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EDITOR'S LETTER

Air Cargo Trends: Tonnages and rates on the rise

Global air cargo tonnages showed a positive development in the second full week of September, after stabilizing at the beginning of the month, with average rates also on an upward trend, breaking out of the bandwidth that we reported since mid-July – between \$2.26 and \$2.29 per kilo, now reaching \$2.31, according to the latest figures from WorldACD Market Data.

Weekly analysis

Figures for week 37 (11 to 17 September) show a jump in tonnages of +4%, compared with the previous week, while average worldwide air cargo prices increased slightly (+1%), based on the more than 400,000 weekly transactions covered by WorldACD's data.

Comparing weeks 36 and 37 with the preceding two weeks (2Wo2W), overall tonnages increased by +3% versus their combined total in weeks 34 and 35, while worldwide rates went up by +2% at slightly higher capacity (+1%).

At a regional level, increases in tonnages (2Wo2W) were recorded most strongly on flows intra-Asia Pacific (+11%) and ex-Asia Pacific to, respectively, North America (+6%) and Europe (+6%). Other notable increases were recorded ex-Europe to, respectively, North America (+6%) and Central & South America (+4%). However, some key lanes showed a notable deterioration: ex-North America to, respectively, Central & South America (-10%) and Europe (-4%), and ex-Middle East & South Asia to, respectively, Europe (-7%) and Asia Pacific (-5%).

On the pricing side, average global rates increased by +2% on a 2Wo2W basis, with most regions remaining stable, whereas rates saw notable rises ex-Asia Pacific to, respectively, Europe (+6%) and North America (+4%).

Year-on-Year perspective

Comparing the overall global market with this time last year, chargeable weight in weeks 36 and 37 was down -2% compared with the equivalent period last year (YoY), with the most notable change on an origin region level being a +10% rise ex-Asia Pacific. But, similar to previous reports, there were double-digit percentage decreases in tonnages ex-North America (-13%) and ex-Europe (-12%). Tonnages ex-Middle East & South

Asia were down -4%, while the other origin regions showed mild changes (Africa -1%, Central & South America +2%).

Overall capacity has increased by +13% compared with last year, with capacity ex-Asia Pacific up by a noteworthy +30%. Other significant YoY capacity increases can be observed ex-Europe (+16%), ex-Middle East & South Asia (+11%), ex-North America (+9%) and ex-Africa (+5%), while a slight drop was recorded ex-Central & South America (-3%).

Worldwide average rates are currently -33% below their levels this time last year, at an average of US\$2.31 per kilo in week 37, although they remain significantly above pre-Covid levels (+34% compared to September 2019).

Xeneta chief airfreight officer Niall van de Wouw recently said of the market: "We are picking up signals that it could take another few quarters before we see more demand on a global level."

"August was very quiet, like July, and we see no meaningful signals from a qualitative or quantitative point of view of any kind of peak arising this year."

"There might be some early peak season charter requests floating around but they are backed up by very little demand."

"The (low) rates and the limited timeframe that the requestors are looking for signal that they are not too concerned at the moment about getting the required capacity when they actually need it."

"The market seems to have levelled out, but still holds a lot of uncertainty, and not just for airfreight."



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We are on



CONTENTS



06

- 06** Lufthansa Cargo focuses on efficient sustainability, digitalization and e-commerce
- 08** Lufthansa Cargo increases flight offerings to Asia, Africa and Mexico
- 09** Emirates SkyCargo advances its digital customer experience with CargoAi
- 10** Etihad Cargo launches AI-powered solutions to drive innovative cargo services in Singapore in partnership with dnata and Speedcargo
- 12** Etihad Cargo boosts belly-hold cargo capacity with the expanded winter schedule
- 14** Etihad Cargo ramps up cargo capacity for China
- 15** Qatar Airways Cargo Launches SecureLift a solution for Valuable and Vulnerable shipments



17



26

- 16** Qatar Airways Cargo Partners with DSV to launch a new route from Huntsville
- 17** Qatar Airways Cargo Joins Forces with Animal Defenders International for the world's loneliest lion's remarkable journey and a new beginning
- 18** Air Tahiti Nui extends ULD management partnership with Unilode until 2029
- 21** ANA Cargo Introduces PRIO FRESH Service for International Perishable Air Freight Transport



22

- 22** Air Cargo Demand Strengthens Despite Challenges
- 24** TIACA Launches Air Cargo Forum 2024 with a New Partnership
- 25** DFW Readies for 50th Anniversary in 2024
- 26** Cargo iQ's surge in sign-ups continues as LOT Polish Airlines joins the group
- 27** Schiphol Airport weathers global cargo decline
- 30** LATAM Cargo adapts transport processes to help decentralize access to cancer diagnostics in Chile
- 36** Cargojet First Boeing 777-200LR Freighter Conversion by US Mammoth
- 38** Cathay Cargo innovation brings convenience to the booking process with a digital link to Kuehne+Nagel's booking system

CONTENTS



- 39** Rohlig USA receives IATA CEIV Lithium Battery certification
- 40** Turkish Cargo placed an order for ten additional Airbus A350-900
- 43** Wiremind's digital innovation thrives on "Give and Tech"
- 45** Celebrating 35 Years of Singapore Airlines Cargo Operations at Brussels Airport
- 46** BBN Airlines Indonesia receives air operator's certificate
- 49** Globe Air Cargo China, part of ECS Group, partners with Royal Air Brunei Airlines to enhance air cargo operations in China
- 50** Rhenus Group solidifies LATAM's presence through strategic acquisitions and partnerships
- 52** Avianca Cargo completes the series of IATA product certifications
- 54** Air cargo demand growth 'maybe a few quarters away' as August sees spot rates hit their lowest level in over three years
- 59** Liège, Belgium, and Toronto, Canada, join Swissport's growing network of Pharma Centers
- 60** dnata cuts CO2 emissions by 80 tonnes per year with Biofuel switch in UAE
- 62** Guillaume Halleux joins Swissport as Chief Commercial Officer
- 64** dnata is the first combined air services provider to receive IATA's environmental management certification (IEnvA)

The future of the airfreight industry:

Lufthansa Cargo focuses on efficient sustainability, digitalization and e-commerce

Lufthansa Cargo names the future drivers of the airfreight industry

What does the future of the airfreight industry look like? Lufthansa Cargo is once again asking this question on this year's Aviation Day on August 19. A good time, because the industry is currently facing major challenges. «We are currently experiencing various upheavals within the airfreight industry. Sustainability, digitalization and booming online trade are playing a central role. In order to be able to master this, we are relying on decisive and dynamic action along with all stakeholders in the industry. This is the only way we can remain fit for the future and live up to our responsibility as one of the world's leading air freight companies and enabling global business,” says **Ashwin Bhat, CEO of Lufthansa Cargo**.

Strengthening the eCommerce business at Frankfurt Airport

Lufthansa Cargo recently presented its ambitious plans for Frankfurt Airport: The airport will become one of the world's most important e-commerce hubs. Together with two subsidiaries - the logistics service provider hey world and the customs clearance agency CB Customs Broker GmbH - Lufthansa Cargo is thus proactively driving forward the expansion of the eCommerce business at Frankfurt Airport. “A decisive success factor for online retailing is the resilience and speed of the supply chain. We

want to make Frankfurt a leading location in this segment by offering holistic solutions for shipping, customs clearance, and onward transport of eCommerce shipments,” said **Ashwin Bhat**. In addition, full-service customs agency CB Customs Broker announced a partnership with handling expert GEORGI Handling. To promote the eCommerce business in Frankfurt, both companies are creating a new eCommerce terminal in Cargo City South, which will be another important base for the Asian market.

Expansion of the intra-European route network

Lufthansa Cargo has been serving short- and medium-haul destinations with A321F freighters for more than a year and put its third aircraft into service at the end of June. A fourth freighter will join the fleet as of September. With the A321 fleet doubling in size to four this year, there are new opportunities for capacity and route network expansion, whether in the scheduled or charter business. Currently, Lufthansa Cargo offers more than 50 weekly flights to 14 destinations, providing customers with a direct connection for their cargo to the hub in Frankfurt. The latest additions to the route network are Casablanca, Yerevan and Tunis. Further adjustments and extensions to the flight schedule on short- and medium-haul routes associated with the fleet expansion are currently still being



planned to connect various economy centers.

Successful digitalization initiative launched with Kühne+Nagel on routes to Asia

A few weeks ago, Lufthansa Cargo, together with its long-standing and digitally affine customer Kühne+Nagel, succeeded in transporting 100 per cent general cargo by electronic air waybill as well as the digital accompanying documents between Germany and Hong Kong. This first purely “**paperless route**” is the starting signal for the



introduction of “paperless corridors” for efficient and resource-conscious transports between Europe and Asia.

Lufthansa Cargo invests in sustainable measures

Lufthansa Cargo is equally ambitious in sustainability: By 2030 at the latest, the company wants to halve its carbon footprint compared with 2019 to operate CO₂-neutral by 2050. In this regard, Lufthansa Cargo plays a pioneering role within the industry, as can be seen, for example, in the implementation of the EU regulation

ReFuelEU: In the latest confirmed Trilogue regarding the EU ReFuel Aviation Regulation, a binding quota of renewable fuels for aviation has been defined: For example, at least two per cent SAF must be used by 2025, and at least six per cent by 2030. Compared to fossil fuels, SAF reduces CO₂ emissions by up to 80 per cent. Today, Lufthansa Cargo is already achieving the first mark of two per cent: In 2022, the SAF share in the fuel consumption of Lufthansa Cargo freighter aircraft was already 2.1 per cent. In addition to renewable

fuels, the company is also focusing on continuous fleet modernization, fuel efficiency and digitalization. *“We see great potential in AI-based applications and have already integrated them into our services. From eBooking to eTracking, we now offer our customers extensive options along the transport chain. If we want to sustainably improve the industry’s carbon footprint, we must use every opportunity to further reduce our CO₂ emissions,”* says **Nicole Mies, Head of Communication and Corporate Responsibility at Lufthansa Cargo.**

Lufthansa Cargo increases flight offerings to Asia, Africa and Mexico



- Winter flight schedule 2023/2024 includes 83 weekly B777F connections
- Increased frequencies to Tel Aviv, Cairo, Hong Kong and Mexico City
- New additions to the flight schedule: Riyadh and Taipei
- Capacity marketing of 17 Boeing 777F aircraft from the end of the year
- Expansion of medium-haul route network from September on with the addition of a fourth Airbus A321 freighter to the fleet

Lufthansa Cargo's 2023/2024 winter flight schedule offers expanded capacity in the international route network with 83 weekly connections. These result from frequency increases to destinations in high demand as well as the addition of new destinations. Furthermore, the Boeing 777 freighter fleet will comprise a total of 17 aircraft with the addition of a new freighter in service by the end of the year.

To Tel Aviv (TLV) and Cairo (CAI), Lufthansa Cargo will operate three weekly B777 freighter services from October. Towards Asia, the frequency to Hong Kong (HKG) will be increased from six to seven weekly flights by routing via Mumbai (BOM). With the combined connection from Frankfurt via Riyadh (RUH) to Taipei (TPE), Lufthansa Cargo is adding two new freighter destinations to its current flight schedule in November, serving them

twice a week. Taipei will become part of the global route network for the first time, while Riyadh has already been served by Lufthansa Cargo until 2020.

Due to steady demand, Lufthansa Cargo is also increasing the number of weekly connections to Mexico City (NLU) from six to a total of seven weekly freighter rotations in this year's winter flight schedule. In July, all freighter flights were transferred to Felipe Ángeles International Airport (NLU), and numerous infrastructure measures were created, including truck shuttle services, to ensure the fast and reliable transfer of shipments between the now passenger-only Mexico City (MEX) airport and Felipe Ángeles (NLU) as a cargo airport.

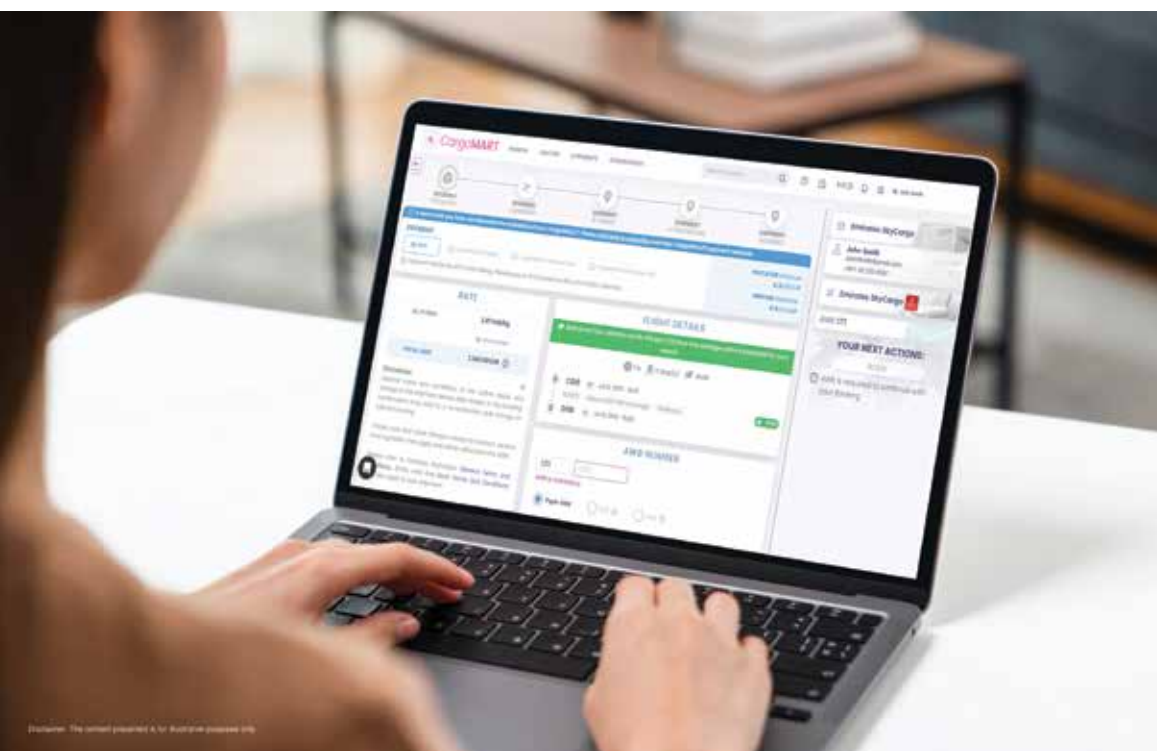
Lufthansa Cargo is maintaining its proven weekly routings to eight destinations in the U.S. and Canada and six destinations in South America.

The planned entry into service of a fourth Airbus A321 freighter in the course of September will soon result in further expansions in Lufthansa Cargo's short- and medium-haul segment, thus ideally rounding off its global offering.

"The market for airfreight is and remains volatile, but Asia and Mexico continue to be attractive, economically strong regions for us. The additional capacity of our 17th Boeing 777F in our long-haul fleet offers opportunities to specifically adapt the flight offering to the needs of our customers in these markets," said **Ashwin Bhat, CEO of Lufthansa Cargo.**

The 2023/2024 winter schedule is available for booking from October 8th and comes into effect on October 29th. In addition to its freighter offering, Lufthansa Cargo also markets the ancillary cargo capacity of more than 6,000 flights a week operated by Lufthansa, Austrian Airlines, Brussels Airlines, Discover Airlines and SunExpress.

Emirates SkyCargo advances its digital customer experience with CargoAi



The new channel unlocks more choices for customers, empowering them with real-time pricing and capacity information on Emirates SkyCargo services

Emirates SkyCargo is now live on CargoAi's marketplace solution, CargoMART, further advancing its digital customer experience and optimizing the booking process with real-time information. The partnership launched in the Netherlands, Spain and France, and will open up to customers in select countries across Europe, the Americas, Africa, the Far East and Australasia in the coming months.

Through the CargoMART solution, customers will be able to access Emirates SkyCargo schedules, tariff and contract rates, along with real-time access to available capacity, enabling

immediate bookings 24/7. On the backend, the partnership drives greater efficiency and accuracy. Once the system is fully operational, over 10,000 freight forwarders on CargoAi's database will have access.

Nabil Sultan, Divisional Senior Vice President, Emirates SkyCargo, said:

"As we increase our digital connectivity, we are able to offer more choices for our customers to connect with Emirates SkyCargo's market-leading capabilities and extensive global network. CargoAi's digital touchpoint enables both our existing and new customers from across the world to book

with Emirates SkyCargo at their convenience, providing an additional channel that further strengthens our world-class customer experience."

"We are thrilled to partner with Emirates SkyCargo to enhance their digital customer experience through our marketplace solution, CargoMART. By providing real-time pricing and capacity information, we empower our mutual customers with greater choice and convenience, enabling them to make immediate bookings 24/7," said Matt Petot, CEO of CargoAi. "This collaboration exemplifies our commitment to driving

efficiency and accuracy in airfreight, and we look forward to further strengthening the world-class customer experience provided by Emirates SkyCargo."

Emirates SkyCargo's five core products are listed on CargoMART, including Emirates Fresh and Emirates Fresh Breathe, an integrated and responsive cool chain designed for perishables; Emirates AOG for time-critical aircraft parts; Emirates Air Freight Priority for urgent shipments that depend on speed and reliability; and Emirates Airfreight for the quick and careful transport of general cargo.

Etihad Cargo launches AI-powered solutions to drive innovative cargo services in Singapore in partnership with dnata and Speedcargo



- Partnership with Speedcargo to transform airfreight operations
- Etihad Cargo becomes first customer to take advantage of technology in Singapore
- 'Cargo Eye' and 'Assemble' maximise flight cargo capacity, improving operational efficiencies

Charles Galloway, dnata's Regional CEO, Airport Operations – Asia Pacific, said: "dnata is proud to lead the digitisation of cargo processes through innovative technology solutions. Working alongside Speedcargo, Cargo Eye and Assemble will enable us to provide Etihad Cargo and its customers with digital audit trails of how their cargo has been handled, improving efficiency and providing a quality end-to-end service. We will continue to create value and enhance our service offerings through digitalisation."

Dr Krishna Kumar Nallur, Speedcargo's CEO, commented: "This first step towards industry transformation will enable end-to-end optimization of cargo capacity, from booking to cargo hold. Our AI-powered solutions will help Etihad Cargo to maximize capacity across their fleet, and enable dnata Singapore to digitise their cargo handling, thereby improving their productivity and efficiency in operations."

dnata, a leading global air and travel services provider has partnered with logistics technology solutions provider Speedcargo to deliver cutting-edge cargo services to Etihad Cargo at Singapore Changi Airport (SIN).

Speedcargo's artificial intelligence (AI)-based Cargo Eye and Assemble solutions installed at dnata's facilities will help overall logistical efficiency, digitisation and optimise cargo capacity for Etihad Cargo's daily flights departing from Singapore. The roll-out of Cargo Eye and Assemble follows the airline's decision to implement the technology in response to successful trials.

Cargo Eye uses advanced, vision-based 3D technology to scan and capture a cargo's exact dimensions, volume data, images, and labels, providing a comprehensive digital record. This information is then fed into Assemble which creates a digital plan, advising dnata's highly-trained cargo handling teams of the optimal method of building a pallet. The innovative solutions ensure Etihad Cargo maximises cargo capacity, while becoming more efficient and sustainable.

Both Cargo Eye and Assemble seamlessly integrate into dnata's existing warehouse management system.

Thomas Schürmann, Head of Cargo Operations & Delivery at Etihad Cargo, said: “With the launch of Speedcargo Technologies’ AI-powered solutions, Etihad Cargo is transforming airfreight operations and optimising cargo capacity as the latest step in the carrier’s digitalisation journey. Singapore was selected as the first station to go live with these state-of-the-art AI tools, which will boost efficiency, digitise and standardise cargo handling across Etihad Cargo’s network and enhance service levels for the carrier’s customers and partners. Following successful trials of the AI-powered cargo handling solutions,

Etihad Cargo sought out a ground handling partner to deploy Cargo Eye and Assemble, and dnata was a clear choice, being fully aligned with Etihad Cargo’s commitment to utilising cargo-maximising technology to enhance air cargo operations.”

dnata’s Singapore facilities are the first in its expansive global network to implement Cargo Eye and Assemble technology. Speedcargo is working with dnata to roll out the service at further global stations.

dnata currently serves more than 50 airlines at Singapore Changi Airport (SIN) with a team of 1,500 aviation professionals, who handle over 20,000

flights, provide over 3.75 million meals, and move over 250,000 tonnes of cargo annually.

dnata is a leading global air and travel services provider. Established in 1959, the company offers quality and safe ground handling, cargo, travel, catering and retail services in more than 30 countries across six continents. In the financial year 2022-23, dnata’s customer-oriented teams handled over 710,000 aircraft turns, moved over 2.7 million tonnes of cargo, uplifted 111.4 million meals, and recorded a total transaction value (TTV) of travel services of US\$ 1.9 billion.

Qatar Airways Cargo Resumes Freighters to Bahrain



Weekly cargo capacity to and from the Middle East increases to over 4,500 tonnes.

The world’s leading air cargo carrier has resumed its freighter services to Bahrain, effective 1st September 2023.

In addition to the 21 weekly narrow-body passenger flights to Bahrain, Qatar Airways Cargo is proud to announce the launch of three weekly

Freighter operations, adding more than 200 tonnes of weekly cargo capacity to/from Bahrain.

Ms. Liesbeth Oudkerk, SVP Cargo Sales and Network Planning said, “We are glad to be back in Bahrain with dedicated freighters three times a week. Bahrain is an important market for us, and having a consistent freighter service will contribute to the economic and trade growth between Qatar and Bahrain.”

The imports into Bahrain predominantly consist of general cargo, perishables like fruits, vegetables and meat, while exports from Bahrain consist of general cargo and dangerous goods. With the addition of Bahrain, Qatar Airways Cargo now serves 24 Middle Eastern destinations with freighter and passenger belly-hold flights, providing a combined weekly cargo capacity of over 4,500 tonnes to and from the Middle East.

By applying its Next Generation vision to all areas of its business, Qatar Airways Cargo is bringing enhancements to its services and operations throughout the network. Capacity to and from Bahrain can be booked online on the cargo carrier’s Digital Lounge platform or via its third-party marketplaces.



Etihad Cargo boosts belly-hold cargo capacity with expanded winter schedule

- Etihad Cargo will offer additional belly-hold cargo capacity via 90 new passenger flights as part of the airline's winter schedule and offer 29 weekly flights to new destinations.
- The airline will launch new passenger routes, including Düsseldorf, Copenhagen, Osaka, Kozhikode, and Thiruvananthapuram, expanding Etihad Cargo's reach into key markets.
- Etihad Cargo will also provide additional belly-hold cargo capacity via the introduction of increased passenger flight frequencies to Munich, Rome, Madrid, Milan, Beijing, Shanghai, Chennai, Kochi, Islamabad, the Maldives, Phuket and Cairo.

Etihad Cargo, the cargo and logistics arm of Etihad Airways, will offer customers and partners more belly-hold cargo capacity across the carrier's global network, announcing new routes and increased frequencies from September 2023. The airline's winter schedule will introduce 29 weekly passenger flights to new destinations and will have an increase of 90 passenger flights to existing routes, resulting in a total of 119 passenger flights per week. Etihad Cargo's customers and partners will

benefit from additional belly-hold cargo capacity onboard passenger aircraft in addition to scheduled freighter flights.

Etihad Cargo will offer additional cargo capacity to two new European gateways — Copenhagen in Denmark and Düsseldorf in Germany. The airline will also operate four passenger flights per week to Copenhagen. The addition of three weekly passenger flights to Düsseldorf and three more passenger flights to Munich will bring the total number of flights for Germany to 28 per week, including four freighter services for Frankfurt. As a result of the high demand for the three weekly passenger flights to Lisbon introduced for the busy summer months, it will be extended and operated during the winter schedule. Additional cargo capacity will also be available for key routes via increased passenger flight frequencies, including four additional flights to Rome, bringing the total number of flights per week to 11, and three additional flights to Madrid and Milan, bringing the total number of weekly flights for each destination to ten.

Etihad Cargo will also strengthen its commitment to the Asian market, introducing additional cargo capacity via new routes and increased frequencies. The airline will operate five passenger flights per week to Osaka, a second Japanese gateway destination for the carrier. The airline will also add three more flights to Beijing and four more flights to Shanghai per week,

Etihad Cargo's customers and partners will benefit from additional belly-hold cargo capacity onboard passenger aircraft in addition to scheduled freighter flights.

providing additional cargo capacity and adding further depth to its Chinese network. To meet increased cargo capacity demand in the Indian market, Etihad Cargo will offer more belly-hold cargo capacity across new passenger routes to Kozhikode and Thiruvananthapuram, operating seven flights per week to each destination. Seven new passenger flights to Chennai will bring the total number of weekly flights to 21, supported by a twice-weekly freighter service. Eight additional flights to Kochi, two new flights to Islamabad, seven more flights to the Maldives, five additional flights to Cairo and seven more flights to Phuket per week will provide Etihad Cargo's customers and partners with additional belly-hold cargo capacity and options when transporting goods

to these key Asian destinations. The airline will also introduce seven direct flights to Colombo per week.

Mohammad Al Bulooki, Chief Operating Officer at Etihad Airways, said: «Etihad Cargo's partners and customers will benefit from additional belly-hold cargo capacity and improved connectivity to key markets with the launch of the carrier's winter schedule. The airline's growing passenger network, combined with Etihad Cargo's scheduled and charter freighter services, will boost cargo capacity across Europe, Asia and North America, strengthening the links between Abu Dhabi and key global markets and ensuring Etihad Cargo can meet increased demand for cargo capacity. Etihad Cargo remains committed to achieving growth, adding depth to the carrier's network and remaining the air cargo partner of choice through the continuous evaluation of its network and enhancement of its eight-strong premium product range.»

As part of its commitment to achieving growth and expanding reach into key markets, Etihad Cargo recently announced the commencement of a freighter service to Ezhou Huahu Airport, making Etihad Cargo the first international carrier to operate services to China's first professional cargo airport. The carrier will continue to explore new partnerships and opportunities further to support the capacity requirements of its partners and customers.

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Etihad Cargo ramps up cargo capacity for China



- Etihad Cargo now provides additional cargo capacity via a weekly freighter service to Guangzhou.
- The carrier operates ten freighter services per week to mainland China, including weekly flights to Guangzhou and Ezhou, and eight flights per week to Shanghai.

Etihad Cargo, the cargo and logistics arm of Etihad Airways, has further enhanced the carrier's freighter network with the addition of a weekly freighter service to Guangzhou. Offering a new freighter route to Guangzhou comes in response to increased demand for cargo capacity for China and bolsters Etihad Cargo's existing freighter network, bringing the total number of freighter services for mainland China to ten per week.

"With the introduction of a new freighter service between our Abu Dhabi hub and Guangzhou, combined with increased frequencies across China via Etihad Cargo's freighter services and the airline's passenger flights, customers and partners benefit from increased cargo capacity. Expanding the carrier's reach into the Chinese market not only meets the increased demand for cargo capacity in this region but will also further strengthen ties between the UAE and China, providing more opportunities for increased collaboration between the two countries," said **Leonard**

Rodrigues, Head of Revenue Management, Fleet and Network at Etihad Cargo.

The head of the Marketing Department of Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport said: «This significant milestone reflects our enduring partnership since the launch of Etihad Airways» Abu Dhabi-Guangzhou passenger flight route in October last year, which played a vital role in the recovery of the Guangzhou market and the Greater Bay Area in the post-pandemic era. The introduction of this all-cargo scheduled flight route will further enhance trade and logistics development between Guangzhou and Abu Dhabi International Airport while strengthening connectivity between the Middle East, China, and other Belt and Road Initiative economies. We eagerly anticipate a brighter future as we continue to work closely with Etihad Airways."

In recent months, Etihad Cargo has continued to add depth to the carrier's Asian network, launching a fourth Chinese gateway to its network,

offering a weekly freighter service to the Hubei Province of China. The carrier's inaugural flight to Ezhou Huahu Airport arrived on 18 August, making Etihad Cargo the first international carrier to operate flights to China's first professional cargo airport. The carrier also offers eight weekly freighter flights to Shanghai.

Complementing Etihad Cargo's expanding freighter network, the carrier offers additional belly capacity for China via ten passenger flights per week to Beijing, Guangzhou and Shanghai. Via the carrier's growing road feeder services network in China, Etihad Cargo also offers customers and partners access to 25 domestic mainland Chinese destinations, providing seamless connectivity across the Chinese market.

Etihad Cargo continuously evaluates its global network and remains committed to increasing frequencies and introducing new destinations to ensure the carrier can fully meet capacity requirements and remain the air cargo partner of choice.



Qatar

Airways Cargo Launches SecureLift a solution for Valuable and Vulnerable shipments

SecureLift is designed to offer optimum protection and secure storage for high-value and vulnerable shipments.

Qatar Airways Cargo today announced the launch of its special product SecureLift under its VISION 2027 and Next Generation strategy. SecureLift marks a significant milestone for Qatar Airways Cargo, as it allocates dedicated resources to cater to the specialised needs of valuable and vulnerable shipments while maintaining

an enhanced standard of security and vigilance.

Products having high declared value like precious metals, stones, gold bullions, banknotes, jewellery or watches would fall under the Valuable category while commodities that carry a risk of pilferage like high-value electronics and newly

launched products would fall under the Vulnerable category.

Key features include high loading priority, close monitoring of shipments, and inclusion of approved data loggers and shipment escorts, in addition to secure handling, transportation and storage of the product. Valuable shipments would also be moved in specialised containers and boxes for the protection of the product and kept in the strong room with restricted access providing added security.

The temperature inside the strong room is maintained between 20°C - 25°C. The expert SecureLift team is well-trained and plays a pivotal role by adhering to strict security protocols at every stage of the journey.

The cargo carrier achieved a remarkable track record having transported over 9,000 tonnes of valuable and vulnerable cargo in 2022, including electronics, banknotes, art shipments and various sensitive commodities. This impressive volume underlines the carrier's expertise in handling cargo requiring special care with exceptional precision and attention to detail.

"SecureLift embodies our unwavering commitment to meeting the unique needs of our valued customers. This service redefines safety and security standards for high-value and vulnerable shipments, showcasing our dedication to excellence, safety and cutting-edge solutions," says Miguel Rodriguez Moreno, Head of Cargo Products.

The carrier offers its customers an extensive network of more than 150 destinations as part of its scheduled services and can also provide part or full dedicated charters for SecureLift products to destinations not part of its network. Digitalisation is a key pillar for the world's leading cargo carrier and it enhances the service further as SecureLift shipments can now be easily booked through Qatar Airways Cargo's innovative online platform, the Digital Lounge, streamlining the booking process for customers.

Qatar Airways Cargo Partners with DSV to launch new route from Huntsville

Qatar Airways Cargo has partnered with DSV Global Transportation and Logistics to launch a new route from Huntsville, USA, increasing access to Europe, the Middle East and beyond.



Qatar Airways Cargo, the world's leading air cargo carrier has launched biweekly freighter flights from Huntsville, USA to Doha, Qatar in conjunction with DSV as part of a strategic partnership, enhancing North America's connectivity to Europe, the Middle East and beyond, effective 7th September 2023.

The route, named by DSV as the "Gateway Star", will see twice weekly Boeing 777 freighters operating from Felipe Ángeles International Airport in Mexico to Huntsville and arriving in

Doha via Luxembourg. The freighters from Huntsville will operate on Thursdays and Sundays every week, offering 200 tonnes of capacity.

Ms. Elisabeth Oudkerk, SVP Cargo Sales and Network Planning at Qatar Airways Cargo added: "We are excited by this new partnership with DSV. This strategic initiative not only expands DSV's market reach but also establishes a direct scheduled service from Mexico City to Europe, the Middle East and beyond via the strategic hubs

of Huntsville, U.S. and Luxembourg."

Mads Ravn, Executive Vice President at DSV,

expresses his enthusiasm for this milestone achievement: *"Our partnership with Qatar Airways Cargo signifies a remarkable leap forward. This new air freight service underscores our unwavering commitment to revolutionizing logistics and ushering unparalleled connectivity to our valued clients. By collaborating with Qatar Airways Cargo, we not only extend our market presence but also create*

avenues for seamless access to the Middle East with a keen focus on boosting our oil and gas vertical."

The major exports from Huntsville that will be carried on Qatar Airways Cargo flights are Auto parts for various manufacturers in Europe along with Perishables and Cars from Mexico. With the addition of Huntsville, Qatar Airways Cargo now serves 22 destinations in the Americas with freighter and passenger belly-hold flights, providing a combined weekly cargo capacity of over 5,500 tonnes.

Qatar Airways Cargo Joins Forces with Animal Defenders International for the world's loneliest lion's remarkable journey and new beginning



After enduring five years of isolation in an abandoned Armenian zoo, Ruben, known as the world's loneliest lion, embarked on a remarkable journey of rehabilitation in Free State, South Africa, thanks to the collaborative efforts of Animals Defenders International (ADI) and Qatar Airways Cargo.

Doha, Qatar - Ruben, who was left behind when a private zoo closed down in Armenia, suffered in a tiny concrete cell with no contact with other lions. Ruben's happy ending was at risk when ADI could not find a suitable flight for him out of Armenia.

Qatar Airways Cargo orchestrated a 5,200-mile journey for the 15-year-old lion, where he is now re-discovering his

voice and confidence as he roams the ADI Wildlife Sanctuary. Despite physical challenges from years of captivity, Ruben's resilience and determination shine through, offering hope for his remarkable recovery.

Elisabeth Oudkerk, SVP Cargo Sales & Network Planning at Qatar Airways Cargo said: "We are committed to preserving wildlife and endangered species, that is why

we launched our WeQare Chapter 2 initiative: 'Rewild the Planet' back in 2020. We pledged to return wildlife and endangered species back to their natural habitat, free of charge and we will continue to do so."

"When ADI approached us and explained the sad story of Ruben, we immediately knew we had to help them. There are a lot of logistics involved in moving animals like Ruben; from the logistics at the airports involved, the process for loading and unloading the animals from the aircraft, to ensuring the correct cages and wellbeing of the animals are in place. It takes a lot of effort from our team to organise such transport - but it is something we are all collectively very proud to be a part of, knowing we helped give back to our planet."

Jan Creamer, President, Animals Defenders International added:

"Ruben was really in trouble until Qatar Airways Cargo stepped up. ADI had been funding his care in Armenia since December and when we could find no flights for him we feared he could be stuck there.

"Then Qatar Airways Cargo 'WeQare' initiative stepped in, moving a larger aircraft with hold doors big enough for Ruben's crate, into the scheduled passenger route out of Yervan. We are so thankful to Qatar Airways Cargo for all their support in helping get Ruben to South Africa.

"Seeing Ruben walk on grass for the first time, hearing the voices of his own kind, with the African sun on his back, brought us all to tears."

Qatar Airways Cargo's WeQare sustainability programme consists of a series of focus chapters based on four core pillars: environment, society, economy, and culture and is a conscious endeavour to create a more positive impact on the industry and the world.

Chapter 2 – Rewild the Planet encourages the preservation of ecological balance by offering free transport to organisations involved in returning wild animals to their natural habitat.



Air Tahiti Nui extends ULD management partnership with Unilode until 2029

Unilode Aviation Solutions, the market leader in outsourced unit load device (ULD) management, repair and digital services, and Air Tahiti Nui, the flag carrier of French Polynesia, announced the extension of their ULD management partnership until 2029.

Air Tahiti Nui operates four Boeing 787-9 aircraft, serving destinations in France, New Zealand and the USA from its hub in Tahiti. Unilode has been providing full-service ULD management solutions to Air Tahiti Nui since 2015 and transitioned the airline's ULD fleet to a more durable, efficient and lightweight fleet of digitised ULDs. Air Tahiti benefits from Unilode's ULD pooling synergies, digital solutions and maintenance and repair network

that overlaps at all of its overseas destinations.

Raymond Topin, Air Tahiti Nui Executive Vice President Operation, said: "In the past eight years of our ULD management partnership, Unilode has proven its continuous support, customer-centric service delivery and the value of its ULD management solutions. We appreciate the benefits of ULD pooling, especially the repositioning, synergy and fuel-saving opportunities, and the availability of repair stations in our network. As Air Tahiti Nui's business has regained momentum and we expanded our horizons with new routes, we have been able to focus on our business without worrying about ULDs and are pleased with the extension of our ULD

management partnership with Unilode."

Ross Marino, Unilode Chief Executive Officer, said: "We place great value on customer retention, so we are delighted to extend our partnership with Air Tahiti Nui. Unilode's pooling benefits and our dedicated customer success staff that provide 24/7 management support to Air Tahiti Nui has played a key role in enabling the renewal of our agreement. We are glad to have been able to contribute to Air Tahiti Nui's success, help them reach their sustainability targets and strengthen their market leader position in Polynesia. We look forward to continuing our partnership with Air Tahiti Nui for many more years to come and seeing continued growth and success."

Korean Air

to fully transition to electronic air waybill

Korean Air will begin its full-scale digital transition to electronic air waybill (e-AWB) to replace conventional paper air cargo transport documents.

The full transition will first apply to documents for general cargo departing from Korea bound for North America, Europe, Japan and other select markets.

e-AWB is a digital replacement for traditional paper air waybills.

Whereas paper air waybills require in-person visits for documentation, printing, and submission, the digital transition will streamline the entire process from reservations to final delivery.

The transition will also enhance data quality and accuracy to allow the airline to share essential information more transparently.

Simplifying processes and eliminating costs will also increase

efficiency in the AWB framework. By going paperless, the airline will also be able to practice its ESG initiatives to make a sustainable impact.

To minimize operational disruptions, Korean Air held consultations and completed trial operations with all stakeholders, cargo clients and forwarders.

The airline will mandate e-AWB for Korea-outbound cargo starting from January 2024, and plans to expand the digital transition for all Korean Air Cargo departing from all global stations in due course.

“Taking this digital step forward will bring an innovative paradigm to logistics, and we stand behind IATA’s effort to phase in e-AWB for air cargo digital transformation,” said a Korean Air official.

“We believe that Korean Air’s commitment to international industry initiatives will help raise Korea’s air cargo industry competitiveness.”



Kale Logistics Solutions raises USD 30 Mn in Series B Investment led by Creaeegis



Board of Directors - Kale Logistics Solutions

From left to right: Vineet Malhotra, Amar More, Vipul Jain, Narendra Kale & Rajesh Panicker

The funding will be used for scaling up and deployment of Kale's new-age Cargo Community Systems in key geographies such as North America and Europe, facilitating seamless, and paperless cross-border trade.

Global vertical SaaS logistics platform provider, Kale Logistics Solutions (Kale) is pleased to announce the successful completion of its Series B funding round, raising USD 30 million in capital led by Creaeegis Advisors LLP, a digital and tech-focused private equity fund. This funding round represents a significant milestone in the company's journey and positions it for rapid expansion and continued innovation. The company had earlier raised a Series A investment from Inflexor Ventures in 2020 and counts marquee founding angels Narendra Kale and Vipul Jain.

Kale has been a pioneer in developing cutting-edge vertical SaaS solutions for the global logistics industry primarily targeting airports and seaports. Its product and cloud applications have driven significant digital transformations in more than 100 airports and ports globally. With marquee clients in over 36 countries, Kale is a leader in designing digital trade platforms built on sustainability and data harmonisation goals led by trade bodies such as the United Nations, IMO, IATA, ICAO, WTO and FIATA.

The investment will fuel Kale's

mission to develop and deploy robust Cargo Community Systems to transform global logistics beyond regional boundaries.

Vipul Jain, Chairman, Kale Logistics Solutions, said, "This is our second fundraising with an external investor, and we are happy to partner with Creaeegis because of the alignment of vision for the business, their record and understanding of the SaaS and tech products space globally. We are confident they will add value to the company as we shift gears towards a faster growth trajectory." **Prakash Parthasarathy, Managing Partner & CEO of Creaeegis**, said, "The global logistics industry is undergoing a rapid digital disruption with a need for intelligent automation and end-to-end visibility through all nodes. This transformation is led by smart and centralized technology platforms. Kale, with its category-defining Cargo Community Platforms and a suite of SaaS solutions, is leading this disruption by digitizing and automating end-to-end cargo operations in airports and seaports. We are excited to support the company in its next phase of global growth and planned expansion in North America and Europe."

Kale's vision is to significantly reduce the complexities involved in cargo movement and its allied processes at airports and seaports by using their cloud-native integrated platforms and ERP solutions for all stakeholders. The solutions enable collaboration in

real-time while providing end-to-end visibility of every process and shipment on the move.

Amar More, Rajesh Panicker, and Vineet Malhotra, Co-founders of Kale Logistics Solutions, said jointly, "We are thrilled to partner with Creaeegis for our global expansion, leveraging their operational value add and SaaS experience. Together with our esteemed group of existing investors, we are well-positioned for the next phase of growth. The current funding will empower us to accelerate our mission of connecting the different stakeholders of the logistics industry through our community platforms and empower them with several digital value-added services and enterprise systems to facilitate global trade."

They further added, "With the right team on our side and the amazing customer confidence we enjoy, we believe that our ground-breaking technology innovation will shape the future of the logistics industry."

Founded by **Amar More, Vineet Malhotra, and Rajesh Panicker**, Kale also counts industry pioneers such as Narendra Kale and Vipul Jain, the ex-founders of Kale Consultants Limited (now known as Accelya Solutions India Limited), as part of the core founding team.

This Series B funding round of Kale has been exclusively advised by Cilix Capital, an international investment banking firm that assists companies as well as institutional investors with capital-raising and M&A.

ANA Cargo Introduces PRIO FRESH Service for International Perishable Airfreight Transport



Japanese carrier ANA Cargo, the freight arm of All Nippon Airways, has taken another stride in enhancing its services by introducing the PRIO FRESH service for international perishable airfreight transport.

This new offering is part of the airline's PRIO portfolio of value-added services for international cargo, catering to the specific needs of customers transporting time-sensitive perishable goods.

With the inclusion of temperature-controlled trucks for domestic road feeder services, ANA

Cargo aims to further elevate the efficiency and reliability of its cargo transportation.

As the demand for fresh and perishable goods continues to grow globally, the need for specialized transportation services becomes increasingly vital.

PRIO FRESH addresses this demand by providing an added layer of protection and care for perishable cargo during its journey through the skies.

Customers can now choose this service on flights departing from major Japanese airports, including Haneda,

Narita, Kansai, Fukuoka, Nagoya, and Chitose.

ANA Cargo had already offered thermal blankets to safeguard cargo from high ambient temperatures, particularly in sunny ramp conditions. This earlier initiative helped protect sensitive shipments, with the exclusion of those traveling on Boeing 737 and Airbus A320 flights.

The introduction of PRIO FRESH goes a step further, utilizing advanced temperature-controlled systems to ensure that perishable items maintain their freshness and quality throughout the transportation process.



Air Cargo Demand Strengthens Despite Challenges

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released data for July 2023 global air cargo markets, showing a continuing trend of recovering growth rates since February. July air cargo demand was tracking just 0.8% below the previous year's levels. Although demand is now basically flat compared to 2022, this is an improvement on recent months' performance that is particularly significant given declines in global trade volumes and rising concerns over China's economy.

Global demand, measured in cargo tonne-kilometers (CTKs*), tracked at

0.8% below July 2022 levels (-0.4% for international operations). This was a significant improvement over the previous month's performance (-3.4%).

Capacity, measured in available cargo tonne-kilometers (ACTKs), was up 11.2% compared to July 2022 (8% for international operations). The strong uptick in ACTKs reflects the growth in belly capacity (29.3% year-on-year) due to the summer season.

Several factors in the operating environment should be noted:

- In July, both the manufacturing output Purchasing Managers Index or PMI (49.0) and new export orders PMI

(46.4) were below the critical threshold represented by the 50 mark, indicating a decline in global manufacturing production and exports.

- Global cross-border trade contracted for the third month in a row in June, decreasing 2.5% year-over-year, reflecting the cooling demand environment and challenging macroeconomic conditions. The difference between the annual growth rates of air cargo and the global goods trade narrowed to -0.8 percentage points in June. While air cargo growth is still lagging world trade, the gap is the narrowest since January 2022.

Air cargo market in detail

JULY 2023 (%YEAR-ON-YEAR)	WORLD SHARE *1	CTK	ACTK	CLF (%-PT) *2	CLF (LEVEL) *3
Total Market	100%	-0.8%	11.2%	-5.1%	42.1%
Africa	2.0%	2.9%	11.0%	-3.3%	41.7%
Asia Pacific	32.4%	2.7%	26.0%	-10.4%	45.7%
Europe	21.8%	-1.5%	5.3%	-3.3%	47.2%
Latin America	2.7%	0.4%	10.0%	-3.1%	32.2%
Middle East	13.0%	1.5%	17.1%	-6.3%	41.1%
North America	28.1%	-5.2%	0.5%	-2.2%	37.0%

(*1) % of industry CTKs in 2022 (*2) Year-on-year change in load factor (*3) Load factor level
July Regional Performance

- In July, the global supplier delivery time PMI was 51.9, signalling fewer supply chain delays. All major economies, except China, had PMIs above 50. The U.S., Europe, and Japan recorded PMIs of 54.2, 57.7, and 50.4, respectively.

- Inflation saw a mixed picture in July, with the increase in US consumer prices picking up pace for the first time in 13 months. Meanwhile, in China, both consumer and producer prices fell, pointing to a possible deflationary economy.

“Compared to July 2022, demand for air cargo was basically flat. Considering we were 3.4% below 2022 levels in June, that’s a significant improvement. And it continues a trend of strengthening demand that began in February. How this trend will evolve in the coming months will be something to watch carefully. Many fundamental drivers of air cargo demand, such as trade volumes and export orders, remain weak or are deteriorating. And there are growing concerns over how China’s economy is developing. At the same time, we are seeing shorter delivery times, which is normally a sign of increasing economic activity. Amid these mixed signals, strengthening demand gives us good reason to be cautiously optimistic,” said **Willie Walsh, IATA’s Director General.**

Asia-Pacific airlines saw their

air cargo volumes increase by 2.7% in July 2023 compared to the same month in 2022. This was a significant improvement in performance compared to June (-3.3%). Carriers in the region benefited from growth on three major trade lanes: Europe-Asia (3.2% year-on-year growth), Middle East-Asia (up from 1.8% in June to 6.6% in July), and Africa-Asia (returning to double-digit growth of 10.3% year-on-year from -4.8% in June). Additionally, the within-Asia trade lane also performed considerably better in July, with an annual decline of international CTKs at 7.5% compared with the double-digit decreases observed since September 2022. Available capacity in the region increased by 26.0% compared to July 2022 as more belly capacity came online from the passenger side of the business.

North American carriers posted the weakest performance of all regions, with a 5.2% decrease in cargo volumes in July 2023 compared to the same month in 2022, marking the fifth consecutive month in which the region had the weakest performance. It was, however, a slight improvement compared to June (-5.9%). The transatlantic route between North America and Europe saw traffic declining by 4.3% in July, 1.2 percentage points worse than the previous month. Capacity increased by

0.5% compared to July 2022.

European carriers saw their air cargo volumes decline by 1.5% in July compared to the same month in 2022. This was, however, an improvement in performance versus June (-3.2%). Volumes were affected due to the aforementioned Europe–

North America performance and contractions in the Middle East-Europe (-1.2%) and the within-Europe (-5.1%) markets. Capacity increased 5.3% in July 2023 compared to July 2022.

Middle Eastern carriers experienced a 1.5% year-on-year increase in cargo volumes in July 2023. This was also an improvement to the previous month’s performance (0.6%). The demand on Middle East-Asia routes has been trending upward in the past two months. Capacity increased 17.1% compared to July 2022.

Latin American carriers posted a 0.4% increase in cargo volumes compared to July 2022. This was a drop in performance compared to the previous month (2.2%). Capacity in July was up 10.0% compared to the same month in 2022.

African airlines had the strongest performance in July 2023, with a 2.9% increase in cargo volumes compared to July 2022. Notably, Africa-Asia routes experienced significant cargo demand growth (10.3%). Capacity was 11.0% above July 2022 levels.

TIACA Launches Air Cargo Forum 2024 with a New Partnership



Glyn Hughes



Steven Polmans

The International Air Cargo Association (TIACA) announces that planning has commenced for the next edition of its flagship event, the Air Cargo Forum. The 2024 event will be managed with a new partner, McVeigh Global Meetings and Events, LLC (MGME), who will organize the event that will again be held in Miami, November 11-14, 2024.

Building upon the success of ACF 2022, which had over 220 exhibitors and over 3,500 unique visitors, the association selected MGME following a vigorous tender process based on their commitment to deliver an event aligned with TIACA's Events key principles set by the association's Board of Directors. The key principles include providing value for money, being network-focused, world-class speakers, industry thought leader engagement, charitable, sustainable as well as providing a highly valued experience for attendees. Future events will include facility tours, unique networking celebrations and excursions for attendees.

The TIACA Board of Directors selected MGME to organize, sell and manage the Air Cargo Forum 2024 and the Air Cargo Forum 2026, both of which will be held at the Miami Beach Convention Center.

"Following the success of ACF 2022, we would like to enhance the event even more, aligned with our key event principles as a membership-focused organization. We feel that it is vital that the ACF remains a world-class global event that brings the entire industry together to deliver value not only for our exhibitors but to our members and the industry at large. By partnering with MGME, we can offer the entire package; exhibits, sponsorship, advertising and of course plenty of networking opportunities as

well as fun," says **Steven Polmans, TIACA Chair.**

McVeigh Global Meetings and Events, LLC (MGME) is an award-winning, top-25 provider of innovative meeting management and event production solutions on a global stage for the MICE industry. Focused on creating more dynamic and meaningful human connections throughout the world, the company has team members in 25 countries with meetings and events experience of over 70. The company's recent acquisition of PRIME Event Partners in Canada has increased its global footprint and will continue to grow into the future of the ever-changing and evolving industry.

"We are excited to work towards delivering another successful event next year that will include a streamlined event that achieves the association's event principles but will also offer more opportunities for attendees to network such as a golf tournament, receptions and well-planned after-event parties. We are confident that MGME will be able to deliver to the association as well as the exhibitors and attendees. We also feel it is vital to make it easy for attendees to enjoy themselves in one of the world's top tourist destinations, so we will be offering some exciting pre/post-event excursions, watch this space. This way we can provide much more than an event, we can provide an experience," says **Glyn Hughes, TIACA Director General.**



Readies for 50th Anniversary in 2024

On Jan. 13, 2024, Dallas Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) will begin a yearlong celebration of 50 years connecting North Texas to the world with an exciting range of special events, activities and surprises throughout the year. Ahead of the 50th anniversary next year, the airport commemorates the community milestone that took place during the third week of September 1973 when the Cities of Dallas and Fort Worth joined with the newly created DFW Airport Board to host a series of dedication events that lasted several days.

“DFW will enter its golden year in 2024 as the second-busiest airport in

the world, built on a half-century legacy of growth, innovation and unparalleled support from the community and business partners we serve, along with our owner cities of Dallas and Fort Worth,” said DFW Chief Executive Officer Sean Donohue. “As we reflect this week on the dedication events that many people in our community remember fondly, we are eager to share that same spirit of adventure with our customers, partners and neighbors during our upcoming anniversary year.”

The dedication events took advantage of the new airport’s facilities prior to the start of commercial operations four months later, and included the landing of the supersonic Concorde jet on Sept. 20,

1973. The event was the first time the Concorde landed in the United States, and put an international spotlight on DFW’s role in significantly advancing aviation infrastructure for North Texas. Tens of thousands of people attended the dedication ceremony on Sept. 22, 1973, which included an air show and static exhibits.

At the time, DFW was the largest airport ever constructed in the U.S., and was twice the size of any before it. Today, DFW is the second-largest airport by land size in the U.S. and the second-busiest airport in the world, serving more than 250 destinations and an estimated 80 million passengers in 2023.

Cargo iQ's surge in sign-ups continues as LOT Polish Airlines joins the group

Air cargo quality standards group Cargo iQ has welcomed the newest member LOT Polish Airlines (LOT) to its ever-expanding community. As a member of Cargo iQ, LOT aims to help create and implement the highest global quality standards in the cargo sector and to differentiate as a reliable partner of choice in an increasingly competitive industry landscape.

*"LOT has a precise vision of innovation and continuous development, and we recognize Cargo iQ as a first league community which provides a gateway to achieving this," said **Michał Grochowski, Cargo and Mail Director, LOT Polish Airlines.** "Our goal remains unchanged in our desire to be more present in global tenders with quality freight forwarders and we hope to be recognized as global best-in-class for quality in the cargo business. "That is why we invest our resources in acquiring IATA CEIV certifications, as well as being part of Cargo iQ, as indisputable proof of quality."*

LOT has been flying since 1929, and as one of the longest-running airlines in the world, it has withstood significant changes, with the advent of the 21st century and the arrival of a competitive global environment where cost and service optimization are the name of the game. The airline joins Cargo iQ

The Central European carrier joins Cargo iQ's growing stakeholder community to support the continuous development of quality standards and enhanced visibility in the supply chain



with the goal of staying ahead of the curve in a continually changing industry, looking initially to address current challenges related to electronic data exchange, both internally and collaboratively with partners' operating systems.

*"LOT Polish Airlines shares in our vision for enhanced data visibility and improved quality in the global supply chain and will begin working together with other Cargo iQ members towards this goal," said **Lothar Moehle, Executive Director, Cargo iQ.** "As our members progress towards 100 per cent reporting in the end-to-end shipment process, and we continue to develop and*



implement quality standards for global airfreight, the Cargo iQ name is becoming synonymous with quality in our industry."

The onboarding of LOT

follows the recent addition of new members Avianca Cargo and airline IT solutions provider Hitit this July, representing significant growth for the organization.

Schiphol Airport weathers global cargo decline

The airport's Q2 figures show freight volumes stabilizing following months of continued decline across the global air cargo industry

Amsterdam Airport Schiphol processed 679,214 tonnes of cargo in the first six months of 2023, a dip of 6 per cent compared with the same period in 2022, in keeping with global trends for normalizing cargo volumes following months of ongoing decline.

Full freighter flights accounted for 64 per cent of the total throughput at the airport, equating to 431,315 tonnes of cargo.

*"When you compare our figures to the wider picture across Europe, you'll find that Schiphol Airport has weathered global challenges quite well," said **Joost van Doesburg, Head of Cargo, Royal Schiphol Group.** "According to IATA, the total air cargo market in Europe saw a 10.2 per cent decrease – here at Schiphol, we had a significantly lower drop of 6 per cent."*

Of the total cargo volumes in the first half of 2023, 247,899 tonnes comprised belly cargo, representing 36 per cent of all cargo processed, and a 1 per cent drop compared with half-one (H1) 2022.

Schiphol Airport's inbound cargo volumes saw an overall increase on certain trade lanes in H1 2023, with cargo inbound from Asia up 13 per cent compared with H1 2022, volumes from



the Middle East up by 3 per cent, and cargo arriving from Latin America up by 7 per cent.

"Schiphol's Q2 figures show that Amsterdam Airport Schiphol is still a key gateway into Europe for air cargo and, despite a difficult period for the global industry, we are starting to see our volumes stabilize," added van Doesburg. "More freighters would like to fly to Schiphol, but our slots are full, and ad-hoc slots have decreased significantly compared to last year – this is the biggest factor behind the tonnage loss. "However, our limited freight slots have also driven us to become more stable than other European hubs, shifting our focus to streamlining and focusing our operations."

Looking at the statistics by quarter, cargo transported by passenger flights in the second quarter of 2023 increased by 0.6 percent compared to the same quarter in 2022.

Cargo transported by passenger flights decreased by 26.9 per cent between April and June 2023

compared to the pre-Covid Q2 in 2019, owing to fewer flights and lower cargo volumes.

The total number of full freighter flights in Q2 was 9.0 per cent lower than last year, but 17.8 per cent higher than in 2019.

"We remain focused on air cargo and are planning measures to secure freighter slots to ensure they cannot be swapped into passenger slots," added van Doesburg. "We continue to work together with the Dutch air cargo community and invest heavily in our new Port Community System to make it state of the art as we look to become an efficient multimodal hub for European cargo, focusing on quality over quantity."

Amsterdam Airport Schiphol recently signed up for a new online information portal, Secure Import, aimed at tightening cargo security in and around the hub, and is developing a fully automated cargo centre, dnata Cargo City Amsterdam, due to launch in 2024.

Air Forwarders Association gains New Member

Icelandair Cargo as it expands Global Membership

Iceland's flag carrier joins the US Association for the Air Forwarding Community as it enters the North American market, strengthening AfA's European representation

Washington, D.C., USA,
Wednesday 6th September 2023:

The Airforwarders Association (AfA) has welcomed new airline member Icelandair Cargo to its 200-strong member base, as the association focuses on extending its membership to include Europe-based companies with a US office.

Icelandair Cargo joins the AfA as the carrier embarks on the strategic expansion of its cargo network in the US, adding dedicated freighters to multiple cities in North America as of September, from Liege, in Belgium, via Keflavik.

"As Icelandair Cargo enters the airfreight market in North America, we want to be part of the business community here and we see AfA as the ideal platform to establish close



Gunnar Mar
Sigurfinnsson,
Managing Director,
Icelandair Cargo.



Brandon Fried,
Executive Director,
Air forwarders
Association

relationships with forwarders working in the same market,” said **Gunnar Mar Sigurfinnsson, Managing Director, Icelandair Cargo.**

“We are all part of the same supply chain, serving the same client, and we see it as our duty to connect with the community and to align with the AfA on its strategic objectives, aiming to be a partner of choice for forwarders in the region.”

AfA acts as the voice of the industry for the US transport and logistics sector and beyond, working closely with other industry associations to tackle challenges and ensure a sustainable future for the sector.

Icelandair Cargo will bring a valuable new geographical perspective to the group as it targets this objective.

“With its strategic position midway between North America and Europe, the addition of Icelandair Cargo to the AfA community represents an important development for our global representation and strengthens our efforts to present a united front for the worldwide transport industry,” said **Brandon Fried, Executive Director, AfA.**

“We hope that as we diversify our membership, AfA’s goal to bring compliance and harmonization to the



Icelandair Cargo joins the AfA as the carrier enters the US market, adding dedicated freighters from Liege, Belgium, to multiple cities in North America, via its hub in Keflavik, Iceland.

sector will grow in tandem.”

Currently, AfA is targeting key objectives including lobbying Congress to make critical investment in air cargo infrastructure at US airports and helping shippers prepare for imminent changes to US cargo screening requirements.

“It’s not enough to just be a member – we also have to deliver on our service promises and meet the needs

of forwarders and we are ready to work hard to ensure we not only meet but exceed these expectations,” said Sigurfinnsson.

The AfA looks forward to welcoming further new members in the US and beyond as it nears its goal to pass new US legislation that will help promote increased funding for US airport cargo infrastructure and protect the future of the industry.



Icelandair Cargo joins the AfA as the carrier enters the US market, adding dedicated freighters from Liege, Belgium, to multiple cities in North America, via its hub in Keflavik, Iceland.

LATAM Cargo adapts transport processes to help decentralize access to cancer diagnostics in Chile



- The cargo subsidiary of LATAM Airlines Group established a partnership with CGM Nuclear, the primary producer of radiopharmaceuticals in Chile, to streamline the transportation of these essential substances used in the ‘PET-CT examination, one of the most precise methods for detecting cancer.
- Through this alliance, LATAM Cargo has helped triple the number of patients who can access this examination in regional areas.

LATAM Cargo Chile reinforces its commitment to the battle against cancer through a partnership with CGM Nuclear, the primary producer

of radiopharmaceuticals in Chile. The purpose of this collaboration is to expedite the transportation of these vital substances used

in cancer detection within Chile. Thanks to this partnership, these radiopharmaceuticals, which were predominantly available only in Santiago, are now being distributed to various regions of the country, thus expanding access to early diagnostics in clinics and hospitals outside the central area.

The transported radiopharmaceuticals are used for the so-called ‘PET-CT examination, one of the most precise methods for detecting medical conditions such as cancer. These compounds have a limited shelf life and lose their effectiveness over time, posing a

significant challenge in ensuring their timely delivery to various medical centers across the country. In this regard, LATAM Cargo has played a crucial role in shortening its reception, transport, and delivery times for this cargo, thus ensuring that each dose maintains its efficacy when administered to patients during the examination.

In 2019, prior to this partnership, 73% of the medical centers capable of conducting this examination were located in Santiago, forcing thousands of patients in regions to travel and bear the associated costs to obtain an accurate diagnosis. Today, two years into this collaboration, access to this examination has increased by more than 40% in regional hospitals. Currently, the pharmaceuticals are transported by air at least three times a week to hard-to-reach locations due to transit times, such as Concepción,

Valdivia, Antofagasta, and Puerto Montt, allowing approximately 7,000 patients each year to access these vital diagnostics near their homes.

At LATAM Cargo, we understand that our responsibility goes beyond simply transporting cargo from one point to another. Our collaborative work with CGM Nuclear for the transport of these radiopharmaceuticals reflects how our logistical expertise can contribute to causes as significant as the fight against cancer. We will continue to work towards being an asset within the country, bringing early cancer diagnoses closer to patients in Chilean regions, commented Diego García, SVP of Operations and Handling at LATAM Cargo. As one of the leading producers of radiopharmaceuticals in the country, we understand our responsibility to bring these vital resources to all regions, enabling more people to access early cancer diagnoses. Our

collaboration with LATAM Cargo has been instrumental in achieving this goal, and a clear example is the case of a clinic in Puerto Montt that was able to inaugurate the southernmost PET-CT unit in Chile for cancer diagnosis a few months ago. This achievement reflects our firm commitment to advancing nuclear medicine in the treatment of diseases, especially oncological ones, thus contributing to a more hopeful future for all Chileans, says Juan José Olea, General Manager of CGM Nuclear.

Looking ahead to the end of 2024, with the expansion of this operation to regions such as Concepción, Temuco and La Serena-Coquimbo, it is expected that the number of patients outside Santiago will increase by 200%, benefiting between 12,000 to 15,000 individuals in total who will have timely diagnoses and, consequently, a better prognosis.

Silk Way West Airlines connects its hub in Baku with Los Angeles

Silk Way West Airlines, the leading cargo airline in the Caspian and Central Asian region, expands its US network by adding weekly flights to and from Los Angeles International Airport, one of the world's largest cargo gateways, handling millions of tons of freight annually.

The addition of the California hub to its network reinforces the carrier's dedication to meeting the evolving needs of its customers and supporting global trade.

The airline will transport a wide range of general cargo, perishables, oversized and e-commerce goods on the route.

With this route expansion, Silk Way West Airlines enhances its presence in this key region by introducing an additional strategic destination.

The addition of Los Angeles



complements Silk Way West Airlines' flights to Houston, launched in April of this year, as well as the previously established regular flights to Chicago and Dallas.

"We are delighted to announce the expansion of our network with the addition of Los Angeles International

Airport as a new destination," said **Fadi Nahas, Silk Way West Vice President Americas.**

"The new route will greatly benefit our West Coast customers by providing freighter nose cargo load capacity and shorter transit times for US destinations west of the Continental Divide."



Incheon Airport targets growth through partnerships

Incheon International Airport highlights recent developments that it hopes will help boost cargo volumes. The South Korean airport said that in October FedEx had opened a new cargo terminal at the airport. The airport is paid to construct the terminal while operations are handled by the lessee.

The project saw investments of KRW53.5bn from Incheon International Airport and KRW40.5bn from FedEx.

The airport said that it is "intensifying its collaboration" with the express giant and recently

welcomed FedEx president of airline and international Richard Smith to view the facilities. "With FedEx considering business expansion in the Asia Pacific region, discussions focused on potential strategies for leveraging Incheon International Airport as a major hub to attract greater air cargo demands," the airport said.

The expansion of the DHL cargo terminal was also completed last year.

DHL has operated a cargo terminal at Incheon International Airport since 2007 and the expansion has enlarged the facility to

three times its original size, now spanning 58,000 sq m from 19,000 sq m. "Not only has the facility expanded, but it has also integrated modern logistics systems, significantly reducing the time needed to handle import and export cargoes," the airport said.

"The number of express cargoes processed per hour has significantly increased from 8,100 to over 20,000, promising to substantially boost cargo throughput at Incheon International Airport."

The airport also partnered with Jeju Air on information sessions in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh to promote the use of Incheon to around 61 local logistics companies in Vietnam.

In the perishable goods sector, collaborations are underway with organisations such as the Korea Agro-Fisheries & Food Trade Corporation (aT) and the

Korea Trade-Investment Promotion Agency (KOTRA).

In the pharmaceutical domain, the airport is liaising with prominent companies such as Celltrion and Samsung Biologics on the transportation process.

In addition, plans are underway for a potential collaboration with the Korea Biomedicine Industry Association.

Lee Hak-Jae, the President of Incheon International Airport, said: "Incheon International Airport remains dedicated to continual collaboration with international logistics corporations, striving to augment infrastructure and thereby solidify its position as a pivotal logistics hub in Northeast Asia."

Incheon recently became the first airport to secure IATA CEIV certification in perishable goods, pharmaceuticals, and lithium batteries.

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Korea's Air Premia extends US network

is proof that an ambitious, modern airline with an experienced cargo GSSA partner at its side can carve a strong niche in a competitive market long served by established national carriers."

Air Premia executive vice president , Sean Kang, commented: "Air Premia has achieved remarkable results since it began operations in 2021. With five B787-9s, we are operating passenger flights to Los Angeles, New York, Frankfurt, Ho Chi Minh, Bangkok, and Narita. We expect to achieve revenue of US\$300 million with \$23 operational profit this year. "Next year, we plan to aggressively expand our network to the Americas and Europe by introducing four additional B787-9s. We have overcome the difficult environment of the pandemic and achieved such success in a short period of time thanks to the dedicated and professional contribution of ECS. "We expect that ECS Group will make a significant contribution to the expansion of our business in upcoming years."

Korea's Air Premia has added Frankfurt and New York Newark to its summer flight schedule from Incheon. The carrier also expects to add further new destinations in 2024, as it expands its aircraft fleet.

Its general sales and service agent (GSSA), Globe Air Cargo Korea reports that 150-200 tonnes of cargo now pass through Air Premia's Incheon warehouse each week.

With the introduction of flights to Los Angeles in summer 2022, Air Premia became the first Korean 'hybrid' carrier to offer a scheduled US destination in its network, and this has now

increased to two with the addition of Newark.

Other additions to the route network this summer include Barcelona and Oslo.

Freight handled at Incheon include e-commerce shipments, electronic equipment, machinery and automotive spares.

Globe Air Cargo Korea chief executive, HE Shin said that the GSSA had "diligently supported Air Premia from the very beginning of its cargo journey just one and half years ago. Since then, Air Premia's fleet has grown to five Boeing 787-900, with another four aircraft to come before the end of 2024, and it is well on target

to achieve profitability in 2024 as planned". He added that Globe Air Cargo Korea has created a firm cargo customer base: "We are looking forward to also promoting the upcoming network expansion which offers forwarders excellent and much-needed capacity to key destinations out of Incheon Airport."

Adrien Thominet, executive chairman of Globe Air parent, ECS Group, commented: "It is impressive to see how quickly Air Premia and Globe Air Cargo Korea are ramping up cargo operations since the first passenger-to-cargo charter flight in late December 2021. "This



Equitrans transports herd of horses for Swiss event

Equitrans Logistics successfully transported 46 horses and 3.5 tons of equipment from Muscat in Oman to Basel for the Swiss Military Tattoo on behalf of the Royal Cavalry of Oman Mounted Pipe Band.

The movement in July required a chartered Boeing 777F aircraft and utilised 17 Qatar Cargo jet stalls to transport the 46 horses and assorted musical instruments safely.

Due to a ban on the import of large animals by air at Switzerland's Border Inspection Post, Equitrans chose to operate the flight into Liege in Belgium, before continuing the onward journey by road to Basel, Switzerland.

Equitrans managed the pre-export quarantine, testing and health preparation in Oman and on arrival in

Europe, the team ensured the horses remained in isolation and under veterinary supervision.

This then allowed the animals to return directly from Europe without additional quarantine or testing for their return, said the company.

The shipment consisted of 41 Arabian horses with an additional two Warmbloods and three Shire horses. Given the considerable size of the Shire horses, the flight team customised jet stalls to ensure maximum comfort during the six-hour and 30-minute flight from Oman.

Equitrans managing director David Robson said: "It was a real honour to once again ensure this unique equestrian troupe arrived at their event with fresh and happy

horses. Primarily thanks to the care received from their very own team of professional Equitrans flying grooms of course."

"In total, the relatively complex operation involving quarantine, testing and managing numerous temporary import approvals took around two months to oversee from start to finish and was handled seamlessly by Equitrans Ops team leader Stroud Deavall."

The event was not the first time Equitrans has transported the Royal Cavalry of Oman Mounted Pipe Band overseas to perform. In 2018 the company moved 31 horses and 2,400kg of equipment for the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo in Scotland.



cargo-partner further upgrades its warehouse portfolio in Southeast Europe

As one of the leading transport and logistics providers in Southeast Europe, cargo partners have traditionally placed a strategic focus on this region. In recent months, the company has upgraded its warehouse facilities in Croatia, Slovenia and Türkiye.

Expansion in Zagreb: from 12,900 to 17,500 m²

In late August 2023, cargo-partner expanded its warehouse in Zagreb by 4,600 m² due to rapidly growing customer demand in Croatia. The warehouse was opened in June 2022 and is located ten minutes from the international airport in Zagreb. The latest expansion brings the logistics center's capacity from the previous 12,900 m² to a total of 17,500 m².

The modern facility now includes 20,000 pallet slots as well as a 900 m² mezzanine where the local team provides e-fulfillment and value-added services. In addition to short- and long-term storage, the Zagreb warehouse offers daily pallet and parcel distribution to EU- and non-EU countries, a customs bonded area and customs brokerage services. Following the expansion, the warehouse now contains 28 truck docks and three drive-in gates for oversized shipments.

"As we celebrate 40 remarkable years of cargo-partner, it is important to recognize the invaluable role Southeast Europe has played in shaping our company's enduring success. This expansion is a testament to the extraordinary journey we've embarked on together with our customers and our expert teams throughout the region," said Stefan Krauter, CEO and founder of cargo-partner.

Zoran Starcevic, Managing Director of cargo-partner in

Croatia, stated: "The added storage capacity in Zagreb will allow us to stock a wider range of products – from foodstuffs to pharmaceuticals and a variety of other goods – and respond promptly to market fluctuations and customer needs. Thus, the expansion not only strengthens our market position, but also reinforces our promise to deliver top-notch products and services to our customers."

Otto Zsivkovits, Regional Director SEE, added: "Our expansion in Zagreb is part of our strategic plan to strengthen our footprint in Southeast Europe, as this region holds immense importance for cargo-partner. In this context, Zagreb serves as a gateway connecting Eastern and Western Europe. As we continue to expand our network, we benefit from growing synergies between our logistics centers in Croatia, Slovenia, Türkiye, Bulgaria, Serbia, and Bosnia and Herzegovina."

Rooftop delivers clean energy in Ljubljana

Earlier in August, cargo-partner installed a photovoltaic system with 1,192 panels on the roof of its iLogistics Center Ljubljana. The system will produce an estimated 575 MWh of energy per year, covering 34 per cent of cargo-partner's energy consumption in Slovenia. In addition, the solar power plant will save 146 tons of CO₂ annually, which is equivalent to planting 6,698 trees. The iLogistics Center Ljubljana was opened in 2019 and

expanded in 2022, bringing its total capacity from 25,000 m² up to 39,100 m².

New iLogistics Center in Istanbul

In July 2023, cargo-partner opened a new iLogistics Center with 20,000 m² of warehouse space in Istanbul. With 25,000 pallet slots and 17 loading docks, the facility provides ideal conditions for customs bonded warehousing, handling of oversized goods and high-tech products, fast transshipment and distribution as well as comprehensive e-fulfillment services, including a parcel pickup and return point. In addition to the warehouse facility, the building also contains modern office spaces, providing the new base of operations for cargo-partner's head office in Türkiye.

Strong warehouse network in Southeast Europe

Aside from these recent expansions, cargo-partner has long had a solid warehouse network in Southeast Europe. In Bulgaria, the logistics provider's iLogistics Center Sofia offers 22,000 pallet slots on 16,700 m². In Serbia, cargo-partner maintains a strategically located warehouse near the Belgrade airport with 8,000 m² of storage space. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, cargo-partner operates a 1,000 m² warehouse, to which the company has recently added a separate 300 m² area for temporary customs bonded storage.

Cargojet First Boeing 777-200LR Freighter Conversion by US Mammoth



Cargojet initially placed an order for two of these converted aircraft with the option to acquire two more, in addition to a pair of -300ERMFs.

Mammoth Freighters, a US-based modification specialist, is making significant progress on its prototype Boeing 777-200LR conversion project for the cargo carrier Cargojet Airways (W8).

The company has shared images of the aircraft undergoing mid-panel removal on the left aft side, where the primary cargo door will be installed.

CargoJet 777-200LR Freighter Conversion

This particular airframe (N705DN) is equipped with General Electric GE90 engines and was originally delivered to Delta Air Lines (DL) back in 2009.

Mammoth introduced its 777-200LR and -300ER conversion programs in 2021 and officially revealed Cargojet as the launch customer for the -200LR modification in November of the same year. The converted aircraft is designated as the 777-200LRMF.

Cargojet initially placed an order for two of these converted aircraft with the option to acquire two more, in addition to a pair of -300ERMFs.

Mammoth has identified N705DN, with manufacturer serial number 29742 (MSN29742), as the aircraft for conformity during the certification process and the first one slated for delivery to the carrier.

Cargojet, in its semi-annual financial report covering the six months ending on June 30, revealed that it had entered into agreements for the conversion of four 777-200s, with the initial delivery anticipated in the first quarter of 2024.

The remaining aircraft are scheduled to be delivered in the second and third quarters of 2024 and the first quarter of 2025.

Furthermore, Mammoth has entered into 777-200LRMF conversion agreements with DHL Express, while AviaAM Leasing has committed as the launch customer for the 777-300ERMF.

Saab to Make Boeing 787 Cargo Doors

The framework agreement between Saab and Boeing represents an extension of a preexisting contract

initially inked with Boeing back in 2004, specifically relating to the 787 Dreamliner program.

Over the course of the program's existence, Saab has already supplied more than 1,100 chipsets for the Boeing 787 Dreamliner program.

"This contract extension reaffirms our role as a valued partner to Boeing in the highly successful 787 program, which ranks among the world's top-selling widebody aircraft. It further solidifies our enduring and productive collaboration with Boeing, encompassing both the commercial aerostructures sector and our involvement with the T-7A trainer program on the defence front," remarked **Lars Tossman, the head of Saab's Aeronautics business area.**

Saab boasts extensive experience in providing major aerostructures for a variety of aircraft programs, both military and commercial. Similar to several other significant 787 components, these doors will primarily consist of composite materials.

Rhenus continues its growth with the acquisition of the Hungarian freight forwarder ITS Logistics Hungary KFT



Rhenus consolidated its foothold in Central-East Europe by acquiring Hungarian freight forwarder ITS Logistics Hungary KFT, just a few months after the successful integration of Croatian logistics provider Trans Integral d.o.o. This new development emphasizes just how committed Rhenus is to providing high-quality logistics solutions that meet the evolving needs of its customers across the region.

ITS Logistics Hungary KFT has been a long-time partner of Rhenus, successfully collaborating on numerous projects and building a strong professional relationship. The acquisition marks the next step in the partnership and conveys a joint

resolution to combine strengths, resources and expertise for the overall benefit of the customers.

*"We are very excited about the opportunities this acquisition brings and look forward to welcoming ITS Logistics Hungary KFT into the Rhenus family", says **Patrick Schäffer, CEO of Rhenus Air & Ocean Central-East Europe**. "This move will enable us to better serve our customers' needs, particularly in relation to air freight services, while also expanding our reach in the Hungarian market."*

Managing Director of ITS Logistics Hungary KFT, Peter Kuzma, adds: *"Becoming part of the Rhenus Group marks the beginning*

of an exciting new journey for our company. We are keen on further developing the business and setting the stage for our customers, business partners and employees alike to grow as well".

ITS Logistics Hungary KFT is a well-established Hungarian freight forwarding company with more than ten years of experience in providing comprehensive transportation and warehousing services to customers across various industries. Based in Vecsés, just on the outskirts of the capital Budapest, it is mainly focused on air freight forwarding services and customs clearance operations. Sea freight, road freight and rail freight are also part of the service portfolio.

Cathay Cargo innovation brings convenience to the booking process with a digital link to Kuehne+Nagel's booking system



Pilot API scheme demonstrates real benefits for customers with quick access to Cathay Cargo inventory and booking through the freight forwarder's own system

As part of its focus on customer-centricity, Cathay Cargo has widened its sales distribution channel by placing its rates and availability in Kuehne+Nagel's own booking engine, enabling users to access space, rates, and secure instant confirmation from Cathay Cargo's inventory.

The two-phase application programming interface (API) pilot scheme with Kuehne+Nagel in the Americas and latterly in Europe marks the first time that Cathay Cargo has enabled booking functionality to be accessed from a freight forwarder's host system.

Director Cargo Tom Owen said: "At Cathay Cargo, we know how important it is to move alongside our customers. By embracing new technologies and digitalising our

systems, the pilot scheme shows that we can work with our key partners to improve the booking experience and increase their operational efficiencies."

Holger Ketz, Global Head of Air Logistics Network and Carrier Management at Kuehne+Nagel commented: "The long-standing cooperation with Cathay Cargo has been key to the successful implementation of the API interface. By having direct access to Cathay Cargo's booking platform from our transport management system we can offer a more efficient and user-friendly booking experience for our customers."

This latest development is part of Cathay Cargo's wider digital strategy in operations and strengthening the customer experience at every touchpoint. It also aligns with the

industry's growing demand for advanced technological solutions, and to put more service options at customers' fingertips.

Owen added: "The successful implementation of this API integration demonstrates our commitment to embracing new technologies to enhance transparency, trust and the overall user experience, as well as offering more efficient and effective management of global accounts. Our digitalisation programme will help Cathay Cargo stay at the forefront of the industry and meet the evolving needs of our customers as we work towards our vision of becoming the world's most customer-centric air-cargo service brand."

Cathay Cargo aims to develop the API's functionality and make it available to more global account customers this year.

Röhlig USA receives IATA CEIV Lithium Battery certification



The US subsidiary of the owner-managed logistics company Röhlig Logistics has received the IATA Center of Excellence for Independent Validators Lithium Batteries (CEIV Li-batt) certification for its key branches in Chicago and New York.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) introduced the certification to ensure that the lithium battery product supply chain meets its safety obligations and complies with the applicable transport regulations. In the lead-up to its accreditation, Röhlig USA successfully passed a lengthy certification process consisting of in-depth employee training, on-site assessments and final validation.

Markus Wegmann, Chief Operating Officer at Röhlig USA, says: *"We are delighted to be one of only a few freight forwarders in the US to have already been recognized with the CEIV Li-batt certification. It further demonstrates our expertise in handling lithium batteries as well as our compliance with all regulations. Thanks to highly efficient, standardized processes and our commitment to the highest safety standards, our customers can rest fully assured that their goods containing lithium batteries are in safe hands with us."*

The certification of the two key facilities in Chicago and New York was just the first step for the logistics solutions provider, with a roll-out to additional offices and countries across Röhlig's global network expected in the coming months.



Turkish Airlines

placed an order for ten additional Airbus A350-900

Türkiye's national flag carrier, Turkish Airlines, has announced a new order for 10 additional A350-900 aircraft, taking its total for the type to 40. This latest agreement is in addition to one announced in August for four A350-900s. Turkish Airlines already operates a fleet of 14 A350-900s.

Christian Scherer, Airbus Chief Commercial Officer and Head of Airbus International said, "We are

delighted that Turkish Airlines has decided to further enlarge its fleet with the purchase of 10 more A350-900 aircraft. With greater range capability, passenger capacity and comfort, the A350 is the perfect platform to connect Istanbul to the world. This repeat order demonstrates the confidence in our unique new-generation aircraft that offers airlines unbeatable economics and efficiency. We are proud to keep expanding our long-lasting partnership

with Turkish Airlines and Türkiye's aviation sector overall."

At the end of July, the A350 had won over 1,000 orders from leading carriers from around the globe. The A350 is the world's most modern and efficient widebody aircraft and the long-range leader in the 300-410 seater category. Its clean sheet design includes state-of-the-art technologies, aerodynamics, lightweight materials and new engines that together deliver a 25 per cent advantage in fuel burn, operating costs and CO2 emissions, as well as 50 per cent noise footprint reduction compared to previous-generation competitor aircraft.

WestJet adds 31 additional European cities to its network through an enhanced Air France codeshare agreement



WestJet has announced that beginning September 25, 2023, its guests will gain access to 31 additional cities across 11 European countries from Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport (CDG) through an expansion of WestJet's codeshare agreement with Air France.

As a result of a successful 10-year partnership, the two airlines have connected millions of travellers between Canada and Europe with the convenience of one ticket and the ability to earn WestJet Dollars throughout their entire journey.

Previously, WestJet and Air France's codeshare agreement included 22 destinations through Charles De Gaulle Airport, all of which will be maintained as the number of onward destinations in Europe now grows to 53 which will be accessible

as part of the WestJet network.

"WestJet is thrilled to more than double our current destination offerings through our Air France codeshare agreement, significantly expanding opportunities for Canadians to turn their dream European getaways into a reality," shared **Chris Avery, WestJet Vice-President, Commercial Development.**

Due to exceptional demand for its seasonal service to the city of love, WestJet has extended service between Calgary and Paris to now operate year-round.

The once-seasonal route will continue to fly on WestJet's 787 Dreamliner up to seven days per week during peak travel periods and function as the ideal connection hub for our guests to seamlessly connect onto Air France to these additional destinations.

"As we prepare for our first year of winter flying to Paris, today's announcement marks an important milestone in our partnership with Air France, that will bolster seamless connectivity between Canada and desirable destinations such as Nice in the south of France, Helsinki in Finland and sunny Valencia in Spain," continued Avery.

"Air France and WestJet have a long-standing and extensive relationship with already more than 23 destinations offered across Canada under the Air France code. With this development we are expanding the cooperation further and are honoured to welcome WestJet's guests onboard our European network." shared **Fahmi Mahjoub, Air France KLM Senior Vice-President, Alliances.**

BLR Airport's mango export soars by 124% in 2023

As the mango season has drawn to a close, Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru (KIAB/BLR Airport) has recorded a remarkable surge in mango exports setting a new benchmark when compared to the previous year.

Demonstrating a consistent upward trend in exports, BLR Airport has achieved an impressive 124% growth in

mango exports for this season compared to the previous year, establishing a three-year tonnage record.

In 2023, BLR Airport processed an export of 6,84,648 kgs of mangoes, showcasing a significant rise from the 3,05,521 kgs exported in the previous year.

Furthermore, this season's exports saw an impressive 86% increase in the number of pieces, with approximately 17 lakh pieces of mangoes being exported.

BLR Airport's expansive export network spans more than 60 international destinations.

Particularly noteworthy is the thriving export of mangoes to the United States this year, where prominent metropolitan regions such as Dallas Fort Worth, Washington D.C., and San Francisco have played a pivotal role in fostering this growth.

Satyaki Raghunath, Chief Strategy and Development Officer at Bangalore International Airport Ltd



(BIAL) remarked, "BLR Airport has emerged as a driving force in facilitating perishable exports from India.

"With substantial volume shares across Indian airports, we take pride in our role in enhancing the global reach of South India's mangoes. "Our unwavering commitment to streamlined cool-port export operations underscores BLR Airport's significance as a premier gateway connecting the world to the rich produce of our region."

Maastricht Aachen Airport appoints Jonas Van Stekelenburg as interim CEO to oversee growth strategy

Former Schiphol airport director to deliver ambitious Maastricht growth plan at key European regional airport

Maastricht Aachen Airport (MST) has appointed industry expert Jonas van Stekelenburg as interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO), to lead an ambitious growth program. The airport's new holding company, NV HBLM, has made the change to drive MST's strategic goals of enhanced sustainability, digitalisation, and cargo and passenger development.

Van Stekelenburg brings extensive aviation expertise to the role, having already provided advisory services to MST's management and supervisory board. With a distinguished career



Jonas van Stekelenburg, Chief Executive Officer, Maastricht Aachen Airport.

spanning from 2002 to 2018 at the Royal Schiphol Group, van Stekelenburg is well-positioned to guide MST through its transitional phase.

"Our strategy is focused on delivering a resilient, sustainable, and environmentally conscious airport for the local community and its future," said **van Stekelenburg, CEO, Maastricht Aachen Airport.**

"I thank my predecessor Jos Roeven for the great job he did, which has led to the strong foundation upon which we can now build. "Moving forward, we are dedicated to furthering the sustainable evolution of MST's operations and advancing both our passenger and cargo services."

The changes come as part of a strategic initiative following the joint investment commitment of the Provincial Council of Limburg and the Royal Schiphol Group.

A prominent figure in MST's journey, former CEO Jos Roeven, said: "My initial plan was to lead MST for five years when I started in 2017.

"That journey extended to six and a half years – a period during which our team achieved remarkable milestones in cargo and passenger volumes. "I take immense pride in our collective accomplishments. The airport is now poised to ascend to greater heights, fueled by its collaboration with the Royal Schiphol Group." Van Stekelenburg will assume the role of CEO from September for an initial term of nine months.

Wiremind's

digital innovation thrives on "Give and Tech"



“**T**echnology has always been a core part of Wiremind's DNA. Close to two-thirds of our team are engineers, many of whom have undergone a research project as part of their studies. It is both the desire to stay abreast of academic research as well as give back to the very academic institutions that enabled our team to develop, that has driven many of our university partnerships to date,” says **Charles Pierre, Wiremind Group Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer**. “We are proud and honoured to work with some of the world's leading institutions and minds in three vital fields: technology, engineering, and applied mathematics. Our university partnerships allow us

to put theory and advanced research into practice to solve real-life business problems. Aside from the obvious gain for our customers, this joint approach benefits all involved parties: Wiremind enjoys the expertise of top academics, academic research efforts are stimulated by actual complex industry scenarios, and finally, we as a company are able to provide students with a career path and work experience. This helps position us as an employer of choice for talent in what is still such a competitive hiring environment.”

More than half of Wiremind's annual new recruits have previously participated in internships with the company during their academic studies. All those embarking on

work within Wiremind, are offered a comprehensive onboarding programme covering the company's multiple facets. This provides them with a sound understanding of the industry context and the processes and problems that Wiremind is attempting to solve through the application of its products.

Wiremind's university partnerships broadly fall into two categories: Research and Career.

Research partnerships are centred on a particular research subject. Postgraduate students join Wiremind during their studies, are assigned a Wiremind mentor (in addition to their academic professors) and are given access to anonymised data for use as part of their academic study. Current research examples include explorations into the application of advanced machine learning methodologies in the field of demand forecasting in collaboration with the University of British Columbia and Sorbonne University's LPSM faculty. Another example of research is reinforced learning as a model for improved palletization processes within SKYPALLET, which we are also actively engaged in together with Sorbonne University's LPSM faculty.

Career partnerships are primarily focused on providing industry experience to students through internship opportunities which often materialise into full-time positions, following graduation. “This is well ingrained in the French education system,” Charles Pierre explains, “and Wiremind has been offering such internships since its inception. However, we are particularly excited by our most recent partnership with CentraleSupélec since, as the university's industry partner, Wiremind will be assisting third-year Supply Chain and Operations students to undertake a business-related project as part of their studies.” In addition to the internships offered, Wiremind team members will be presenting and engaging the entire student body at a number of events jointly organised with the school.

Ethiopian Airlines

Latest Carrier To Switch Freighter Flights To New Mexico City Airport



Ethiopian Airlines says it has moved its Mexico City cargo operations to Felipe Ángeles International Airport (NLU), which opened in March 2022.

The Mexican government has decreed that freighter operations move out of Mexico City International Airport (MEX) with the aim of reducing congestion at the crowded hub. A steady stream of cargo operators, including DHL Express and United Parcel Service, have made the move to NLU, the former military base located about 30 miles from MEX. The airport has been converted for commercial operations.

Ethiopian now runs a

2X-weekly Boeing 777-200 freighter service between its Addis Ababa Bole International Airport (ADD) base and NLU. The airline had been operating the same 777F frequencies between ADD and MEX.

"We have been proudly serving the Mexican market from the bustling Mexico City Airport for over the past six years," Ethiopian Airlines Group CEO Mesfin Tasew says, adding: "Central to this move is a state-of-the-art cargo terminal that boasts cutting-edge technology and modern facilities."

"Our services from the MEX have been defined by building strong relationships, delivering impeccable

services, and contributing to the growth of trade and commerce in the region," CEO Mesfin Tasew said.

"This upgrade is a testament to our commitment to efficiency and excellence, enabling us to provide an elevated level of services to our valued customers," he added.

According to Ethiopian Airlines, its 777Fs each have the capacity to carry 100 tons of cargo. Mexico City is one of five markets in the Americas the carrier serves with freighter flights from ADD. The other four are Bogotá, Colombia; Santiago, Chile; São Paulo, Brazil; and Miami.

Deploying its modern

freighter aircraft, the B777-200F, Ethiopian Airlines operates to five cities in the Americas: Mexico City, Bogotá, Santiago, Sao Paulo, and Miami.

Ethiopian Cargo and Logistics Services, one of the major business units within the Ethiopian Airlines Group, covers more than 130 international destinations around the world with both belly hold capacity and 67 dedicated Freighter services.

Ethiopian says it will continue to serve Felipe Ángeles International Airport twice a week. The airline is a key player in establishing trade routes that connect Mexico to the rest of the world and vice versa.

Celebrating 35 Years of Singapore Airlines' Cargo Operations at Brussels Airport



Singapore Airlines (SIA) started its cargo operations at Brussels Airport on 4 September 1988. This year, SIA has been operating full freighter flights at Brussels Airport for 35 years, making them the longest-operating cargo airline at the airport. Known for their “round the world” cargo flights, customer centricity and smooth operations, SIA is a key partner for Brussels Airport. In 2025 they plan to start operations with the new Airbus A350 freighter, the most sustainable freighter aircraft.

Singapore Airlines started its full freighter operations at Brussels Airport on 4 September 1988. Today, 35 years later, Singapore Airlines is still present as an important cargo

partner. Singapore Airlines is known for its “around the world” cargo flights, flying from Asia to the US and back to Singapore via Brussels and the Middle East. (Operating Singapore – Brussels Airport 5 times a week.)

Singapore Airlines offers reliable operations with a focus on the customer and carries various types of cargo. From the US, they fly in electronics, perishables and general cargo. Departing from Brussels, they carry pharmaceuticals and oversized cargoes, large machines and machine parts needed in Asia.

There are two divisions of Singapore Airlines at Brussels Airport: the local organisation and the European headquarters of Singapore Airlines’

cargo operations located at Brucargo. The customer focus of both partners thus comes into full play, delivering top-notch service for the end customer, who wishes to get their valuable goods to their final destination on time and in the best conditions.

The future of Singapore Airlines looks bright and sustainable, as they will be the launching carrier for the brand-new Airbus A350 freighter. After many years of research, development and testing, followed by a meticulous manufacturing process, the first deliveries of this aircraft are scheduled for early 2025. This new aircraft from Airbus is packed with the best and latest technologies that will make transport by air even more economical and sustainable than ever before.

Geert Aerts, Chief Cargo & Real Estate Officer Brussels Airport:

“Our warm congratulations to Singapore Airlines on this 35-year anniversary. After all these years, we have built a very close and friendly cooperation between Singapore Airlines and Brussels Airport. We would like to thank them for their trust and look forward to continuing our successful collaboration in the years to come, with a shared focus on more sustainable cargo operations.”

Bockchuan Tiong, Regional Cargo Vice President Europe Singapore Airlines:

“Cheers to 35 years of soaring success and unwavering partnership! Singapore Airlines Cargo’s remarkable 35-year presence at Brussels Airport has been a journey of excellence, reliability, and shared accomplishments. Here’s to the skies we’ve conquered together, shared success and the horizons we’ll continue to explore. Thank you, Brussels Airport, for being an invaluable partner on this remarkable voyage.”

BBN Airlines Indonesia receives air operator's certificate



BBN Airlines Indonesia is ready to launch commercial flights having been granted its Airline Operator Certificate (AOC).

BBN Airlines Indonesia is the latest addition to the country's aviation industry and will specialise in the provision of aircraft, crew, maintenance and insurance (ACMI), air charter, and air freight services.

ACMI is considered relatively new in Indonesia, and there are very few service providers. BBN Airlines Indonesia is expected to give an extra boost to support the ever-growing aviation needs in the region.

BBN Airlines Indonesia was awarded an Airline Operator Certificate (AOC) issued by the ministry of transportation at the end of August.

By completing all certification stages, it was declared qualified after having fully met all technical and safety requirements to be granted an AOC, and therefore can immediately conduct commercial flights.

Martynas Grigas, airline chairman, said: "The AOC is a testament to our serious commitment and readiness to

support Indonesia's aviation needs, in all sectors from airlines, tour operators, and cargo, to logistics.

"We have witnessed a high demand for aircraft provision, especially during high seasons such as Umrah, Haj, Eid, and other special holidays that result in a large surge in goods distribution, and we have conducted thorough research on that.

"This is why we are confident that this is an excellent opportunity for us to be able to give much-needed support to the airline, logistics, and tour operator companies so that, in return, they can give customers a fast, reliable, safe and comfortable service."

He added: "ACMI providers are still a rarity, especially in Asia. We are offering wet lease as well as mixed-crews or damp lease that can be custom tailored to the client's specific needs."

Immediately following the issuance of its AOC, BBN Airlines Indonesia will operate a fleet consisting of two Boeing

737-800F specialising in air freight services.

The carrier said the ACMI services it provides offer full solutions to the needs of Indonesian airline companies.

Focusing on flexibility, reliability, and safety, BBN Airlines Indonesia offers a wide range of options from experienced crew, clockwork-like maintenance, and comprehensive insurance coverage needed by a partner company to run a safe and efficient operation.

The second service it offers is air charter flights. This service directly answers the growing needs of travellers in Indonesia who have unique needs and requirements.

BBN Airlines will provide a service that can be custom-tailored according to the travellers' need for a personalised trip purpose, it added.

Air freight service is the third service the airline offers, which provides for the increasing volumes of e-commerce, in Indonesia and around the world.

Qatar Airways Cargo Partners with DSV to launch new route from Huntsville



Qatar Airways Cargo has partnered with DSV Global Transportation and Logistics to launch a new route from Huntsville, USA, increasing access to Europe, the Middle East and beyond.

Qatar Airways Cargo, the world's leading air cargo carrier has launched biweekly freighter flights from Huntsville, USA to Doha, Qatar in conjunction with DSV as part of a strategic partnership, enhancing North America's connectivity to Europe, the Middle East and beyond, effective 7th September 2023.

The route, named by DSV as the "Gateway Star", will see twice weekly Boeing 777 freighters operating from Felipe Ángeles International Airport in Mexico to Huntsville and arriving in Doha via Luxembourg. The freighters

from Huntsville will operate on Thursdays and Sundays every week, offering 200 tonnes of capacity.

Ms. Elisabeth Oudkerk, SVP Cargo Sales and Network Planning at Qatar Airways Cargo added: "We are excited by this new partnership with DSV. This strategic initiative not only expands DSV's market reach but also establishes a direct scheduled service from Mexico City to Europe, the Middle East and beyond via the strategic hubs of Huntsville, U.S. and Luxembourg."

Mads Ravn, Executive Vice President at DSV, expresses

his enthusiasm for this milestone achievement: «Our partnership with Qatar Airways Cargo signifies a remarkable leap forward. This new air freight service underscores our unwavering commitment to revolutionizing logistics and ushering unparalleled connectivity to our valued clients. By collaborating with Qatar Airways Cargo, we not only extend our market presence but also create avenues for seamless access to the Middle East with a keen focus on boosting our oil and gas vertical.»

The major exports from Huntsville that will be carried on Qatar Airways Cargo flights are Auto parts for various manufacturers in Europe along with Perishables and Cars from Mexico. With the addition of Huntsville, Qatar Airways Cargo now serves 22 destinations in the Americas with freighter and passenger belly-hold flights, providing a combined weekly cargo capacity of over 5,500 tonnes.



WFS, a member of SATS Group, attracted 20 international airline customers within three months of opening its first cargo-handling operation in India



Worldwide Flight Services (WFS), a Member of the SATS Group, has signed handling contracts with 20 global airlines since opening its first cargo terminal in India at the end of May.

The world's largest air cargo handler has commenced a 15-year license to operate an international cargo handling operation at Kempegowda International Airport Bengaluru (BLR) in partnership with BIAL, Bangalore International Airport Limited. New airline customers for WFS Bengaluru Private Ltd (WFSBPL) in India have signed contracts of between 3-5 years to benefit from the organisation's international standards of safety, security, and service.

In Bengaluru, the third largest and fastest-growing cargo hub in India, WFS employs some 700 staff at two facilities, currently offering an annual throughput capacity of 120,000 tonnes.

This will rise to 250,000 tonnes per annum following refurbishment. WFS is responsible for the development, operation, management, and maintenance of the operations, which include the only dedicated Cold Chain Facility at the airport.

WFS aims to use its design, build, finance, process reengineering and development capabilities to optimise and grow cargo capacity in Bengaluru. It also has a two-phase plan to significantly increase the size of the Cold Chain Facility, initially doubling its capacity to 80,000 MT and, later, boosting throughput to over 150,000 MT per annum in acknowledgement of India's leading position in the global pharmaceutical and healthcare markets.

To improve operational productivity, WFS has already introduced new forklift equipment and cargo tugs in Bengaluru, including new generation electric

vehicles in support of its ESG global sustainability commitment. Other automation and digitization systems will also be adopted by WFS in India to increase productivity and operational visibility.

"After a great deal of planning and preparation, it was an honour for WFS to commence its first-ever operations in India in Bengaluru at the end of May and we are proud to have already won so many important airline customers. It is a tribute to our local teams, partners and stakeholders, as well as colleagues from other WFS & SATS stations around the world, who assisted in our launch, that we have achieved such a smooth operational transition," said **Manish Agnihothri, CEO of WFS Bengaluru Private Limited.**

"Our goal from the outset has been to bring our international cargo handling expertise into the Indian market and to add value for India's air cargo community stakeholders., we aim to play an important role in helping Bengaluru realise its air cargo growth ambitions," added John Batten, WFS' Chief Executive Officer EMEA.

Raveen Pinto, Vice President of Aviation Business, BIAL said: *"BIAL is pleased to announce that WFS, a leading global company in ground handling and cargo services, has joined our airport community as one of the two cargo terminal operators. This partnership is exciting as WFS will leverage its international experience and best practices to enhance our airport cargo operations and make them more efficient and smoother. We are eager to grow and thrive together in the future as the preferred gateway of the region."*

Globe Air Cargo China, part of ECS Group, partners with Royal Air Brunei Airlines to enhance air cargo operations in China



The contract, effective from 1st July 2023, designates Globe Air Cargo China as the General Sales Agent (GSA) for the entirety of China, aligning with existing cooperation in other countries. With a projected tonnage of approximately 100 tons for the year 2023, this partnership underscores the commitment of both Globe Air Cargo China and Royal Brunei Airlines to elevate air cargo services within the region. The

primary commodities transported are general cargo and E-commerce cargo, reflecting the significant potential for growth and collaboration in this sector.

Currently, Royal Brunei operates a notable frequency of flights out of China, including 3 weekly flights from Beijing Airport (PKX) and 1 weekly flight from Hangzhou (HGH) with A320NEO aircraft, offering a combined weekly cargo capacity of around 7 tons. Moreover, 2 weekly flights from

and to Nanning Wuxu are scheduled to commence from 27 August 2023, providing an additional weekly cargo capacity of around 4,400kg. The destinations served by Royal Brunei flights departing from Chinese airports, such as Beijing (PKX), Hangzhou (HGH), Shanghai Pudong (PVG) and Nanning Wuxu (NNG), connect to over 20 global destinations operated by Royal Brunei.

Managing Director of Globe Air Cargo China, Jean Chen, expressed her excitement about this new contract, stating, “We are proud to be a global GSA with a local focus, leveraging our team of experts, flexibility, and market-specific know-how to cater to the unique needs, strategies, and desired outcomes of our esteemed partners.”

Royal Brunei is no stranger to the professional services provided by the ECS Group, as it has already experienced seamless handling in various countries, including Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, Thailand, Vietnam, India, the United Kingdom, the United Arab Emirates, and the United States.

“We are pleased to partner with Globe Air Cargo China to further enhance our air cargo operations in China. With Globe Air Cargo China’s expertise and local focus, coupled with Royal Brunei’s extensive flight network, we are confident that this collaboration will create new opportunities and elevate air cargo services to greater heights,” said **Christina Chua Ngoh Boi, RB Acting Chief Commercial Officer**.

Through this partnership, Globe Air Cargo China and Royal Brunei aim to strengthen air cargo operations in China, enhancing connectivity and facilitating the seamless movement of goods between China and the world.

Rhenus Group solidifies LATAM's presence through strategic acquisitions and partnerships



- The Rhenus Group is acquiring BLU Logistics, a leading LATAM freight forwarder present in Argentina, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Uruguay as well as in Greater China with more than 180,000 TEUs of ocean freight volume.
- Additionally, Rhenus is securing a majority share of 51 per cent in LBH Group, which operates in more than 30 countries worldwide, including six in the LATAM region, and has additional alliances in several Central American countries.
- Combining the Blu and LBH teams will result in the Rhenus Group growing its LATAM workforce by 2,200 employees, reinforcing Rhenus' dedication to the region by enhancing its local capabilities and contributing to its global expansion efforts.
- These strategic actions aim to bolster Rhenus' presence in LATAM to accelerate further growth in global trade and enhance its Asia-LATAM trade lane, nearshoring capabilities, and service options in light of the industry trend to diversify sourcing and supply chains.

Rhenus, a leading global logistics specialist, is further expanding its existing presence in the Latin America (LATAM) market through strategic initiatives designed to enhance its service portfolio and capitalize on the region's growing potential for globally connected supply chains. The company has announced its acquisition of Colombia-based BLU Logistics and a majority shareholding of LBH Group, bolstering its capabilities in the region and reinforcing its commitment to global supply chain connectivity.

"Our strategic acquisitions allow us to further strengthen our global network and service portfolio in the LATAM region, where we see increasing demand for logistics services, especially for the e-commerce industry. In addition, the region's proximity to the North American market fosters a robust environment for nearshoring, which aligns perfectly with our growth strategy. Together with BLU and LBH, we create a unique position with the value of a family business for our customers and people by offering a strong footprint in key markets to secure more robust supply chains globally," says **Tobias Bartz, CEO and Chairman of the Rhenus Group.**

A gateway through LATAM

The Rhenus Group has a strong foundation in LATAM, with established operations across Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Mexico. Their recent acquisitions have paved the way for even broader geographical coverage including BLU Logistics' additional presence in Uruguay, Paraguay, and Ecuador, as well as port agency services in Latin America, among others in Colombia, Brazil, Panama, Curacao and in several Central American countries from LBH. This expansion complements Rhenus' leading position in the Asia-LATAM corridor, leveraging BLU's robust trans-Pacific freight forwarding network. This strategic move not only allows Rhenus to expand its activities in the region seamlessly but enables BLU to extend its reach to European and Indian trade lanes, leading to significant growth in its existing customer offerings and

Our strategic acquisitions allow us to further strengthen our global network and service portfolio in the LATAM region, where we see increasing demand for logistics services, especially for the e-commerce industry.

cross-selling opportunities. **David Kassin, previously associated with BLU Logistics, will assume the role of CEO for Rhenus Air & Ocean LATAM.**

"This is a win-win-win for BLU Logistics, Rhenus, and above all, our customers. The global Rhenus network gives us the possibility to further explore other regions and to expand our client base to new segments and geographies, especially to India and the Middle East, as well as Southeast Asia, Europe, and North America," says David Kassin, CEO of Rhenus Air & Ocean LATAM. "The

synergy between BLU and Rhenus, driven by our shared commitment to customer-centricity, team cohesion, and entrepreneurial spirit, will propel us to even greater heights."

A deepened relationship

The acquisition of a majority share in the LBH Group enables Rhenus to enter and cover the Latin American, Asian, Australian, and African markets as a globally oriented port agency with business sites in 24 countries worldwide as well as alliances in 7 additional countries. As part of the

acquisition, the logistics specialist is taking over all the employees at the globally active maritime shipping agency, which includes processing incoming and outgoing vessels – regardless of whether they carry bulk goods, liquid cargo, containers, or general cargo. Rhenus is aiming to extend the takeover to include 100 per cent of the shares during the next few years. Both parties have been cooperating in a relationship of trust for many years. *"We're looking forward to successfully pressing ahead to grow our business together, with our trusted partner Rhenus becoming a permanent feature in our future orientation,"* says

Bert Lagendijk, Managing Partner of the LBH Group.

Together with his brother Jan Lagendijk, both co-founders of LBH will initially remain active on board to tap into future growth opportunities.

The transaction with BLU Logistics is subject to the approval of the Colombian antitrust authorities.

United Cargo opens new Chicago temp-control facility

United Cargo has opened a new temperature-controlled facility at Chicago O'hare International Airport. The new facility features two cooling chambers each measuring 3,200 sq ft as well as 2,000 sq ft of ball deck with 21 temperature-controlled storage positions.

There are also two new bi-level storage racks within the new coolers offering 16 new temperature-controlled

storage positions.

"Last week, we cut the ribbon on our new, state-of-the-art, temperature-controlled storage facility at O'Hare International Airport (ORD) in Chicago," the company said. "Featuring two new temperature-controlled chambers and more than 10,000 total sq ft of storage space."

The company has been investing in its pharma capabilities this year.

In April, the airline completed the technical approval of DoKaSch Temperature Solutions' Opticooler RKN solution for use in its temperature-controlled air freight services.

The airline already uses DoKaSch-TS's Opticooler RAP option, which holds up to four CP 1 pallets (or five euro pallets). The smaller RKN container can take a single CP 1 pallet, or any standard US pallet measuring less than 48" x 48".

Avianca Cargo

completes the series of IATA product certifications

- After successfully completing the validation of certification programs established by IATA, the company obtained a new certification: CEIV Live Animals.
- This new seal demonstrates Avianca Cargo's commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of live animals within its value chain.
- This new certification adds to ones previously granted to the company: CEIV Fresh, Pharma, and Lithium Batteries, appointing it as the only airline in the region to achieve all 4 certifications.

With its firm purpose of maintaining the highest standards in the air cargo industry and to continue guaranteeing the best practices to provide the best service to its customers, Avianca Cargo achieved its latest CEIV seal in the product category, awarded by the International Air Transport Association (IATA). On this occasion, the airline was certified CEIV Live Animals because it meets the highest standards, has an infrastructure that ensures the welfare of animals and a management system that is constantly seeking to increase the quality of service.

Air transportation of live animals is considered one of the most expedient, as it presents challenges in terms of the processes and details carried out, such as ensuring that these are the best to guarantee professional, careful, and compassionate treatment so that the animals have the best experience.

This is why the requirements and protocols necessary for their transportation have been met by each participant in the Avianca Cargo supply chain, to ensure the safety and welfare of animals such as dogs, cats, chickens, and horses, among others, during air transport.

According to **Leonel Ortiz, Transformation, and Innovation Director at Avianca Cargo**, "It is a pride to be able to obtain, in a record time of three months, a fourth IATA seal under the diligence of safe and responsible transportation of live animals, thanks to infrastructure improvements and the availability of our network for transportation. We will continue working with motivation and commitment to remain a benchmark of quality and the best partner for our customers".

In less than two years, Avianca Cargo became the only airline in

the Americas to obtain all IATA certifications: CEIV Fresh, CEIV Lithium Batteries and CEIV Pharma. This demonstrates the commitment to the changes made in safe and controlled procedures, infrastructure, and customer experience, taking to each of the bases and making the handling of products the most appropriate.





"Handling and transporting live animals is a complex operation given each species has its own specific handling requirements. Adding CEIV Live Animals to its CEIV Fresh, CEIV Pharma and CEIV Lithium Batteries certification means Avianca Cargo is operating within a validated framework that meets regulatory requirements. We congratulate the airline on

becoming one of the first airlines in the Americas to complete the suite of CEIV certifications. Avianca Cargo's customers can have the confidence that their special cargo will be delivered safely and in top condition," said **Brendan Sullivan, IATA's Global Head of Cargo.**

This certification is not just a seal of approval; it is the result of the

constant effort to improve, provide the best solutions and guarantee the professional, careful, and empathetic treatment of animals. Avianca Cargo will continue to work with determination and confidence to achieve excellence in every process in the supply chain and thus continue to face new challenges and opportunities with customers.

Air cargo demand growth 'may be a few quarters away' as August sees spot rates hit their lowest level in over three years

The global air cargo spot rate flattened to USD 2.19 per kg in August, its lowest level since the onset of the pandemic as another weak summer month saw a chargeable weight edge -1% lower for a fourth consecutive month, according to the latest weekly market analysis from CLIVE Data Services, part of Xeneta.

While shippers and forwarders continue to

benefit from the overall decline of general air freight rates, rising jet fuel prices should concern an already contracted market, with the US Gulf Coast jet fuel spot price jumping 21% month-over-month.

August saw global air cargo capacity rise +7% year-on-year, while CLIVE's global dynamic load factor analysis, which measures cargo load factor based on both volume and weight

perspectives of cargo flown and capacity available, climbed one percentage point about the previous month to 56%. But it is worth noting that the August global load factor continued to fall year-on-year, down 3% from last year's level. Softened global demand and the capacity surge were the main reasons behind this.

The data dampens some industry reports of a slight

spike in demand in August, leading to hopes of a rise in volumes going into the final four months of the year.

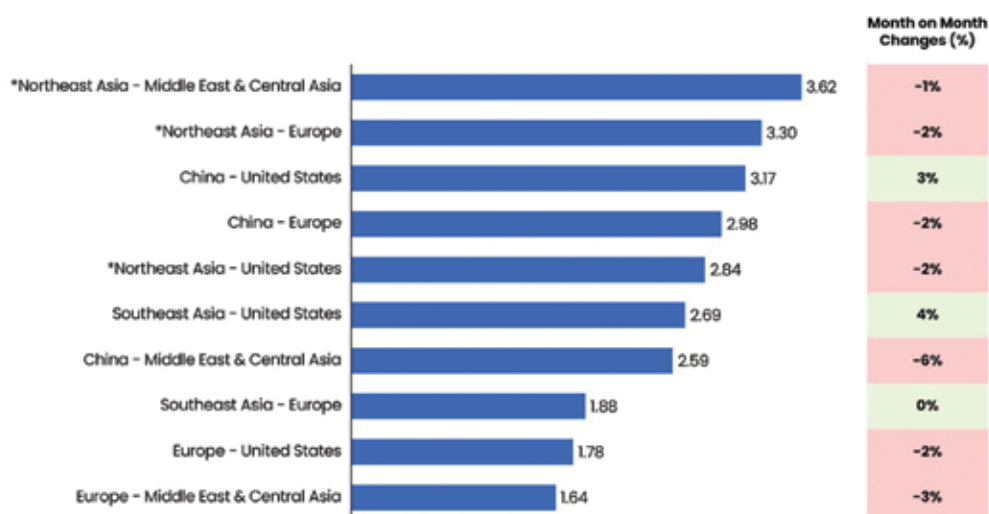
"We are picking up signals that it could take another few quarters before we see more demand on a global level," said Niall van de Wouw, Chief Airfreight Officer at Xeneta.

"August was very quiet, like July, and we see no meaningful signals from a qualitative or quantitative point of view of any kind of peak arising this year. There might be some early peak season charter requests floating around but they are backed up by very little demand. The (low) rates and the limited timeframe that the requestors are looking for a signal that they are not too concerned at the moment about getting the required capacity when they actually need it.

"The market seems to have levelled out, but still holds a lot of uncertainty, and not just for airfreight. There was also no peak for the ocean market, which typically precedes the airfreight market by a couple of months. There are even blank sailings scheduled ahead of the Golden Week period.

Global top trades show mixed picture on air spot rate monthly developments

Air cargo spot rate developments for selected corridors in August 2023 (in USD per kg)



* Northeast Asia includes Hong Kong, Macau, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, and Mongolia, but excludes mainland China.
Source: CLIVE Data Services, now part of Xeneta

"There is likely to be upward pressure on air freight rates in the second half of October as capacity is taken out of the market, but it's getting late in the game to positively impact the industry's 2023 performance, and the signals for the rest of the year are not good given the macroeconomic outlook hasn't improved," van de Wouw added.

Average general air freight rates in August dipped as low as USD 2.13 per kg in the first two weeks of the month, although this varies by trade corridor. Of 10 major trade lanes assessed in the past month,

only China-United States and Southeast Asia-United States recorded growth, with air cargo spot rates up 3% and 4% respectively on these corridors. This is attributed to a more resilient US economy with strong retail sales and, to some extent, also delayed recovery of US-China passenger belly hold capacity, which is growing at a much slower pace than Europe-China.

Even so, due to capacity shortage triggered by various geopolitical issues, airfreight spot rates ex Northeast Asia to Middle East & Central Asia, Northeast Asia to

Europe, China to the US and China to Europe remained highly elevated, still up by around 55% from their pre-pandemic levels.

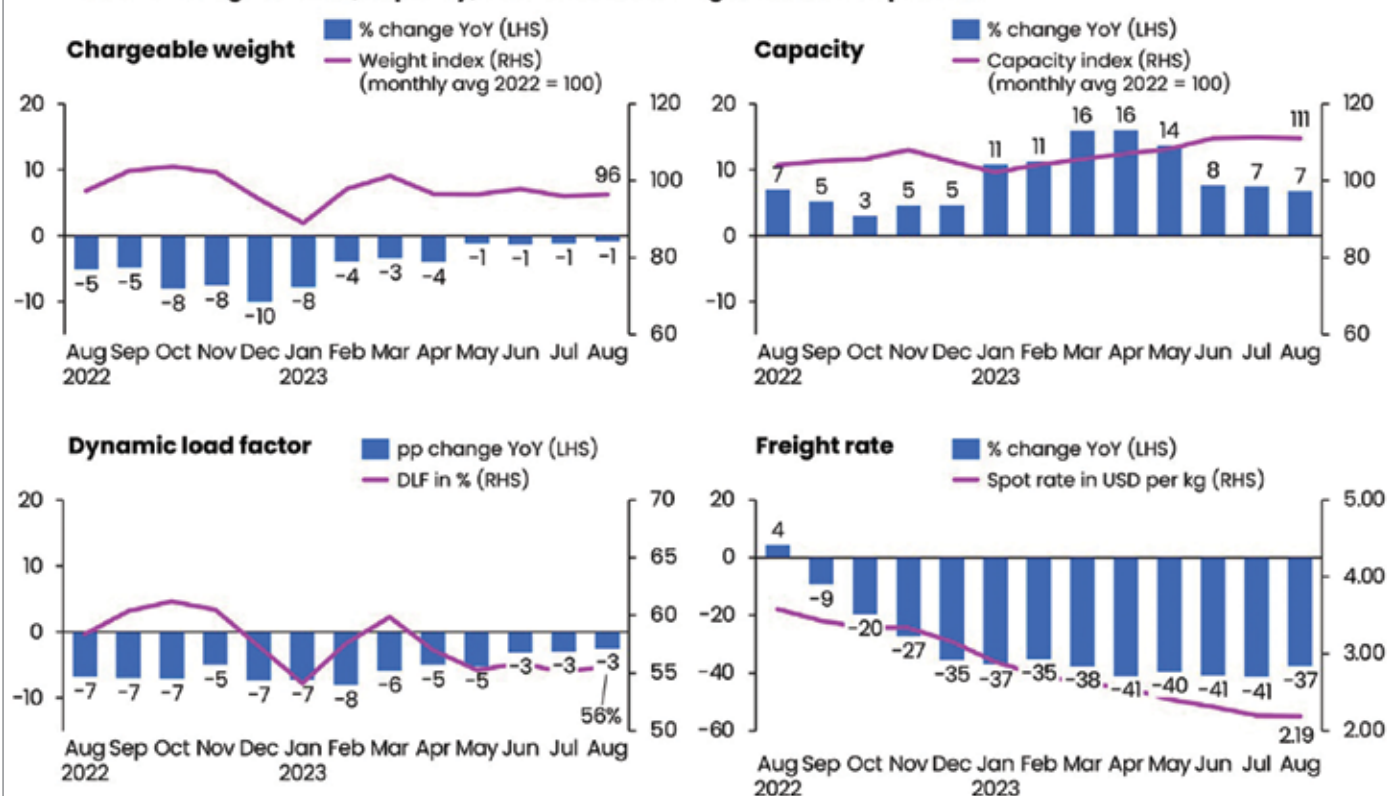
Looking forward, the ocean freight container market might shed some light on where the air cargo market is heading, given that the ocean market tends to begin its yearly peak season a few months ahead of the airfreight cycle. So far, the global ocean container market has not shown any meaningful peak season trends.

"The air cargo industry is coming to terms with the market conditions and

not even the current and planned restrictions we see on container ships moving through the Panama Canal are likely to provide a noticeable uptick to airfreight volumes. Whichever way you choose to look at it, demand growth simply does not exist at this current moment or for the foreseeable future. Shippers will no doubt be tempted to fix more longer-term deals because the levelling of volumes and the imminent drop-off of some capacity means the market may not get any better than it is right now for capacity buyers," **Niall van de Wouw** said.

Global air cargo spot rates stabilize at the lower end

Global air cargo volume, capacity, load factor and freight rate developments



Source: CLIVE Data Services, now part of Xeneta

Silk Way West Airlines jets into the future with the cargo.one platform



Silk Way West Airlines, the leading cargo airline in the Caspian and Central Asian region, has taken a significant step forward in improving its customers' experience with the launch of services bookable via cargo.one platform. This initiative will facilitate a seamless booking experience and underscores Silk Way West Airlines' commitment to innovation and customer-centric services.

Silk Way West Airlines operates an extensive transcontinental network, connecting businesses across the globe with efficient airfreight solutions. By adding cargo.one to its operations,

the airline offers a user-friendly interface that simplifies booking processes and optimizes capacity utilization, ultimately reducing costs and improving overall efficiency. The platform includes benefits such as an intuitive booking experience, enhanced efficiency, expanded global reach, and a strong focus on delivering exceptional customer service to businesses.

Mr. Wolfgang Meier, CEO of Silk Way West Airlines, expressed his enthusiasm about this new partnership, saying: *"We are thrilled to embark on this journey with cargo.*

one. This endeavour is an exciting milestone that perfectly aligns with our commitment to providing innovative solutions and superior customer experiences. We believe that the integration of cargo.one's digital platform will set a new standard for airfreight booking."

By combining Silk Way West Airlines' global reach and cargo.one's cutting-edge technology, the air cargo industry is poised for a new era of convenience and efficiency. Silk Way West Airlines and cargo.one looks forward to welcoming new and existing clients to the platform.

Awery reports rapid uptake of open access cargo booking in South Africa and starts to roll out across Europe



AWERY
AVIATION SOFTWARE

Awery Aviation Software (Awery) is rolling out its open-access CargoBooking platform in Europe, building on the success of its South African launch, which saw over 100 forwarders and 15 airlines join the marketplace within five weeks.

CargoBooking is an online booking marketplace that allows airlines and their General Sales Agents (GSAs) to provide freight forwarders with real-time air cargo rate distribution, quotes, and bookings.

Airlines and GSAs can connect with forwarders on CargoBooking without the need for forwarder registration or transactional fees for any parties.

"Up to 20 percent of South Africa's air cargo capacity is now supported on CargoBooking, a figure that continues to rise as new users join," **Vitaly Smilianets, Chief Executive Officer, Awery** told delegates at Air Cargo Handling & Logistics (ACHL) in Athens. *"The free-to-use platform is clearly shifting the dynamic in the air cargo market, and we will continue driving change with our strategic roll-out of CargoBooking across the globe."*

CargoBooking is now being used by multiple European air cargo operators, in the United Kingdom, Germany, Spain, Switzerland, and Austria.

"Awery is dedicated to promoting a digital democracy within the air cargo industry through free access to essential digital solutions," said Smilianets. *"The rapid uptake of CargoBooking is enabling more air cargo stakeholders to access optimal rates, benefiting the industry by reducing wasted capacity and enhancing efficiency."*

Flagship users including, GSAs R-Bag in Poland, ATC Aviation in Germany, Airnautic in France, and Air Logistics Group in Spain are already utilising the platform in Europe.

Moving forward, freight forwarders will have access to many more airlines and GSAs offering live rates and the latest service updates through CargoBooking in numerous markets. Smilianets announced the European roll-out of CargoBooking alongside an update to h2A, the end-to-end airline platform developed in collaboration with Hermes Logistics Technologies, during the Innovation Showcase at ACHL.

Narita Airport to build centralized cargo facility for All Nippon Airways

Japanese airline says modern facility will improve shipping service



ANA uses six warehouses at Narita Airport. Consolidating them into one location will shorten connection times for pickup and delivery of international shipments, the carrier said. The expanded facility will use automated guided vehicles to transfer containers to and from storage racks, which will further reduce handling time as well as labour. It will also have refrigerated sections for pharmaceuticals and fresh foods, as well as sections for animals and valuables.

All Nippon Airways (ANA) will consolidate its presence at Narita International with a new cargo building that is currently being built by Narita International Airport Corporation (NIAC).

At the moment, the airline utilizes six dispersed warehouses at the airport but when the new facility opens operations will be moved to just two facilities.

Operations will move into the new Cargo Building Number Eight being developed by NIAC and continue at the adjacent Cargo Building Number Seven already being used by the carrier.

ANA hopes to begin services from the new facility in October next year.

The building will have a total area of around 61,000 sq m, with the warehousing comprising 38,000 sq m.

It will be used for import and export cargo between Asia and North America as well as domestic cargo.

"By consolidating warehouses, cargo delivery to/from customers can

be completed in a single warehouse," ANA said. "Cargo between Asia and North America can arrive and depart from the same warehouse, shortening the connection time and improving the convenience of demand between Asia and North America."

The facility will also use Automated guided vehicles (AGV) to automate cargo transfer and storage operations and have automated ULD racks to expand storage space.

The cargo terminal will also have access to the airport and meet several environmental standards.

Liège, Belgium, and Toronto, Canada, join Swissport's growing network of Pharma Centers

Swissport's air cargo centers at Liège Airport (LGG) in Belgium and Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ) in Canada have been certified to IATA's CEIV Pharma standard. Worldwide, the company now operates 21 Swissport Pharma Centers and more than 70 pharma-capable air cargo facilities.

Swissport's cargo facilities at Liège Airport (LGG) in Belgium and Toronto Pearson International Airport (YYZ) in Canada have obtained IATA's CEIV Pharma certification, marking the company's 16th and 17th certifications for pharma warehousing. Liège is Swissport's second CEIV Pharma-certified facility in Belgium after Brussels. It is also the second certified cargo location in Canada: In 2018, Swissport was recognized as the first CEIV Pharma-certified air cargo handler in Canada with its operations at Montréal-Trudeau International Airport (YUL).

The new Swissport Pharma Center in Liège is part of a larger air cargo facility totaling some 6,000 sqm. It comprises two temperature-controlled storage units which operate at temperature ranges of 02-08° C and 15-25° C. Each cool room has an area of 180 sqm and can hold up to 15 unit load devices. In Toronto, the Swissport Pharma Center is part of a 4,825 sqm cargo facility. It also comprises two cool rooms operating at ranges of 02-08°C and 15-25°C. Each cool room can hold up to 40 skids or three PMC pallets.

"We are thrilled to see Liège join



*Swissport's growing network of Pharma Centers," says **Dirk Goovaerts, CEO of Continental Europe, Middle East and Africa, and Global Cargo Chair at Swissport.** "This latest CEIV certification in Liège, where Swissport operates a state-of-the-art pharma center with end-to-end refrigeration solutions, is testament to our infrastructure investment and the operational expertise of our team. Our capabilities in Liège - one of the leading hubs for pharmaceutical shipments in Europe - perfectly complement our established offering in Brussels, Belgium, and other European pharma centers such as Frankfurt, Germany, and Basel, Switzerland.*

"The CEIV Pharma certification of our cargo operation at Toronto Airport is a recognition of the efforts and investments that went towards upgrading our infrastructure, refining our

*process and upskilling our teams," says **Charles Roberge, CEO of Swissport Canada.** "It solidifies Swissport's leader role in pharma handling in Canada."*

Around the world, Swissport is successfully expanding its presence in pharmaceutical handling. June marked the opening of a new 400-sqm facility for temperature-controlled cargo at Dublin Airport in Ireland. And in May, the Swissport air cargo center at Barcelona-El Prat Airport renewed its CEIV Pharma certification. In addition, the Swissport cargo center at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi, Kenya, was also expanded to include a new 750-sqm cold storeroom. The company now operates 21 Swissport Pharma Centers, complemented by 74 pharma-capable air cargo warehouses and plans to bring additional facilities under its Pharma Center brand.

dnata cuts CO₂ emissions by 80 tonnes per year with Biofuel switch in UAE



Strategic move further enhances environmental efficiency across logistics, catering and travel businesses.

dnata, a leading global air and travel services provider continues to take initiatives to reduce its environmental footprint across its operations in the UAE. Most recently, dnata's group brands **dnata Logistics**, **Arabian Adventures**, **Alpha Flight Services** and **City Sightseeing** have switched their vehicles to run on a biofuel blend. The strategic move saves 80 tonnes of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) emissions per year, equivalent to over 320,000 kilometres driven by an average petrol-powered car.

dnata's latest initiative is part of its efforts to reduce its carbon footprint and waste to landfill by 20% by 2024 in line with its two-year green operations

strategy. In June 2022, dnata announced that it would invest US\$100 million in green operations in two years to further enhance its environmental efficiency globally.

"We constantly explore and implement emission-reduction methods across our fleet and infrastructure to reduce our carbon footprint. Introducing biofuel to a diverse range of UAE businesses is an important step in our ongoing journey. It offers a simple and effective method of cutting emissions throughout the fuel lifecycle, without requiring any changes to equipment."

"We will continue to invest in our operations, including large-scale infrastructure solutions, to further

enhance our sustainability performance and achieve our green operations targets.

Steve Allen, CEO of dnata Group,

dnata's group brands cutting fossil fuel dependence

dnata Logistics has switched 31 of its trucks to be run on a biofuel blend at its Dubai-based hub. Providing multimodal freight forwarding, logistics, supply chain and road transport services, its trucks cover up to a total of 217,000 kilometres per month. The move saves almost 35 tonnes of CO₂ emissions per year, the equivalent of eight petrol-powered cars driven for one whole year.

City Sightseeing Dubai, a joint venture with dnata Travel Group, operates three tour routes, providing elevated viewing of Dubai's top attractions, through the use of 21 open-top, biofuelled buses. These cover an average of 76,000 kilometres per month, removing over 32 tonnes of CO₂ emissions each year: the equivalent of the electricity use of four average homes for 12 months.

Alpha Flight Services (Alpha), dnata's inflight catering joint venture, has already switched five landside vehicles to biofuel blend, and is also in the process of transitioning all of its Sharjah-based airside catering trucks. Alpha now sends its used cooking oil to the biofuel manufacturer and once recycled, it is then re-used within its vehicles. Research shows that one litre of oil recycled into biofuel avoids the emissions of 3kg of CO₂, a reduction of 92% compared to diesel fuel use. Alpha's vehicles cover over 27,000 kilometres per month, supporting the company's extensive catering operations that create over 25,000 meals a day. As a result of the initiative, Alpha will save seven tonnes of CO₂

emissions per year, the equivalent of charging over 850,000 smartphones.

Arabian Adventures has also switched the generators at its desert safari camps to a biofuel mix. The most experienced tour and safaris operator in the UAE, offering true Arabian hospitality, desert safaris, experiences and dune buggies, is saving almost five tonnes of CO₂ emissions per year as a result of the initiative. This equates to 1987 litres of diesel.

Besides its recent investment in landside operations, dnata has significantly invested in the electrification of its ground handling fleet across its global airport operations to reduce emissions, with more than 15% of the company's global fleet now electrified. However, dnata understands that electrification is not the only solution for all vehicles throughout its group, and invests in a mix of equipment types and renewable fuel

sources to maximise environmental and operational efficiency globally. It already operates biodiesel, electric and hybrid vehicles as well as actively exploring the use of hydrogen-powered equipment in its operations.

dnata's other recent key initiatives include continued significant investment in renewable infrastructure, low-emissions ground support solutions and process improvements to optimise fuel efficiency. dnata continues to make significant investments in renewable energy, including installing rooftop solar panels across its existing facilities and capturing and recycling greywater or rainwater for conservation.

Waste-to-landfill focus

In order to reduce its environmental footprint in ways other than emissions, dnata is determined to reduce waste to landfill and is collaborating with

industry leaders and policymakers on the treatment of international catering waste. In addition, dnata is investing in sustainable solutions to recycle cargo waste materials, such as transport belts and nets. In close coordination with the airport community to enhance the segregation and retrieval of recyclables airside, dnata is targeting a 20% diversion of waste from landfills by 2024.

dnata is a leading global air and travel services provider. Established in 1959, the company offers quality and safe ground handling, cargo, travel, catering and retail services in over 30 countries across six continents. In the financial year 2022-23, dnata's customer-oriented teams handled over 710,000 aircraft turns, moved over 2.7 million tonnes of cargo, uplifted 111.4 million meals, and recorded a total transaction value (TTV) of travel services of US\$ 1.9 billion.

Anna-Maria Kirchner starts as the new Head of Global Sales at Finnair Cargo

Annamaria Kirchner has been appointed as the Head of Global Sales Finnair Cargo from 15th September.

Finnair Cargo has appointed Anna-Maria Kirchner as its head of global sales.

The airline said Kirchner has lots of experience in sales and the global aviation industry.

Before joining Finnair she worked as a manager for global sales and business development for Emirates and was also a senior manager for Air Berlin.

Gabriela Hiitola, senior vice president of Finnair Cargo, said:

"As we are looking to strengthen our sales team and develop our product and digital solutions for our customers, Anna-Maria is a valuable addition to the team with her background in both sales and development."



Kirchner added: "Air cargo business is still settling into a new reality after the pandemic years, which creates

many opportunities for one of the oldest operating airlines."

Guillaume Halleux joins Swissport as Chief Commercial Officer

Guillaume Halleux joins Swissport as Chief Commercial Officer, effective 18 September. In close collaboration with Swissport's regional business leaders, he will maintain an open customer dialogue to build trust-based long-term partnerships with our airline clients and ensure expectations regarding operational excellence are met.



Effective 18 September 2023, Guillaume Halleux joins Swissport International AG from Qatar Airways as Chief Commercial Officer and member of the executive leadership team. He will execute Swissport's commercial agenda in developing existing and building new client relationships and drive the acquisition of new business.

"We are delighted to welcome Guillaume as our Chief Commercial Officer," says Warwick Brady, President & CEO of Swissport International AG. "Our growth plan and the company's strategic outlook as the global market leader attract the best talent in the industry. Swissport's management team consists of a complementary group of executives with experience in ground handling and the airline industry. It allows us to understand what airlines want and meet their expectations. This understanding is instrumental in fostering successful partnerships."

Guillaume Halleux brings over 25 years of experience and joins Swissport from Qatar Airways Cargo, where he served as Chief Officer Cargo at the airline's Doha head office. Prior to that, he served as the airline's Vice President Cargo Asia Pacific. He started his career with Air France in 1997, where he held several positions in Logistics and Business

Development before joining the SkyTeam Cargo US joint venture between Air France, Delta Airlines, and Korean Air. Later he was appointed Regional Director for Hong Kong and South China at Air France-KLM. A French citizen, Guillaume holds a master's in business administration from ICN Business School in Nancy, France.

It is Swissport's ambition to anchor its brand as the go-to service partner for airlines worldwide. Stable customer relationships are a prerequisite, especially if a collaboration is to evolve toward an integrated hub management arrangement. Swissport's executive team has a thorough understanding of what airlines seek, and this makes us the partner of choice for airlines that seek the stability of reliable, safe and cost-efficient operations. Swissport delivers best-in-class value for money – for global network airlines and low-cost carriers alike.

Ramp handling, passenger services and air cargo handling are Swissport's large, strategic service categories and revenue contributors. They are also pivotal for top-line growth and often the steppingstone for developing client relationships into adjacent areas like aviation fueling, load control, lounge hospitality and executive aviation.



Network Aviation Group appoints Jonathan Clark CEO

Network Aviation Group has announced the appointment of Jonathan Clark as the new Chief Executive Officer with effect from 8th January 2024.

Jonathan comes with over 35 years of experience in the air cargo industry having worked previously for Lufthansa Cargo, Qatar Airways, DB Schenker and Cargolux and is currently the CEO of Air Menzies International (AMI).

Network Aviation Group was originally formed in 1985 and currently has 42 offices around the world where they are the General Sales Agents for more than thirty airlines, but also sell the cargo capacity for their own freighter managed fleet which

currently comprises of four Boeing 747 Freighters which are based in Liege, Belgium.

The freighter managed fleet serves destinations throughout Africa and North America on a scheduled basis as well as offering charter capacity worldwide.

Andrew Leslie, Chairman of the Network Aviation Group said “We are delighted to welcome Jonathan as our new Chief Executive, after an extensive, global search process.

“Jonathan is a dynamic, values-driven business leader who has a diverse background of experiences and an excellent track record of delivery in the air cargo industry. “He has exceptional

strategic capabilities, proven operational effectiveness, and strong experience in both developed and developing markets. “The Board looks forward to Jonathan realising the full potential of Network Aviation Group as a winning business which delivers long-term growth and value for all its stakeholders.”

Jonathan Clark: “I am delighted to take on my new role leading the Network Aviation Group, an organisation that I have watched grow over the years into a quality-driven, customer-oriented and much-respected airfreight partner. “With the recent addition of the 4th B747 freighter to the managed fleet, the times ahead are very exciting.”

Hermes grows team to support rapid development of cargo management system

Hermes Logistics Technologies (HLT) has appointed Stuart Piper as Global Sales Director to spearhead the launch of new developments in the Hermes Ecosystem of cargo management solutions, marking a period of accelerated growth for the company.

Piper brings 27 years of software & solutions experience to HLT, having previously held commercial roles at

IBM, SAP, and Samsung.

“As our ecosystem continues to develop, we have needed to expand our team in order to match this growth, and Stuart represents a tremendous asset to our team given his impressive knowledge of cloud solutions, automation and artificial intelligence,” said **Yuval Baruch, Chief Executive Officer, Hermes Logistics Technologies.**

“We have completed all the necessary research and development to deliver our most comprehensive and robust managed service to date, and Stuart will be integral to driving uptake across our global customer base.”

HLT’s mission to provide cargo management solutions that facilitate absolute efficiency and a streamlined experience for its users has been clearly demonstrated in the most

recent addition to its ecosystem, the Hermes Integration module.

This module allows third-party systems to interact with the Hermes SaaS ecosystem in a stable, future-proof form, enabling users to connect disparate systems into one place to ensure a seamless workflow can be achieved.

A new tool focussing on training Hermes users across their entire operations will be officially launched at the Air Cargo Handling & Logistics (ACHL) conference next week.

“Digitalisation is at the forefront of the air cargo industry, especially as ground handlers are increasingly expected to reach higher levels of efficiency, which can only be achieved by leveraging cloud, data, integration and automation technologies,” said Piper.

“In my new role I look forward to using my knowledge of the market to help Hermes users maximise their interaction with the Hermes Ecosystem, including introducing them to the substantial benefits afforded by its newest developments.”



dnata is the first combined air services provider to receive IATA's environmental management certification (IEnvA)

Recognition underscores dnata's commitment to sustainability



dnata Group CEO Steve Allen (right) receives IEnvA certification from IATA's Head of Cargo, Brendan Sullivan

dnata has become the first combined air services provider to receive the International Air Transport Association's (IATA) environmental management certification as a recognition of its unwavering commitment to sustainability across its diverse portfolio of businesses in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

IATA Environmental Assessment (IEnvA) is a certification programme developed to independently assess the commitment of aviation stakeholders such as airlines, airports, cargo handling facilities, freight forwarders, and ramp handlers, to continuously improve their environmental and sustainability performance.

IATA's comprehensive evaluation encompassed 74 mandatory and all three optional modules, rigorously assessing dnata's sustainability practices and efforts across its

extensive operations in the UAE. In addition to its corporate Headquarters, ground handling and cargo businesses, dnata's airport hospitality brand, Marhaba, and inflight catering joint venture, Alpha Flight Services (Alpha), have also been certified through IEnvA's hospitality module. DUBZ, dnata's baggage technology and logistics company, also received the certification. This remarkable outcome attests to dnata's commitment to maintaining the highest standards of sustainability.

Steve Allen, CEO of dnata Group, said: "We are immensely proud to be the first combined air services provider to achieve the full scope of the IEnvA certification in the UAE. This accomplishment speaks volumes about our team's dedication to sustainability and responsible business practices across our operations. We will continue our investments in

people, infrastructure and equipment to maximise environmental efficiency, while consistently delivering best-in-class services for our customers and travellers in the UAE and beyond."

Marie Owens Thomsen, IATA's Senior Vice President, Sustainability and Chief Economist, commented: "I would like to extend my most sincere congratulations to dnata for achieving full IEnvA Certification in the UAE. This is a remarkable achievement that reflects their unwavering dedication to environmental sustainability and responsible business practices. I commend the efforts of everyone involved and wish dnata continued success in their role in our industry's sustainability journey."

dnata recently announced that it was on track to reduce its carbon footprint and waste to landfill by 20% by 2024 as part of its two-year green operations strategy. Previously, the company committed US\$ 100 million to implement green technology and initiatives across its businesses to achieve its strategic objectives. The company's recent key initiatives include continued significant investment in infrastructure, green ground support solutions and process improvement.

dnata is a leading global air and travel services provider. Established in 1959, the company offers quality and safe ground handling, cargo, travel, catering and retail services in over 30 countries across six continents. In the financial year 2022-23, dnata's customer-oriented teams handled over 710,000 aircraft turns, moved over 2.7 million tonnes of cargo, uplifted 111.4 million meals, and recorded a total transaction value (TTV) of travel services of US\$ 1.9 billion.

Swissport appoints Mike Byrom as Chief Operating Officer for the US and Canada

Mike Byrom will join Swissport on 25 September as Chief Operating Officer US & Canada. The former Spirit Airlines Vice President of Airports further strengthens Swissport's management team in the US, one of Swissport's largest markets.



Swissport appoints Mike Byrom as Chief Operating Officer US & Canada. He succeeds Nelson Camacho, who took over the role of CEO of US & Canada in July 2023. A customer-focused leader with over 25 years of experience at some of North America's fastest-growing airlines, Byrom further strengthens the leadership team in the US & Canada, reinforcing Swissport's local market focus. In his role, he will be responsible for Swissport's operational service delivery in the US and Canada with the ambition of accelerated domestic

expansion.

"We are delighted to welcome Mike Byrom aboard as Chief Operating Officer for the US and Canada," says **Nelson Camacho, CEO of US & Canada at Swissport**. "With his vast experience focusing on the delivery of clockwork airport operations on the airline side, he is well prepared to take Swissport's operational performance to the next level in terms of safety, reliability, customer centricity and consistent operational excellence."

Byrom joins Swissport from Spirit Airlines, where he most recently served

as Vice President of Airport and crew Services and oversaw a workforce of more than 6,000 workers across 90-plus stations in the US, Latin America, and the Caribbean. He drove the division's strategic plan and tactical initiatives execution during a time of rapid network growth. He delivered a safe, reliable and guest-centric airport experience and implemented a baggage reconciliation scanning technology, which reduced mishandled baggage occurrences by 15 per cent. Byrom began his aviation career at WestJet. His most recent roles at the Canadian low-cost carrier include Director of Guest Experience, Director of Canadian Airports, and Director of Airport Operations Support.

With Byrom joining, Swissport further strengthens its regional leadership team for the US and Canada. In addition to Nelson Camacho as regional CEO, the company also recently appointed Stacey Brown as its regional Chief People, **Jennifer Gomes as VP of Fueling and Jennifer Bartenstein as VP of Quality, Health and Safety**. The new team US & Canada will help deliver on Swissport's ambitious regional and global growth plans.

In the US and Canada, Swissport serves leading domestic and international airlines across 60 airports and operates 10 airport lounges and 31 air cargo centers. In the first half of 2023, the US & Canada region served over 13 million airline passengers, a volume increase of 29 per cent compared to the same period last year. The group also operates a large aviation fueling business across the US and runs several major fuel farms.

Gabriel Oliva is appointed as Chief Operating Officer of Avianca, and Frederico Pedreira assumes Deputy CEO strengthening the team under the leadership of Adrian Neuhauser



Gabriel Oliva

- The airline's management team has been strengthened and together with its more than 12,000 employees in 24 countries will continue to work for its 25 million yearly passengers.
- Pedreira and Oliva will have the challenge of maintaining the Group's positive results from the operational point of view, its cost structure, and the cargo business.
- Neuhauser will continue as CEO of Avianca and as Deputy CEO of the ABRA Group and will now dedicate part of his time to accelerating the process of consolidating the Group (Avianca and GOL) as the best option for flying in Latin America.



Frederico Pedreira

Avianca has announced important changes in its management team. Frederico Pedreira, who has served as Chief Operating Officer since 2021, will now be the company's Deputy CEO and will be immediately in charge of vital processes for Avianca, such as operations, human talent, technology, corporate communications, customer promise and institutional relations.

In turn, Gabriel Oliva takes over as Chief Operating Officer and remains as CEO of Cargo. In his new role, he will lead the areas of maintenance, safety, network and ground operations, service delivery, airports, cabin crew and pilots, while continuing to spearhead the transformation of the cargo business.

Neuhauser will continue as CEO of Avianca and thanks to these promotions, which will further strengthen the team, he will be able to continue leading strategic projects for Abra Group.

"We are very pleased to announce the promotion of Frederico and Gabriel. Without a doubt, they have been a fundamental part of the team that has helped us to become a sustainable organization that with operational efficiency as a priority has managed to connect more, transport billions of passengers and reinvent cargo operations. I am sure they will also put the focus of their management on our more than 12,000 employees around the world so that we have a team that is proud of what we have built", said Adrian

Neuhauser, CEO of Avianca and Deputy CEO of Abra Group.

Both Pedreira and Oliva have consistently shown results that have favored the change of Avianca's model towards a more efficient and sustainable company over time. Frederico joined the company in January 2021 and in a short time led a substantial improvement in operational indicators, positioning it in the world rankings for punctuality. It has also played a key role in making the company's structure more competitive and allowing more passengers to travel.

On his part, Gabriel joined the Avianca Cargo team in mid-2021 and has led the reinvention of the business unit and put it back on the map as a competitor ready to grow in the past couple of years. He also implemented an aggressive fleet plan to incorporate more A330 PTFs and moved forward with highly complex projects such as the approval of the Commercial Cooperation Agreement between Tampa Cargo and Aerounion.

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