

# air cargo update

Vol.07 Issue 8, No. 56, October 2017

The first and only PAN-Regional Magazine  
Middle East - Africa - Asia and beyond



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## SILKWAY WEST AIRLINES

Azerbaijan's link to the global market



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## EDITORIAL

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Middle East, Africa, Asia & beyond

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# Editor's Note

## Rising up to humanitarian challenge

Tragedy struck in the Caribbean, Texas and Florida in the United States in August and September, when catastrophic hurricanes and storms ravaged them successively, leaving hundreds dead, millions displaced, billions of properties and infrastructures damaged and lives turned upside down in an instant.

Puerto Rico, the latest casualty of a strong storm, is now facing a humanitarian crisis as efforts to help the survivors drag on. Restoration of power and water supplies in that US territory in the Caribbean could take at least six months, according to experts, leaving millions of residents in limbo.

Bangladesh, meanwhile, is swamped with more than half a million Rohingya Muslims who fled Myanmar to save themselves from military aggression apparently on an ethnic cleansing mission.

Without much resources, the refugees are also facing a catastrophic humanitarian crisis in an unfamiliar territory, itself reeling from poverty and uncertainties.

Despite its own problems, the air cargo industry still managed to rise to the challenge of helping the displaced, the needy and the sick, young and old women and men, and vulnerable children, as the international community gathered pace to send in much needed relief in the Caribbean, the hurricane-ravaged states in America and the Rohingya refugee camps.

Different all-cargo airlines and even commercial passenger flights across many parts of the world were immediately mobilized and used to send in much needed medicines, food and water supplies, tents, clothes and so on to the victims.

And the industry's delicate job of sending hope in tangible forms to different conflict zones and hard to reach areas where lives hang in the balance continues. Timely delivery of cargo aid matters.

In this issue, we have stories of how various cargo airlines rose to humanitarian crisis challenge; how the industry was tapped to transport a weather satellite, priceless masterpieces of art, live animals, precious goods and commodities, and so on.

We'll also bring you insights on how technology is fast changing the air freight industry, logistics and trucking sectors, with even aviation fuel about to be changed with experiments on oil-rich plant getting breakthroughs in the United Arab Emirates.

These and more in the latest edition of **Air Cargo Update**.

**Gemma Casas**  
Editor



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# The LOUNGE

## The musical genius behind Munich Airport's melodious success

With 42 million passengers welcomed at Munich Airport in 2016, it is no undeniably one of the busiest in Europe and all indications point to greater foot traffic in the coming years.

It has embraced modern technology to run smoothly its systems and day-to-day operations with the help of about 9,000 skilled men and women who work day and night at the airport.

Behind this workforce is the bespectacled Dr. Michael Kerkloh who has been at the helm of modern and other inspiring innovations at Germany's enviable airport, which Skytrax has consistently awarded with the coveted Five-Star Airport accolade, the only one in Europe.

Dr. Kerkloh happily interacts with everyone at Munich Airport unmindful of his status and even sacrifices his own feelings to promote harmony where necessary.

Case in point: He personally welcomed and congratulated the FB Bayern Munich team when it won the Champion Leagues Finals in 2013 despite being a die-hard Borussia Dortmund fan.

In an interview with **Air Cargo Update**, Dr. Kerkloh shared he began his career in the aviation industry in 1995 at Hamburg Airport after earning his economics degree and doctorate in political science.

With now more than 22 years of solid industry experience, there is no doubt Dr. Kerkloh is a force to be reckoned with, with strong commitment to push for reforms when necessary.

Apart from putting Munich Airport in an enviable position,



**Dr. Michael Kerkloh**

President & CEO, Munich Airport

Dr. Kerkloh's most recent legacy is successfully hurdling legal obstacles to the proposed third runway at the airport.

"Believe in what you do and never give up – these are my principles especially when it comes to our next crucial project for the airport's and the region's future: the construction of a third runway," said Dr. Kerkloh when asked about his view on failures and business principles.

"The construction of the third runway, which has been officially approved and has overcome all court challenges, is now waiting for approval by our shareholders," added Dr. Kerkloh who was also named in July as president of Airports Council International (ACI)-Europe.

Whenever he finds time, the personable aviation executive uses it to meet up with friends, go for sports or create music.

Yes, behind Dr. Kerkloh's serious demeanor is a musical lover who plays with a band, write songs and regularly going to concerts.

"When I have some free time, I am happy to meet friends, go for sports or make music. Music plays an important role in my life – I play together with a band, compose songs, and go out to various live concerts," he said.

Dr. Kerkloh even found an inspiration to compose a song for Munich Airport's 25th anniversary which is found on YouTube.

"Music also plays an important role at my work place – Munich Airport. I even composed a song at the occasion of the airport's 25th anniversary:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oyFPQwG7au0>.

Further, we produced a lipdub music video with our employees: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-IVAAZ6OWQs>. And last but not least Stefan Aaron composed a Munich Airport song as part of his Orange Piano Tour:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W7cEJqIMMPQ>," he shared.

Dr. Kerkloh's love for music seems to be jelling well with Munich Airport's melodious success.

"At Munich Airport, music is always in the air," he said with a smile.



## DP World buying Dubai Maritime City & Drydocks World LLC for \$405M



**DUBAI:** DP World Limited is buying Dubai Maritime City (DMC) for US\$180 million and Drydocks World LLC US\$225 million with both transactions expected to close before the end of the first quarter of 2018, the Emirates state news agency WAM announced.

"We are delighted to make these acquisitions which further strengthen the Group's maritime services and port related businesses. As a global trade enabler, we have been targeting a broader strategy to grow complementary sectors in the global supply chain such as industrial parks, free zones and logistics adding further value for all our stakeholders," said Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem, DP World Group Chairman and CEO.

DMC is a world-class maritime service facility and industrial business park adjacent to DP World's Mina Rashid, extending up to 2.3 million sqm on a manmade peninsula and provides Economic Zones World FZE additional land as an alternative to the highly-occupied Jebel Ali Free Zone.

Drydocks World, on the other hand, is the largest shipyard in the Middle East. The business delivers stable ship and rig repair revenues and has specialist capabilities in niche ship newbuilds and conversions.

Drydocks' acquisition will integrate well into P&O Maritime (POM), which is DP World's 100 percent owned maritime services subsidiary. On a proforma basis, the US\$ 225 million capital injection into Drydocks World represents a 2016A EBITDA multiple of 8.0x.

The acquisitions are expected to be earnings accretive from the first full year of consolidation. On a proforma basis, DP World's net leverage as of 1H2017 would be 2.9x Net Debt to EBITDA with these acquisitions compared to the reported 2.6x.

"We aim to develop the best-in-class Maritime City serving the needs of the maritime industry and leveraging on our expertise and experience from our ownership of the Jebel Ali Free Zone. We are consequently well positioned to deliver significant value in the medium term," said Bin Sulayem.

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## GLOBAL NEWS

## Turkish logistics industry bounces back with 11 percent growth



**ISTANBUL:** After a volatile 2016, Turkey's logistics industry bounces back in 2017 with 11 percent growth and the government's resolve to create a logistics master plan for the country.

The plan, set to be unveiled at year's end, combines technology and upgrades in the industry to enhance trade with other countries as companies start investing on intelligent solutions with the advent of digitalization and Industry 4.0.

The Turkish Association of International Forwarding and Logistics Service Providers (UTIKAD) said the 11 percent growth in the logistics sector, thus far, is

a good sign that the industry is up for the challenges.

At the upcoming logitrans 2017 happening at the ifm Istanbul Expo Center on November 15-17, exhibitors will highlight opportunities in Turkey's logistics market.

"This positive development opens up opportunities for international logistics specialists to benefit from the rebound in this market. logitrans provides the perfect opportunity for this. For example, to make contacts with major players in the logistics sector," said Gerhard Gerritzen, Executive Board member of Messe München GmbH.

Many German companies value the Turkish logistics market and will be presenting their services at logitrans 2017.

On the German Pavilion supported by the Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy, companies like Dachser, Fährhafen Sassnitz, Logistics Alliance Germany, Schenker, Schmitz Cargobull and Universal Transport are participating.

"We're already active in the Turkish market and in the region through our branch in Istanbul. logitrans is the ideal platform for us to maintain existing contacts and expand our network," said Holger Dechant, Managing Director of Universal Transport.

Harm Sievers, Managing Director of Fährhafen Sassnitz GmbH, adds, "logitrans is a permanent feature on our calendar and we've been able to make many contacts through our long-standing participation. Among other things, one company has established a factory for the production of plastic pipes at our site, as a result."

## Qatar Airways Cargo expands operations to Pittsburgh

**DOHA:** Qatar Airways Cargo will start flying to Pittsburgh with a plan to haul in 200 tons of cargo a week to Europe and the Middle East from Pennsylvania.

The company says Pittsburgh will be its 5th freighter destination in the Americas and cargo will be routed between Doha, Luxembourg, Atlanta and Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh International Airport agreed to provide a one-year financial incentive to Qatar and waived its landing fees in exchange for the deal which Pennsylvania manufacturers see as easing their freight costs in exporting products to the Middle East and Europe.

Before the deal was struck, Pennsylvania businesses rely on trucking their goods to New York or Chicago before it can be flown to other destinations across the world.



Christina Cassotis, CEO of the Allegheny County Airport Authority which operates Pittsburgh International, was quoted in the local media as saying, "It's a game changer for the region."

She explained that Qatar Cargo flights will enable manufacturers in Pittsburgh and nearby areas direct access to the Middle East and Europe, without incurring additional freight or transportation costs.

Once known as the "Steel City", Pittsburgh now exports computer and electronic products, fabricated metal products, nonmetallic minerals, petroleum and coal products.

Pittsburgh was America's 35th largest exporter in 2015 with goods valued at \$9.1 billion transported to its major trading partners such as Canada, India and the European Union.

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# Mai Dubai exports desert processed water to 18 countries

**Swisslog tapped to build \$21 million storage facility as company expands**

*By Gemma Q. Casas*

**DUBAI:** Water is something you would least expect to be exported from a desert but one company in Dubai is doing just that—supplying water to 18 countries with prospects for more clients across the world.

Mai Dubai, the Dubai-based bottled drinking water company, had just signed a \$21 million contract with Swisslog to create a new automated storage and distribution center expected to be completed in the summer of 2018, as demand for the brand grows, Jay Andres, Mai Dubai CEO, told *Air Cargo Update*.

Andres said consumer demand for Mai Dubai bottled water products had exceeded expectations such that new storage facilities for raw

materials and finished products must be created.

“The business was launched based on a feasibility study and within a year, we ran out of capacity because consumers had topped our expectations. Business is good,” said Andres, the company’s first employee. Its workforce had since grown to 800 within just four years.

Mai Dubai currently produces approximately more than 24 million liters of bottled water every month using different filtration process like desalination, reverse osmosis, among others, as well as enriching the water with calcium and magnesium.

These bottled waters are then locally

distributed by 200 trucks on roads across the UAE and GCC. The same are also shipped to Kenya, Pakistan, Somalia, Iraq, Jordan and soon to Asia, Japan in particular.

Up in the sky, Mai Dubai is also consumed among passengers of Emirates flights, among other airlines.

Andres said Swisslog was awarded the contract to build the multimillion storage facility because of its good reputation, ability to execute projects on time and good relations with customers.

“One of the things that we needed was a warehouse solution. Our big bottleneck now is our storage capacity. It’s a big expense to have outside storage. Building our own automated solution will save us in terms of labor capacity and costs and provide scalable solutions that we can grow on,” said Andres in an interview at Materials Handling Middle East Exhibition where Swisslog participated.

## **Each customer is unique**

Alain Kaddoum, Swisslog Middle East general manager, said Mai Dubai’s project will go live in the summer of 2018.

The storage facility will have separate areas for raw materials and finished bottled water products for easy access and mobility.

Additionally, it will be connected to the main production line to speed up







## NEWS FEATURE



Mai Dubai CEO Jay Andres, left, with Swisslog General Manager Alain Kaddoum.

With automation taking over traditional production and manufacturing systems, Swisslog highlighted at the exhibition its ability to create storage solutions using intralogistics technologies. The company also unveiled its latest creation AutoPiQ, a robotics application for picking single items.

“Our mission at the Materials Handling Middle East Exhibition was to enlighten our visitors and potential clients about the concept of gradual growth. We believe in growth which is undertaken intelligently, flexibly, and if business so demands, rapidly. The Middle East region is known for its willingness to adapt new developments and solutions, hence our aim every year would be to raise a level above and showcase our achievements,” said Kaddoum.

the process of transporting both materials and products.

“We are connecting it with the production area with a hanging monorail system,” said Kaddoum. “The main point is we are flexible in our designs in order to fulfill the needs of each customer. For us, each customer is unique.”

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## GLOBAL NEWS

### Cargolux flies high-value horses to Ashgabat for 2017 Equestrian games

**LUXEMBOURG:** Cargolux Airlines International S.A. has safely flown a shipment of high-value horses from Luxembourg to Ashgabat, Turkmenistan in mid-September for the Equestrian Jumping competition at the 2017 Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games.

Working in cooperation with Peden Bloodstock, a charterer specialized in horse transportation, the horses were also safely flown back to Luxembourg after the competition.

The games, which were awarded to Ashgabat by the Olympic Council of Asia in 2010, involved 6,000 athletes and officials from 65 teams. Equestrian Jumping was introduced as an Olympic sport at the Paris 1900 Games.

Relying on the proven support of its handling agent, LuxairCARGO, the experienced Cargolux team used its state-of-the-art HMC horse stalls that offer increased safety and comfort for its four-legged VIPs.

The HMC not only provides higher



stability but its double layer pallet base also reduces the motion feeling for the horses, greatly reducing the stress the animals feel compared to single layer pallets.

Cargolux, a member of the Animal Transport Association (ATA) is a major industry player in the transportation of horses by air. The airline's dedicated team of experts regards each animal as a special responsibility

that has to be treated with utmost care.

With its vast knowledge and experience, gained from worldwide horse transports in over 45 years, Cargolux fully integrates international standards in animal care, treatment and transport. Utilizing the superior HMC stalls, Cargolux sets the standards in transporting valuable horses.

### The flying 'smart warehouse' expands global reach



**FRANKFURT:** The DoKaSch Temperature Solutions GmbH is expanding its fleet of Opticoolers also known as the flying "smart warehouse" with 50 new RAP-containers.

The flying "smart warehouse" only

needs one electrical outlet to fully charge the energy storage after a flight and to ensure that always enough power is available to deal with unexpected events. A full charge, from 50 to 100 percent, can be achieved approximately within two hours.

It was originally developed exclusively for Lufthansa in 2004 but was later made available for other airlines in 2014.

The Opticooler provides reliable transport conditions for shipments across continents and climate zones or during unexpected events, for goods that must be kept within a very strict temperature range.

Now 500 active "Made in Germany" containers are globally available and more units are expected to push ahead with further expansion.

These shipments mainly include

pharmaceuticals such as insulin, vaccines and other bio-pharmaceuticals, but also high-tech equipment.

Equipped with battery powered cooling compressors and heaters as well as a self-regulating temperature control, the internal temperatures consistently stay well within range at any point in the storage area.

Temperatures between 2-8°C or 15-25°C for example can be maintained, regardless of the ambient temperatures, that may vary between -30°C during a Canadian winter or +50°C during a middle-eastern summer.

"We are proud, that our products have proven worthy in the day to day air cargo business and that we can offer our customers an extremely reliable product. We therefore provide a solution to tackle the difficulties in the global cool chain logistic," said Andreas Seitz, managing director of DoKaSch Temperature Solutions.





## GLOBAL NEWS

# UAE poised to produce first ever biojet fuel made from oil-rich plant



**ABU DHABI:** After successfully experimenting with the world's first solar-powered plane—Solar Impulse—that circumnavigated the world, the oil-rich capital of the United Arab Emirates, Abu Dhabi, is about to introduce another first—a plant-based aviation biofuel.

The Masdar Institute of Science and Technology's Sustainable Bioenergy Research Consortium (SBRC) – a non-profit entity supported by Etihad Airways, Boeing, Takreer, Safran and General Electric—announced its Seawater Energy and Agriculture System (SEAS), has reached a critical milestone in its development of sustainable aviation biofuels through the first harvest of the biofuel feedstock *Salicornia*, a local salt-tolerant and oil-rich plant.

The goal is to use the *Salicornia* oil processed at the Takreer Research Center for conversion into aviation biofuel. Once the process is complete, the biofuel will be mixed at low concentration with regular jet fuel to power a flight by Etihad Airways on a Boeing aircraft sometime in February 2018.

Dr. Alejandro Rios G., Director of the SBRC, led a team of Masdar Institute researchers in harvesting the first crop of the biofuel feedstock *Salicornia*, which took place at a two-hectare SEAS pilot facility in Masdar City, where seafood and sustainable biomass are being cultivated using saltwater and desert land to contribute to the UAE's sustainable food and fuel security.



Harvesting the *Salicornia* is the first in a series of steps before the oil collected from its seeds is ready to be refined. The steps include drying and grinding the plants, winnowing out the seeds, extracting the oil from the seeds by pressing, and finally cleansing the oil to remove any impurities.

Dr. Steve Griffiths, Interim Executive Vice President for Research, Khalifa University of Science and Technology to which Masdar Institute is a part, said: "In achieving this key milestone, the SBRC is closer to establishing a truly sustainable model for aviation fuel production using only our local resources. The success of the SEAS pilot facility, and the collaborative research effort that has supported it, exemplifies our commitment to providing sustainable solutions to the UAE's food security and energy needs."

Peter Baumgartner, Chief Executive Officer, Etihad Airways, said: "Alternative sustainable fuels are a key facet in ensuring the future of aviation. This milestone, leading to our first flight on a truly sustainable homegrown biofuel, is a reflection of the

commitment not just of our airline and the SBRC partners but of Abu Dhabi."

Bernard Dunn, President, Boeing Middle East, North Africa and Turkey, said: "This is another critical step in achieving our joint ambition of developing sustainable aviation biofuel. As Abu Dhabi takes ambitious steps in this direction, the SEAS facility is showing solid results that will help make our collective future more secure."

Dr. Mikael Berthod, Vice President, Takreer Research, said: "Takreer, from the beginning of the project, looked forward to this step as the *Salicornia* oil obtained from this harvest will be the feedstock that will be processed in the research center, to produce the first ever biojet fuel 100% made in the UAE."

With this new fundamental step, the dream to produce biofuel from the desert and the sea is now becoming a reality and will allow us to achieve the expected future jet fuel specification."

The SEAS pilot facility has six aquaculture units that use seawater to raise fish and shrimp. The fish farm produces a nutrient-rich effluent, which is directed into the halophyte fields where it fertilizes the oil-rich *Salicornia* plants.

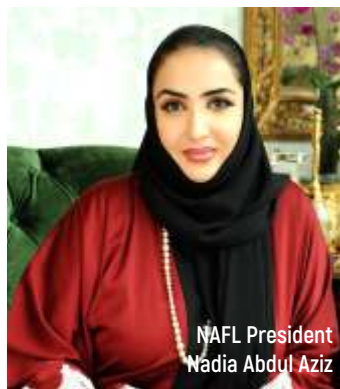
The leftover effluent from the process is then diverted into the cultivated mangrove forests, which further purify the water and remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere while sheltering fish nurseries that live around their underwater roots.

Food security is a challenge for desert regions, especially as populations rise. Close to 70% of the UAE's seafood is currently imported, and SBRC's integrated system, with extensive aquaculture as a key element, will not only support the need for aviation biofuels, but also support growing food demand in a sustainable way.



## GLOBAL NEWS

## Logistics industry to reach \$15.5 trillion by 2020



NAFL President  
Nadia Abdul Aziz

**DUBAI:** The National Association of Freight and Logistics (NAFL) brought the spotlight on the United Arab Emirates as a global logistics hub at FIATA World Congress, the world's largest gathering of international freight and logistics experts and decision makers held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from October 4–8.

UAE is among the biggest contributors to the GCC's logistics sector. With Dubai alone awarding construction contracts worth AED 11 billion this year in preparations for the World Expo 2020 and investing much more toward developing infrastructure and enhancing its logistics facilities in the run up to the Expo, the country offers unparalleled smart

infrastructure facilities for international businesses.

"The UAE's strategic geographic location, ports facilities, strong and modern infrastructure, make it an ideal hub for hosting international events. The vision of our leadership to adopt the latest innovative technologies, introducing latest innovative transport solutions such as hyperloop, flying taxi, make it an ideal location. Our focus for this participation is to further promote the UAE as a hub of logistics and a top destination for international events," said Nadia Abdul Aziz, President of NAFL, the oldest association of freight and logistics service providers in the Middle East.

Globally, the logistic industry is expected to reach \$15.5 trillion by 2025, at an average annual growth rate of 7.5 percent. As business worldwide becomes increasingly borderless, companies are seeking to expand their operations and are seeking efficient and reliable movement of goods across international borders.

During the five-day congress, the NAFL delegation met with global logistics experts to update, brainstorm, share information and talk about ground-breaking issues pertaining to the industry.

Established in 1992, NAFL has been actively working toward ensuring the UAE's leading position and Dubai's pre-eminence in the international freight and transportation fields for the last 25 years.

Earlier this year, NAFL participated in Global Logistics Summit held in Tanzania and Region Africa and Middle East (RAME) conference in Morocco. The Association also signed MoUs with freight forwarders associations in Tanzania and Morocco to work together in promoting efficiency in transit transport and trade facilitation.

NAFL, which has more than 400 members, is a member of FIATA, the International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations, based in Zurich, Switzerland.

## Volga-Dnepr transports new ESA satellite mapping climate data

**LONDON:** The long-term partnership between Airbus Defence and Space and Volga-Dnepr Airlines has ensured the safe and timely delivery of the European Space Agency's (ESA) Sentinel-5P satellite, which will provide air quality and climate data for the entire planet every single day after its launch in October.

Volga-Dnepr, which has been carrying satellites to launch sites around the world since 1990 for leading aerospace customers, says forward bookings for satellite flights for the remainder of 2017 and 2018 reflect a healthy outlook for this highly specialist market.

This year the airline has delivered satellites to the Cayenne launch site in French Guiana, Baikonur in Kazakhstan, Vandenberg in California, and Cape Canaveral in Florida.

The Sentinel-5P satellite was transported in a special container along with support equipment for its An-124-100 freighter flight from London Stansted to Archangelsk in the northwest of Russia. The loading process was accomplished using the An-124-100's internal crane, two



nitrogen purge containers were also used to keep the satellite container topped up with nitrogen.

Weighing six tons, the container measured 5767x2820x2621mm. The cargo was delivered to London Stansted Airport from the Airbus Defence and Space facility in Stevenage, where the satellite was put together and tested. Following its arrival in Archangelsk, the satellite completed the final 250km of its journey by train to Russia's Plesetsk spaceport.

Alexander Kraynov, Commercial Director at Volga-Dnepr Airlines, said:

"Working closely with our partner, Airbus Defence and Space, we have once again demonstrated our expertise in moving high value & highly sensitive satellite technology. The Sentinel-5P will now undergo further tests in Plesetsk over the coming weeks ahead of its scheduled launch on 13 October."

With a swath width of 2600 km, the Sentinel-5P satellite will map the entire planet every day, delivering global maps of air pollutants in more detail than ever before. It will provide timely data on a multitude of trace gases and aerosols affecting air quality and climate.





## CEVA gets 120 new vehicles for UK operations

**ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, UK:** CEVA Logistics, one of the world's largest supply chain management companies, is rolling up 120 new vehicles to its customers in the UK to enhance efficiency and provide better service to them.

The company through a three-year lease with Dawson rentals, truck & trailer in the UK will introduce a series of IVECO Stralis tractor units into its operation this autumn.

"We believe that our customers' deliveries should be undertaken using the most modern and efficient equipment. By adding these state-of-the-art vehicles to our fleet, we will be able to operate with the very best equipment and enable us to manage our customers' supply chains to the highest possible standards," said CEVA's Executive Vice President UK, Ireland and Nordics Michael O'Donoghue.



The new tractors produce greater fuel economy and increase focus on sustainability through minimizing the impact of its fleet on the environment.

The 44-ton gross vehicle weight vehicles are each fitted with sleeper cabs and will be distributed throughout the second half of this year across a number of CEVA's operations, including in the consumer retail, automotive and healthcare sectors.

Dawson Rentals Managing Director John Fletcher said: "Dawson rentals' unique structure means we can react quickly to customer needs. Having understood CEVA's focus on reliability, support and fuel performance, both for economy and environmental reasons, we were able to recommend the right vehicle package, and as importantly, move fast to secure trucks with a very specific spec and mobilize the whole project on time within a mutually acceptable contracted price."



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## GLOBAL NEWS

## Emirates SkyCargo handled over 51,000 tons of pharma cargo



**DUBAI:** Emirates SkyCargo disclosed it handled more than 51,000 tons of pharma cargo globally in one year valued at over \$11 billion as it marks the revalidation of its European Union Good Distribution Practices (EU GDP) certification for pharma operations at its hub in Dubai.

The annual surveillance audit for the revalidation conducted by Bureau Veritas, Germany showed the company handled that much volume since launching the specialized pharma cargo services known as Emirates Pharma.

Pharma volumes it transported between January and September 2017 grew by over 25% compared to the same period in 2016. Some of the main types of pharmaceuticals transported include vaccines, medication for diabetes and cancer, and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs).

The air cargo carrier originally received

its EU GDP certification in 2016 for its operations across the Emirates SkyCentral cargo terminals at Dubai International Airport and Dubai World Central as well as the 24/7 bonded trucking service connecting the two hubs.

This made Emirates SkyCargo the operator of the world's largest multi-airport GDP certified hub with over 8,600 sq metres of dedicated pharma facilities including the purpose built pharma terminal at Dubai International Airport inaugurated in September 2016.

The carrier's original GDP certification in 2016 and the subsequent revalidation this year confirm that Emirates SkyCargo has established and maintained its quality management system in line with the requirements of the GDP standard and also underline its commitment to continued high quality and consistency in the levels of service

delivery for pharma transport.

The carrier's comprehensive range of temperature controlled transport services for temperature sensitive pharmaceutical products offers customers three levels to choose from – Emirates Pharma, Emirates Pharma Plus and Emirates PharmaActive.

These levels have been developed based on a requirement mix based on the temperature sensitivity of the product, the packing solution used and the origin/destination of the shipment.

In addition to a modern fleet of over 260 all widebody aircraft and state of the art cool chain facilities in Dubai, Emirates SkyCargo offers customers a wide range of protection solutions for temperature sensitive pharma.

These include a fleet of close to 50 cool dollies dedicated for pharma shipments as well as innovative Emirates White Cover Advanced and Emirates White Cover Xtreme thermal blankets developed in collaboration with DuPont.

In addition, Emirates SkyCargo also has agreements with major global container rental service providers such as CSafe, DoKaSch, Envirotainer, SkyCell and va-Q-tec offering customers the broadest choice when transporting their shipments.

Emirates SkyCargo is the largest international cargo airline in the world operating a modern fleet of over 260 aircraft including 14 freighters– 13 Boeing 777-Fs and one B747-400ERF.

## DuPont introduces new recycling program for its range of cargo covers

**WILMINGTON:** DuPont Protection Solutions is introducing a new courtesy recycling service for the range of DuPont Tyvek Cargo Covers as part of its commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship in the industry.

The program announced at the 2017 IQPC Global Forum in Chicago will ensure that all Tyvek customers have access to a satisfactory end-of-life solution.

"Shippers have told us they want a dedicated recycling service that is convenient to use and guarantees the product will be recycled in an

environmentally responsible manner," said Linnette Lopez, North America segment manager at DuPont Protection Solutions.

"Our Tyvek Cargo Covers external layer is made of a 100 percent high-density polyethylene (HDPE) and can be mechanically recycled and yet some of it ends up in a landfill often through simple oversight or lack of local processing facilities. The new recycling program is provided to our Tyvek customers at no charge and, depending on volumes, the spent covers can either be picked up from site or dropped off at a local processing

center," she added.

All Tyvek Cargo Covers are included in the program, including the fleece-lined Tyvek Xtreme W50, the silver-reflective Tyvek Solar W20 and the classic Tyvek Solar W10 product.

Reclaimed Tyvek material will be recycled into a high-grade polymeric feedstock for processing into brand-new, high-grade products such as low-maintenance decking boards, durable street furniture, sturdy playground equipment, long-life siding materials and lightweight, easy-to-clean, shipping pallets.



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## CARGO AID

## Azerbaijan, UAE send humanitarian aid for Rohingya Muslims



**BAKU:** Azerbaijan and the UAE have sent humanitarian aid to thousands of Rohingya Muslims who have fled to Bangladesh from Myanmar in recent weeks to escape death and torture from the military.

More than 500,000 are now trapped in the impoverished country of Bangladesh without food and shelter. Many are facing near death from starvation and diseases emanating from their dire situation.

The oil-rich Azerbaijan was among the first countries to send in help to the Rohingyas with the government sending 100 tons of humanitarian aid via Silkway West Airlines.

In a joint statement, the Azerbaijan

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Emergency Situations said President ilham Aliyev ordered the relief goods to be sent to the Rohingya Muslims.

It includes 20 tons of sugar, 10,000 liters each of corn and sunflower oil, 10,000 tons of condensed milk, 10,000 tons of canned beef, 10 tons of pasta, 10 tons of vermicelli and 20 tons of flour.

In Dubai, Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, ordered an air flight to carry UNHCR's emergency aid to the refugee camp of Rohingyas in Bangladesh.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees reported

the cargo aid safely which carries 1,671 family tents worth about AED2.7 million arrived in Bangladesh and were distributed to provide shelter to some 8,355 refugees.

In a statement, the UNHCR's Head of Office in the UAE, Toby Harward, praised the humanitarian response of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid, adding, "We are very grateful to His Highness for his generous support. The UAE, and the facilities at IHC in Dubai, is a critical logistical hub that allows UNHCR to respond rapidly in times of emergency. The country's leadership has repeatedly responded benevolently to the many humanitarian challenges that we face today."

The UNHCR global stockpile in the UAE is the largest global warehouse in the world, and was established in late 2006 as part of the International Humanitarian City, IHC.

Rohingyas continue to flee violence in Myanmar overwhelming the capacity of Bangladeshi refugee camps in Kutupalong and Nayapara.

Tens of thousands of Rohingyas walked through jungles and mountains for days, others in risky voyages through the Bay of Bengal, to escape Myanmar military crackdown against them.

Hundreds have died with some women complaining they were raped by soldiers and their husbands forcibly taken away and killed.

## Maximus Air flies relief mission to Barbados

**ABU DHABI:** The Abu-Dhabi based aviation company and the largest all-cargo airline in the UAE, Maximus Air, flew in vital humanitarian relief to people in the Barbados in the aftermath of Hurricane Irma.

Irma caused catastrophic damage when it swept across the Caribbean and several US states in September.

Thereafter, the airline was tapped to send three relief flights to Barbados, surmounting geographical distance and short notice to accomplish the relief mission.

The airline's commercial team in coordination with the flight operation department and flight and loading



crew successfully dispatched the company's Antonov AN-124-100 plane to Barbados and back three times within the space of a week. The AN-124 – one of the largest cargo planes in the world – is the ideal transport method for delivering outsize cargo over long distances in a timely manner at a short notice.

"We are proud to have been able to put our logistical expertise to the service of those affected by Hurricane Irma," said Mohamed Al Qassimi, CEO of Maximus Air.





## CARGO AID

### FedEx special cargo jet flown to hurricane-ravaged Florida & Caribbean



**MEMPHIS:** More than \$11 million worth of critical aid is in the hands of relief workers in Florida and more than 150 dogs and cats are in a no-kill shelter in San Francisco thanks to FedEx, Direct Relief, Heart to Heart International, the Miami HEAT and the Golden State Warriors.

FedEx Corp. (NYSE: FDX) dedicated the special flight to make the emergency response possible to hurricane-ravaged areas in Florida and parts of the Caribbean.

The FedEx Express MD-10 was loaded in Memphis with medicines and medical supplies to assist Direct Relief's humanitarian efforts for the people and communities affected by Hurricane Irma.

The resources were delivered to community health centers and clinics throughout Florida, in close coordination with the Florida Association of Community Health Centers, as well as to hospitals in Anguilla, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, U.S. Virgin Islands, and British Virgin Islands.

The cargo jet was also carrying more than 4,000 hygiene kits for Heart to Heart International as well as employee relief supplies and generators.

The relief supplies were unloaded upon arrival in Miami, and more than 150 dogs and cats from Miami-area shelters were loaded on board the MD-10. The animals were then flown to Oakland, Calif., where they were delivered to no-kill shelters in the San Francisco area.

"On behalf of our 400,000 FedEx team members, we take great pride in using our global network to deliver hope and help in times of crisis," said David J. Bronczek, president and chief operating officer of FedEx Corp. "We are inspired by the passion of these organizations and their drive to make a difference in the world. All of us at FedEx remain committed to working closely with humanitarian and disaster relief organizations to provide support and deliver supplies to assist those hardest hit by these storms."

FedEx has worked with Direct Relief for more than a decade to deliver medical resources during times of disaster.

"Hurricane Irma's toll on lives and livelihoods in Florida and across the Caribbean has been steep, while at the same time damaging to the health facilities and infrastructure that are essential for recovery," said Thomas Tighe, president and CEO, Direct Relief. "That's why the leadership of FedEx in logistics and transportation is critically important and serves as a lifeline to the people and communities still at risk."

Hurricane Irma also created a pet emergency, with shelters becoming quickly overcrowded due to displaced dogs and cats in hard-hit areas. Members of the Miami HEAT heard about the overcrowding crisis at local shelters and collaborated with the Golden State Warriors to come up with a plan. The NBA teams reached out to FedEx to assist.

### CargoLogicAir and air freight industry act quickly to hurricane impact



**PARIS:** The devastating impact of Hurricane Irma in the Caribbean and Florida and its impact on the region highlighted the vital importance of fast response logistics services to deliver humanitarian aid to the worst affected areas.

In the aftermath of Irma, CargoLogicAir has

so far operated two flights, carrying nearly 200 tons of humanitarian goods to hurricane-affected areas.

Both of the flights were operated by the British cargo airline's Boeing 747-400F on behalf of the French Government. The first flight on 13th September from Vatry to

Pointe-à-Pitre Le Raizet Airport, Guadeloupe, was followed shortly afterwards by the second flight on 16th September. The first flight from France departed within less than 48 hours of the initial enquiry being received.

Dmitry Grishin, CEO of CargoLogicAir, said: "We may still be a relatively new name in the world of aviation but our highly experienced team of air logistics professionals have many years' expertise in the airline industry, including providing a fast response to such situations where humanitarian relief is urgently needed. We anticipate operating several more flights in the coming days."



# SilkWay West Airlines

Azerbaijan's link to the global market

*By Gemma Q. Casas*



“

“Our government gives aviation and cargo the highest priorities. As a small nation, this is very important in economic stability. Without the big support of the Azerbaijan government, we will never be able to achieve what we have in the past few years. Today, we have one of the biggest fleet in the region with the highest capacity.”

- Kamran Gasimov, CEO Silk Way West Airlines





## COVER STORY

Silk Way West Airlines, a subsidiary of Silk Way Group which had grown to 23 companies since it was formed in 2006, offers full-range cargo services, including ground handling, storage and charters to any part of the world.

**A**fter redefining its government structure through a Constitutional amendment in September 2016, the oil-and-gas rich nation of Azerbaijan in the Caucasus region is setting its sight in reforming and further diversifying its economy.

Accelerating reforms to improve the environment for private sector development after the fall of oil prices and cracks in the financial sector globally in recent years require prudent decisions and calculated investments that would yield to tangible results.

26 years since becoming independent from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) after the collapse of the communist regime in 1991, Azerbaijan has successfully written its modern-day history with remarkable success, its economy in particular.







## COVER STORY

"In the economic sphere, we could talk a lot about our achievements, but we can also cite one fact: according to the latest report of the Davos World Economic Forum, the Azerbaijani economy is ranked in 37th place in the world in terms of competitiveness. This is the first place in the CIS and a fairly serious place in the international arena," Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev was quoted as saying in an interview with Sputnik Azerbaijan on the occasion of the country's 25th anniversary in 2016.

"...there are horizons ahead of us, we are confidently moving forward, and I am sure that the next quarter of a century will also be a period of rapid development."

The country has kept its 37th spot in the 2016-2017 Global Competitiveness Index scoring high on macro-economics, education and healthcare reforms.

### Aviation and air freight investments

With aviation and air cargo industries crucial to the country's economic agenda, the government is investing heavily on them.

Azerbaijan launched last month Buta Airways, the country's first budget airline established under the Azerbaijan Airlines CJSC (AZAL), designed to help spruce up Baku's tourism industry.

The government ordered eight Embraer 190 aircraft for Buta Airways which will fly from Baku to Moscow, Kyiv, Antalya, Kazan, Mineralnye Vody, Tbilisi and Tehran. The maiden flight commenced on September 1 and routes to Istanbul and St. Petersburg and from Ganja are scheduled to begin on October 29.

The minimum tariff will be Euro 29 for one-way ticket for all flights.

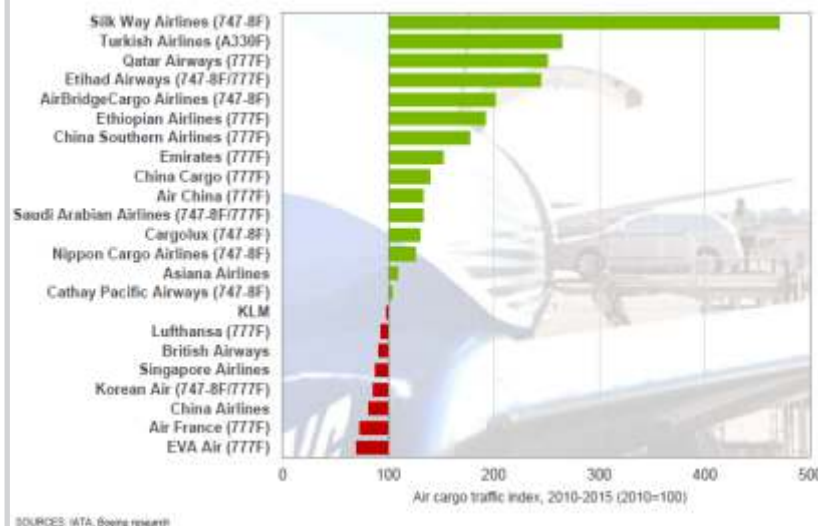
The country's flag carrier, Azerbaijan Airlines, separately flies to more than 20 cities in 13 countries and is considered one of the leaders in the region.

On the cargo side, the government has also poured in support and investments to Silk Way West Airlines, a leader in scheduled and charter cargo flights with a route network to more than 50 destinations worldwide.

Silk Way West Airlines, a subsidiary of Silk Way Group which had grown to 23 companies since it was formed in 2006, offers full-range cargo services,



### Airlines pursuing diverse cargo growth strategies



including ground handling, storage and charters to any part of the world.

The company which has an office in Dubai, home to the International Humanitarian City, the largest humanitarian logistics hub in the Middle East, also transports



**Kamran Gasimov**  
Silk Way West Airlines CEO

international aid for various nongovernment organizations as well as UN cargo intended for relief, apart from dealing with general cargo.

"Silk Way West has extensive experience in areas not serviced by other airlines, such as Afghanistan and Iraq, in addition to regular flights on intercontinental routes that extend throughout Asia and Europe from our centrally located hub in Baku. We work with government and non-government organizations from all over the world to provide dedicated solutions to any request, no matter how complex," the company stated on its website.

On September 24, Silk Way West Airlines launched its first flight out of Hong Kong to Chicago, via a fully loaded Boeing 747-8F plane, the first of the many new routes it plans to open to further grow its network. A second trans-Pacific flight is also being mulled.

Trade relations between China and Azerbaijan continue to improve as

activities in the so-called One Belt, One Road project that connects China to Europe and Asia grow.

Kamran Gasimov, CEO of Silk Way West Airlines, thanked the Azerbaijan government for its continued support to the company since it was established in 2012.

"Our government gives aviation and cargo the highest priorities. As a small nation, this is very important in economic stability. Without the big support of the Azerbaijan government, we will never be able to achieve what we have in the past few years. Today, we have one of the biggest fleet in the region with the highest capacity," said

Gasimov, a veteran in the aviation industry.

In an interview on the sidelines of the four-day Air Cargo Europe held in Munich, Germany early this year, the CEO also noted cargo business in the Caspian region is getting better with e-Commerce picking up in Azerbaijan, Georgia and Russia.

Gasimov said the global aviation and air freight industries, in general, have warmed up with Silk Way West Airlines, thanks to its good track record in providing reliable and fast delivery services.

"This is very encouraging and promising and a great incentive for our

**In its 2016 World Cargo Forecast, Boeing listed Silk Way West Airlines as the top carrier pursuing diverse cargo growth strategies in the world.**

**Silk Way West Airlines currently has five Boeing 747-8 and two more aircraft are scheduled for delivery before the high season kicks in.**

**Trade relations between China and Azerbaijan continue to improve as activities in the so-called One Belt, One Road project that connects China to Europe and Asia grows.**



## COVER STORY

“ICT has a 30-ton and 14-ton scales allowing it to store 2,200 ton or 5,800 cubic meters of palletized cargo. The total cargo capacity of the center is 1,200 tons or 7,000 cubic meters per day, or 430,000 tons or 2.5 million cubic meters per year, the government said.”

Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev checks out the first Embraer 190 aircraft delivery intended for Buta Airways, the country's first budget airline.



people,” he said.

Silk Way West Airlines currently has five Boeing 747-8 and two more aircraft are scheduled for delivery before the high season kicks in.

In its 2016 World Cargo Forecast, Boeing listed Silk Way West Airlines as the top carrier pursuing diverse cargo growth strategies in the world.

#### Investing on facilities

Based out of Heydar Aliyev International Airport, Silkway also boasts of modern cargo terminal facilities through the International Logistics Center spread over 12,800 square meters of land.

ICT has a 30-ton and 14-ton scales allowing it to store 2,200 ton or 5,800 cubic meters of palletized cargo.

The total cargo capacity of the center is 1,200 tons or 7,000 cubic meters per day, or 430,000 tons or 2.5 million cubic meters per year, the government said.

The only one in the South Caucasus, ILC can store and process all kinds of perishables, plants, animals and pharmaceuticals included, that require temperatures from -18 to +20 degrees.

#### Gateway to the world

With good infrastructure and strong investments on areas that promote

socio-economic development, Azerbaijan plays an important role not just on the health of its economy but the whole Caucasus as well as the gateway between the East and the West.

In 2006 and 2007, Azerbaijan demonstrated its ability to become an economic powerhouse in the region with rapid increase in its oil production causing its GDP growth to shoot exponentially.

“Azerbaijan is trying to benefit from regional connectivity initiatives to boost transit and trade. In particular, the country is one of the sponsors of the East–West and North–South transport corridors. Construction of the Baku–Tbilisi–Kars railway line, which will connect the Caspian region with Turkey, is expected to be completed in July 2017,” World Bank said in its latest economic report about Azerbaijan.

“The Trans–Anatolian Natural Gas Pipeline (TANAP) and Trans–Adriatic Pipeline (TAP) will deliver natural gas from Azerbaijan's Shah Deniz gas field to Turkey and Europe. The Government has embarked on reforms that will accelerate banking sector resolution and improve the business environment—critical ingredients for restoring public and investor confidence,” it added.

Italy, Germany, Russia, Turkey and the United States, are the top five trading partners of Azerbaijan, government data showed, with oil and gas exports accounting for about 35 percent of the country's GDP.

Aviation, air freight and other modes of transportation for exporting and importing goods will shape the course of its diversified future economy.

#### In Focus:



# Azerbaijan

- Population: 9,823,667 (2017 estimate)
- Gross domestic product: USD38.58 billion (2017)
- GDP per capita: USD4,032 (2017)
- Gross national income: 1574 billion PPP dollars (2016)

#### Economic Highlights:

- Has the largest agricultural basin in the CIS Region
- With gas reserves estimated at 2.2 to 2.5 trillion m<sup>3</sup>
- On the crossroad of Silk Road belt area
- With vast oil reserves
- Home to Shah Deniz Gas Field, the founding link to the Southern Gas Corridor

Source: World Bank & Asian Development Bank



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# Quest for a greener air cargo industry

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**"Collectively, the industry today is 80% more fuel efficient per seat kilometer than the first jets in the 1960s. With the introduction of more modern and fuel-efficient aircraft such as the Boeing 787s and Airbus A350s, we believe the trend of sustained improvements in our fuel efficiency will continue in the years to come."**

**- Prian Chan, Assistant Manager Sustainable Development at Cathay Pacific**

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**A**viation sustainability focuses on reducing the entire industry's environmental and social impact on the planet while pushing for economic growth. Strategies and investments to achieve this are crucial to guarantee the future of aviation, including the sustainability of the air cargo industry.

Over the next 20 years, the number of freighter planes will increase by 70 percent based on Boeing's latest World Air Cargo Forecast projecting the aircraft in the industry to grow on average 4.2 percent from 2016.

Cargo sustainability, which refers to transporting goods with sensible regard to social, environmental and climate impacts, must, therefore, be seriously addressed.

Cargo sustainability is one of 10 key priorities for the International Air Transportation Association (IATA). Cargo experts at Cathay Pacific, ATS Shipping, Lufthansa and at IATA spoke with **AIR CARGO UPDATE** why sustainability holds the key to the future of the air cargo industry.

#### Driving force

In the last few years, Cathay Pacific's focus has been on climate change and biodiversity issues.

Prian Chan, Assistant Manager Sustainable Development at Cathay, says: "On climate change, we completed our freighter fleet renewal which comprises of Boeing's latest and fuel efficient Boeing 747-8Fs with 14 in our fleet. We phased out our Airbus A340s and Boeing 747-400s in the past year and began receiving our 48 Airbus A350s. We work with airports and air navigational service providers to optimize our operations around the world.

"Recognizing that we have an impact on the destinations to which we fly, we continue to develop and incorporate biodiversity elements into our sustainable development strategy. We work with industry associations, conservation organizations and academia in regularly reviewing our cargo carriage policy. Over the past few years, we have placed an embargo on shark's

fin, ivory and its related products and hunting trophies".

Lufthansa is constantly working to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and improve the environmental balance.

Bettina Jansen, Lufthansa Cargo Head of Environmental Management, notes, "By 2020, we aim to have a 25 percent reduction in specific CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in comparison to 2005 values. We are continuing to put our environmental strategy into motion across all levels: a certified environmental management system in the air and on the ground, entering into dialogue with science, customers and suppliers, as well as open and honest internal and external communication."

"Between 2005 and 2016, we have been able to reduce the specific CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of our fleet from 549 to 460 grams per ton kilometer transported. This step has meant we have already achieved our 25% goal, at 16.2 percentage points."

IATA's Global Head of Cargo Glyn Hughes says the air cargo industry has a positive social and economic impact on many countries. It carries 6,849 vaccines every day, saving lives.

It transports \$6 trillion in value of goods, representing 35 percent of global trade by value, but less than 1 percent by volume, supporting economies around the world. Over 68 million people today have jobs supported by the aviation industry.

"The future of air cargo can be guaranteed and our planet preserved for future generations only through working towards long-term industry sustainability," said Hughes.

"In addition to working to reduce aviation's impact on climate change,

**“ The future of air cargo can be guaranteed and our planet preserved for future generations only through working towards long-term industry sustainability.”**

**- Glyn Hughes, IATA Global Head of Cargo**

IATA also considers the social aspect and invests in future generations working in air cargo, through the FACE program which recognizes there is an urgent need to invest in people, promote gender diversity, and attract and develop young talent," he added.

Air transport as a whole represents just 2 percent of global carbon emissions. However, IATA recognizes the need to address the global challenge of climate change and has adopted a set of ambitious targets to mitigate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from air transport:

- **An average improvement in fuel efficiency of 1.5 percent per year from 2009 to 2020**
- **A cap on net aviation CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from 2020 (carbon-neutral growth)**
- **A reduction in net aviation CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of 50 percent by 2050, relative to 2005 levels**

An important step towards this was achieved at the 39th session of the ICAO Assembly in 2016, when its member states adopted a global carbon-offsetting scheme for international aviation. ICAO's Carbon Offset and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA) is set to commence with a voluntary period (2021-2026) after which it will become mandatory.

#### Strategies and investments

Sustainability requires an investment from all participants in the cargo supply chain (shippers, freight forwarders, ground handlers and carriers).

Specifically in the case of the environment, IATA Member Airlines are committed to reducing their impact, through investment in technology, efficient fleets, better





## FEATURES

infrastructure and the development of a long-term innovation strategy.

According to IATA, the aviation industry's strategy to reduce environmental impact has four pillars:

- **Improved technology, including the deployment of sustainable low-carbon fuels**
- **More efficient aircraft operations**
- **Infrastructure improvements, including modernized air traffic management systems**
- **A single global market-based measure, to fill the remaining emissions gap.**

Chan notes that in 2016, the airline achieved important sustainability milestones, which will allow them to accelerate their performance in the years ahead.

"We received our 14th and final Boeing 747-8F freighter and operated our first biofuel-powered flight, which was incidentally the world's longest at the time. Sustainable development remains an important part of our brand and proposition to our customers," he says.

### Technological innovation

There are numerous examples of technological innovations contributing to the long-term sustainability of the industry. New Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) are being used to improve the efficiency of scheduling, tracking and tracing, across the supply chain.

Developments in composite materials have facilitated the production of lighter weight equipment such as Unit Load Devices (ULDs). Advances in aerospace technology have resulted in the production of more efficient fleets and engines that can run on biofuels.

Lufthansa Cargo is continuously working to reduce flight emissions. In doing so, they rely on the latest technologies to optimize their fleet on an ongoing basis – for example, the investment in the Boeing 777F.

"This is truly state-of-the-art technology and design. For example, the use of advanced materials, raked

wingtips and powerful engines – all this makes the Triple Seven cleaner, quieter and more efficient. Optimal use in our route network and a high level of capacity utilization also significantly contribute to reducing emissions. In addition, the B777F we use is the quietest cargo aircraft in its class," says Jansen.

ATS Shipping's Global Sales Director Santanu Datta, says: "Air cargo and logistics businesses are also making substantial inroads into environmental sustainability. Many airlines are doing away with older, noisy, fuel-guzzling aircraft in favor of renewed fleets of sleek, modern, fuel-efficient, quieter models, which has invested heavily in a low emissions fleet, has set itself ambitious goals in its Environmental Strategy."

Green modes of transportation

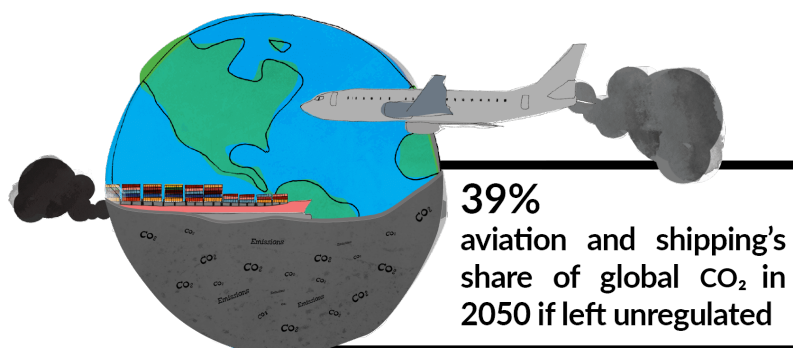
Green modes of transportation refer to the incorporation of new

more general environmental issues, airlines are working together to establish and share best practices, including the use of environmental assessments," says Hughes.

Chan adds, "For example, our ground handling contractor and subsidiary has implemented a GPS tracking system enabling us to efficiently manage the fuel consumption across our ground fleet of vehicles. In 2016, there was a decrease of 2.7 percent in fuel consumption per handled flight in comparison to the previous year. We expect additional improvement in fuel efficiency as the GPS tracking system is expanded."

### A leading indicator

Transport and logistics inevitably use fossil fuel as their primary energy source to move goods and services across global supply chains and distribution channels. As carbon is the leading source of emissions from the



technologies such as electric vehicles and other advanced usage of technology. It also takes into account planes that have a lower impact on the environment, such as reduced noise pollution, increased fuel efficiency, and less CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

Airlines are united in their determination to manage and reduce their impact on the environment in partnership with airports, air navigation service providers (ANSPs), and aircraft manufacturers.

"Tackling carbon (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions is at the top of the agenda, and the industry has a well-established strategy and globally agreed targets to that end. Noise is addressed through the ICAO Balanced Approach. To deal with

combustion of fossil fuel, the amount of carbon emissions released and its relative intensity are good indicators of efficiency.

"CO<sub>2</sub> emission is the lead impacting factor in transport and logistics as it has a direct impact on environment. It's found that to move a 5 Kg parcel, a less energy-efficient vehicle can emit 12 Kg of CO<sub>2</sub>. So, one can imagine the task we all have as an industry player to work towards this and improve for a sustainable society," said Datta.

By the end of 2013, Lufthansa replaced all AKE aluminum containers by a lighter weight container, which on average saves 14 kilograms. The resulting CO<sub>2</sub> saving, some 7,000 tons a year is a real win for the environment. Currently, all AKH



container models are being replaced. The end goal is to replace all standard containers by 2020 using lighter materials.

#### **Negative impact**

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), aviation (including cargo and passenger) accounts for approximately 2 percent of global emissions from human activity.

As aviation grows to meet increasing demand, the IPCC has forecasted that by 2050, this could rise to 3 percent. At the same time, the combustion of non-renewable fossil fuels produces other air pollutants that may affect the health and well being of living organisms.

"To meet the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels as agreed by the Paris Agreement, it is critical that all industries, including transportation, play a role in reducing emissions and improving carbon efficiency," said Chan

#### **Is sustainability on a run?**

Sustainability is a journey and not a destination. The aviation industry already has more green freighters through more efficient technologies: each new generation of aircraft is on average 20 percent more fuel efficient than the model it replaces and over the next decade airlines will

invest \$1.3 trillion in new planes.

Planes are also more silent than ever before. The aviation industry measures and records its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and is preparing for CORSIA, the global market based measure to offset carbon emissions.

In air traffic management, flights operations are improved with more efficient landing and departure methods. Specifically in freight, Unit Load Devices (ULDs), which carry cargo items in the planes, are lighter and improve fuel efficiency. E-freight is well underway, focusing on a paperless transportation process in air cargo.

"We are looking forward to seeing new technologies enter the market to make air freight even greener. The arrival of drones can be a new future for a greener air cargo, with more sustainable technologies, energy sources, and flight operations. Drones in the future can be used for all kinds of delivery (long-range, to short-range, small size deliveries, to large cargo loads), and the impact they will have on the environment seems to be low from what is currently being presented in the market," said Hughes.

"Solar impulse has shown the aviation industry that solar power can be an option in the future as well. Look at how far we've come in only 100 years of aviation. We need to continue thinking ahead, securing the future,

and creating value for a sustainable air cargo industry. The future looks green for air cargo," affirms Hughes.

"We are beginning to see greener freight transportation through various initiatives being implemented or have been rolled out at individual airlines and across the industry to improve the sustainability of air cargo with more to come.

"Collectively, the industry today is 80% more fuel efficient per seat kilometer than the first jets in the 1960s. With the introduction of more modern and fuel-efficient aircraft such as the Boeing 787s and Airbus A350s, we believe the trend of sustained improvements in our fuel efficiency will continue in the years to come," responds Chan.

"It's already happening in various part of the world. Platooning vehicles by using smart radar systems using road-train, using electric vehicles for cargo pick-up and delivery, re-sizing the vehicles, using efficient fuel, replace traditional carriage by more modern fleet, usage of paper-less systems, periodic and genuine maintenance of vehicles, using smart technology with less handling and interface...and the list can keep adding on. Awareness towards the goal is important and this need to percolate down to the last person in the chain of logistics biz... and then days won't be far to achieve a better and greener environment," concludes Datta.





# The delicate business of transporting live animals

**"Air transportation can be extremely stressful for animals and we try our best to minimize this & make sure that everything goes as smoothly as possible. That means tight coordination between all the actors in the supply chain to ensure that all the i's are dotted & the t's are crossed and a lot of active liaising before, during and after any movement." - Coyne Airways CEO Larry Coyne**

Transporting animals is an age-old practice and today's modern, tech-savvy world allows them to be transported in the most humane, safe and secure manner.

Carriers describe this role as "very challenging" with the obligation to take into account that all species are different, needs specific attention, storage and handling conditions.

With animal lovers finding it easier to shop around online for pets—be it dogs or cats—and flying them over, the demand for transporting live animals is increasing.

All airlines—commercial passenger or cargo—that allow live animals on their flights follow strict guidelines in transporting them.

We spoke to a couple of airlines to find out what goes on behind before and during the transportation of animals.

American Horse Council reveals that at present there are 9.2 million horses across the US involving approximately 4.6 million people as horse owners, care takers, employees and volunteers.

According to the council, this industry has direct impact on the economy of \$39 billion and if other factors such as suppliers, spending by spectators is taken into account, it may exceed \$102 billion.

Hungary, a traditionally livestock exporter country, especially of horses, cows or sheep, now found new market opportunities for horses in China as the country's appetite for breeding horses grows.

## Pets and livestock

The most commonly transported animals by all airlines remain cats, dogs, live lobsters and crabs, including day-old chicks, horses and some zoo animals such as wolves, leopards, cheetahs, etc., except for brachycephalic or snub-nosed breeds, which cannot be transported due to issues involved with their breathing.

Coyne Airways has transported more sheep and cattle with quite a lot of working dogs, and also exotic animals in connection with the repopulation of Georgia's Tbilisi Zoo after the devastating flood that hit in 2015. The airline is also seeing surges in animal movements around major holidays and festivities.

Budapest Airport transported a total of 3,000-4,000 animals so far in 2017. Half of them were smaller animals, such as cats and dogs that were transported





to different countries all over the world. The other half was covered by special charters transports.

Jozsef Kossuth, Cargo Manager, Budapest Airport, said: "Special charters included the transport of cows to the Middle East and Russia, calves to Tel Aviv, and even a baby hippo with the help of Emirates Airlines, in addition to the 14 racehorses that were transported in the cargo hold of Cargolux's modern Boeing 747-8F; animals of this size can only be transported by air over such long distances, and only on board large aircraft types."

### Animal transport regulations

Regulations and global standards such as the IATA Live Animals Regulations (LAR) ensure the transport of animals by air is conducted in a safe, humane and cost-effective way.

All the details of handling, feeding, watering, health and hygiene, personal supervision, information and protocols for the flight crew, are very well regulated. If staff is well trained and all the instructions are followed, the transport is no less comfortable for the animals than for the normal passengers.

Kossuth responds, "Our cargo handling companies organize the transport in line with international and local live animal regulations. The animals spend the minimum time necessary at the airport before being boarded on the aircraft."

Coyne Airways CEO Larry Coyne said, "Air transportation can be extremely stressful for animals and we try our best to minimize this and make sure that everything goes as smoothly as possible. That means tight coordination between all the actors in the supply chain to ensure that all the I's are dotted and the t's are crossed, and a lot of active liaising before, during and after any movement."

"For example, we spend quite a lot of time with clients making sure that they understand the relevant requirements and concerns for transporting animals, and we also engage the relevant ground handlers and crew at an early stage so that they are well-prepared. On the actual day, our Operations Supervisors perform final checks and go through a series of checklists to cover a variety of things from documentation to ensuring there is not a major swing in temperature for the animals on their journey."

Emirates Senior Vice President Cargo Operations Henrik Ambak noted, "The transportation of live animals requires expert and sensitive handling with full

compliance with the rules laid down in national laws, IATA's (LAR) and other regulations such as (CITES). When it comes to actual shipment, various considerations also need to be taken into account, from the type of animal, breed, age and possible temperature requirements."

In 2013, Etihad Airways became a member of the International Pet and Animal Transportation Association to strengthen its position as an accredited airfreight carrier of live animals, which recognizes the airline as a responsible carrier at an international level. The airline is also committed to compliant with the rules and regulations related to import and export of live animals worldwide, including IATA's (LAR).

Furthermore, the airline is also a member of the UK Pet Scheme, allowing the carrier to carry pets from both London and Manchester.

### Temperature specifications

Most airlines follow three types of temperature zones which vary between 2°C and 25°C. While many of the animals feel comfortable at temperatures ranging between 15-25°C, some animals like lugworms or certain types of reptiles require their environment to be kept a little cooler.

For the transportation of live tropical birds, hatching eggs and horses, Luxair Cargo follows the requirements of the shipper and carrier, as different types of temperatures are required for their transportation.

David Kerr, Vice President Etihad Cargo, noted, "Temperature requirements vary from animal to animal. We ensure that animals are kept within the appropriate temperature-controlled environment, from the pre-flight storage facility at our hub in Abu Dhabi, or onboard one of our freighter or passenger aircraft."

According to Emirates Airlines, the following temperatures specifications are mostly derived from IATA's LAR and are followed to the letter when transporting live animals on their aircraft.

Dogs	15 - 25 degrees
Cats	18 - 22 degrees
Gazelle	15 - 25 degrees
Lion/Tiger	20 - 29 degrees
Guinea Pigs	15 - 25 degrees
Laboratory mice	15 - 20 degrees
A day old chicks	18 - 23 degrees
Monkeys	18 - 30 degrees
Kangaroo	20 - 25 degrees

### Special Training

Patrick Silverio, Luxair Cargo's Special

Handling Manager, said, "All our staff receive deep training by independent trainers as well as from the Veterinary Authorities. Most of our dedicated staff have already animal experience in their previous jobs be it a farmers or in animal protection tasks."

"Due to the variety of animals that the airline carries, we ensure that our ground handling teams are knowledgeable about the requirements, as this is a specialized area of cargo transportation," said Kerr. "In line with the IATA rules, all personnel involved in any aspect of the booking must be IATA's LAR certified."

"This means that all our personnel have attended and successfully passed a three-day training course with IATA, ensuring they are equipped with the appropriate skill sets & understanding to work in this area of the business. We also work with experts. Take horses for e.g. we work with their trainers and owners to ensure we can meet the specific requirement of that particular horse. The success of this area of the business has been built through adding the personal touch that the owners want."

### Safety precautions

AirBridgeCargo supplies special containers, including horse stalls and kennels, to ensure the comfort and safety of animals during loading and unloading and, of course, the flight. Special ground handling facilities are also available at majority of their online stations.

Air Bridge Cargo's General Director Sergey Lazarev, said, "Aside from our proven expertise in safely transporting live animals, another key reason why customers choose ABC is the quality and capability of our modern Boeing 747 fleet. Our latest 747-8F aircraft provide four independently controlled temperature zones which enable us to create separate environments with a range of +4 to +29°C. This helps us to ensure we create the most comfortable temperature onboard the aircraft for the live animals we are carrying."

In addition, the cargo carrier also provides the possibility for cargo attendants to accompany live animals onboard.

### Carrying specifications

The animals are usually transported in pallets and crates, in line with International Air Transport Association's (IATA) Live Animals Regulations (LAR), the worldwide standard for transporting live animals by commercial airlines.



## FEATURES

Air Bridge Cargo's Sergey Lazarev said, "We have a special product 'abc Care' for live animal movements and it is delivered by live animal specialists in the airline. We now have more than 10 years' experience of safely transporting a wide variety of live animals for breeding programs, conservation projects, sporting and entertainment events. All of the services we provide fully comply with IATA's AVI live animals regulations and our special advisors are on hand to liaise with each customer to provide the help and support they need, and to answer any questions they have regarding the transportation process.

"At ABC, all live animal bookings are given the highest priority during the booking and cargo loading processes. This aims to ensure the shortest possible transit times and protects the welfare of animals to ensure their journey is as timely and comfortable as possible, both on the ground and in the air. We also work closely with local airport authorities and our ground handling partners so they are aware of each shipment and the need for a smooth handling process."

Martyn Griffin, Sales Manager, Coyne Airways, notes, "The animals are delivered just a few hours before the flight to reduce the time they spend in the cages and in the warehouse, and everything is ready for when they arrive so they board quickly. Like flying first class."

Coyne says proper and appropriate cages are key to ensuring the safe transport of live animals. The cages should always be strong, properly ventilated, leakproof and escape-proof, for the good of the animals, the crew and the aircraft.

"However, the same cages cannot be used for all species: some animals must be transported individually, and others may be transported in groups. When animals are transported in groups in the same cages, care must be taken to ensure that only animals of the same species, sex, size and weight are loaded together. It is also important to ensure that the cages are not overloaded, which may reduce airflow to the animals and also affect the cages' ability to withstand turbulence, and take-off and landing," he said.

"We take care in considering where on the aircraft the cages are loaded: for example, we would not place cages with predator and prey next to each other, nor would we tempt fate by placing sexually mature male and female animals in close proximity. We

also try to ensure that animals are loaded last and offloaded first to minimize their time on the aircraft, and indeed in transit generally," he added.

Given the growth in live animal exports, Budapest Airport plans to build facilities dedicated specifically for animals in the new cargo base to be constructed over the coming years.

Thus, in a few years' time, it will be possible to fly almost any animal requiring special treatment or care from Budapest Airport, to any part of the world, according to Kossuth.

"We are in the process of transforming our cargo facilities as part of BUD: 2020 Development Program, which will help us to cater for the expanding live animal export market," he says.

ULD management specialist Jettainer recently announced it is expanding its leasing services by providing comfortable transport boxes at short notice. The special ULDs can be leased for one day or up to several months. A wide variety of ULDs can be leased from Jettainer at times of peak demand via its 24-hour hotline.

The stables are now available for transporting the elegant four-legged creatures above the clouds from the JettHub in Frankfurt – and, if required, from any other destination around the globe.

The special design of the horseboxes, which can transport up to three animals, not only makes it easy for the animals to enter with its particularly broad ramp, but it also has an adjustable partition in the upper area that provides ideal visual protection between the horses. Modern polymer materials inside the box and a non-slip stand ensure that the animals can travel without injuring themselves.

If the horsebox has to be returned empty, it can be collapsed using a foldable 'drop top' and transported on the lower deck to save space. This means that the flying horseboxes are not only safe and comfortable for the animals, but are also efficient and save space when being handled.

"We're noticing a huge demand for flying horseboxes and can now offer our customers flexible leasing concepts that are even better tailored to their needs," says Martin Kraemer, Head of Marketing & PR at Jettainer, explaining the latest development.

#### Animal protection

With the latest moves by many airlines around the globe to ban the carriage of hunting trophies and endangered species, many are now adopting a strict

ethical cargo policy identifying shipments not acceptable for carriage.

Volga-Dnepr Group continues to strongly support the programme to reintroduce endangered Przewalski horses in the Ural steppe of Russia by ensuring a safe delivery of the latest 14 horses from the Hortobágy National Park in Hungary recently.

The horses each travelled in their own special horse stall onboard a Boeing 737-400SF freighter operated by Atran Airlines, the Group's regional and express cargo airline, in cooperation with Volga-Dnepr Airlines and AirBridgeCargo Airlines.

The temperature in the cargo cabin was maintained at a comfortable 18–20°C for the four-hour nighttime flight from Budapest Ferenc Liszt International Airport to the city of Orenburg on the steppe beyond the Ural Mountains. Experts from the national park were on hand to ensure the well being of the horses during the loading process and on arrival in Russia.

Przewalski horses are one of the rarest and most endangered subspecies of wild horse on the planet and had become extinct in their original habitat, the Central Asian and Mongolian steppe.

With the support of the Hortobágy National Park, which currently has a herd of 380 Przewalski horses on a protected area of 2,400 hectares, they are slowly being reintroduced into the Orenburg nature reserve.

Emirates SkyCargo is very cautious as to what they carry on their aircraft. The list of prohibited animals on the aircraft include: dogs (aggressive fighting breed), elephants that are below 5 years old age, pigs, poisonous snakes (zoo-zoo transfer only) and primates (zoo-zoo transfer only).

The airline also does not carry shark fins and hunting trophies of CITES I listed animals, including rhinos, elephants, leopards and lions.

Etihad Airways adheres to IATA's regulations pertaining to animal handling and acceptance. These rules include guidance on kennel specifications, medication, state variations and many other areas of the process.

The airline also adheres to regulations protecting endangered species and overall animal welfare as covered under CITES. It does not accept live animals intended for use in scientific research. In 2015, the airline took the decision to not accept the carriage of hunting trophies using animal products.





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CHHATRAPATI SHIVAJI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT MUMBAI



# India's air freight industry pins hope on technology to speed up process

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) says air freight handled at Indian airports grew more than 20 times from 0.08 million metric tons in 1972-73 to 2.5 million metric tons in 2014-15, with compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 8.8 percent from 2013 through 2017.

With more than 1.3 billion people, India's domestic market is considered one of the world's biggest.

And its potential for economic growth is getting bigger and so are industries driving business activities like air cargo.

Now ranked as the world's 6th largest economy and the third largest in terms of purchasing power parity, India's cargo volumes are projected to grow by 10 million tons by 2027, according to a 2016 National Civil Aviation Policy report.

The Airports Authority of India (AAI) reported air freight handled at Indian airports grew more than 20 times from 0.08 million metric tons in 1972-73 to 2.5 million metric tons in 2014-15, and its compound annual growth rate (CAGR) was 8.8 percent from 2013

through 2017.

But officials all agree the country has to initiative more reforms to enhance and speed up activities in the air cargo industry which plays a vital role in propelling economic development in any country.

Airlines, air cargo terminal operators, ground handling service providers, integrated express service providers, forwarders, domestic cargo transport service providers and custom brokers are the key players in the entire air cargo supply chain.

## Reforms needed

Measured in million ton-kilometers, World Bank data showed air freight transported by India went up from 96.3 million ton-kilometers in 1970 to 1,833.8 million ton-kilometers in 2015.

Forecast of air cargo volume for India

suggests that the domestic and international air cargo output is expected to grow by eight to 10 times the present level in the next 20 years.

Catering to the growth of this magnitude would involve expansion of infrastructure facilities, simplification of procedures and adoption of Information technology/automation besides development of human resources in the sector.

## Committee on ACCS

To accelerate air cargo growth, the Ministry of Civil Aviation had set up a Committee on Air Cargo Community System (ACCS) composed of various stakeholders, including customs authorities, and it was decided to grant approval to AAI for appointment of consultant to prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the development of a

**Dr. Renu Singh Parmar**

uniform and integrated web-based ACCS in the country, based on the Committee's recommendations.

Dr. Renu Singh Parmar, senior advisor at the Ministry of Civil Aviation, said India as one of the fastest growing large economies of the world, has its air cargo industry poised for significant growth thanks to the landmark government initiatives like "Make in India".

But in order to support sustainable growth, it is of paramount importance that right physical and digital infrastructures are put in place in the country to facilitate ease of doing business.

The air cargo logistics industry has several stakeholders vis-a-vis exporters, importers, freight forwarders, customs brokers, customs, security agencies, airlines, airports, ground handling agents, bonded truckers, transporters, ramp agents, courier & express operators, chambers of commerce, etc.

According to the International Aviation Transportation Authority (IATA), each air cargo shipment on average carries around 30 types of documents and well over 100 copies, thus, resulting into significant documentation overheads, increased dwell times and supply chain opaqueness.

#### **'Ease of doing business'**

To facilitate the 'Ease of Doing business' in India, Dr. Renu said there is an urgent need to put in place an electronic platform to digitize interactions among key stakeholders.

This electronic platform can allow the reusability of data, thereby, eliminating duplicate data entry, reducing unnecessary paperwork by giving authorized access to data to relevant supply-chain stakeholders as well as providing visibility, reducing inventory and other transaction costs related to the cargo movement.

Dr. Renu said the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) understands this need to have a single window for air cargo community which will interface with Indian Customs single window and facilitate seamless movement of goods and information.

#### **Bringing down transaction costs**

One of the issues that the ACCS committee addresses is how to bring down transaction costs in India which are amongst the highest in the world.

To bring efficiencies, the ACCS was set up. Currently, some airports/cargo agent's association have created their own cargo community systems for stakeholders with varying EDI capabilities that facilitates information exchange over air cargo logistics value chain.

However, in the current system there is lack of efficiency, transparency and consistency across the supply chain, which results in several pain areas for the different stakeholders.

The information exchange is many-to-many resulting in complex/duplicate processes. Further, there is no uniformity for message interface, data harmonization and end-to-end tracking.

#### **Single window system**

The Committee said a Single Window system for uniform interface between all the stakeholders of the country's air cargo community using international standards is highly desirable as in the current system there is lack of efficiency, transparency and consistency across the supply chain, which results in several pain areas for the different stakeholders.

The Committee recommended that UN/CEFACT Model 2 i.e. "Single Automated System for Collection and Dissemination of information via interfaces with existing systems" be used for the ACCS.

In this model, there is a single system that collects, converts and disseminates digital data about shipments and the data has to be submitted only once by trade which gets disseminated.

The existing systems can be interfaced in this model and new requirements would be built-in/integrated directly in the ACCS.

As regards funding options for ACS, the committee said the ACS will be a very

critical system for the future of air cargo growth in India. The implementation of the same shall be well planned and done in phases. The system shall be made self-sustaining and the mechanism/modalities for the same may be decided by the Core Committee/Governing Council.

The Committee suggested bringing on board a reputed consultant with requisite experience of Indian/global air cargo industry to prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) and based on the agreed scope of services, the funds requirements shall be identified.

The ACCS is going to be a single window electronic platform for all stakeholders of the air cargo value chain to interact with each other digitally thereby eliminating unnecessary documentation, delays, ambiguity on supply chain and improving ease of doing business for the air cargo sector.

Under the e-trade program of Ministry of Commerce and Industries, in a meeting held on 09th of October 2009, it was identified that a web based air cargo community shall be developed for the Indian Air Cargo industry and Ministry of Civil Aviation was appointed as a nodal agency for implementing the same.

Similarly, in 2012, it was decided to set up a Working Group on Air Cargo/Express Service Industry in the Ministry of Civil Aviation to recommend policy initiatives to address important issues considering the long-term perspective and future growth potential in India.

The Working Group was chaired by then Economic Adviser, Ministry of Civil Aviation and represented by members from all the key stakeholders of the Air Cargo Logistics industry in India.

The working group submitted its Report "Air Cargo Logistics in India" on 7th of May, 2012 clearly articulating the need of a common platform for facilitating seamless cargo and information flow.

The NCAP has also articulated the vision for the air cargo industry in India and has set guidelines for key initiatives to be taken in the industry to ensure global competitiveness and sustainable growth of the Indian air cargo industry.

The ACCS will be a very critical system for the future of air cargo growth in India. The government is planning implementation of the same in phases and India should be able to accelerate its air cargo growth soon.





# FUSO e-Canter:

**Demand for sustainable urban logistics will force many companies to switch to greener trucks**

“In times when everybody is talking about electric trucks, we are the first to actually commercialize a series produced all-electric truck. Having a long history in alternative drive-trains, we are proud to step into this new era. Our FUSO eCanter comes with years of customer testing, and the assurance of parts, services, and warranty through our global FUSO dealership network.”

- Marc Llistosella, President and CEO of Mitsubishi Fuso Truck and Bus Corporation and Head of Daimler Trucks Asia.







## TRUCKING

**F**USO e-Canter, the world's first all-electric light-duty truck was launched in New York in September with 500 units up for deliveries over the next two years, signaling the start of the trucking industry's switch for greener vehicles with less carbon emission and operating costs than fuel-powered trucks.

Mitsubishi Fuso Truck and Bus Corporation (MFTBC)—part of Daimler Trucks—the global market leader with truck brands like Freightliner,

UPS said it will use the zero-emission trucks with an eye to moving its fleet toward being more sustainable in doing urban logistics.

"At UPS, we constantly evaluate and deploy advanced technologies that enable sustainable, innovative solutions for our fleet. Electric trucks make our fleet both cleaner and quieter, adding to our already more than 8,500 alternative drivetrain vehicles in service today. We have a long-standing global relationship with Daimler, and we welcome the opportunity to trial the Fuso eCanter as

kilometers on operating costs.

### Intensive research and testing

FUSO says its new electric trucks are a revolution several years in the making: At the 2010 IAA Commercial Vehicle Show in Hannover, Germany, FUSO presented a first prototype of an electrically powered Canter E-Cell, leading into a pre-series production for testing purposes in 2014.

The FUSO eCanter benefits from extensive experience of customer trials conducted in Portugal and Germany



Mercedes-Benz and FUSO—says the electric trucks are up for deliveries this year in the US, Europe and Japan with larger scale production intended to start in 2019.

"In times when everybody is talking about electric trucks, we are the first to actually commercialize a series produced all-electric truck. Having a long history in alternative drive-trains, we are proud to step into this new era. Our FUSO eCanter comes with years of customer testing, and the assurance of parts, services, and warranty through our global FUSO dealership network," said Marc Llistosella, President and CEO of Mitsubishi Fuso Truck and Bus Corporation and Head of Daimler Trucks Asia.

"Our new FUSO eCanter now addresses the increasing global demand for products to meet and exceed high CO2 emission standards. It offers an attractive and cost-effective alternative to combustion engines and makes electric trucks key to the future of inner city distribution," Llistosella added.

### UPS and NYC NGOs first to order

United Parcel Service (UPS) and four prominent NGOs in New York are FUSO's first customers for its newly-launched electric trucks.

UPS continues to realize the benefits of electric trucks," said Carlton Rose, President, Global Fleet Maintenance & Engineering, UPS.

In coordination with the office of New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman, FUSO also will supply a fleet of local zero-emission FUSO eCanter trucks to well-known New York based not-for-profits, including: Wildlife Conservation Society, New York Botanical Garden, Habitat for Humanity New York City, and Big Reuse Brooklyn.

FUSO says the all-electric light-duty truck is MFTBC's answer to the public's need for a zero-emission, zero-noise truck for continuously increasing inner-city distribution.

In addition to being an eco-friendly vehicle, it is cost-efficient and economical for users, as already proved within customer tests in Europe. The FUSO eCanter has a range of 100 kilometers and a load capacity up to three and a half tons – depending on body and usage.

The vehicle's electric powertrain contains six high voltage lithium ion battery packs with 420 V and 13.8 kWh each. In comparison with a conventional diesel truck, it offers savings up to 1,000 Euro per 10,000

with the pre-series vehicles between 2014 and 2017.

In May of 2017, MFTBC announced its first commercial customer for the new in-line series production vehicle in the Japanese market. Seven-Eleven Co., Ltd. will be operating 25 units of the eCanter in their fleet.

After unveiling the first charging station in Japan and kicking off production at the OEM's factory in Portugal, today's global launch event underlines the commitment of both FUSO and New York State to developing & embracing sustainable and reliable transportation solutions to benefit society and the planet.

After years of research and intensive customer testing, the FUSO eCanter will be fully integrated in the production line for the conventional combustion Fuso Canter truck.

This past July, MFTBC celebrated the start of production of eCanter in Tramagal, Portugal. The production plant will assemble all eCanter vehicles for the European and U.S. markets. The Portuguese government has been continuously supporting the development of the eCanter since the early stages in 2010 until today, and for the future to come.



## AIRLINES

## SAUDIA expands network in Kerala, India



**RIYADH:** SAUDIA expanded its network in India with an eighth destination in Kerala's Trivandrum (TRV) – the airline's latest destination and 88th destination overall.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia now flies five times a week to Kerala capital—three from Riyadh and two from Jeddah, satisfying both religious and business segments as well as

facilitating holidaymakers to the state.

An Airbus A330-300 in a two-class configuration with a total of 298 seats, including 36 in Business Class and 262 in Economy Class, are used on the routes.

In addition to Trivandrum, SAUDIA flies to the following cities in India: Kochi, Hyderabad, Delhi, Bangalore, Lucknow, Mumbai and Chennai.

The maiden flight SV 756 touched down in Trivandrum at 12:15 hrs local time on October 1 and received a ceremonial traditional water salute.

His Excellency Dr. Saud Mohammed Al-Sati, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's Ambassador to the Republic of India; the Governor of Kerala State; and airport authorities expressed their

delight in the start of the new operation, a further reinforcement of the existing close ties and excellent relations between the two countries.

Director General of Saudi Arabian Airlines, His Excellency Eng. Saleh bin Nasser Al Jasser commented how the new route will enable further development of the well-established economic ties: "The airline continues to expand its network to include routes which provide economic growth opportunities benefitting both nations. With the addition of Trivandrum, SAUDIA now counts eight destinations in India among its network of international business cities."

SAUDIA was named the 2017 'World's Most Improved Airline of the Year' by Skytrax at the World Airline Awards at the Paris Air Show this past June.

All next-generation aircraft in SAUDIA's fleet include its inflight entertainment and connectivity system, which includes WiFi services on board, and over 3000 hours of movies, television programs, games, music and more. All entertainment and WiFi facilities are available across every class of travel.

## Oman Air passenger traffic in Malaysia up 46 percent

**MUSCAT:** Oman Air's market share in Malaysia continues to grow with figures showing a 46 percent rise on passenger traffic in 2016 compared to 2015 after the airline doubled its weekly flights between Muscat and Kuala Lumpur.

With 14 flights a week, the 90,000 passenger traffic in 2015 rose to over 132,000 in 2016, according to Muscat's state-owned airline.

The increase was also attributed to Oman Air's code-share partnership with Malaysia Airlines, connecting their guests to an even wider range of destinations across Malaysia, China and Australia.

Oman Air CEO Paul Gregorowitsch underscored their gains in the oil-rich Asian country during a recent visit to

Kuala Lumpur where he met with the media & other industry stakeholders. In India, Gregorowitsch said Oman's open sky air service agreement with the country resulted to a number of new routes and more flights.

The airline now serves 21 weekly flights to Delhi, Calicut and Hyderabad and 14 flights a week to Lucknow. Last month, Oman Air introduced a third daily flight from Mumbai to Muscat, raising the overall weekly frequency of flights to India from 154 to 161.

In Zurich, the CEO said the airline's new codeshare agreement with Germany's Lufthansa Airline resulted to more daily flights from Muscat to Geneva via Frankfurt.

"We look forward to building on our strong relationship with these nations for many more years to come and to boosting the economic and tourism prospects between our countries," said Gregorowitsch.







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## AIRLINES

## Ethiopian Airlines signs up suite of new tech solutions with Sabre Corp.



**ADDIS ABABA:** Africa's largest airline group, Ethiopian Airlines, has renewed its passenger reservations system with global travel technology provider, Sabre Corporation (NASDAQ: SABR), with deals for a suite of new technology solutions to support its continued growth as a world-class carrier.

Consistently posting record profits for the past seven years, Ethiopian Airlines has been using Sabre's technology for its core reservations, network planning and ecommerce

since 2005.

Despite the daunting challenges in African aviation, Ethiopian Airlines has continued with thriving successes and has become the leading Aviation group in Africa, nine years ahead of its 15 years strategic growth roadmap, Vision 2025.

"Our focus towards availing the latest Information Technology and travel system solution is one of the pillars in our long term growth plan, Vision 2025. Consequently, we have made huge investments in Information

Technology to create a seamless passenger experience. Moreover, Sabre's technology partnership and expertise has been invaluable, which is now further flourishing with cutting-edge technology that helps us ensure better customer experience and remain to be an airline of choice among travelers around the world," said Ethiopian Group CEO Tewolde GebreMariam.

Dino Gelmetti, vice president Airline Solutions at Sabre, described Ethiopian as "one of aviation's most compelling success stories, having overcome industry challenges to drive rapid and sustained growth on a continent where profitability in aviation is extremely rare."

The next phase of development for Ethiopian Airlines is in enhancing its passenger experience. Among the new technology that Ethiopian Airlines will introduce is Sabre's Intelligence Exchange. Airlines currently sit on a goldmine of data, yet only use 12% of it to engage with passengers; Intelligence Exchange enables airlines to turn that remaining 88% of data into actionable insights.

## Azerbaijan's Buta Airways aims for more routes

**BAKU:** The oil-rich Azerbaijan's first low-cost carrier, Buta Airways, launched its maiden flight to Georgia's capital Tbilisi on September 1 with a 100 percent passenger load.

Azerbaijani Ambassador to Georgia Dursun Hasanov and representatives of Buta Airways at Tbilisi International Airport welcomed the passengers who got some special treats to mark the occasion.

Buta Airways General Director Jamil Manizade told the media bookings for the succeeding months are good with high demand between Baku to the other former Soviet states.

"We have already sold enough tickets for November. Ticket sale for flights from Baku to Moscow, Kazan, Mineralnye Vody and also Moscow-Ganja flights is now available," he was quoted as saying.



Buta, which means fire, is a subsidiary of Azerbaijan Airlines based in Heydar Aliyev International Airport in the capital Baku.

With an introductory fleet of two Brazilian Embraer E-190, the airline's

initial routes include Baku to Moscow, Kyiv, Antalya, Kazan, Mineralnye Vody, Tbilisi and Tehran. It plans to serve Istanbul and St. Petersburg from Ganja to Moscow starting October 29.

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## AIRLINES

# SaudiGulf Airlines set to fly this month



**RIYADH:** The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is opening up its skies to SaudiGulf Airlines which is set to launch its first flight on October 29 between Dammam and Riyadh.

Subsequently, two flights a day between Dammam and Jeddah will be launched on November 27 using four Airbus A320, all fitted with the latest technology and in-flight entertainment systems, the company announced.

The airline ultimately plans to have as many as seven daily connections on

the route. Its first international flight out of Dammam to Dubai is being worked out.

Tariq Bin Abdelhadi Al Qahtani, Chairman of the Board of SaudiGulf Airlines, thanked the Leadership of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Minister of Transport for its support to the project.

"The primary reason behind the launch of SaudiGulf Airlines is to meet the increasing demand for air transport services in the Kingdom.... The main driver behind the birth of the SaudiGulf

Airlines project was to contribute towards boosting air transport capacity both domestically and internationally, at exceptional service levels for the entire travel cycle," said Al Qahtani.

"The airline will offer a new level of service in the Kingdom, whereby passengers will experience quality and comfort based on the essence of true Saudi Arabian hospitality throughout the entire travel Journey, from booking, to check-in to onboard. SaudiGulf Airlines will be the new national carrier, raising the Saudi Arabian flag high up on the global aviation stage," he added.

Karim Makhoul, Chief Commercial Officer, SaudiGulf Airlines, said the new airline offers quality service and the latest in aviation technology with full on-board connectivity and high-speed WiFi.

"On the ground the experience will include Arabic coffee service at the airport and dedicated ground service personnel," he said, noting that bookings are already accepted online through the airline's website —[www.saudigulfairlines.com](http://www.saudigulfairlines.com).

## Latvia's airBaltic to launch direct flights between Riga & Abu Dhabi

**ABU DHABI:** In codeshare cooperation with Etihad Airways, Latvian airline airBaltic will launch a direct service between the Latvian capital Riga and Abu Dhabi on October 29, 2017.

The four times weekly service will depart from Abu Dhabi at 9:45 in the morning, providing travelers from the U.A.E. and surrounding Gulf countries with excellent and convenient access not only to the Baltic States of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania, but also to the Northern European destinations of Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark and Russia.

To promote the flights and act as the airline's General Sales Agent (GSA) within the U.A.E. airBaltic has selected AVIAREPS, the global leader in tourism, aviation and hospitality representation.

"We are delighted to link Latvia and the U.A.E. with our brand-new Bombardier aircraft. Riga is a notable business and leisure hub in Northern



Europe, attracting millions of passengers every year. In addition to that, our clients appreciate the convenient transfer possibilities we offer to over 60 destinations in Scandinavia, Russia and the CIS," said Martin Gauss, Chief Executive Officer

of airBaltic.

airBaltic is a joint stock company established in 1995 with the Latvian government as the primary shareholder. Its fleet is made up of 30 aircraft with services to 60 destinations.

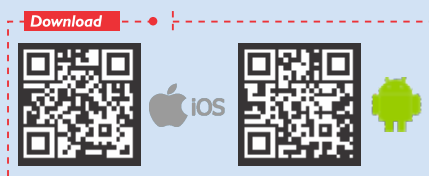
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## AIRPORTS

## Abu Dhabi Airports operating revenues up 26 percent



**ABU DHABI:** Airports at the UAE capital posted a 65 percent increase in earnings before interest, depreciation and amortization (EBIDA)/operating profit from January-August 2017 resulting to a two-digit rise on its operating revenues compared to the same period in 2016.

Abdul Majeed Al Khoori, Acting CEO of Abu Dhabi Airports said the company grew its operating revenue by 26%, which impacted the 65% EBIDA increase for 2017.

One of the key contributors to this increase is the passenger facilitation charge introduced in July 2016.

Previously, UAE airports were some of the few around the world that didn't implement transfer passenger fees. In response to market change, the government approved the charges and hence these were implemented across all airports in the second half of 2016.

Abu Dhabi Duty Free and Abu Dhabi Airports Free Zone were other key contributors to the revenue increase through the growth trend registered in passenger spend, and the addition of new retailers and concessionaires, as well as the increase in property and space rentals across Abu Dhabi

Airports.

"We are very proud of our performance this year. Abu Dhabi Airports' mission and goals revolve around a highly effective and efficient management of resources and manpower to maintain positive trend in profit growth. Supported by planning a smart and versatile strategy, we were able to turn challenges into opportunities and register record achievements in all aspects of our business," said Al Khoori.

2017 has proven to be yet another challenging year for the Middle East aviation industry, with the ripple effect of the Chinese austerity drive, the global political climate, and their influence on commodity and foreign exchange markets. Abu Dhabi International Airports has been affected by these external factors, which have impacted passenger traffic and aircraft movements.

2017 has also seen an 11% increase in the operating expenditure compared to the same period in 2016. These increases are a result of both planned operational requirements as well as a rise in the cost of third party services.

Such requirements included the expansion of air navigation



**Abdul Majeed Al Khoori**  
Abu Dhabi Airports Acting CEO

outsourcing to ensure the airport has adequate resources to handle the dynamic change in traffic movement. Facility management and utility costs have also increased due to service provider fees.

"Abu Dhabi Airports is committed to utilizing all resources and manpower available to increase its efficiency and profitability. I would like to take this opportunity and extend the team's gratitude to our wise leadership, whose continuous support have played an instrumental role in the success that Abu Dhabi Airports is delivering," Al Khoori noted.



## UAE gears up for ultra modern air traffic management system



**DUBAI:** The UAE will introduce a new more sophisticated and modern air traffic management system at Sheikh Zayed Air Navigation Center which provides air traffic control services to more than 2,500 aircraft movements per day.

This came after the General Civil Aviation Authority and Spanish firm Indra Sistemas (Indra) signed a contract

this month for what it termed as the "next generation air traffic management system"—one of the most advanced in the world.

Its specifications and functions are being applied for the first time in the world, ahead of the timelines set forth by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to meet the Aviation System Block Upgrade

modules as identified in the Global Air Navigation Plan.

Once implemented, which is expected to be completed in mid-2020, the project will be a strong pillar of the country's infrastructure and will represent a significant contribution to the advancement of the aviation sector and the country's economy for the next 20 years.

"The General Civil Aviation Authority of the United Arab Emirates has formed numerous strategic plans, to modernize, improve and upgrade the air navigation services. We are working hard with our strategic partners to standardize ATM systems, which will contribute significantly to improve air traffic operations," said GCAA Director General Saif Mohammed Al Suwaidi.

The system will include functions to support and enhance safety and efficiency, with a clear focus on the automation of many processes. It is designed to save fuel and create an eco-friendly aviation system that promotes employment among Emiratis.

## ACI Europe calls on EU to finance more airport and transport projects



**TALLINN:** The European air trade body, ACI Europe, is calling on the European Union to dedicate more funds to improve airports and other modes of transportation in the region to spruce up economic development, especially in the east.

Airport officials underscored the importance of transport investment for Europe's prosperity at last month's Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) Conference held in Estonia's capital Tallinn.

economic growth and social cohesion – this is particularly true of airports.

Many European airports have yet to recover their capital and the high fixed costs associated in maintaining the facilities.

But all agreed that a well-run airport enables the region to be connected to the rest of the world, playing a vital role in attracting foreign direct investment.

They stressed that transport projects with a high societal return do not necessarily generate high financial return on investment, but the wider external benefits that occur bring a virtuous circle of

"While ACI EUROPE joins the wider transport sector's call for more EU budget for transport, we believe that there should also be a fairer allocation of the funds amongst different transport modes," said Olivier Jankovec, Director General ACI Europe.

Under the Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) program, Europe is envisioned to have a smart, overarching and climate-friendly infrastructure plan. Yet, demand for CEF funds exceeds on average 2.5 times the available resources. This means that the completion of the core TEN-T network is at risk and this will ultimately weigh on social inclusion and equality, if it is not resolved.

Decarbonisation is another issue high on the European agenda with the goal of having 100 carbon neutral airports in Europe by 2030. So far, 118 airports in the region have already complied.





## AIRPORTS

## Airports Company South Africa reports US\$150 million profit in 2016



**JOHANNESBURG:** Airports Company South Africa, which owns nine airports in the continent, posted revenue growth of 3.4 percent year-on-year through March 31, 2017, resulting to 10 percent increase on its profits valued at R2 billion (about US\$150 million).

ACSA said its revenues in the year ending on March 31, 2017 grew 3.4 percent to R8.6 billion (about US\$644.234 million) compared to R8.3 billion in 2016.

Return on equity was 11.3% compared to 11.5% in the previous period. Capital expenditure reduced by 31.3% to R893 million.

Bongani Maseko, Chief Executive Officer of Airports Company South Africa, said the company continued to be resilient meeting about 76 percent of its key indicators, despite the sluggish economic growth in Africa.

"The overall financial position of the

Company therefore remains healthy despite regulatory uncertainty and difficult economic conditions. Operationally, we are adapting well to a new tariff regime from the regulator which required a 35.5% reduction for the 2018 financial year with increases in the following two years of 5.8% and 7.4%," said Maseko.

The Company reported a total of 20.0 million (2016: 19.4 million) departing passengers from the nine airports it owns and operates.

While domestic passenger growth was subdued at 2.2%, the Company reported strong growth of 6.1% in international departing passengers.

For the first time, Cape Town International Airport reported a total of more than 10 million arriving and departing passengers, with King Shaka International Airport reporting a total of more than five million passengers for the first time.

Aircraft landing volumes were flat for domestic flights and up by 2.5% for international flights, indicating higher passenger utilisation of scheduled flights.

Maseko noted that Airports Company South Africa has managed to significantly reduce its debt levels over the past five years.

Debt, primarily in the form of bond issues, stood at R9 billion at the end of the period, significantly down from R17 billion in 2012. As a result, the Company's gearing ratio has reduced from 59% in 2012 to 25% in the 2017 financial year.

Aeronautical revenue contributed 63% to total revenue but the Company remains committed to continue to grow the non-aeronautical revenue contribution. Non-aeronautical revenue is derived from sources such as retail space, advertising, office rental, parking and car hire.

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## EXECUTIVE MOMENTS

## Kohnen climbs up as new Managing Director at time: matters



Alexander Kohnen

**FRANKFURT:** Alexander Kohnen has been appointed the new Managing Director Strategy & Sales at time: matters Holding GmbH, effective 15 November 2017.

The 40-year-old succeeds Franz-Joseph Miller, who left the company of his own accord on 1 July 2017. Kohnen has held various management

positions at Lufthansa Cargo since October 2000, most recently Senior Director Industry Development &

Product Management and previously Director Nordic & Baltic Countries.

"We are delighted to have Alexander Kohnen on board. He knows the industry inside out and has everything it takes to further establish time:matters as the leading specialist for same day delivery and emergency logistics," said Dr Alexis von Hoensbroech, Board Member Product & Sales at Lufthansa Cargo.

Lufthansa Cargo took complete ownership of the time:matters group, which specializes in global special speed and time-critical international spare part logistics, in August 2016.

The cargo airline, which spun off time:matters as a subsidiary in 2002, had held a 49 percent share prior to that. Christian Mörtl, previously Head of Aircraft Handling at Lufthansa Cargo, was appointed

Managing Director Operations & Finance at time:matters Holding GmbH on 1 August 2016.

## Swisslog Middle East welcomes new General Manager

Daniel  
Hauser

Alain Kaddoum

"Swisslog is a leading global company that is synonymous with creating effective innovative solutions. Our portfolio consists of various key technologies, such as robotics, ASRS, AGVs, shuttle systems, monorails, conveyors and software to help businesses innovate and maximize their intralogistics potential," said Daniel Hauser, Managing Director Region Central Europe & Middle East, Swisslog WDS.

"Customers who have worked with Alain have been very responsive to his collaborative approach. His passion and deep understanding of the local market makes him the right person to lead

**DUBAI:** Swisslog Middle East welcomes the appointment of its new general manager for Warehouse & Distribution Solutions, Alain Kaddoum, as well as three new members to help bring the robotic and data-driven intralogistics vision to life.

Kaddoum, who has been in the engineering industry for almost a decade, will directly drive and support the sales and business teams, developing strategies to support uptake of the company's robot and data driven intralogistics automation solutions for forward-thinking customers in the UAE.

Swisslog to the next stage of our growth. Since joining Swisslog, Alain Kaddoum has had the opportunity to work with some incredible customers and his nomination will expand our reach across the entire Middle East region."

The three other new team members at Swisslog are: Senior Project Manager John Sassine, a mechanical engineer who will oversee the Mai Dubai project; System Designer Sri Aravindhnan, also a mechanical engineer who holds both a Master's in logistics, and; Yokesh Kumar Sundararaman, PLC & customer service engineer.



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## TECHNOLOGY

# World's firsts from Dubai: Volocopter, the flying taxi & Hyperloop One

**DUBAI:** The futuristic global city of Dubai is about to introduce another world's firsts—Volocopter, the German-made self-flying drone taxi that can fit in two passengers per trip and Hyperloop One, a crossbreed of plane and train with super high speed.

H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, the tech-savvy Arab royalty with 5.7 million followers on Instagram who is also a licensed pilot, personally oversaw the successful September test launch of the Autonomous Air Taxi or AAT which will be introduced by Dubai's Road and Transport Authority (RTA) in the run up to World Expo 2020, which Dubai is hosting.

Sheikh Hamdan described the project as another testament of the UAE government's commitment to explore new opportunities that will bring about positive changes.

"Encouraging innovation and adopting the latest technologies contribute not only to the country's development but also help build bridges to the future," noted Sheikh Hamdan who also spearheaded the launch of Dubai font, the first font named after a city created in both Arabic and English, in collaboration with Microsoft.

Powered by clean electricity with low noise levels, the AAT is an environment-friendly vehicle. Its current prototype version has a maximum flight time of approximately 30 minutes at a cruise speed of 50km/h, and a maximum airspeed of 100km/h.

The AAT is about two meters high, and the diameter of the rotor rim, including propellers, is just over seven meters.

H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai



Bookings to this new high-tech transpo will be made available through a smart mobility app.

Meanwhile, Hyperloop, the world's first high-speed train that could bend distance and time using new magnetic technology to transport people and cargo had successfully passed its first full scale real-world test run.

The UAE government tapped the US-based start-up company Hyperloop One to build the project. Described as a cross between a train & a plane traveling at 375 KPH, it would cut to just 12 minutes the current 2 hours travel time between Abu Dhabi and Dubai when completed in 2020.

This new mode of transport would carry passengers via pods or capsules passing through tubes elevated magnetically. The first commercial operation is projected to happen on or before Expo 2020.

## Estonia unwraps basket-shaped robots for deliveries



**TALLINN:** Skype's birthplace, the tiny former Soviet Union state in the Baltic, Estonia, shut off from the world for decades until the collapse of the communist era in 1991, once again became the envy of the world when it introduced this year its latest innovation—Starship—the high-tech delivery robot shaped in a shopping basket.

Developed by Starship Technologies, the revolutionary

delivery robots began maneuvering their way around the sidewalks of Estonia's capital Tallinn, early this year, delivering groceries, take outs, and whatever fits their weight limit and tiny body.

The invention, which will spare companies of paying labor costs for deliveries, is also slowly being introduced in Britain and other parts of Europe. Companies see them as extremely beneficial, especially during winter, when deliveries could be dangerous for humans. They also save time and manpower requirement.

Work on the robot began as early as 2014 but the six-wheeled "shopping baskets" were only unwrapped this year.

With just a population of 1.3 million, Estonia's domestic market is so small but it has set its sight to the outside world with billions of potential consumers.

From being isolated, Estonia had made tremendous leaps in advancements in technology that it became the first country in the world to enable online voting. Its government has also fully embraced digitalization with kids as young as seven taught how to write computer codes in hopes of creating a smarter future.



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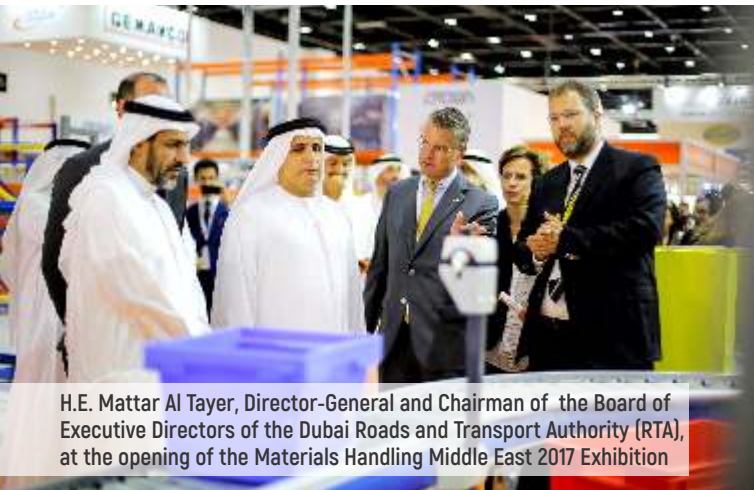


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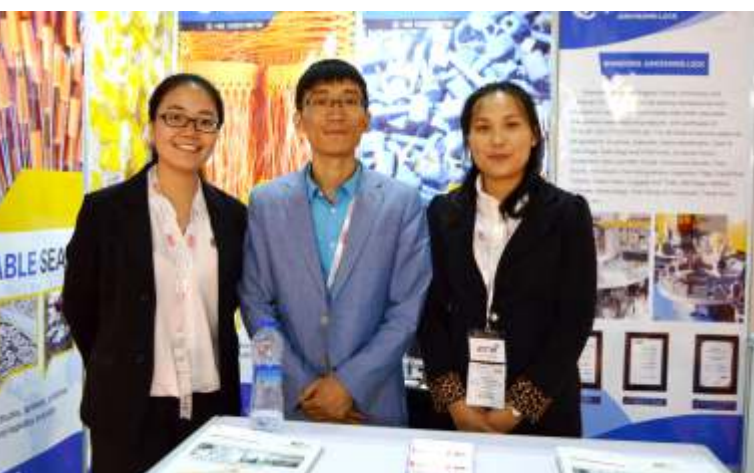




# Materials Handling Middle East



H.E. Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Dubai Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), at the opening of the Materials Handling Middle East 2017 Exhibition





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Ph: 971 4 2996899  
Fax: 971 4 2997076

### Globe Air Cargo (ECS Group)

DAFZA, PO: 54826,  
Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 6091908  
Fax : 971 4 6091913

**Qatar Airways**  
PO-32433, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2823410  
www.qatarairways.com

**Coyne Airways**  
PO-54273 DAFZA,  
Freight Gate 5 Building  
Office 125-131, Dubai,  
UAE

Ph: 971 4 2993922  
gulf@coyneair.com



**Sea Freight  
& Shipping  
Services**

### Bridgeway Transport And Logistics

PO-35397, Doha,  
Qatar  
Ph: 974 4 4416303  
Fax: 974 4 4416308

### Titans Shipping

Po-52020, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2828080  
Fax: 971 4 2828070

### Universal Logistics

PO: 54518, DAFZA,  
Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2998511  
Fax-971 4 2998522  
ops@universallogistics  
.ae

### Jawal Transportation Logistics

PO-81165, Cargo  
Village, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2820288  
Fax: 971 4 2820289

### Khattab Shipping

PO-293077, Cargo  
Village, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2825646  
Fax: 971 4 2825647

### Raisco International

PO-293020, Cargo  
Village, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2832340  
Fax: 971 4 2832341  
shahbaz@raisco.ae

### Consolidated Shipping Services

PO-27802,  
Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2826176  
Fax-971 4 2826179  
www.cssgroupsite.com

### Asian Dellker Logistics

PO-124153, Dubai,  
UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2293188  
Fax-971 4 2293668  
dbsl10@delker.com  
www.delker.com

### ATS Shipping

PO-28533, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 3781000  
Fax: 971 4 3781001  
www.atsworld.com

### Latitude Transport

PO-35316, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2820111  
Fax: 971 4 2820063  
www.latitude-  
transport.com

### Compass Ocean Logistics

PO-262985,  
Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 8144100  
Fax: 971 4 8144101  
www.compasslog.com



**Road  
Trans-  
portation**

### Mohebi Logistics

PO-8005 JAFZA South  
Zone 5 Dubai-U.A.E.  
Tel: +9714 886 5000

Fax: +9714 886 5656  
Info@mohebi-logistics.  
com



**Aircraft  
charter  
leasing  
cargo**

### Private Jet Charter

DAFZA, PO-54366  
Dubai, UAE.  
Ph: 971 4 2997878  
Fax-981 4 2996869  
sales@privatejetcharte  
r.ae



Global Service Solution  
www.gss.aero

### Global Service Solution (FZCO)

**Head Office:**  
Office F-103/02 Dubai Silicon Oasis  
P.O. BOX : 341205, Dubai, UAE  
Tel: +971 4 371 5000  
Email: info@gss.aero  
Web: www.gss.aero

### Corporate Office:

A-3-098 SAIF Zone, Sharjah.  
Tel: +971 4 371 5001  
SITA: DXBGS7X  
AFTN: KDBQXAAG

### Activities

Cargo & Commercial Aircraft,  
ACMI, Charter Leasing, Private  
Jets, Flight Support Services,  
Ground Handling, Live Stock



**Freight  
Forwarders**

### Al Futtaim Logistics

PO-61450, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 8818288  
Fax: 971 4 8819157  
www.aflogistics.com

### Jenae Logistics

Cargo Village, Dubai,  
UAE  
Toll Free: 80053623  
Ph: 971 4 282 4811  
jasleem@jenaelogistics  
.com

**Airglow Aviation**  
PO-2531, Dubai,UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2522169  
Fax: 971 4 2517029  
www.airglowaviation.com

**Euro Express FZCO**  
PO-293020, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2990445  
Fax: 971 4 2990446  
www.euroexpressfzco.com

**Emirates Logistics**  
PO-121167, Dubai,UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2993971  
Fax: 971 4 3377277  
www.emirateslogistics.net

**World Connect Freight**  
PO-31330, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2834240  
Fax-971 4 2834241  
www.worldconnectfreight.com

**Steder Logistics Services**  
PO-3273, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2821284  
Fax : 971 42822426  
www.stedergroup.com

**Middle East Freight Forwarding (Meffco)**  
PO-127472, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2828391  
Fax: 97 14 2828392  
logistics@meffco.ae  
www.meffco.ae

**Skyzone Cargo Services**  
PO-128749, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2834022  
Fax-971 4 2834033  
www.skyzonecargo.com

**Aeroflot Cargo**  
PO-7828, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2822663  
Fax: 971 6 2822664  
www.unitranscargo.ru

**SKA Group**  
PO-50127, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 8840800  
Fax: 971 4 8840808

**Qantas Freight**  
PO-111509, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 2163746  
www.qantasfreight.com



### Cargo IT Solutions

**New Age Software & Solutions**  
PO-61243, Jabel Ali, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 8815154  
Fax-971 4 8816262  
www.newage-global.com



### Logistics Services & Warehousing

**Polar Star Logistics**  
PO-20609, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 42834775  
Fax-971 42834776  
www.polarstar.ae  
Info@polarstar.ae

**Stalker**  
PO-30280, Sharjah, UAE  
Ph: 971 6 5351403  
Fax: 971 6 5351404  
ashok20@eim.ae

**Logimart**  
Jumeirah Lake Towers  
PO-215201, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 44504712/13/14  
Fax:971 4 5515009  
www.logimart.com



### Courier services

**Skycom Express**  
PO-233573, Jumeirah Lake Tower, Dubai, UAE

Customer Service No.  
600532224  
www.skycomex.com

**Aramex**  
PO-3841, Airport Rd, Al Garhoud, Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 4 281115  
Fax: 971 4 2865050  
www.aramex.com

**DHL Express**  
PO-6252, Meydan Rd, Nad Al Shebal Dubai, UAE  
Ph: 971 8004004  
www.dhl.ae

**Fedex**  
PO-9239, Dubai, UAE  
Ph.: 971 4 2995000  
Fax: 971 4 2995365  
www.fedex.com



### Ground handling

**Jetex**  
P.O. Box:54698,Dubai  
Tel:+971 4 268 9910  
Fax: + 971 4 212 3999  
fltops@jetex.aero

**Hadid Int'l Services**  
P.O. BOX 54508,Dubai  
Tel:+ 971 4 299 7777  
Fax: +971 4 299 7700  
uae@hadid.aero

**DNATA**  
P.O. BOX: 522, Dubai, UAE  
Tel: 971 4 606 4000  
Facsimile: 971 4 606 4040  
www.dnata.com

**Sharjah Aviation Services (SAS)**  
P.O.BO:70888  
SHARJAH  
INTERNATIONAL  
AIRPORT AREA  
TEL: +971 6 514 1111  
FAX: +971 6 558 0361  
info@sharjahaviation.com

## Quick References

### Courier Services

Skycom Express	600532224
TNT Express	8004333
UPS	8004774
First Flight Courier	042627766
Aramex	600544000
DHL Express	8004004
Fedex Express	80033339

### Cargo Services

Trade Well Cargo	065434827
Sat Albatros Sea Air Services	042997911
Otta Cargo	048813388
Sntta Cargo	065623616

### Logistics Services

Kat World Wide Logistics	042826998
Ceva Logistics	048860399
Kuehne+Nagel	048141600
Agility Global Logistics	048131222
Gulf Agency Company	048818090
Barloworld Logistics	048819595
Panalpina World Transport	048701111
Stalker	065351403
DB Schenker Logistics	042149100
Emirates Logistics	042993971
Parco Logistics	048830588
Al Futtaim Logistics	048818288
Polar Star Logistics	042834775
Mateen Express	042140100
Business Way Freight	042834222





## FIATA World Congress

This year's theme, "Logistics Bridging Global Trade" will be a platform to discuss how the industry can facilitate the super-efficient movement of goods across international boundaries. Key components to this goal will be discussed at the conference—from the influence of customs policies, worldwide legislative developments in transport, to the latest in technology, training and guidelines in security and safety.

**Kuala Lumpur Convention Center | Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**

**October 04-08, 2017**

## Future Proofing Air Cargo

TIACA's Executive Summit "Future Proofing Air Cargo" will be attended by air cargo supply chain decision makers from across the globe to network, grow business opportunities, and learn about the latest technologies and trends from the experts.

**Turnberry Isle & Resort Club | Miami, Florida**

**October 18-20, 2017**

## TIACA Executive Summit

TIACA's Executive Summit "Future Proofing Air Cargo" will be attended by air cargo supply chain decision makers from across the globe to network, grow business opportunities, and learn about the latest technologies and trends from the experts.

**Miami, Florida, USA**

**October 18-20, 2017**



## Canada Logistics Conference 2017

Canada's annual thought leadership conference for every supply chain logistics professional—will be held in Montreal, Quebec. An audience of shippers, carriers and ancillary service providers from across sectors came together to network and learn about the most important issues facing supply chains, businesses and the people who run them.

Canada Logistics Conference is presented by CITT, industry's most experienced, valued and respected source of complete, career-long learning and career-path development open for everyone who buys, sells or manages the flow of goods and product, or is impacted by supply chain logistics.

**Quebec, Canada**

**October 25-27, 2017**



## Air & Sea Cargo Americas

This event will bring together top executives from all sectors of the aviation, maritime and logistics industries to exchange views and experiences to enhance the growth of the cargo industry in the Western Hemisphere.

Airports, seaports, exporters, shipping lines, freight forwarders, shippers, importers, consignees, equipment and technology suppliers, among others, will interact, exchanging ideas and information. Topics will include security, regional consolidation, manufacturer and shipper needs in high growth cargo, trade facilitation, improving productivity, speed & service quality, responding to market changes and demands from shippers, consolidators and forwarders, and controlling costs while streamlining customer services.

**Miami Airport & Convention Center**

**November 01-03, 2017**



## Iran Transportation & Logistics Forum

With Iran opening up its doors to international business, re-flourishing the national economy requires development of various infrastructures and transportation is a vital one in line with the government's 2025 vision plan.

The Iran Transportation & Logistics Forum sponsored by the Transportation & Logistics Federation of Iran and IICIC aims to introduce transportation projects and attracting national and international investments. Iran has been the cradle and crossroad of important cultures and civilizations in ancient times and good transportation made this possible.

**IRIB Int'l Business Conference Center**

**November 05-06, 2017**

## Dubai Airshow

The Dubai Airshow 2017 is set to be the biggest show of its kind with with 1,200 exhibitors from over 60 countries expected, media representation from every corner of the globe, over 160 aircraft on display, and new areas such as the UAV Summit and Airport Solutions.

The world's leading B2B aviation event also offers new features such as the Space Pavilion, UAV Summit, Cargo Zone and the return of Airport Solutions.

Cargo Zone's feature comes at a time when Al Maktoum International Airport now hosts the world's largest cargo operations, boosting Dubai's claim to transform into a key regional hub with a capacity to handle more than 12 million tons of cargo annually.

**DWC Dubai Airshow Site**

**November 12-16, 2017**

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