record for every shipment. The Cargo Services Conference agreed that it wants to achieve 100% airline capability by 1 January 2026 and the Cargo Advisory Council supports this vision. And IATA will do everything in its power to facilitate that.

#### Second - Ensuring digital standards are in place to support the global supply chain

We have finalized standards on tracking devices – the IATA Interactive Cargo guidelines – used to monitor the quality and accuracy of conditions of time and temperature sensitive goods being shipped across the world. And our participation in the European Commission's project "FEDeRATED" is reaching completion after a 5-year development of interoperable technologies and data architectures for use in multi-modal transport.

#### Third - Ensuring compliance and support for customs, trade

### facilitation and other government processes that are increasingly digitalized

The modernization agenda also includes governments. A lot of work has been done by nations to agree on and to evolve strategies for trade facilitation, reduce operational barriers at borders and to manage the flows of goods securely. Digitalization plays an important role here. One example is IATA's work supporting the roll out of the EU's new Pre-Loading Advance Cargo Information (PLACI) System. PLACI went live on 1 March 2023 despite 12 European States not being ready and not having given definitive information about their timelines for readiness. We are working with these states to provide the necessary clarity to enable airlines to adapt their own implementation planning.

These are big projects. And they are pushing us in the right direction. But we need to move these forward even as the operating environment becomes more challenging.

### Safety

Alongside sustainability and efficiency is safety. And here the agenda for air cargo continues to be dominated by lithium batteries.

The first priority is to stop rogue shippers. A lot has been done. But, quite honestly, it is still not enough. Civil aviation authorities must take strong action against shippers not declaring lithium batteries in cargo or mail shipments. And all governments need to support ICAO's efforts to strengthen the standards in Annex 18 – The Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods.

So, we still need counter measures in case improperly packaged shipments do get on board. Here we are engaging with EASA and FAA to develop a test standard for fire-resistant aircraft containers with a fire involving lithium batteries. The aim is for ULDs to contain a lithium battery fire for up to six hours.

We have made progress on the

specific challenge of handling lithium battery powered vehicles. From 1 January 2025 we will have a single standard to identify all such vehicles including vehicles such as hover boards, e-scooters and e-bikes, as well as traditional passenger vehicles throughout the transport process.

And, more broadly, the CEIV Lithium Battery program continues to grow, with 31 companies now certified. These encompass the supply chain with a mix of airlines, freight forwarders, cargo handling facilities and shippers. Having seen the success of CEIV in promoting better transport of pharmaceuticals, fresh products, and live animals, we can be confident that the growth of this program will raise the bar for high quality and safe transport of lithium batteries for all participants in the supply chain.

And one last point that I would like to make on the topic of safety is the progress that we have made in joining dangerous goods shipping data to the rest of the air cargo operation. We just released Connect API to link DG AutoCheck data with operational and back-office functions. This will improve speed, efficiency and safety.

### People

Before closing I would like to focus on people. Unfortunately, thousands of cargo handler jobs were eliminated during the pandemic and there are still staffing challenges.

In a recent industry survey 34% of

cargo professionals told us that they foresaw staffing gaps till the end of 2023 and 57% felt that they did not have enough qualified staff to provide smooth operations.

Additionally, more than a quarter (27%) of respondents told us that there is a significant risk that existing staff will not stay with the organization for long.

Post pandemic we need to improve our competitiveness as an employer by:

- Looking to automation to eliminate difficult and hazardous tasks, ensuring that our employees can focus on more engaging, value-added roles.

- Fostering a culture of continuous learning and growth, so we can empower our employees with opportunities for professional development and career advancement

We also need to continue with programs that will attract people to air cargo and keep them here by making them feel proud to be employed in this industry. Specifically,

- The Future Air Cargo Executive (FACE) program which is open to all air cargo / logistical employees under 35 and provides a specific summit for this next generation as part of the annual IATA World Cargo Symposium.

- And the IATA 25 by 2025 initiative to promote equal gender opportunities and highlight the industry's commitment to woman in leadership. So far 190 airlines have joined this including nine dedicated cargo carriers.

By embracing these changes, we can transform the air cargo industry into a more attractive and competitive employment sector, ensuring our ability to excel in the global market for years to come.

### Conclusion

I will bring my remarks to a close by reflecting on why we are all here today. Air cargo is a critically important industry. We should always be guided by that fact.

Our work is helping build a better future for the people of the world. We are in an industry that saves lives, delivering aid and relief to those in need. The industry mobilized to support those affected by the earthquakes in Syria and Türkiye.

While there is no comprehensive tabulation, a limited review of 29 key carriers serving the Türkiye market revealed over 3,500 tons of relief was delivered from over 90 countries and 350 relief and repatriation flights were operated to affected areas.

We must work together to ensure that air cargo remains a reliable and efficient means of providing support to those in need, while simultaneously strengthening our global supply chains and contributing to the sustainable development of our economies.

Let's keep that in mind as we navigate the many challenges of our business and drive change needed for a strong future.

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# Aviation Provides Critical Relief in Crises : Willie Walsh, IATA's Director General



**T**he International Air Transport Association (IATA) reminded stakeholders of the critical role that aviation plays at times of natural disasters and humanitarian crises.

*"When crises strike, aviation is there. Connectivity is essential to get aid and first responders to where they are needed. The response to the recent earthquake in Southern Türkiye and Syria was no exception. Airlines helped save lives in the immediate aftermath of the earthquake. And airlines continue to help accelerate the recovery with vital cargo shipments,"* said Willie Walsh, IATA's Director General, as the airline industry met in Istanbul for the IATA World Cargo Symposium.

While there is no comprehensive tabulation of the support that aviation provided, a limited review of 29 key carriers serving the Türkiye market reveals an impressive relief effort. These airlines:

- Delivered over 3,500 tons of aid from over 90 countries
- Operated over 350 relief and repatriation flights to affected areas
- Provided transport for over 130,000 responders from across the world

Critical supplies delivered included winter jackets, blankets, toilets, hygiene articles, food, fire guards' equipment, power generators, tents, water distribution ramps, flashlights, sleeping bags, and medical supplies, among other items.

Airlink provides a good example of how the aviation sector responds to crises. It is a non-profit organization

that coordinates donated airline resources and NGO needs in times of humanitarian disaster. Working with its NGO and airline partners, Airlink has coordinated the transport of 1,000 tons of aid supplies to the affected area, with an additional pipeline of 300 tons.

Resilience of cities and infrastructure are key components of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 9 and 11 respectively). This is tested in times of crisis when air transport's role is both as an essential infrastructure component in its own right and a vital lifeline for communities.

*"Each and every day airlines make an enormous positive contribution to humanity by connecting people, cultures, businesses and economies. This fosters economic growth and social development. When disaster strikes, these links become even more critical. Everyone in aviation can be proud of the essential supplies, critical talent and hope that planes carry to disaster affected areas. With that in mind, we encourage all our stakeholders to join us in ensuring that aviation can fulfil this role by becoming ever more safe, secure, reliable and sustainable,"* said Walsh.

*"Airlines have shown exceptional compassion and solidarity, delivering vital supplies and aid to affected communities around the world. During crises, we bring hope, relief, and aid, striving to rebuild lives together. I am proud to be part of an industry that makes such a difference,"* said Walsh.





## Connect API for IATA's DG AutoCheck launches with dnata and IBS Software

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) announced that dnata has become the first company to adopt 'Connect API', the newest feature of IATA's DG AutoCheck. Connect API will help in the digitalization of the air cargo industry by automating the transfer of data from DG AutoCheck to other systems in the industry's value chain. This connectivity has been enabled

via IBS Software's iCargo solution, which is currently being implemented across dnata's global network.

Connect API can be used flexibly in line with user priorities. dnata, for example, plans to use Connect API to link its warehouse management system (iCargo) to DG AutoCheck to automate the creation of notifications to captain (NOTOC). Other potential applications include linking DG AutoCheck to operational or accounting systems and cargo management systems (CMS).

"Efficiently exchanging data with Connect API will help deliver the speed, quality, compliance and ultimately safety benefits of digitalization that air cargo customers are demanding. These benefits are real and measurable. Today it can take up to 100 minutes to get flight crew of freighter operations, detailed information on dangerous goods in the payload through NOTOC systems. With Connect API, this will be instantaneous. We are proud to be launching Connect API with dnata, bringing benefits to their customers," said **Frederic Leger, IATA's Senior**

### Vice President Commercial Products and Services.

"We are delighted to deliver this innovation to our customers. Connecting iCargo to DG AutoCheck through Connect API will accelerate dangerous goods acceptance checks while enabling the highest level of safety, compliance, and efficiency throughout the handling process. In addition, we will be able to further optimize our operations through the data by our systems working more efficiently together," said **Guillaume Crozier dnata's SVP UAE Cargo and Global Cargo Strategy.**

dnata's iCargo is powered by IBS Software. "The seamless integration of DG AutoCheck with iCargo will help deliver significant benefits for dnata. It also paves the way to build confidence across the industry of what can be achieved through the real-time availability of operational information on dangerous goods and how that can be used to drive operational efficiencies," said **Ashok Rajan, SVP and Global Head of Cargo & Logistics, IBS Software.**



# IATA's Ground Handling Conference to Focus on Embracing Technology

## IATA GROUND HANDLING CONFERENCE

Abu Dhabi, UAE  
16 - 18 May 2023



The International Air Transport Association (IATA) announced that the **35th IATA Ground Handling Conference** (IGHC) will focus on fostering technology to improve safety, operational efficiency, and sustainability. IGHC is taking place in Abu Dhabi, 16-18 May 2023, with Etihad Airways as the host airline.

"Passenger and air cargo traffic are close to pre-pandemic levels. Efficient ground operations are essential to meet the scaling-up of demand. Unfortunately, the ground handling sector continues to face operational, recruitment and retention challenges following the greatest aviation downturn in history. This year's IGHC will explore how these can be

overcome and how technology can be implemented to improve efficiency, increase compliance with global standards and improve safety and environmental performance," said **Monika Mejstrikova, IATA's Director of Ground Operations.**

**Antonoaldo Neves CEO, Etihad Airways**, will deliver an Opening Keynote Address. "We are delighted to host the 35th IATA Ground Handling Conference and welcome the aviation industry to our home, Abu Dhabi. The aviation industry is a complex and interconnected ecosystem with collaboration at its heart. The conference will allow industry leaders to join forces and discuss implementing global

standards and adopting new technologies while ensuring customer safety as the top priority," said Neves. "

### Speakers & Sessions

Neves, Mejstrikova, and Nick Careen, IATA's Senior Vice President Operations, Safety and Security will be speaking at the event along with:

- **Rami Al-Haddad**, CIO Menzies Aviation,
- **Steve Allen**, CEO, dnata,
- **Richard Fairchild**, director Autonomous Products, Aurigo
- **Brian Bartal**, SVP Safety & Compliance Unifi

### Session tracks will address:

- Aviation and ground

handling prospects for 2023

- Leveraging technology for efficient, sustainable modern baggage operations
- Whether autonomous vehicles are "ramp-ready"
- Optimizing and integrating resources for streamlined ramp operations
- Analytics – a model for improved safety in ground operations

### Workshops

The IGHC program will be complemented by a series of workshops, including:

- The benefits of certifying airlines and ground handling companies through IATA's Training Validation Program
- How financial services can support ground handlers
- Smartly managing end-to-end cargo operation to achieve compliance to new regulatory requirements in air cargo

IGHC will also offer a dedicated exhibit area for ground service providers and ground handling solutions providers including Aviapartner, Celebi, dnata, SAL, SGS, Fraport and Zafire, Textron GSE, Denge, Inform, SITA, JBT, Mototok and many others. New this year, IGHC will feature a technical session on the IATA Safety Audit for Ground Operations (ISAGO) and on the changes to the IATA Ground Operations Manual (IGOM). The session will be open to all delegates.

# Swissport underlines market leading position with the extension of handling license at Geneva Airport

*Swissport has been awarded once again the license to provide airport ground services at Geneva International Airport in Switzerland. The new license, set to start in November 2023, will be valid for seven years.*



In a competitive international tender process with 5 participants, Swissport secured an extension of its existing license to operate at Geneva International Airport. The new license will run for seven years until October 2030. It entitles Swissport to offer all airport ground services and air cargo logistics, including valuable handling.

“We are delighted to offer aviation services to our customers in Geneva for another seven years. The license renewal is a credit to our excellent staff, the high quality of our services, and the stability of our operations, which are recognized by airlines in Geneva and around the world,” says Bruno Stefani, CEO DACH, Italy & France.

Swissport has been operating at Geneva Airport since 1997. The company currently employs a total of around 1,100 people in Geneva. In 2022, Swissport Geneva served over 5.5 million passengers and handled more than 45,000 flights and 29,000 tons of air cargo. With over 26 years of experience in Geneva, Swissport currently provides airport ground services and cargo handling to almost 70 percent of the airlines at Geneva Airport.

Beyond a consistent operational performance, Swissport has set ambitious sustainability targets. The electrification plan is already underway and aims to replace existing combustion engine vehicles with electric vehicles. Currently, the share of electric vehicles in Geneva is 47 percent, which is well above the global average. The company has committed to achieving a 55% share of electric vehicles globally by 2032.

Swissport has a long-standing social partnership with the trade unions. The company is the only ground-handling service provider in Switzerland to have a collective labor agreement. Based on this social partnership, Swissport was able to renew the collective labor agreements with its social partners on 1 March 2022.



# Air Arabia

## again chooses Swissport in Morocco



*Air Arabia has renewed its commercial agreement with Swissport in Morocco. The Swiss market leader in aviation services provides its long-standing airline customer with ramp handling and passenger services at 12 airports across Morocco.*



Swissport in Morocco has been successfully serving Air Arabia for over ten years. The carrier recently renewed the commercial agreement with the company for another term. The long-standing cooperation, which started with five airports in 2013, including Casablanca (CMN), Fes (FEZ), Tangier (TNG), Nador (NDR), and Marrakech (RAK), has since been extended to 12 airports across the country. Swissport operates at 15 Moroccan airports.

In 2022 Swissport handled over 9,600 aircraft of Air Arabia in Morocco alone and provided services to more than 1,088 million passengers, traveling to Europe, the Middle East, and domestic destinations.

*"We are honored that Air Arabia has again chosen Swissport in Morocco as their partner for airport ground services," says **Christian Zweifel, Managing Director Swissport Morocco**. "Our cooperation is a decade long and we will continue to provide best-in-class services to support the growth of Air Arabia, in Morocco, and beyond."*

Air Arabia, based in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, is the largest low-cost carrier in the Middle East and North Africa. It operates from five main bases, including Mohamed V International Airport in Casablanca, Morocco, from where it provides flights to domestic Moroccan and international destinations.

Swissport started operations in Morocco in 2012. With nearly 1,000 employees, Swissport today operates at 15 airports across the country, providing ramp handling, passenger services, and executive aviation services to 19 international airlines, handling an average of 3,300 flights per week.

At its headquarters in Casablanca, Swissport Morocco offers Centralized Load Control, a weight and balance solution that significantly reduces operational costs for airlines and improves passenger safety.

Swissport is also a leader in green and sustainable operations, especially electric Ground Support Equipment (GSE). At Casablanca's Mohammed

V International Airport, 22 percent of Swissport's GSE fleet is electric. This number is set to increase to 29 percent. These efforts are fully in line with extensive sustainability goals set by the company in September 2022, including the increase of the share of electrically powered vehicles in the company's fleet to at least 55% by 2032 and cutting CO2 emissions by at least 42% over the same period.

The company promotes education of young talents in aviation, recognizing the importance of engaging with students and graduates. Last year, Swissport in Morocco signed a Cooperation Agreement with the Mohammed VI International Academy of Civil Aviation, providing a platform for knowledge and experience exchange.

# AviaAM Leasing delivers the first 737-800BCF to Bluebird Nordic



**A**viaAM Leasing has delivered another 737-800 Boeing Converted Freighter (BCF) to Icelandic ACMI leasing and cargo airline Bluebird Nordic.

This is the fourth aircraft in the Passenger-to-Freighter (P2F) conversion programme for sister company and lessee Bluebird, and was originally due to be delivered in January.

AviaAM said in a LinkedIn post: *"AviaAM Leasing is pleased to have completed the delivery of a 737-800 Boeing Converted Freighter to Bluebird Nordic. This is the fourth aircraft in*

*the Passenger-to-Freighter conversion program."*

The B737-800, bearing serial number 29790, underwent the P2F conversion works provided by Boeing at Taikoo (Shandong) Aircraft Engineering Company Limited (STAECO) facility in Jinan (TNA), China.

Bluebird Nordic and AviaAM Leasing are a part of Avia Solutions Group and are working together to enable Bluebird to achieve its fleet expansion goals.

AviaAM Leasing is currently undertaking a **passenger-to-freighter (P2F) conversion project,**

which includes the **Boeing 737-800 series** and a commitment to convert 25 aircraft of different types over the next four years.

In December, AviaAM Leasing purchased two B737-800 aircraft for P2F conversion. The aircraft, bearing serial numbers 29769 and 28225, are the fifth and sixth B737-800 respectively inducted for cargo conversion.

The two aircraft have already been inducted for P2F conversions at the Taikoo (Shandong) Aircraft Engineering Company Limited (STAECO) facility in Jinan (TNA), China.



# Icelandair Cargo

## takes delivery of second Boeing 767 converted freighter

Icelandair Cargo has taken delivery of its second Boeing 767-300 converted freighter and carried out the aircraft's first flight to Liege Airport. The aircraft (TF-ISP) is named 'Heimaey' and joins the carrier's **first 767-300 converted freighter**, received in December. "Our second Boeing 767 freighter, TF-ISP (Heimaey), came home to Iceland in her new livery from Shannon, Ireland," "Heimaey is ready to serve our markets on both sides of the Atlantic and was put straight to work with her first flight being to Liege, Belgium, late last night."

In 2021, Icelandair announced it would **sell two B767-300ER aircraft**

**to Titan Aircraft Investments (TAI)** for conversion into freighters and lease back to the airline. Both of the 767 conversions were carried out by ST Engineering.

The airline also has two 757-200Fs. With its long range and high carrying capacity, the 767-300 freighter can serve a wide variety of markets and transport a wide variety of goods.

The aircraft can be configured in several ways, with up to 24 ULD's with PAG/P1P side by side configuration on main deck and additionally 11 ULD's on lower deck, with four PMC's and seven DQF containers, said Icelandair Cargo on its website.

Uplift is up to 49 tonnes capacity depending on flight route and the nature of cargo.

The 757-200 mid-size narrowbody freighter is ideal for short to medium-haul routes and suits freight transportation between Europe and North America.

The aircraft can carry 15 PAG/P1P unit loading devices on the cargo main deck and additionally loose loaded freight can be carried in the below compartments.

Uplift capacity range is from 34 tons to 38 tons depending on aircraft version, flight route, and cargo type.



# Lufthansa Cargo, Swiss WorldCargo and time:matters become members of Pharma.Aero



**L**ufthansa Cargo, together with Swiss World Cargo and time:matters, has joined the Pharma.Aero interest group as a member. Pharma.Aero is regarded as a leading international collaboration platform for medical technology and pharmaceutical companies, as well as for logistics experts, freight

companies and airport operators, operating across all sectors. The Belgium-based organization now has more than 50 partners and members. The joint membership of Lufthansa Cargo, Swiss WorldCargo and time:matters underlines the Lufthansa Group approach in terms of interlocking exchange and also

cooperation in complementary offers for pharmaceutical customers. During this year's World Cargo Symposium in Istanbul and at LogiPharma 2023 in Lyon, Lufthansa Cargo, Swiss WorldCargo and time:matters announced their membership with Pharma.Aero today. All partners confirmed their interest in promoting



and further deepening the exchange on innovative solutions in the airfreight transport of goods from the medical and healthcare segment.

Time-critical medical technology or temperature-sensitive medicines such as insulin or vaccines require professional and fast transport by air freight in special refrigerated containers. The handling requirements are high and require strict processes and specifications as well as investments in ground infrastructure. Lufthansa Cargo, as well as Swiss WorldCargo and time:matters, specialize in the transport of medical goods and pharmaceuticals and have many years of experience in this segment.

Every week, Lufthansa Cargo transports up to 1,400 tons of pharmaceutical goods. Lufthansa Cargo is very active at more than 250 pharmaceutical stations, including around 30 CEIV pharmaceutical locations. Particularly noteworthy are the large and modernly equipped pharmaceutical hubs in Frankfurt, Munich, Brussels, Shanghai and Chicago. The Pharma Hub in Frankfurt alone has already been in existence for ten years, has three temperature zones and is Europe's largest airport hub with an area of 8,000m<sup>2</sup>. In addition, the expanded cargo capacities in the short- and medium-haul segment with A321 freighters offer even more and direct connections for pharma customers, for example on routes between Frankfurt to Dublin or also Birmingham.

Swiss World Cargo is also a trusted niche partner of freight forwarders and pharmaceutical and healthcare logistics companies for the transportation of high-value, time-sensitive and high-care pharmaceutical shipments. Swiss WorldCargo provides its customers with CEIV-certified and GDP-compliant temperature-controlled infrastructure, facilities and logistics solutions across its entire network, now and in the future, and demonstrates compliance with key international standards to meet the diverse requirements of pharmaceutical transportation.



*The joint membership of Lufthansa Cargo, Swiss WorldCargo and time:matters underlines the Lufthansa Group approach in terms of interlocking exchange and also cooperation in complementary offers for pharmaceutical customers.*



For more than 20 years, time:matters has been an expert in the worldwide transport of time-critical and temperature-sensitive products, such as cell material and medical samples for use in cell and gene therapy. Solutions offered include temperature-controlled transport by air, rail and road, as well as by specially trained onboard couriers. On customer request, packaging units from cryopreserved to body temperature (-190°C to +37°C) are offered, as well as the return of the packaging. time:matters controls the entire supply chain from shipper to recipient with GDP-compliant handling and courier partners, even across airport borders. The basis for this is the global network with over 500 partners.

*"We are very pleased to become part of the Pharma.Aero network and to exchange views directly with all players along the supply and transport chain on current issues in the pharmaceutical industry environment. In this way, we gain valuable insights into market developments and can jointly identify and evaluate potentials. The exchange of knowledge sharpens understanding - not only for the needs of business partners and customers, but also for the existing and future demand for*

*products. We would like to make our contribution here with our know-how from the Lufthansa Group perspective, work closely together and thus actively shape the future of innovative transport solutions in the airfreight segment,"* says **Ashwin Bhat, Chief Executive Officer at Lufthansa Cargo.**

*"In the cold chain logistics, a robust collaboration system between all parties involved is of extreme value. By entering the Pharma.Aero network as a member, we aim to drive knowledge sharing and expertise building even further. In view of this collaboration, we look forward to fostering the dialogue between all relevant actors involved and contributing with our know-how to innovation, digitalization, and sustainability in the air cargo industry",* says **Lorenzo Stoll Head of Cargo at Swiss International Air Lines.**

*"The requirements for cell and gene therapies logistics differ significantly from those of traditional pharmaceutical logistics solutions. These therapies put the patient at the center, which makes a robust, reliable, resilient and scalable supply chain essential. As a new member of the Pharma.Aero network, we look forward to contributing our long-standing expertise to the development of a global logistics infrastructure to provide patients with better access to advanced therapies and healthcare services",* says **Lars Krosch, COO at time:matters.**

**Trevor Caswell, Chairman of Pharma.Aero,** welcomes the new additions: *"We are thrilled to have Lufthansa Cargo, Swiss WorldCargo and time:matters as part of our global community. Onboarding such a significant, global industry leader, with a clear and determined focus on the life sciences and MedTech sector, demonstrates once more the importance of our mission and the value our association provides to the industry. We are excited to collaborate and leverage our industry knowledge through forward-thinking projects that offer meaningful content to our industry and result in better access to healthcare for people around the world",* added Caswell.



# Qatar Airways Cargo relaunches its Next Generation Pharma product



**M**ore than one in ten global pharmaceutical shipments are entrusted to Qatar Airways Cargo's Pharma service each year: a growing product that is now evolving

under its Next Generation strategy.

Qatar Airways Cargo has announced the relaunch of its Pharma product in line with its Next Generation and VISION 2027 strategy. The relaunch

includes several enhancements that benefit its customers and streamlines the handling of different categories of pharmaceuticals and healthcare products, including animal healthcare





items that fall under the umbrella of Pharma.

*"In less than a decade, Qatar Airways Cargo has grown to become an acknowledged carrier of choice when it comes to pharmaceutical products," says **Guillaume Halleux, Chief Officer Cargo at Qatar Airways.** "Since we first launched our pharma service in 2014, we have invested heavily to bring on board the best industry experts, equipment, and training. We have also proactively involved ourselves in leading industry working groups\* to keep a finger on the*

*pulse of this ever-evolving market."*

From the current offering of two sub-categories, the cargo carrier now offers five product sub-categories – Pharma Critical Advanced, Pharma Critical Passive, Pharma Advanced, Pharma Passive and Pharma Care. These new enhanced categories enable Qatar Airways Cargo to offer customers a diverse range of solutions to transport their healthcare shipments and ensure optimal handling of all cool-chain pharma products transported on its flights.

The airline has also introduced a two-tier system for its 90 approved pharma stations to provide more information and transparency to its customers. This enhancement helps in differentiating between the distinct capabilities available at various stations. Tier 1 stations offer both +2°C to +8°C & +15°C to +25°C temperature-controlled storage while having the ability to service electronic containers and dry-ice containers. Tier 2 stations offer only one of the two categories of temperature-controlled storage, handle certain temperature-controlled containers, or have limited storage capacity.

Active container milestone updates have also been introduced to regularly inform customers on the status of their shipments moving within these containers. The updates are sent to pre-configured email addresses inserted in the booking. Important information includes the temperature and battery readings of each unit transporting the shipments. The project has been rolled out to selected locations only and a global roll-out will take place over the course of this year.

The airline also considers animal health a top priority and offers comparable solutions through its Pharma product to transport animal healthcare shipments safely and efficiently, all within the customer's sub-category of choice.

**Miguel Rodríguez, Senior Manager Cargo Products at Qatar Airways,** explains "With 'Next

*Generation Pharma' we are working on evolving product offerings to meet new and anticipated industry needs, and focussing on digitalising processes and activities to increase transparency and provide more real time information to customers. Better visibility means greater assurance, and faster information flows lead to a more agile, collaborative supply chain, enabling decisions based on actual, in-the-moment facts."*

*"We endeavor to offer customers a wide range of options based on their transport requirements. We aim to be a one-stop-shop for our customers, providing every packaging and container uplift solution necessary to match their diverse product portfolio, and complementing this with our flexible network, temperature-controlled facilities, and equipment, as well as professional, expert handling," **Miguel Rodríguez** concludes.*

Last year, Qatar Airways Cargo transported over 84,000 tonnes of medical and healthcare shipments across its global network via Doha and its regional hubs in Europe. IATA CEIV Pharma certification was achieved in December 2020, confirming the airline's and its ground handling partner QAS Cargo's industry-standard quality performance and handling.

In the interest of offering customers a wide range of sustainable, high-quality transport solutions, Qatar Airways Cargo was one of the first airlines to endorse Envirotainer's newest generation active Releye® RLP & RAP containers. The airline also worked together with Sonoco ThermoSafe to launch Pegasus ULD®, on its routes before the end of 2022. In addition, diligent efforts have been undertaken to approve dozens of different monitoring devices or data loggers used in the healthcare industry to be uplifted on the Qatar Airways fleet, with more to follow.

\*Qatar Airways Cargo is an active member of the IATA Live Animals and Perishables Board, Pharma. Aero, the Cool Chain Association, and Validaide.

# GEODIS

## strengthens air freight temperature-controlled pharmaceutical shipment capabilities across Asia Pacific & Middle East

*CEIV certification is an assurance of the quality of transportation for healthcare companies in the region.*

**L**eading global logistics operator **GEODIS** has announced that it has strengthened its air freight temperature-controlled pharmaceutical shipments capabilities in Asia Pacific and Middle East (APAC&ME) with the Center of Excellence for Independent Validators in Pharmaceutical Logistics (CEIV Pharma) certification. The certification covers multiple locations in China (PVG), Indonesia (CGK), India (DEL & BOM), South Korea (ICN), Thailand (BKK), United Arab Emirates (DXB) and Singapore (SIN).

This certification supports GEODIS' strategic goals of establishing Pharma Healthcare as a key organizational vertical and expanding its global network by accrediting sites in numerous countries throughout the

APAC region.

According to **Onno Boots, Regional President and CEO of GEODIS for APAC and Middle East**, *"With the CEIV Pharma accreditation, we can ensure our customers of our competence and commitment to handle pharmaceutical temperature-sensitive products with the utmost care and attention. Pharmaceutical businesses need to find logistics solutions that are dependable and effective, and GEODIS is in a perfect position to offer them the best services in the area."*

This series of certifications is a reflection of the tremendous

investment GEODIS has made in guaranteeing the highest levels of quality and compliance in its Pharma Healthcare capabilities.

*"Without a doubt, we are responding to the healthcare industry's demand for options in the selection of global supply chain partners and we look forward to establishing GEODIS as a key service provider for pharma and healthcare companies, particularly in Asia Pacific and Middle East where we see the key hubs of production and distribution",* adds Boots.

The CEIV Pharma certification for GEODIS further demonstrates its dedication to offering customers supply chain transparency and visibility. GEODIS can provide customers with shipment location and temperature data using GPS data loggers controlled by a control tower, enabling more openness and visibility.

In addition, the capabilities of GEODIS in customs brokerage and contract logistics are of particular interest to the decision-makers in Pharma Healthcare in this region. The best illustration of GEODIS' capabilities for contract logistics is in Singapore, where GEODIS has GDP, GMP, and ISO13485 in its warehouses. GEODIS is well-positioned to manage the trade compliance needs of the healthcare companies as they expand their operations into new markets.







*The start of operations of three dedicated freighters opens up a whole new world of opportunities for WestJet Cargo and the GTA Group.*

# WestJet Cargo together with the GTA Group and their three 737-800 Boeing Converted Freighters: It's never too late to think big

**W**estJet Cargo together with the GTA Group inaugurated the launch of three 737-800 Boeing Converted Freighters in Toronto on Thursday April 20 and in Halifax on Friday April 21. More celebrations are planned today in Vancouver. The event marks the start of a dedicated cargo service designed to fulfill the large-scale needs of businesses, freight forwarders, shippers and individual customers across an expanding network.

WestJet Cargo and the GTA Group's dedicated freighters will now begin operating between six stations in Halifax, Calgary, Los Angeles, Miami, Toronto and Vancouver. Integrating into WestJet Group's existing network, WestJet Cargo and the GTA group's dedicated freighters will work in tandem with the cargo carrying bellies of WestJet's existing fleet of over a hundred 737 aircraft and use the group's highly skilled 737 pilots. With a payload of 23 tons, the three freighters will have a weekly capacity of over 1500 tons. Their operation will create global connectivity and open trade lanes between Canada and the Caribbean, Europe, Japan and the

United States.

In addition to the broad range of commodities already carried by WestJet Cargo such as perishables, e-commerce and live animals, the dedicated freighters have enabled a broad expansion of the carrier's service offerings, including the capacity to carry oversized items and unitized e-commerce containers.

"Our incredibly talented and creative team at WestJet Cargo is eager to satisfy the demand of Canada's underserved air cargo market, by bringing competitive cost advantages, increased choice, reliable on-time performance and exemplary customer service. Our inauguration signifies a green light to do just that, as we strive to meet the needs of Canada's expanding cargo market," said Kirsten de Bruijn, WestJet Executive Vice-President, Cargo.

This is an important milestone for WestJet Cargo, as it asserts its role as a key player in the Canadian airfreight market, facilitating the country's access to a competitively priced and reliable air cargo service. It's never too late to think big!

# cargo-partner at transport logistic 2023 in Munich



*The international transport and info-logistics provider will once again be represented at the leading logistics fair in Munich from May 9 to 12, 2023. This year, cargo-partner will take the event as an opportunity to celebrate its 40th anniversary together with customers and partners and present its service portfolio in the areas of e-commerce, EMERGENCY, warehousing and digital solutions.*



**H**eld in Munich every other year since 1978, Transport Logistics is the world's leading trade fair for logistics, mobility, IT, and supply chain management. After the fair was hosted as a purely virtual event

in 2021, this year marks the first instance of transport logistics returning to a fully in-person event after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Just as in previous years – including the successful online event two

years ago – cargo-partner will be participating at the fair in Munich along with other international logistics providers to present its service portfolio and discuss the latest industry developments. The cargo-partner booth is located in hall A5, booth no. 408.

This year, cargo-partner will take the event as an occasion to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the company's founding. In addition, the cargo-partner team will be presenting the company's comprehensive range of transport and logistics solutions, with a special focus on e-commerce, EMERGENCY transport services, global warehousing capabilities as well as the company's growing portfolio of digital supply chain management solutions, including the SPOT platform and its Purchase Order Management module.

**Stefan Krauter, CEO of cargo-partner**, said: "transport logistic is one of the most important annual gatherings of the global logistics industry. Following our motto 'we take it personally', our team is excited to join this event and we truly enjoy this opportunity to meet our valued customers and partners again in person after years of lockdowns and online meetings."

In 2023, the organizers expect over 2,300 exhibitors and over 64,000 visitors from around the world, including many visitors from Germany. cargo-partner has been represented with its own offices in Germany since 2000. Today, the logistics provider's representation in Germany includes seven offices in Munich, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Hamburg and Stuttgart with nearly 200 employees as well as a state-of-the-art warehouse facility in Sottrum near Hamburg offering 10,000 m<sup>2</sup> of storage space.

Meanwhile, cargo-partner's worldwide network continues to grow. In 2022, the logistics provider opened new branch offices in Spain, Mexico, Greece, the UK and Indonesia, as well as warehouse expansions in Slovenia, Croatia and China. Looking ahead, the company has placed a strategic focus on further strengthening its network in Western Europe.

# Reducing flights at Schiphol Airport could deliver €13.6 billion blow to Dutch trade and tourism



**T**he decision by the Dutch government to limit the number of flights taking off and landing at Schiphol Airport will reduce the value of trade and tourist expenditure in the Netherlands by up to €13.6 billion, according to a new study by the Centre for Economics and Business Research (Cebr).

The report, commissioned by the Red Schiphol Campaign, predicts that the decision to reduce flight movements at the airport to 440,000 per year will lead to a 180,000 tonne drop in the amount of cargo handled at Schiphol compared to 2019 levels. This represents €11.5 billion worth of goods or about 11.4% of Schiphol's usual cargo volume.

Under a worst-case scenario, Cebr suggests this figure could rise to 330,000 tonnes, or €21.3 billion worth of goods. This represents over a fifth (21.2%) of Schiphol's 2019

cargo volume. The report also outlines that the flight cap could result in 1.3 million fewer tourists using Schiphol Airport each year – roughly equivalent to the total number of travellers who visited the Netherlands from Asia in 2019. According to Cebr, this reduction would be associated with a €2.2 billion drop in annual tourist expenditure.

**George Chichester, campaign manager for the Red Schiphol Campaign**, says this could have a disastrous impact on the Dutch economy.

*"In 2019, Schiphol Airport was responsible for over 90% of the cargo coming into the Netherlands and 88% of all passengers flying into or out of the country. It is unlikely that other airports will be able to handle the extra passengers or cargo that will be uncatered for under the flight cap, meaning the value from these two*

*revenue sources is essentially lost to the Dutch economy,"* Chichester said.

In addition, Cebr estimates that the reduction in flights is associated with a reduction in Dutch economic activity supported by Schiphol Airport's operations, amounting to a €205 million fall in Gross Value Added (GVA) and 599 fewer jobs supported throughout the airport and its supply chain. Much of this impact will be felt in the Noord-Holland region, which the report suggests will experience 94% of the impact on GVA.

**Rowlando Morgan, Head of the Environment, Infrastructure and Local Growth team at Cebr**, says that Schiphol's current contribution to the national and local economy should not be understated. *"This research shows that the decision will have significant adverse economic impacts on the consumers and businesses that rely on Schiphol Airport."*



# ATSG

## adds two converted B767-300s to its fleet



Aircraft lessor and transportation services provider Air Transport Services Group (ATSG) has taken delivery of two newly converted Boeing 767-300 Freighters.

One of the aircraft is the company's first Boeing Converted Freighter (BCF) and the other was converted by Tel Aviv-based Israel Aerospace Industries. Both will be leased through

ATSG's leasing subsidiary, Cargo Aircraft Management, to Amerijet International Airlines; the Miami-based cargo carrier already has nine other planes on lease from ATSG.

ATSG said the two aircraft illustrate its "successful supply chain diversification in meeting market demand for full freighter conversions".

Chief commercial officer Paul Chase said: "Today we acknowledge an important milestone in the history of our company, a milestone that signifies not only our ability to execute on a clear corporate vision, but also demonstrates yet another step we've taken to establish ourselves as the global leader in freighter leasing.

"The strategic programme we are celebrating today is not just a plan for the future, but a roadmap to our continued success. It reflects our commitment to our customers, our employees, and our shareholders. It is a testament to our ability to adapt, innovate, and lead in a rapidly changing world," Chase added.

ATSG is the world's largest lessor of freighter aircraft as well as the largest owner and operator of converted Boeing 767 freighters. The company posted record revenues in 2022, up 18% year on year to \$2bn, with block hours flown by its ACMI business up 9 percent for the year.



# Merlin Awarded FAA Contract to Deploy Nation's First Autonomous Air Cargo Network

**T**he Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has awarded Merlin, the leading developer of safe autonomous flight technology for fixed-wing aircraft, a \$1 million contract to demonstrate a highly automated flight control system in conjunction with a safety pilot.

In partnership with the FAA designated University of Alaska Fairbanks UAS Test Site and Everts Air Cargo, the Merlin Pilot will be the first autonomy system integrated into the NAS.

Flight trials will run along three test routes serving five destinations. All test routes originate from the FAA designated UAS Alaska test site in Q2 2023.

Last year, Merlin announced a \$105 million Series B financing

along with key partnerships with the United States Air Force, the New Zealand Civil Aviation Authority, and the FAA.

The funding has allowed Merlin to continue developing its integrated hardware and software solution known as the Merlin Pilot.

“Alaska’s terrain and inclement weather can challenge the most experienced pilots,” **said Dr. Cathy Cahill, Director of the Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration (ACUASI) at the UAF Geophysical Institute.**

“And yet remote communities rely on air cargo deliveries for vital supplies such as milk, mail, and medicine.

“Working with Merlin on these flight trials benefits our residents and provides data with each flight that

will create not only safer airspace in Alaska but technology that is applicable worldwide.”

“This program will help thousands of our state’s remote residents to acquire supplies necessary to sustain life and it’s exciting that the advent of new technologies can drive greater equity and access across our communities,” **Cahill said.**

The trials are set to begin in the second quarter of 2023 with an aim of reaching underserved areas of Alaska to enable better access to supplies while reducing the significant safety risk to today’s pilots.

Merlin will use crewed aircraft augmented with the Merlin Pilot, its integrated hardware and software solution, to serve rural cargo destinations.



# HKIA Named the World's Busiest Cargo Airport in 2022



**H**ong Kong International Airport (HKIA) is once again named as the world's busiest cargo airport in 2022, handling a total of 4.2 million tonnes of cargo during the year, according to the latest data released by Airports Council International (ACI).

HKIA retained the top position in 2022 despite ongoing geopolitical tensions and disruptions to global trade and supply chains that caused a decrease in overall air cargo volume globally. An array of projects are currently underway to enhance air cargo services at HKIA, in parallel with the expansion into a three-runway system.

Major projects include the expansion of DHL's Central Asia Hub to increase

its handling capacity by 50% which was already completed for operation in the first quarter in 2023; the development of a premium logistics centre by a joint venture spearheaded by Alibaba Group's logistics arm, Cainiao Network, scheduled to complete this year; and the introduction of new sea-air intermodal cargo transshipment model by setting up HKIA Logistics Park in Dongguan and a new airside intermodal cargo pier at HKIA, for which the pilot scheme has been running smoothly.

HKIA is one of the few airports in the world with its cargo terminal operators and ramp handling operators attaining the International Air Transport Association (IATA) CEIV standards for transport of cargo that requires special

handling, including CEIV Pharma, CEIV Fresh or CEIV Live Animals.

**Jack So, Chairman of Airport Authority Hong Kong, said,**

*"We are proud that HKIA retains its leading position as the world's busiest cargo airport in 2022. "Despite the impact brought to the global aviation industry by the pandemic, HKIA's cargo performance has consistently remained strong over the past few years, leveraging its extensive network and high efficiency. "As air traffic continues to recover worldwide, coupled with the completion of various new cargo facilities at HKIA, we will continue to work with our business partners to consolidate HKIA's role as the world's leading air cargo hub."*



# Fraport's improved Q1 results sees 2023 Group net profit forecast of €300 – €420 million



**F**raport Group's revenue for Q1, 2023 has risen by 41.9% compared to Q1, 2022 thanks to ongoing traffic recovery. The Group revenue totalled €765.6 million with an operating (EBITDA) of €158.3 million, a year-on-year increase of around 100%.

The Group result (net profit) rose to minus 32.6 million in the reporting period (from minus €118.2 million in the first quarter of 2022), with Q1 usually being the financial quarter with the lowest earnings. For the first time, the Group's Q1 revenue included proceeds from aviation security fees (€45.1 million) levied by Fraport after assuming responsibility for security screening at Frankfurt Airport from the beginning of 2023.

However, proceeds from security services provided by the "FraSec Aviation Security GmbH" subsidiary (totalling €33.1 million in Q1/2022) ceased being classed as Group revenue, after this subsidiary was deconsolidated from the Group's financial statements

effective January 1. Adjusting for revenues resulting from construction and expansion measures at Fraport's international subsidiaries (in line with IFRIC 12), Group revenue increased by 37.9 percent to €654.2 million. Fraport's operating result or EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization) more than doubled in the first quarter, soaring from €70.7 million in Q1/2022 to €158.3 million in the reporting period. Likewise, the Group result (net profit) markedly improved year-on-year, rising from minus €118.2 million in Q1/2022 to minus €32.6 million in Q1/2023.

Fraport anticipates passenger traffic at Frankfurt Airport

to increase by a minimum of 80% and up to about 90% compared to pre-crisis 2019 when some 70.6 million passengers travelled via Germany's largest aviation hub. Fraport's Group EBITDA is projected to reach between roughly €1,040 million and €1,200 million. The Group result is forecast to increase to a range of between around €300 million and €420 million in 2023. (£1.00 = €1.14 at time of publication).



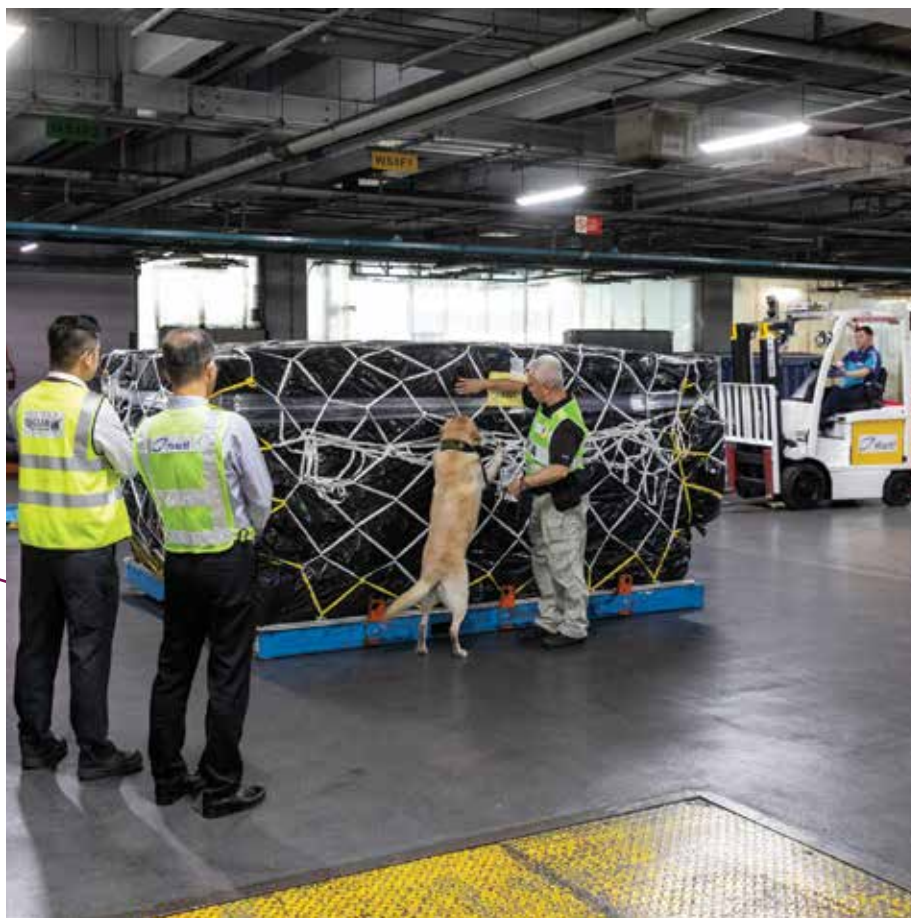
# Qatar Airways Cargo and Hactl

partner  
in canine  
detection  
to sniff  
out lithium  
batteries

**Q**atar Airways Cargo and its ground handler Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals Ltd (Hactl) have teamed up to provide an extra layer of security for the airline's ex-Hong Kong flights, using technical detection dogs to sniff out hidden lithium batteries in air cargo.

The detection service is being provided by leading specialist MSA Security®, An Allied Universal® Company (MSA), which now operates a team of security experts and sniffer dogs within a dedicated area of Hactl's SuperTerminal 1 facility. The dogs are specially-trained to detect specific odours, resulting in their ability to detect lithium batteries, whether they are in loose, palletised or containerised cargo. In proving trials at Hactl, an MSA dog successfully detected packages containing lithium batteries in PCs, and even a single power bank, located on pallets containing other general cargo.

Qatar Airways Cargo and Hactl are the first carrier and cargo handler in Hong Kong to utilise trained sniffer dogs for lithium battery detection. The carrier's decision to use dogs rather than traditional X-ray detection alone was due to the difficulty of reliably identifying lithium batteries via X-ray images, particularly for e-commerce



shipments containing multiple types of product in small packages.

MSA dogs are trained at one of the company's eleven canine training centres in the United States, and housed locally in their dedicated kennel in Hong Kong. Further dogs are constantly being trained, and can be made available at short notice in the event of increased demand.

**Guillaume Halleux, Chief Officer Cargo at Qatar Airways** said: "We always maintain the highest possible level of aviation safety and security and we have continuously advocated for proper regulation in the transport of lithium batteries. We recently became the second airline in the world to become IATA CEIV Lithium Batteries certified and we continue to look at ways to improve our methods. The trials with

MSA have been very impressive, and our agreement to adopt their services through Hactl marks an important step forward for our brand."

Adds **Hactl Chief Executive Wilson Kwong**: "We are very pleased to partner with our valued customer Qatar Airways Cargo in facilitating this innovative enhancement to the services we provide to them. Effective aviation safety and security demand that we leverage every new technology and technique, and this latest move perfectly aligns with Hactl's constant drive for continuous improvement in all aspects of its operations."

Hactl is already conducting trials with another major operator, and plans to offer the technical detection dog service option to all of its customer carriers.





# Avianca Cargo

## expands US connections

### with Los Angeles freighter flights

**A**vianca Cargo will add new freighter flights between Quito and new destination Los Angeles as it targets growing demand between Ecuador and North America. The flight will operate twice per week and also include a stop at Bogotá. Currently, 80% of Avianca's cargo volumes from Ecuador are destined for North America.

*"[The service] will allow [Avianca] to diversify the ports of entry of flowers to North America, adding this destination to Miami as an already existing point and through which it sent nearly 18,000 tons in around 300 flights operated from Ecuador and Colombia in the recent season of Valentine's Day," said airport operator Quiport.*

Other products that will be transported on the service include fruits and fish, which represent around 20% of the cargo exported from Ecuador.

*"With this cargo inauguration, in addition to delivering a more robust service proposal to our customers, we will continue promoting the competitiveness of the flower industry, since 75% of the cargo we export from Ecuador, under the highest quality standards and on the required times, corresponds to flowers grown by Ecuadorian hands," said **Juan Cruz Correa, vice president of sales for Avianca Cargo.***

**Ramón Miró, president and chief executive of Corporación Quiport,**

*added: "The air cargo operation at the Quito International Airport has established itself as the biggest in the country. With 290,000 metric tons transported in 2022, today we are the main port for air cargo transportation in Ecuador and we occupy an important place in Latin America by annual cargo volume."*

Avianca Cargo's network covers the Americas, Europe and Asia and it serves more than 50 destinations with a fleet of Airbus A330 freighters, in addition to operating bellies in passenger aircraft.

Last year, the Colombian airline invested in its digital offering – joining three booking portals. It also added three service levels.





# Air Canada Cargo

takes delivery of newbuild 767 freighters

**A**ir Canada Cargo has taken delivery of two newbuild Boeing 767-300 freighters. The freighters are expected to enter service soon, said Air Canada Cargo on May 2. “We are thrilled to see our two factory-built Boeing 767 freighters land in Toronto for the first time today, joining our growing freighter fleet,” said the carrier in a LinkedIn post.

“Fins 662 and 663 will soon enter commercial service and serve our valued customers around the world.” Air Canada ordered the two factory-built 767-300Fs in April last year. The 767-300Fs allow Air Canada Cargo to offer five different main deck configurations, increasing the overall cargo capacity of each aircraft to nearly 58 tonnes or 438 cu

m, with approximately 75% of this capacity on the main deck.

The two factory-built freighters are in addition to the eight 767-300s that are being converted for Air Canada Cargo operations. Air Canada Cargo is also due to take delivery of two newbuild 777Fs in 2024.

The addition of freighter aircraft to Air Canada’s fleet allows Air Canada Cargo to provide consistent capacity on key air cargo routes. Freighters also increase Air Canada Cargo’s capability to transport goods such as automotive and aerospace parts, oil and gas equipment, pharmaceuticals and perishables, as well as handling the growing demand for fast, reliable shipment of e-commerce goods.



## Transport logistic 2023: Lufthansa Cargo on site again as exhibitor



From May 9 to 12, 2023, the world's largest logistics trade fair "**transport logistic**" will once again open its doors in Munich. Together with its subsidiaries CB Customs Broker, heyworld, and time:matters, Lufthansa Cargo will once again be exhibiting at this

year's international trade fair for logistics, mobility, IT and supply chain management.

As a highlight, Europe's largest cargo line is hosting a round table on the latest developments and trends in eCommerce business on Tuesday, May 9.

Air freight has become increasingly important, especially in recent pandemic years. Demand for fast and reliable transport solutions is high, while at the same time, sustainable developments are significantly driving the future of airfreight logistics. Lufthansa Cargo sees a growth market in eCommerce in particular and is actively shaping it with its partners CB Customs Broker and heyworld. The full-service customs agency Customs Broker supports Lufthansa Cargo with its software solution for the fast and reliable customs clearance of complex shipments. The logistics partner heyworld offers door-to-door solutions for cross-border eCommerce shipments and complements Lufthansa Cargo's complete solution for the eCommerce business.

Journalists are cordially invited to participate in the round table on the future of the eCommerce market and its significance. On **Tuesday, May 9**, from **12:00 to 13:00**, **Ashwin Bhat, CEO of Lufthansa Cargo, Uwe Glunz, Managing Director of CB Customs Broker, and Boris Hueske, Managing Director of heyworld**, will provide impetus.

The largest leading international trade fair transport logistic is regarded as an established meeting place for all players in the fields of logistics and mobility. Lufthansa Cargo has been an exhibitor at the trade fair for many years and can be found again this year in pole position at booths 100 and 101/202 in hall B1. Airfreight experts from the company will be available there to answer questions and talk to interested trade fair visitors about current topics and trends in the airfreight industry.

In addition to the above-mentioned partners, Swiss WorldCargo and time:matters will also be represented at the stand. The latter, as an expert for time-critical emergency transports and supply chain solutions, will present its customized and industry-specific logistics concepts and strategies at the booth.

# Cologne Bonn Airport lands well in the profit zone



Cologne Bonn Airport was able to finish the 2022 financial year on an extremely positive note, despite many industry-wide challenges. With an after-tax profit of 17.2 million euros, the company recorded its best earnings of the 2000s. “We owe our very successful economic developments to our business model, which consists of two central pillars: passenger traffic, which recovered faster than expected last year in Cologne Bonn, and cargo, which we were able to stabilise at a very high level”, says Thilo Schmid, CEO of Flughafen Köln/Bonn GmbH. “The good result is a credit to all the employees

who did an outstanding job despite all the difficulties of the past year”, Schmid adds. “The profit enables us to make important investments in things like climate protection and sustainability, and to further develop the airport.”

2022 saw the airport return to the profit zone after pandemic-ridden years, having recorded a loss of 14.5 million euros in 2021. Sales revenue in 2022 rose by around 70 million to 317.4 million euros (2021: 246.3 million euros), and, at 73.7 million euros, the company more than doubled its previous year’s EBITDA (2021: 32.6 million euros). “The rapid recovery in passenger traffic and the ongoing

success in the cargo business played a significant role in the results. We also operated very cost-consciously and increased revenue in many areas”, says director Torsten Schrank. “We were able to bounce back quickly from the crisis years and are doing very well financially, even compared to other industry competitors”, Schrank adds.

But 2022 also had its challenges, which posed difficulties even for air transportation. In addition to the Russian war of aggression in Ukraine, these difficulties particularly included inflation, the energy crisis and staffing shortages. Furthermore, the industry – and therefore also the airport – had to





deal with disrupted passenger-handling processes as everything quickly fired back up following the easing of pandemic restrictions. At Cologne Bonn, the first part of the summer often saw long waits at security checkpoints. 2022 also showed how much of a yearning people have to travel.

### **Passenger traffic recovering, cargo going strong**

Passenger traffic recovered quicker than expected after the new Omicron variant made for a modest first quarter. A total of 8.8 million passengers used the airport last year – more than twice as many as in 2021 (4.3

million). This positive development was mainly driven by holiday and “family & friends” traffic, to destinations such as Turkey and Spain among others. “We’re delighted that this clear recovery trend is continuing this year too”, says Schmid. Despite several warning strikes affecting some 100,000 passengers, passenger volumes during the first third of the year were, in many cases, much higher than in 2022. Passenger numbers will increase in the summer, continuing to approach pre-pandemic levels. On some days, it will even exceed 2019 levels. Some 25 airlines will be flying to 110 destinations in more than 30 countries this summer. The airport is expecting around 9.7 million passengers in 2023 (+11%). Even in 2022, cargo remained stable at a very high level of 971,000 tonnes (2021: 986,000 t), the slight decrease the result of the difficult political situation globally. In 2023, the airport anticipates a slight gain (+2%) with 985,000 tonnes.

### **Measures package for stable processes and passenger convenience**

For the tourist season, the airport has invested in optimising processes and other services for passengers, putting together an extensive package of measures worth some 10 million euros. This package played a significant role in the smooth processes at terminals and on the ramp during the Easter holidays. These measures include starting up the Airport Operations Control Center (AOCC), where all central operational processes have been controlled in co-operation with process partners since mid-March. The airport also now has more digital services for travellers, such as additional automatic bag-drop stations and info kiosks. The central passport control and area directly in front of the security checkpoint have also been redesigned and optimised. Other measures include a number of new appointments and additional expertise in aircraft handling and baggage services. “As an airport, we

have taken lots of measures to make the travel experience at Cologne Bonn as pleasant as possible for our passengers”, says Schmid. “To do this, we are working closely with all our process partners.”

### **New Duty Free shops opening in June**

Operations are also in full-swing in the non-aviation side of things. New Duty Free operator Setur, for example, is working to open shops in Terminals 1 and 2 in June. Work has also commenced on implementing the new airport-experience concept for Terminal 2, where the Rhine will be used as a visual theme, new seating will be installed, and seamless transitions will be created between individual areas. Shops at the terminals were already (re)opening at the end of 2022. “We’re implementing a number of concepts to further improve the travel experience for our passengers at the terminals”, says Schrank.

### **A focus on sustainability and employer appeal**

The airport continues to progress with its sustainability activities, recently starting construction on new photovoltaic systems on the roofs of various buildings at the site. This will see around 8,600 new solar modules providing an additional installed output of 2.6 megawatt peak by 2024. The airport is also continuing to replace its lighting, converting to efficient, low-maintenance LEDs – as currently already visible in the modifications being made at Terminal 2 and Parking Building 3. It is investing more than 4.5 million euros in these three projects. “This strategic task is a central element to ensure we are seen as an attractive employer even in future”, Schmid adds. Another way the airport is retaining employees and fostering talent is through its respectful corporate culture and modern work prospects. “In doing so, we are laying the foundations for tackling tasks, both present and future, with a strong team”, says Schmid.

# Hongyuan Group partners with cargo.one in a landmark deal to offer its capacity online



- Hongyuan Group kick-starts digital distribution by marketing to thousands of freight forwarders globally using cargo.one
- Hongyuan Group can now rapidly broaden its reach, achieve an industry-leading digital offering and accelerate its multichannel progress
- cargo.one takes a further step in its growth trajectory within the Asia Pacific

**H**ongyuan Group and cargo.one have announced a partnership that will see Hongyuan capacity available for instant booking on the market-leading air cargo marketplace. Hongyuan Group is rapidly becoming an important operator of air cargo services between destinations in China and across Europe and South America. Partnering with the established, go-to marketplace for thousands of active freight forwarders will enable Hongyuan Group to boost sales and gain valuable ground rapidly in its digitalization of sales processes.

With over 20 years of professional cargo logistics service experience, Hongyuan Group is well known to freight forwarders globally for its high-frequency air cargo flights between China, Europe and the United States. In addition to its

self-owned capacity resources such as B747-8F and A330-200F, Hongyuan is significantly expanding its available capacity for the coming years to meet future air cargo demand.

For the first time, thousands of freight forwarders will gain real-time digital access to Hongyuan's routes and rates, with a new choice of instantly bookable offers and confirmation, all within a few minutes. For example, due to its front-loaded aircraft, Hongyuan Group offers forwarders the exciting option of booking up to 6-meter shipments - soon with cargo.one's digital booking speeds.

Customers using cargo.one also benefit from valuable booking management and collaboration functionality, combined with cargo.one's renowned expert customer

support. The addition of Hongyuan Group capacity reflects cargo.one's strong diversity of supply options for all important air cargo markets.

**Mr. Wen Yi, the business representative Hongyuan Group,** said, "Since 2018, we have been building up air cargo services with a strong mission to open up the world for freight forwarders. Digital sales is an important step in offering our customers greater convenience and service quality, and cargo.one is the ideal expert partner to enable us to seize maximum potential in all our relevant markets"

**Moritz Claussen, Founder and Co-CEO of cargo.one,** adds, "We are proud to bolster our clear leadership for digital distribution by becoming Hongyuan Group's partner of choice for their digital sales efforts. Thousands of freight forwarders using cargo.one will soon benefit from Hongyuan's strong offerings into Asia. Hongyuan Group can now accelerate its digital sales journey and gain important ground with our established frameworks and digital best practices".

Digital distribution comprises an important strategic component of Hongyuan Group's global expansion. cargo.one will deliver the industry's leading standard for customer-centric digital booking experiences. cargo.one's team will also support Hongyuan Group through technological and organizational changes needed to maximize digital distribution effects. For example, cargo.one guides airlines towards enhanced sales efficiencies by leveraging compliant data insights in cargo.one360 to optimize its offer quality and win new growth opportunities.

The partnership with Hongyuan Group, its first Chinese carrier, is the latest step in cargo.one's Asia-Pacific growth trajectory. Over the past year, cargo.one has signed major airline partnerships to deliver greatly increased capacity options across the Asia Pacific region. Soon freight forwarders on cargo.one can book Hongyuan Group capacity to important destinations in China including Shanghai, Beijing and Chengdu.

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