

# air cargo update

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



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## EDITORIAL

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Middle East, Africa, Asia & beyond

Air Cargo Update serves as a platform to share news and discuss critical issues within the Air Cargo Industry from the Middle East, South Asia and African region.

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# Editor's Note

## Fragile and volatile time

After reaping 9.7% record growth FTKs in 2017, the air cargo industry scored low in 2018 with growth falling sharply to 3.5%.

While the numbers for 2019 are still being made, there's not much optimism in the industry for better yields given the ongoing trade war between superpowers US and China, security and geopolitical threats in the Middle East, social and political unrest in Latin America, conflicts and violence in Africa, and instability in other parts of the world, disrupting global economic activities and spooking investors across many countries.

This is a fragile and volatile time and everyone is closely watching what's going to happen next.

This month, the World Trade Organization cut its global trade growth forecast for 2019 to 1.2% from 2.6% amid escalating trade tensions and slowing global economy attributed to many factors.

In this edition, we'll bring you to the Caspian where Azerbaijan is leading reforms in the region's logistics and transport sectors. It's a success story of an oil-rich nation that stumbled and rise above its economic woes, applying hard lessons it learned in the next phase of its economic renaissance fueled by oil and gas money it was abundantly blessed with.

The country's national cargo carrier, Silkway West Airlines, is crucial to these reforms and continues to invest on its future role in the Caucasus's growing aviation industry.

We'll also share with you the story of India's "Silicon Valley" and how the business of IT is transforming the city's airport for the better with passenger traffic steadily growing. In 2018, Bangalore received 33 million passengers and figures are expected to go up even more.

We'll also bring you the story of how science and innovations help the industry protect sensitive pharmaceutical products against extreme weather conditions. The latest news and other features.

This and more in this edition of **Air Cargo Update**.

**Gemma Q. Casas**  
Editor-in-Chief

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## The LOUNGE

# MD with red cat loves sports and listening to '80s music

You probably heard about ACL Airshop, the tech-driven leading worldwide provider of ULDs, cargo control and air freight products and services to more than 200 airlines across six continents and at majority of the world's top 100 air cargo hub airports.

Behind its success is actually its first employee, Jos Jacobsen, now ACL Airshop's Managing Director Europe for Global Leasing & Technology.

After completing his Business and Accounting with Variant Management and Information Degree, Jos began working for Airshop in 2002. Nearly a decade later and after numerous promotions, he was moved to Hong Kong to set up the firm's Asian operation.

Steve Townes, the West Point Military Academy graduate, founder, CEO & President of Ranger Aerospace LLC and its affiliates, concurrently the Chairman & CEO of ACL Airshop, is all praises for Jos.

"His 17 years of progressive advancements in the ACL Airshop enterprises have, thus far, culminated in his very senior leadership role as our #1 international executive, CTO, and global leasing "dynamo." He almost single-handedly set up our burgeoning Asia-Pacific operations some years ago with one outpost in Hong Kong. Now we have 16 support centers over there, plus manufacturing supply chain extensions in China and Taiwan, and in Q1 of next year we intend to commence air cargo logistics support operations in India," said Steve.

Steve also credited Jos for steering ACL Airshop to the digital age describing him as "the driving force behind our numerous new technology initiatives."

"Jos has also been the driving force behind our



**Jos Jacobsen**  
Managing Director, ACL Airshop

numerous new technology initiatives. Proprietary repair stations software, upgraded ERP systems, robust "Ops Centers" in three major gateway cities, proprietary "ULD Control" logistics management programs, Bluetooth real-time tracking and tracing, and now "FindMyULD" App are, altogether, an incredible body of work," said Steve noting that in the past four years, ACL had grown its fleet of ULDs to more than 50,000 with leasing support operations at 52 of the world's top 100 cargo airports.

Jos, now a father of two young boys, who also owns a red cat, says though his job demands a lot of responsibilities and focus, he still finds time to unwind.

"My family at home is most important to me and spending time with them is relaxing. And I love to listen to '80s music," shared Jos now based in The Netherlands.

He is also into a lot of sports, keeping him fit and healthy. "I am always training for triathlons. Running, cycling and swimming are part of my daily routine. My goal is to keep improving and compete in races."

And when life turns sour at times, Jos says he keeps his cool playing his favorite songs from the '80s and reminding himself that life is too short to be wasted.

"Life is too short to worry about stupid things. You only live once, you better enjoy it," Jos told **Air Cargo Update** when asked about his favorite inspiring quotes he holds on to when he's feeling blue or down.

"And listening to some good '80s songs from Don Henley, Foreigner, or Fleetwood Mac always helps."



## GLOBAL NEWS

## Emirates SkyCargo partners with Dubai start-up Seafood Souq



Emirates SkyCargo and Seafood Souq, a B2B platform where consumers can directly source seafood from all over the world launched their partnership in September. From left: Sayed Harris, Cargo Manager, Emirates SkyCargo; Sean Dennis, CEO and Co-Founder, Seafood Souq; Dennis Lister, VP Cargo Commercial Development, Emirates SkyCargo and Dennis Konoplev, COO and Co-Founder, Seafood Souq. Supplied Photo

**DUBAI:** A batch of fresh Scottish salmon flew aboard the cargo belly of Emirates flight EK28 from Glasgow on September 6, the first of many, as Emirates SkyCargo partners with Dubai start-up Seafood Souq to ship seafood destined for restaurants and consumers in the UAE.

Seafood Souq is an online B2B marketplace that helps seafood buyers procure products from all over the world with transparency and efficiency at the core of sourcing the supplies. And Emirates SkyCargo, a leader in the global air freight industry, was tapped to handle the shipments rapidly.

Although the initial focus is on delivering fresh seafood from markets such as Norway, Cyprus, Chile, USA and Scotland to customers in the UAE and the Middle East, the start-up has plans to harness the potential of Emirates SkyCargo's global network to reach a global clientele.

"The core aim of Seafood Souq is to provide access to fresh products in the quickest possible time by connecting customers to suppliers and allowing produce to be dispatched on the day that the order is received. Working with Emirates SkyCargo was naturally the obvious choice for us because of the network and frequency of flights

offered by them," said Sean Dennis, CEO and Co-founder of Seafood Souq.

"Not only does Emirates SkyCargo has a good frequency of flights into all the key global origin and destination markets for seafood but they also have the cool chain infrastructure and capabilities that allows seafood to retain its freshness during the journey," he added.

Dennis Lister, Emirates VP Cargo Commercial Development, said the company is excited to be working and supporting Seafood Souq's innovative project.

"Our Emirates Fresh product is designed for the rapid and efficient transport of seafood and other perishables. With our modern aircraft and other equipment including dedicated Emirates Fresh Cool Dollies, Emirates White Covers and a state of the art hub in Dubai with extensive cool chain facilities, we are well positioned to support Seafood Souq as they continue to grow," said Lister.

Emirates SkyCargo transported over 400,000 tons of perishables across the world in 2018, more than 70,000 tons of which were seafood, mainly sourced from Norway, India, Sri Lanka, Uganda & the UK.

## Unisys partners with Malaysia Airlines to expand cargo online booking options

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Unisys Corporation (NYSE: UIS) has teamed up with MAB Kargo Sdn Bhd (MASkargo), the cargo division of Malaysia Airlines, to help expand its range of cargo booking options with a new online booking service allowing all types of customers to conveniently access the airline's cargo services, anytime and anywhere, via its website.

The new service on the website provides an easy-to-use online option for customers who traditionally use offline methods to book cargo shipments, enabling them to conveniently and seamlessly access MASkargo's space inventory, purchase services and track deliveries 24x7.

It augments MASkargo's current online distribution strategy, which is based on the Digi-Portal independent global marketplace, to give customers the choice of accessing inventory directly via the airline's website or via the marketplace, offering a high-quality omnichannel customer experience regardless of how the cargo services are accessed.

Under the agreement signed in July 2019, Unisys will provide Digi-Connect systems integration services to link the airline's website to the core Unisys Digistics air cargo digital logistics management solution.

"Customers will now have the ability to easily access, purchase and track our cargo services from booking right through delivery. This new way of accessing our inventory through our website ensures an omnichannel experience, regardless of which method the customer uses," said Ibrahim Mohamed Salleh, CEO of MASkargo.

MASkargo is the largest cargo ground handling agent in Malaysia and handles more than 30 customer airlines at its Advanced Cargo Centre. The airline is using the Unisys Digistics cloud-based logistics management system to manage its domestic and international cargo services.

## Cargolux breaks new ground in hauling heavy duty and off-size cargo in China



**LUXEMBOURG:** Cargolux Airlines has opened up a realm of new possibilities in hauling heavy duty and off-size cargo in China when it successfully transported last month a 43-metric ton, 10-meter long shaft from Luxembourg to Zhengzhou, the heart of China's Henan province.

Cargolux says it was the longest and heaviest single piece transported to China. The project was commissioned on behalf of the newly founded HNCA Logistics (Luxembourg) in cooperation with their local partner European Logistics Partners (ELP).

Paul Hoffmann, Cargolux Director Ground Engineering, explained: "While Cargolux frequently transports very heavy cargo shipments, of up to 60 tons, throughout its global network, this specific shipment was special as it was the first time that a single piece of cargo weighing above 35.000kg was flown into Zhengzhou airport."

Cargolux has extensive experience in the art of transporting off-size pieces but it says the project in China proved its capability to handle jumbo-sized shipments. Delivering very heavy cargo to China has always been quite a challenging undertaking as adapted infrastructures for off-loading were quite sparse upon arrival.

Over the past year, however, there has been a solid growth in demand for this kind of transport. Cargolux had since developed a specialized product, CV jumbo, to cover customers' individual needs.

The CV jumbo team has also invested in innovative tool and in-house developments to optimize loadability and ensure safe loading and off-loading processes. The company has also implemented a specialized analysis function at several stations throughout the network to offer quick and professional support for cargo-related inquiries.

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## GLOBAL NEWS

## Etihad Cargo widens operations in US and other strategic global markets



**ABU DHABI:** Etihad Cargo has increased its presence in the US with new schedule and network plan as well as setting up new strategic initiatives across its global cargo markets.

The cargo and logistics arm of Etihad Airways said its freighter services between Abu Dhabi International Airport (AUH) and Columbus, Ohio has been enhanced. A weekly service, now via Europe to Ohio's Rickenbacker International Airport (LCK), will be supported by an extensive road feeder network between LCK and other US destinations including Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Houston and Philadelphia.

The outbound flight will operate via Frankfurt (FRA) and return via Amsterdam Schiphol (AMS). Etihad Cargo plans to introduce a second weekly flight to LCK, opening up an additional European gateway before the end of the year.

The LCK freighters provide the perfect main deck complement the existing belly-hold capacity on Etihad's direct wide-body services between Abu Dhabi and major US gateways including Chicago, Los Angeles, New York and Washington D.C.

Etihad Cargo also announced the appointment of Christel Alaimo as Area Manager-North America to support the company's operations across the Americas. She previously worked for Flexport, where she held the role of Senior Manager - Airfreight for the Americas. She has held similar senior roles for various reputable international carriers in the US.

"As a strategic addition to our US team, Christel will significantly boost our Stateside operation as an invaluable in-market resource to drive growth across North America and spearhead plans to provide additional connectivity to our customers across the US," said Abdulla Mohamed Shadid, Etihad Aviation Group's Managing Director Cargo and Logistics Services.

From October 5, Etihad Cargo will use a Boeing 777 Freighter service into Johannesburg's Tambo International Airport (JNB), establishing the South African city as a seasonal African gateway 'hub' for trade flows of perishables and other goods to and from Europe and Asia. The new JNB freighter complements existing bellyhold capacity on daily widebody operations between Abu Dhabi and Johannesburg, Cairo, Casablanca, Rabat and Lagos.

Additional bellyhold capacity has also been introduced through increased flights between Abu Dhabi and London Heathrow Airport (LHR) with a fourth daily frequency confirmed from October 27, as well as tactical aircraft changes from A380 to Boeing 777 on the second daily frequency to Charles De Gaulle International Airport (CDG) in Paris.

Etihad Airways will also replace its current Airbus 330 operations on routes to Jakarta's Soekarno-Hatta International Airport (CGK), Bangalore's Kempegowda International Airport (BLR) and Johannesburg (JNB), with a Boeing 787 to further increase additional cargo capacity.

## dnata expands catering operations in the United States

**BOSTON/LOS ANGELES:** dnata, one of the world's largest air service providers, recently opened two new, state-of-the-art facilities at Boston Logan International Airport (BOS) and Los Angeles International Airport (LAX), part of its further expansion in the United States.

dnata's catering operations in the two cities will involve 22,500 meals a day and will create a total of 250 new, direct jobs over the next 18 months. Besides Boston and Los Angeles, the company operates catering facilities at the airports of Houston (IAH), New York (JFK), Nashville (BNA) and Orlando (SFB), serving commercial, VIP and private aviation companies in the US.

"We are thrilled to be expanding our catering footprint in the United States by establishing operations at two more major airports. Passenger expectations continue to increase as global travel becomes more accessible and travelers experience the varied levels of service on offer. We pride ourselves on providing five-star catering services to our airline customers, ensuring an excellent dining experience for their passengers on board," said Robin Padgett, Divisional Senior Vice President for dnata's catering division.

"We continue to invest in our operations and team in the United States to deliver on our ambitious goals and become a major player in this strategic market," he added.

As one of the world's leading inflight caterers, dnata serves more than 110 airline customers across the globe, producing over 110 million meals annually.

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## GLOBAL NEWS

## Saudia Cargo awards WFS contract to handle over 160,000 tons of cargo in Europe and US



**LONDON:** Saudia Cargo has awarded Worldwide Flight Services (WFS) a substantial multi-station cargo handling contract to haul more than 160,000 tons of cargo in Europe and the United States.

The contract will see WFS handle that much cargo as well as provide ramp handling for air cargo shipments onboard over 5,000 passenger and freighter flights a year.

The three-year agreement extends WFS' existing relationships with Saudia Cargo at Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport and across all airports in France as well as at Frankfurt, New York JFK and Washington Dulles airports.

It also awards WFS new business for cargo handling at London Heathrow and Manchester in the United

Kingdom, and at Brussels Airport and Amsterdam Schiphol Airport. WFS will commence warehouse operations for the airline in the UK with effect from 1 October 2019, followed by the start of the new ramp and cargo handling services in Belgium and the Netherlands on 1 November.

"This is a highly significant contract for WFS with one of the world's leading cargo carriers. We are honoured that Saudia Cargo has chosen to extend its relationship with WFS at stations where we already work together in Europe and the U.S. and, following a full review of the market, to also partner with us for its major cargo operations in Amsterdam, Brussels, London and Manchester," said Duncan Watson, VP Global Commercial Cargo

at WFS, commenting on the agreement.

"The airline is demonstrating its trust in WFS' ability to provide the highest quality of service for its customers, alongside the highest standards of safety and security. An important factor in our success is undoubtedly our ability to offer services to Saudia Cargo at all eight airports within our own facilities and the expertise and flexibility of our people at each airport," he added.

As part of the tender process, Saudia Cargo conducted technical visits to each WFS station to determine the quality of each facility and to meet local WFS staff responsible for managing the airline's cargo operations.

Barry Nassberg, Group Chief Commercial Officer at WFS, added: "We established our Global Commercial Group to offer and support this type of multi-station agreement, which is clearly very attractive to international airlines with extensive networks. WFS is able to provide the focus and service support customers need at major cargo gateways across the globe and combine this with the highest levels of service reliability, flexibility and value. We look forward to discussing similar global network benefits with other airlines and prospective partners."

## Saudia Cargo expands routes in Europe and Africa

**JEDDAH:** Saudi Airlines Cargo Company (Saudia Cargo) has added new freighter flights to Europe and Africa apart from increasing its belly hold capacity through Saudia Airlines which flies to 95 destinations.

Saudia Cargo said it added a second additional weekly freighter flight to operate on Tuesday and Thursday to JFK Airport in New York via LGG Airport in Liege, Belgium by a 747-400F freighter aircraft.

It also added four weekly freighter flights between Nairobi, Kenya and Europe bringing its total weekly flights on the route to 11, making the freight carrier

the largest player in the market.

In Sudan, Saudia Cargo also added another flight to Khartoum International Airport using a B-777F aircraft.

In June, the cargo airline launched new stations in Athens and Marrakech as part of the company's strategic plans to expand its global route network and presence.

Saudia Cargo, the national freight carrier of Saudi Arabia, covers more than 900 destinations in more than 175 countries, through its alliance with SkyTeam Cargo.



## Turkish Cargo IATA CEIV Pharma certificate extended till 2022



**ISTANBUL:** The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has renewed Turkish Cargo's IATA CEIV (Center of Excellence for Independent Validators) Pharma Certificate through 2022, proving the airline's success in all processes throughout the air transportation of pharmaceutical, medical and life sciences products.

Turkish Cargo, touted as the air cargo brand flying to the most countries around the world, first obtained the certificate in 2016. Trainings in compliance with the IATA certificate were regularly conducted among the freight carrier's staff in

partnership with Turkish Airlines Aviation Academy, thus, the company successfully passed the IATA audits.

Turkish Cargo reiterated it acts responsibly with priority to maintain the integrity of all cold-chain products throughout the transportation process of critical pharma and life sciences products such as medicines, vaccines, biotechnological products, diagnosis samples, sensitive medical devices, organs, tissues, etc., which require extra care and the right temperature when transported.

Implementing all handling procedures with dedicated teams working in harmony at its special cargo storage facility of 3,500 m2 in all its accomplished special cargo operations, Turkish Cargo said it uses active temperature-controlled Envirotainer and C-Safe containers, the electrical air-conditioning container Opticooler, Thermal Dolly and disposable thermal sheets equipped with thermal isolation features, minimizing any and all risks in highly-critical medicinal products.

Making use of special products designed exclusively for consignments, including medicines and medical products, Turkish Cargo assures it can adequately meet the demands of major global pharmaceutical companies looking for a reliable and efficient air transportsystem.

Turkish Cargo provides air cargo service to 126 countries with additional belly hold capacity through its parent company, Turkish Airlines, which flies to 315 destinations across the world.

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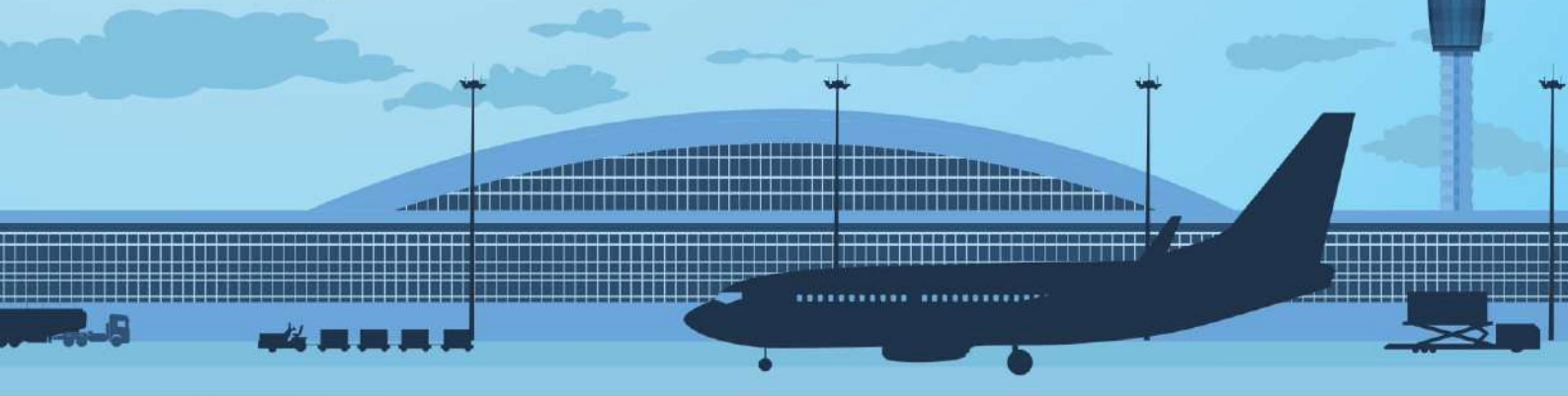


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GLOBAL NEWS

## ECS Group expands in Australia, New Zealand & Turkey



**Bertrand Schmoll**

**SYDNEY/PARIS/ISTANBUL:** World GSSA leader ECS Group continues to expand its global portfolio, this time, expanding its presence in Australia, New Zealand and Turkey.

ECS said Wexco, one of the leading GSSAs in Australia and New Zealand – has joined the Group, allowing it to expand its market in the Australasian region now supported by the strength of a major air cargo player, especially in terms of network and digitalization.

In Istanbul, ECS Group's subsidiary in Turkey, Globe Air Cargo (GAC TR), signed a contract with EgyptAir Cargo to exclusively market its cargo capacity and other services within the region.

"We have been the PSA for MS (EgyptAir) since mid-2016 and have had the chance to see that MS is very innovative and open to new ideas. To be chosen as the GSA for EgyptAir and have the opportunity to continue serving them is very exciting – exciting to know that we can be a part of their continuous development," said Nursel Guven, Managing Director at GAC TR.

EgyptAir Cargo awarded the contract to GAC TR on August 21 and it took effect on September 1, 2019.

"With this partnership between

Egyptair and GAC TR, we are once more opening up a huge range of possibilities to local airlines and GSAs. It's proof that as a member of our group, a GSA can become a significant regional player for a major airline," said Sauro Martinelli,

Regional Manager Europe at ECS Group.

Founded in 1979 in Australia and in 2003 in New Zealand, ECS Group said Wexco is the perfect partner with excellent reputation in Australia and New Zealand.

"Wexco is a well-established GSSA with a very good reputation in the Australia and New Zealand market. We were not previously represented in either country and our strategy involves expanding our footprint in the Asia-Pacific region," said Bertrand Schmoll, Chairman of ECS Group. "Wexco is the perfect partner with which to do this, and one of its biggest assets is its unrivalled market expertise."

Equally delighted with the acquisition, Russell Freeman and David Williams, owners of Wexco, said: "ECS Group is the world's leading and largest global GSSA, not only in terms of its network but also in terms of innovation. ECS Group has digital tools that no other GSSA has developed, allowing it to constantly improve the way in which it meets the needs of its airline and freight forwarder clients. Furthermore, ECS Group's values fit perfectly with our own. It made the decision to join ECS Group a simple one."

## Envirotainer expands network to Mumbai



**STOCKHOLM:** Envirotainer, a global market leader in secure cold chain solutions for air transport of pharmaceuticals, has added Mumbai (BOM) to its network of stations supporting its state-of-the-art e-technology containers—the RKN e1 and RAP e2—saying India is now the fastest growing pharma manufacturing hub in the world.

"India is probably the fastest growing pharmaceutical manufacturing hub in the world and the addition of e-technology capabilities in Mumbai boosts our ability to meet our local Pharmaceutical customers' need for secure airfreight shipments requiring temperature control," said Suat Toh, Head of Sales APAC.

She continues, "The addition of the RKN e1 and the RAP e2 means that we now can provide all our container types from Mumbai (BOM)."

Mumbai (BOM) is the 32nd station in the Envirotainer network to carry the flagship RAP e2 solution, one of the most advanced temperature-controlled air cargo containers available.

Recognizing the need for secure temperature-controlled airfreight solutions, Envirotainer has been expanding its sales offering in Asia-Pacific over the past years, investing in both service capabilities and an agile network model.



## GLOBAL NEWS

## Japan sends uncrewed cargo spaceship to ISS as UAE's first astronaut landed on the station

The ownership and use of the space station is established by intergovernmental treaties and agreements



**TOKYO:** The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) has successfully launched an uncrewed cargo spaceship to the International Space Station (ISS) on September 25 after a two-week delay due to a Launchpad fire.

HTV-8, also known as Kounotori 8 white stork in Japanese, took off from the JAXA Tanegashima Space Center in southern Japan atop an H-IIB rocket made by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries.

NASA said the cargo spaceship delivered about 4 tons of cargo consisting of six new lithium-ion

batteries and corresponding adapter plates that will replace aging nickel-hydrogen batteries for two power channels on the station's far port truss segment.

"The batteries will be installed through a series of robotics and spacewalks by the station's crew members later this year," NASA said in a statement.

NASA added also aboard HTV-8 are a small, experimental satellite optical communication system called SOLIS (designed to allow 100Mbps downlink speeds from the space station), the experiment Hourglass to

test the effects of gravity on powder and granular material and an upgrade for the station's Cell Biology Experiment Facility.

Built in 1998 as part of a joint cooperation agreement between five space agencies—NASA (United States), ROSCOSMOS (Russia), JAXA (Japan), ESA (Europe), and CSA (Canada)—ISS mainly acts as a space research laboratory for mankind.

The ownership and use of the space station is established by intergovernmental treaties and agreements.

On Sept. 25, the United Arab Emirates made history when it successfully sent Emirati astronaut Hazza Al Mansoori, a military fighter jet pilot, to the station as part of a scientific team that includes Russian astronaut Oleg Scribushka and American astronaut Jessica Mir.

The UAE is the first Arab country to send an astronaut to ISS. The US has sent the largest number of astronauts, (151), followed by Russia (47), Japan (9), Canada (8), Italy (5), France (4) and Germany (3), while Belgium, the Netherlands, Sweden, Brazil, Denmark, Kazakhstan, Spain, the UK, Malaysia, South Africa and South Korea have each sent one astronaut.

## Volga-Dnepr Technics Moscow receives EASA approval for Boeing 777-200/-300 Maintenance

**MOSCOW:** Volga-Dnepr Technics Moscow (VDTM) has received the approval of the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) for the maintenance of Boeing 777-200/-300 aircraft at Sheremetyevo Airport, the Russian company announced.

Currently, specialists of the Line Maintenance Station (LMS) at Sheremetyevo Airport provide maintenance to three Boeing 777 aircraft of Royal Flight airlines, the Russian carrier operating scheduled and charter international flights to popular tourist destinations from

Moscow and more than 25 regions of Russia.

"We are very pleased to see that our customers' fleet is expanding and replenishing with new types of aircraft, the maintenance of which they entrust to VDTM. Over the past year, we have expanded the scope of services provided to Royal Flight airlines, previously guaranteeing support for Boeing 737NG maintenance, as well as covering component repair," said Konstantin Surkov, CEO of Volga-Dnepr Technics Moscow.



"Continuous improvement and expansion of the service range in response to customer requests facilitates our development. In addition to approval for Boeing 777, we also expanded the EASA certificate for Airbus A320 NEO at our main LMS in Sheremetyevo," he added.



## Rise on passenger and cargo traffic in Russia expected with free visa policy

**MOSCOW:** Russia's aviation authority, Rosaviatsiya, says Russian airlines transported nearly 86.3 million passengers (+11.7%) during the first eight months of 2019 and hopes are high the positive trend will continue with spillover to cargo volumes with the country's new policy giving free visa to citizens of 53 countries.

Aeroflot Group, notably Pobeda, Russia's low cost carrier, rallied the passenger traffic growth at 6.6 million (+46.7%) year-on-year, based on government data.

Russia's new visa free policy took effect this month and is meant to increase the country's burgeoning inbound tourism industry. The country welcomes about 25 million tourists annually whose tourism dollars generate business activities in various sectors, including increasing consumption on perishables and other food items. In 2017, Russia's tourism industry generated more

than \$15 billion in revenues.

Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev said the Russian government had allocated US\$320 million to further develop tourist infrastructure in the country between now and through 2022.

The Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs said electronic visas will be issued free of charge to citizens of the following 53 countries—Austria, Andorra, Bahrain, Belgium, Bulgaria, China and Taiwan, Czech Republic, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iran, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Kuwait, Finland, France, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, North



Korea, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the Vatican.

The Ministry says there's no need for itinerary and other travel documents. Applicants simply have to fill the online form and submit their digital photo. Processing takes about four days. The e-visa is valid for a maximum stay of eight days per entry to St. Petersburg and the rest of Kaliningrad Region.

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## DHL unit managing complex logistics projects sets up Center of Excellence in Dubai

**DUBAI, UAE:** DHL Industrial Projects, a unit of DHL Global Forwarding that manages complex logistics projects including deep sea chartering activity and heavy-lift cargo, is establishing its Center of Excellence (COE) in Dubai for overall project management and implementation, and supported by competency centers in Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya and Turkey.

DHL said this follows the growth of industrial projects in the Middle East and Africa with its Industrial Projects unit aiming to further strengthen its position as the preferred supplier and forwarder for key international oil companies (IOCs), engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) companies as well as leading industry players in the oil and gas sectors.

"Given the complex intricacies of these large-scale shipments, each

with its own unique requirements, any small missteps in the Industrial Projects world could potentially have massive repercussions," said Moustafa Elbanhawi, Vice President, DHL Industrial Projects in Middle East and Africa.

"It is therefore paramount that every one of us across the region is singular in our pursuit to find the best solutions while upholding the highest operating standards. Focusing our team on these core competencies will place us in good stead to deliver best-in-class services to our customers," he added.

Intended to drive synergies in the region, DHL Industrial Projects said Dubai COE will oversee and coordinate complex projects for the Gulf countries and the region as a whole. It will be supported by teams in Ethiopia and Kenya which will



predominantly manage projects out of Sub-Saharan Africa; Egypt's team will specialize in air freight chartering and coordinate projects for North Africa, and the Turkey competency center will coordinate ocean freight requirements and administer projects across Iraq and Central Asia.

DHL Industrial Projects has 40 employees who manages the end-to-end logistics process, backed by DHL's extensive global network and deep expertise in the region.

## Indonesia inks partnership with Tokopedia, other startups to accelerate Jakarta's smart city project

**JAKARTA:** The Indonesian government has signed a partnership agreement with Tokopedia, the country's largest e-commerce platform, along with other startups to spruce up Jakarta's transformation into a smart city.

Tokopedia, an online platform for SMEs with about over 90 million users every month accelerating growth in the country's e-commerce logistics sectors, got additional \$1.1 billion investment from China's Alibaba Group and Japan's Softbank Vision Fund, raising its assets to over \$7 billion.

As the government's economic partner, Tokopedia will train small and medium enterprises to prepare them to compete and contribute to the economy in the digital age.

"This collaboration aims to invite tech companies like Tokopedia to encourage digitalisation in Indonesia in the business and public

service sectors. This partnership opens opportunities for citizens to be digitally integrated into various sectors, so they can benefit from online services, such as accessing public services or starting a business," said Jakarta's Governor Anies Baswedan in a statement.

Two other Indonesian e-commerce giants, Bukalapak and Shopee, were also named as government economic partners along with financial and tech services startup Gojek and the Singapore-based tech company offering transport services, food delivery and payment solutions, Grab.

Gojek will further integrate a column dedicated to the government's official tourism portal "Enjoy Jakarta," allowing users to book tickets to various tourist attractions and events in the capital.

With a number of programs and partnerships, Jakarta is projected to fully transform into a smart city before 2025.





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## Khalifa Port posts 82.4% growth in H1 2019

**ABU DHABI:** The first half of 2019 brought significant growth at Khalifa Port with its container volume rising 82.4% to 1,135,021 TEU (Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit) from just 620,974 TEU in H1 2018, Abu Dhabi Ports disclosed.

The company, which operates ports and terminals across the UAE, as well as Khalifa Industrial Zone Abu Dhabi, KIZAD, said its success was driven in part by concession agreements signed with leading maritime firms, such as Mediterranean Shipping Company, MSC, and COSCO SHIPPING Ports, CSP.

Abu Dhabi Ports said it anticipates further growth thanks to the completion of the CSP Abu Dhabi Container Terminal, which was built in partnership with COSCO SHIPPING Ports and which began trial operations in Q2 2019 - ahead of the start of full commercial operations in Q4 2019.

Both agreements are part of Abu Dhabi Ports' five-year strategy to boost the UAE's trade and investment flows, and drive the diversification of the UAE economy. As a result, Abu Dhabi Ports will be expanding the

capacity of Khalifa Port to 9.1 million by 2024. The port is capable of handling the world's largest vessels with two 21,000 TEU mega-vessels, the COSCO SHIPPING SOLAR and PISCES, having already called at CSP Abu Dhabi Terminal earlier this year.

"Despite a challenging international environment for the trade and logistics sectors in recent years, our industry continues to grow from strength to strength in the UAE. I am delighted that Abu Dhabi Ports is playing a key role in ensuring that our nation is at the heart of trade, industry and logistics in the Middle East," the Emirates News Agency WAM quoted Falah Mohammad Al Ahbabi, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Ports, as saying.

Captain Mohamed Juma Al Shamisi, CEO of Abu Dhabi Ports, added, "Our success is a testimony to the fact that more and more firms are realizing the opportunities that Abu Dhabi offers across the Middle East, Africa and Asia, as well as along China's Belt and Road maritime route."

In addition to the increase in



container volume, Abu Dhabi Ports also witnessed a significant increase in the total volume of cargo handled across its ports, which also include Fujairah Terminals, Zayed Port and Mussafah Port. Total cargo increased to just under 9.7 million tons in the first half of 2019, a rise of 10% compared to the same period in 2018.

## Italy's biggest bookshop Messagerie Libri extends contract with CEVA Logistics



**MILAN:** Messagerie Libri (Me.Li), Italy's leading distributor of books and editorial products with ties to over 600 publishing brands, has extended its contract with Ceva Logistics.

Me.Li has over 4,000

nationwide bookshops and stationery stores putting CEVA at the forefront of Italy's book distribution and logistics.

The two companies have been working in close collaboration since the signing of their first contract in 1999 and this new contract takes its extension to the end of December 2021 and also includes provision to negotiate a further long-term deal.

City of Books itself is a unique, green supply chain facility dedicated to the publishing sector. Covering more than 80,000 sq. m., it can handle over 90 million books per annum. The site includes a photovoltaic plant with over 35,000 modules, covering an area of 6,500 sq. m. This translates into 3,780 MWh annually, the equivalent to energy generated in 2,000 homes, saving on average of 1.6 million kg of CO2 emissions.

"Throughout our two decade long relationship with Me.Li we have sought to continuously innovate our contract logistics services in this highly specialist market," says CEVA Logistics Managing Director Italy, Christophe Boustouller. "This new contract extension is testament to their long-term commitment to CEVA and its capabilities."



# Silkway West Airlines Azerbaijan's link to the world

By Gemma O. Casar

With abundant deposits of oil and gas, Azerbaijan, once part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR), quickly established its own oil-based economy following the collapse of the communist regime in 1991.



"Increased gas exports from the Shahdeniz Phase II field, thanks to the Southern Gas Corridor pipeline becoming operational, as well as strengthening domestic demand on the back of lower inflation and interest rates, have lifted economic growth to +2.4% y/y in H1 2019. We expect this moderate dynamic to continue and forecast full-year GDP growth of about +2.5% in both 2019 and 2020. However, global uncertainties, including the rise in trade tensions and potentially lower oil prices, pose downside risks to this forecast."

-Euler Hermes





**B**ordering the Russian Federation on the north, Iran on the south, the Caspian Sea on the east, and Georgia on the west, Azerbaijan has the geographic advantage of having the shortest distance to connect Europe to Asia and beyond with ample resources to finance businesses to realize economic gains from its unique geopolitical landscape.

With abundant deposits of oil and gas, Azerbaijan, once part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, (USSR) quickly established its own oil-based economy following the collapse of the communist regime in 1991.

But the volatile global economy had taken its toll on Azerbaijan's oil-dependent economy, leaving it vulnerable to external shocks, peaking between 2014-2016,

devaluing the country's currency by as much as -31 percent exacerbated by record high inflation rates, according to reports.

Azerbaijan had since recovered from its economic crisis, posting moderate growth of +1.4% increase on real GDP in 2018 and +2.4% year-on-year during the first half of 2019, according to the latest report of global research market leader Euler Hermes.

"Increased gas exports from the Shahdeniz Phase II field, thanks to the Southern Gas Corridor pipeline becoming operational, as well as strengthening domestic demand on the back of lower inflation and interest rates, have lifted economic growth to +2.4% y/y in H1 2019. We expect this moderate dynamic to continue and forecast full-year GDP growth of about +2.5% in

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both 2019 and 2020. However, global uncertainties, including the rise in trade tensions and potentially lower oil prices, pose downside risks to this forecast," Euler Hermes said in its report.

"Inflation has picked up slightly to 3% y/y in June 2019 but we expect it to remain in check in the near future, averaging about 3% in 2019 as a whole and 3.5% in 2020. However, the potential impact of global uncertainties on emerging market currencies in general, as well as ongoing domestic banking sector vulnerabilities, pose upside risks to this forecast," it added.

**Caspian's leading cargo airline**  
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undertake projects diversifying its oil-based economy while promoting growth in Central Asia, Azerbaijan had long envisioned to grow its foothold in the Caspian region through the development of its logistics and aviation sectors.

The state-owned Silkway West Airlines—one of 23 businesses under Azerbaijan's Silk Way Group formed in 2006—continues to thread the path of becoming Central Asia's leading cargo airline, growing its route network to more than 50 destinations.

Records from the State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan showed from 21,000 tons of air cargo in 1990, the

country's air freight industry hauled 208,000 tons in 2018, and signs for more growth are in the horizon as demand for e-Commerce in the region rises.

In late 2018, Silkway West Airlines received its new Boeing 747-400 plane, increasing its total fleet of 747 freighters to 10. The move is part of the airline's long-term goal to further grow its scheduled network while enhancing options for charter flights among its growing clientele.

This year, the cargo carrier made major leadership roles in its key markets—the United States and Asia-Pacific—positioning itself to aggressively compete in these growing regions.

On September 27, the airline launched its long-awaited freighter operation from Oslo Gardermoen Airport connecting the Norwegian salmon industry to its hub in Baku.

**"We are excited to offer the Norwegian Seafood industry increased connectivities through our Global Aircargo Hub in Baku. Silkway has been flying Norwegian Seafood for many years through other European gateways, and we are now very pleased to finally add Oslo to our global network," Silkway Commercial Director Europe Riad Fataliyev said in a statement.**



Silkway says it will use a B747-400F for the Oslo Friday flight connecting the whole Far East via Baku where its state-of-the-art facilities for air cargo are located.

Apart from investing on new planes to spruce up operations of Silkway West Airlines, the Azerbaijan government also vastly expanded the carrier's cargo facilities with sophisticated cold storage and a modern general cargo terminal at the Heydar Aliyev International Airport in Baku.

#### **Eurasia Trans-Hub**

Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev said the country will continue to invest in logistics and transportation industries as part of long-term plans to diversify Azerbaijan's economy and position itself as the trans-hub in Eurasia.

Part of this is to export gas to Azerbaijan's neighboring countries through pipelines

connecting the country to Turkey and the European markets.

In 2013, Turkey and Azerbaijan signed an initiative agreeing to link through the South Caucasus Gas Pipeline project the Turkish border to the south of Italy to deliver the Azerbaijani gas to its European markets.

This project, also known as the "Southern Gas Corridor", is expected to be fully completed by 2020, enabling Azerbaijan to reposition itself as a major gas supplier in Europe.

In a July 2019 meeting with EU President Donald Tusk, Aliyev expressed hope Azerbaijan's investments on logistics and transportation sectors would strengthen its ties with Europe politically, socially and economically.

Tusk, for his part said, the Southern Gas Corridor "quite literally connects us" referring to

Azerbaijan and Europe, saying, "This positive momentum should bring our partnership to a higher level, directly benefit all our people, and accompany Azerbaijan's own reform processes and economic diversification."

**Apart from investing on major gas pipelines, Azerbaijan is also building the Baku-Tbilisi-Kars railway which links the Soviet-era rail systems of Azerbaijan to Georgia and Turkey and eventually, to the rest of Europe with projected peak capacity of 17 million tons of cargo per year, once fully operational.**

The project's first phase will enable the railway to handle 1

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million passengers and 6.5 million tons of cargo.

And there's also the Alat Port, opening up a new transit trade route between Europe, Central Asia, South Asia and the East and allowing for multimodal North/South and East/West transit which has rail ferries that can transport 52 train cars at a

time. About 4 million tons of cargo (oil excluded) were handled at Alat Port in 2018, the government said.

The government vows to continue transforming Azerbaijan into an international transport hub. And this process includes the development of the shortest multimodal land corridors between China and the EU;

creation of the North-South Transport Corridor; attraction of transit cargo as part of the Great Silk Road; digitalization of the Great Silk Road through Azerbaijan's Digital Transport Network and TASIM projects, and; commissioning of new international airports & construction of new roads across the country.

## Boeing Forecast: Russia and Central Asia-Europe air cargo market to grow 3.4% annually over the next 20 years

The Russia and Central Asia market accounts for approximately 1.4 percent of the world's total air cargo traffic in ton-kilometers and 2.4 percent in tonnage.

Air trade originating in or destined to Russia and Central Asia was estimated at 1.3 million tons in 2017, based on the region's airport statistics. Growth averaged 2.7 percent from 2007 to 2017, based on tonnage handled at airports.

Fueled by high oil and gas prices, Russia and Central Asia air trade expanded 50 percent after 2009, peaking at 1.3 million tons in 2011. Contraction in the region's air cargo volumes gathered pace in 2014 and 2015, as investment in extractive industries slowed, consumer spending fell, and trade sanctions were imposed on Russia for its support of the conflict in Ukraine.

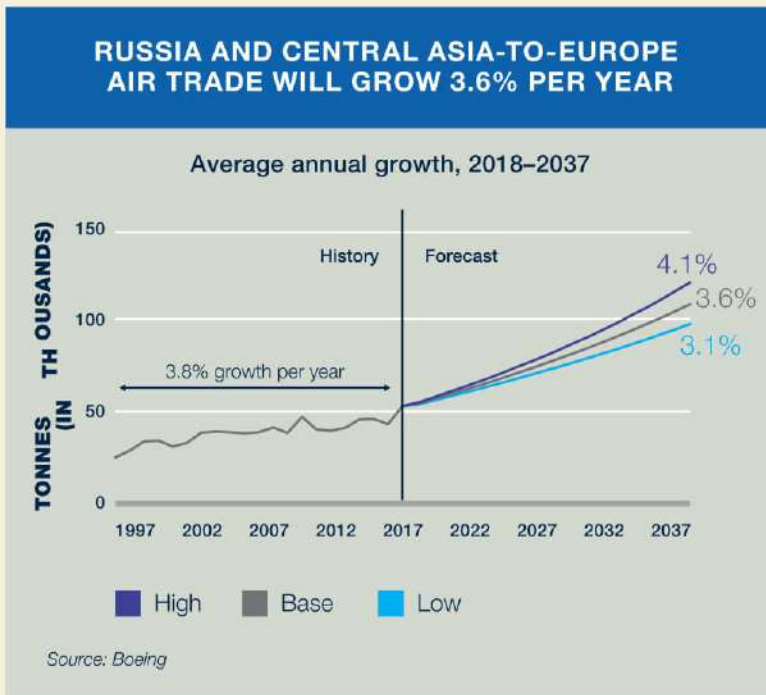
Regional air trade expanded 10 percent and 14 percent in 2016 and 2017, respectively, as the world economy recovered, commodity prices stabilized, and Russia reoriented much of its international air trade toward East Asia rather than Europe.

The Russia and Central

Asia-Europe air cargo market will grow at an average annual rate of 3.4 percent for the next two decades.


Russia and Central Asia air exports to Europe will grow at a rate of 3.6 percent to reach 107,000 tons by 2037. European demand for Russia-produced specialty chemicals and industrial metals, specialized scientific equipment, and aerospace goods will bolster growth for the forecast period.

Pro-business legislation and an improved foreign investment climate



could promote an export-driven economy for a wide array of manufactured and semi manufactured goods, leading to the high-growth projection. Conversely, continuing regional conflicts, laws and regulations adverse to new businesses, or renationalization of industries would impede air trade growth, leading to the low-growth projection.

Source: BOEING World Air Cargo Forecast 2018-2037



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# India's 'Silicon Valley' gears up for bigger and better airport

The Kempegowda International Airport, previously known as Bengaluru – BLR Airport – the gateway to the city continues to undergo major transformation.



The Bengaluru airport began operations in May 2008 and has significantly enhanced the regional and worldwide air connectivity of Bengaluru and Karnataka.





**B**angalore, also known as Bengaluru, the capital city of Karnataka State in India is seeing unprecedented growth in aviation industry, thanks to its thriving IT industry.

**Dubbed as the “Silicon Valley” of India, Bangalore is home to some of the biggest global tech companies, including the Indian Space Research Organization. It is the country’s second fastest-growing metropolis with more than 10 million people.**

The Kempegowda International Airport, previously known as Bengaluru – BLR Airport – the gateway to the city continues to undergo major transformation.

In 2018, it welcomed some 33.3 million passengers and the volumes are expected to grow in the coming years with India becoming the third largest aviation market in the world. Domestic traffic, the airport's main growth driver, accounted for 28.82 million passengers, while international traffic grew +17.5% to 4.48 million.

#### **Validation flights**

On August 27, 2019, the second runway of the airport moved closer to a December 5 commercial opening with the successful completion of the validation flights.

The validation flights by SpiceJet, Air Asia and IndiGo, certified the aerodrome navigational aids and instrument procedures as determined by civil aviation regulations.

The second runway called the New South Parallel Runway allows the landing of Code F aircraft such as the massive Airbus A-380. The 255,000 sqm terminal, second runway, will cater to all international flights and Terminal 2 will have a capacity for over 45 million passengers, looking way into the future.



From April to July 2019, per Airports Authority of India (AAI), Bengaluru carried 16,65,234 international passengers up from 14,50,097 in 2018 registering a change of 14.8 per cent, while the airports of Delhi, Mumbai and Cochin showed negative growth.

Bengaluru carried 94,91,757 domestic passengers, up from 93,39,018 passengers during the period mentioned, a 1.6 per cent change. Hyderabad international airport is another airport which is doing well with regard to passenger and cargo movement.

#### **Finances secured**

Considering this growth, the expansion at Kempegowda International Airport by Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL), its operator, is becoming more urgent.

It is said to be one of the largest infrastructure projects in the country. BIAL is undertaking a massive Rs. 13,352 crore (USD1.8 billion) capital program to cater to the demands of a civil aviation market that has been growing at a blistering pace of 25% year on year for the last three years.

The current capital development program includes a new terminal, a second runway, massive expansion

to the access roads and internal road infrastructure, utilities as well as a new multi-modal transport hub.

BIAL has raised Rs. 10,206 crores (USD1.4 billion) through a syndicate of banks, including State Bank of India and Axis Bank, with the project to be funded in a debt-equity ratio of 80:20. The debt would be repaid over a period of 10 years with a one-year moratorium post completion of the project.

The Managing Director and CEO of BIAL, Hari Marar, said: “The second terminal – T2 – is our dedication to this beautiful city of Bengaluru. Designed as a reflection of this City, T2 will be founded on 4 pillars: technological leadership, being a terminal in a garden, environmental and ecological stewardship and a celebration of Karnataka's rich heritage and culture.

“Of course, it goes without saying that all this will be centred on the most important element – the needs of our customers. BIAL worked with some of the finest global minds on the design and planning of this Terminal. While T2 is designed to be an iconic terminal - one that Bengaluru can truly be proud of – it will be built at the most affordable cost and in the most responsible



## FEATURE



manner.

"The Terminal will be world-class in all respects - starting from its design, the processes, the people who manage it, the sustainable practices it embraces and the performance it achieves."

Marar pointed out the BLR Airport has evolved as the gateway to South India over the past 10 years and its next phase of expansion positions the airport as the main entry point to a new India.

"Once ready, the airport will offer passengers seamless and delightful experiences, powered by cutting-edge technology," he added.

#### Connecting people and cargo

Bhaskar Anand Rao, Chief Financial Officer, BIAL, said the project would be a boost to the economy.

"Phase 2 of Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru will provide a huge boost to the connectivity of people and goods of the state and provide the much needed capacity that a growing city like Bengaluru richly deserves. Once operational, the airport will create more opportunities for businesses at the Airport and fuel the economic growth of the region and country," said Rao.

"Our aim has been to ensure that not only should we deliver an iconic asset of which the people can be truly

proud, but also set benchmarks in the way such project is delivered - at a cost that is affordable and to the highest standards of corporate governance," he added.

Tom Shimmin, Chief Project Officer, BIAL, said once the airport's Terminal 2 is completed, it will substantially increase its overall capacity.

"With the use of a combination of the latest in construction technology and natural material, this Terminal will establish a new vision for sustainable growth. The new passenger terminal will cater to the specific needs of the Airport's spectrum of users and provide a seamless travel experience. This will help the BLR Airport remain competitive and stay ahead of the growth in passenger demand," he said.

Sustainability remains a key pillar as operations at BLR Airport are conducted in a very responsible manner to ensure integrity of economic viability, operational excellence and conservation of natural resources.

Acclaimed for its world-class passenger-friendly amenities and services, the BLR Airport — operated by BIAL — has implemented various landmark initiatives with major focus on energy saving, water

conservation, waste management and pollution control measures.

With a clearly defined Sustainability Policy in place, BIAL is focused on making substantial contributions to sustainable development.

"At BIAL we are committed to achieving excellence in environment sustainability. Our efforts are focused on carefully managing our environmental responsibilities. In our attempt to be a role model for sustainable progress, we have made a long-term commitment to sustainability and community engagement that will effect a change in culture," Marar noted.

The airport is also making optimal use of natural light with minimum reliance on artificial illumination. BIAL's other energy efficient initiatives include installation of solar street lighting; solar-powered security cabins; a solar water heating system for the cafeterias.

**It is India's first Greenfield airport built on public-private partnership model where private promoters hold 74 percent (Fairfax: 54 % and Siemens Projects Ventures: 20 %) stake, while the government holds the remaining 26 % (Karnataka State Industrial & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited 13% and Airports Authority of India 13 %).**

The Bengaluru airport began operations in May 2008 and has significantly enhanced the regional and worldwide air connectivity of Bengaluru and Karnataka.

It is currently the busiest airport in South India and the third largest in India, after Delhi and Mumbai.

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# Thinly veiled but fully protected

DuPont's Tyvek air cargo covers offer unrivalled scientifically proven protection for temperature-sensitive pharmaceuticals demanding extra care on air and while in transit from one point to another till safely delivered to their final destinations.





The global pharmaceutical industry continues to grow with rising demand across continents. And new innovative solutions to keep the therapeutic potency of these products while on air and in transit en route to their final destinations are evolving.

In the Middle East where harsh weather conditions require special attention and equipment in transporting certain products via air, land or sea, innovative products offering protection for sensitive pharmaceutical shipments like medicines, vaccines and other life sciences products continue to be utilized.

In the UAE, the pharmaceutical market sales have reportedly reached \$3.1 billion in 2018 from only \$2.4 billion in 2015. The increase was largely attributed to sales of prescription meds.

The UAE is estimated to have imported around Dh14.9 billion worth of products as part of pharmaceutical products (HS 30) from the world market in 2018, according to data from the UAE Federal Customs Authority.

But one of the biggest problems faced by shippers of pharmaceuticals relates to the need to keep shipments within the safe temperature bands required by prevailing legislation and best practice.

**According to IATA, nearly 60% of temperature excursions occur during these 'uncontrolled' air-cargo stages of the distribution process.**

**Dr. Steve Brabbs, DuPont Global Technology Leader for Transport Protection, explained to Air Cargo Update in an email interview how Dupont's Tyvek air cargo covers provide advanced protection to temperature sensitive pharmaceuticals.**



He said the Tyvek range of thermal pallet covers are designed to address acknowledged weaknesses in the cold chain such as the problem of 'tarmac standing time' where shipments of temperature sensitive goods are left standing in fluctuating ambient conditions during the airport loading, unloading and transit phases.

#### Combating threats

Brabbs said there are currently three different Tyvek thermal pallet covers available on the market, Tyvek Solar W10, Tyvek Solar W20 and Tyvek Xtreme W50 with further versions under development.

With temperature-sensitive medicines the merchandise must be kept within carefully defined temperature envelopes during long-haul transportation to ensure they retain their therapeutic potency and consumers are not put at risk from dangerous or ineffective products.

In these cases, the unique reflective properties of Tyvek have been shown to keep shipments considerably cooler, by as much as 15 degrees Celsius, through the minimization of solar gain.

In the case of products, such as vaccines and insulin, which must be protected from cold temperatures, the insulated Tyvek Xtreme W50 version provides an excellent thermal buffer.

Strong and tear-resistant, Tyvek pallet covers also give excellent protection from tampering, rain, snow, wind, pests, debris and

airborne contamination. The opaque white color of the covers provides additional security by shielding cargo from view and the smooth one-piece design readily provides a visual indication of irregular tampering.

Made from inherently breathable Tyvek fabric and materials all pallet covers can continuously evacuate water vapor to minimize condensation risks.

#### Tyvek vs. traditional covers

Essentially, Brabbs said Tyvek pallet covers are light, low bulk, thermally efficient and breathable. Alternative covers based on voluminous bubble wrap and multi-bubble foil constructions are always going to be more difficult to store and more unwieldy to handle.

These air-bubble dependent covers are also liable to make a noticeable contribution to airfreight costs due to their volume adding to dimensional weight charges.

Instead of using a high bulk, easily damaged array of air bubbles for thermal insulation, the low-bulk Tyvek Xtreme W50 pallet cover employs a high thermal-efficiency fibrous layer.

This is not only much more thermally efficient than a bubble configuration of equivalent dimensions, but can also be unpacked and fitted in place in as little as 90 seconds.

Storage and transportation are made very easy due to the fact that such covers come multi-packed for very low storage space requirements, and they are typically around half the



## FEATURE



weight of a bubble foil equivalent.

"Most cargo covers (thermal blankets, pallet covers) work by insulating the cargo from the outside environment, slowing the flow of heat from the outside to the cargo inside. We, instead, employ the extremely high reflectivity of Tyvek for sunlight, which is usually the main cause of heating on the airport tarmac, to throw that energy back into the environment so it never has a chance to penetrate to the precious goods under a Tyvek Cargo Cover. That means Tyvek Cargo Covers can be thinner, lighter, more flexible and easier to use than other pallet covers," said Brabbs.

"In fact, many packaging engineers' first response when they touch a Tyvek Cargo Cover is that it is 'too thin to be effective', which leads them to believe that it is just a rain cover. But when they test Tyvek Cargo Covers, they find they work like magic, and are as good or better on the tarmac than much thicker traditional pallet covers. But it's not magic, it's science," he added.

It is worth noting that today's increasingly multimodal freight haulage can be very demanding physically on a cargo cover. Handling damage is never completely avoidable, however – so if it does occur, it is important that it is visible and that minor detriment does not materially reduce the protection being provided.

Unfortunately, damage to bubble-based materials is not always visible and yet can seriously compromise its thermal performance. It must be remembered that any air bubbles

that are punctured will completely lose their insulative properties.

The thermal integrity of fibrous insulation, on the other hand, is not nearly so easily compromised when subject to minor handling abuse. Small penetrations effectively 'self-heal', while minor abrasions have no detrimental effect on performance.

The natural permeability or 'breathability' of all Tyvek pallet covers is another distinguishing feature. Perishable shipments are often exposed to fluctuating temperatures as they are moved between controlled and uncontrolled storage areas and between different transport modes.

These varying temperature conditions directly impact the levels of relative humidity and inevitably lead to condensation being formed as a consequence.

Recent comparative exercises between breathable and non-breathable cargo cover materials have provided ample evidence of this condensation, potentially adverse, occurring with non-breathable materials during long distance air and truck transportation, even where overall temperature variations had been relatively modest. By contrast, the vapor-open material used in Tyvek breathable covers showed no signs of below-surface moisture build-up.

#### **Good for the freight industry**

Recent reports indicate that many pharmaceutical products are now being transported to market by sea rather than air, not just for reasons of thermal consistency, as you might expect, but simply for reasons of cost.

Ocean freight are said to be 80 percent cheaper than airfreight.

With some airlines charging fuel surcharges based on chargeable weight rather than actual weight, shippers are starting to look more closely at the volumetric implications of their cargo protection.

The use of Tyvek pallet covers can make a worthwhile contribution to overall freight cost reduction, not just because of their high performance, but also because they exhibit low bulk and weight, and because they are easy to store and very quick to fit. For example, a standard euro-pallet Tyvek cover can be fitted or removed in as little as 60 seconds.

**"Thin and lightweight Tyvek Cargo Covers pack small, so one box of them is typically equivalent to a whole pallet-load of traditional covers, in terms of the number of pallets of pharmaceuticals which can be protected with them. That gives an immediate savings in warehouse costs. Much more significant is the reduction in labor and training costs, and increase in warehouse throughput. Their material and design make Tyvek Cargo Covers so easy to install, taking less than one minute to fit to a standard pallet, which is why warehouse managers**



## love our covers," said Brabbs.

"Lastly, many thicker thermal blankets add so much to the outer dimensions of each shipping pallet that the freight forwarder can no longer fit as many as normal on an airline pallet. That means more space is taken up in the aircraft hold, and that translates directly into higher freight charges. Tyvek Cargo Covers are so thin that the added size is not an issue, and even on our thickest Xtreme W50 covers, the structure is compressible so they don't prevent loading the normal number of pallets together."

### Optimal cost saving solution

In a recent survey, 94% of respondents said that the finding of cost-effective temperature control services and solutions is one of their biggest challenges.

Like most things, it is not simply a case of considering the initial price; it is a question of considering the performance of a solution against both its initial purchase cost and its costs in use; in other words, its 'whole life cost'.

Only by considering all the associated costs and benefits, tangible and intangible, associated with a product over its life cycle can an informed choice be made concerning the optimum product or solution for a specific need.

"It depends, of course, on the sensitivity of the product and the threats experienced along the route. For most circumstances, Tyvek Solar W20 covers are the solution of choice, often with the optional pallet bases which limit ingress of air into the bottom," explained Brabbs.

"In more extreme or high-risk situations, and especially when there is potential exposure to high and low temperatures on the route, Tyvek Xtreme W50 covers are the better choice. Many users have both in their arsenal and switch between them



depending on the season or product. There are, of course, situations where we would not recommend Tyvek, nor any kind of cargo cover for that matter."

### A 'passive' cool chain element

At present a significant proportion of pharmaceuticals are transported with a 'protection' comprising a simple covering of stretch-wrap or bubble-wrap.

This is a wasteful exercise in itself since these materials are rarely re-useable and, even more seriously, they have been shown to contribute to unnecessary temperature deviations by causing serious heat gains through 'greenhouse' solar gain effects.

**The elimination of the wastage that results will make a worthwhile contribution to minimizing unnecessary carbon emissions. The pallet cover solutions from DuPont also offer a superior strength-to-weight ratio, which potentially can reduce energy use in transportation compared to heavier competitive products.**

The use of very low weight materials results in less energy and resource consumption, and less

material waste at the end of product life.

And that's not all. As a 'passive' cool-chain element, these low-mass covers do not require any power or energy consuming preparation and, compared to alternative pallet wrappings and covers, they are more energy efficient than alternative 150 Micron films, bulky bubble wrap or corrugated cardboard protection and material, and, as a Grade 2 polymer, are 100% recyclable.

In 2017, DuPont announced a new courtesy recycling service for Tyvek Pallet Covers and at the moment the scheme is being rolled out across the US before being extended to other markets. The scheme is the latest step in the company's commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship and will ensure that all Tyvek customers have access to a satisfactory end-of-life solution.

The Tyvek recycling service supports the contention that with many thermal cargo covers, the efficient reclamation of single-use covers is kinder to the planet than attempting to juggle the numerous environmental deficits associated with re-usable covers.

The drawbacks of re-using covers include expensive, CO<sub>2</sub>-generating return logistics and the need to manage and finance rigorous product checking, repairing, cleaning, decontamination and testing regimes.



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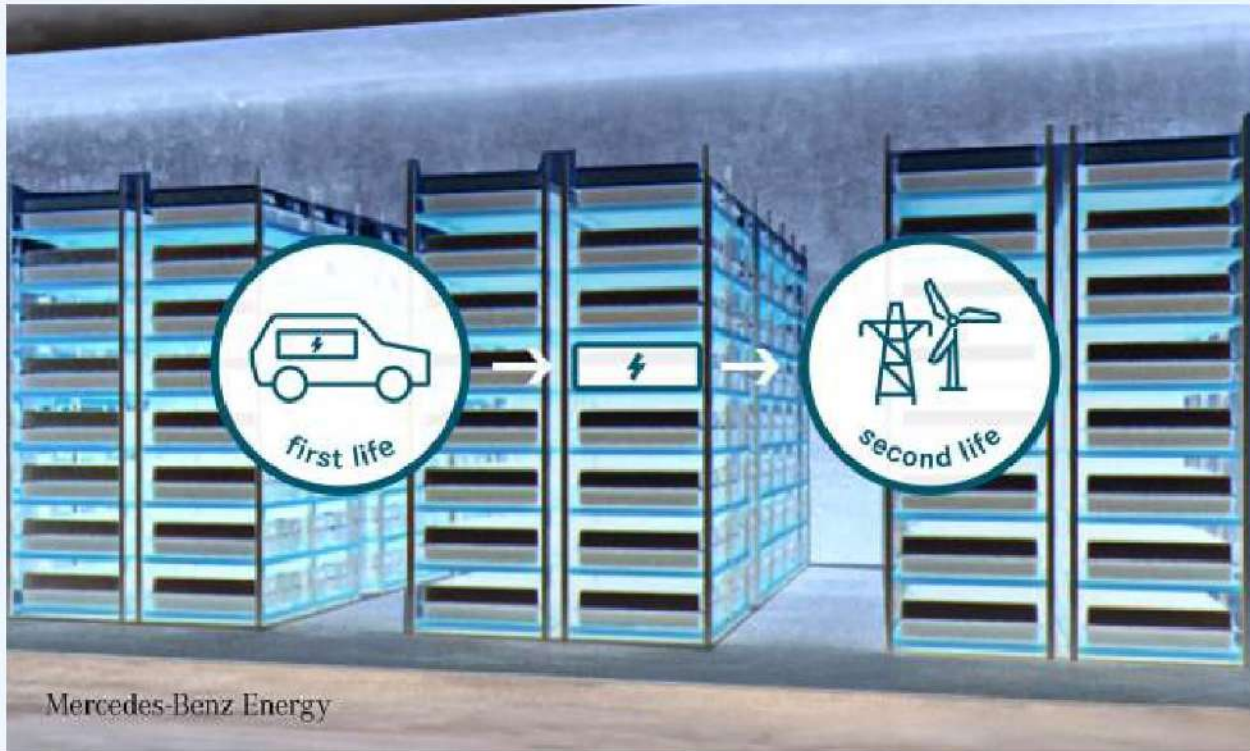
# Daimler Trucks & Buses investing more on battery-powered trucks

World's biggest truck manufacturer teams up with China's CATL to develop battery systems and battery pack assembly as Daimler AG partners with Beijing Electric Vehicle Co., Ltd. to establish 2nd life energy storage systems in China in the future.





## TRUCKING



Mercedes-Benz Energy

**D**aimler Trucks & Buses is gearing up to power up with lithium-ion battery its global electric trucks set for series production from 2021 onwards.

Last September, Daimler Trucks & Buses signed up an agreement with Contemporary Amperex Technology Co. Limited (CATL) to produce and supply battery cell modules for its global electric truck portfolio that will be introduced in the markets from 2021 onwards, including that of Mercedes-Benz eActros, Freightliner eCascadia and Freightliner eM2.

The heavy-duty Mercedes-Benz eActros with a range of around 200 km is in intensive customer trials as part of an "eActros innovation fleet" in Germany and Switzerland with the first customer hand over in 2018.

In the United States, the all-electric medium Freightliner eM2 and the heavy-duty Freightliner eCascadia trucks are also in practical customer testing. Around 150 vehicles of the light-duty FUSO eCanter are already in customer operation in cities around the globe such as New York City, Tokyo, Berlin, London,

Amsterdam, Paris and Lisbon.

#### Power-pack partnership

The development of the battery systems lies with Daimler Trucks & Buses. Battery pack assembly will be carried out by Daimler Trucks & Buses as well—at its Mercedes-Benz Mannheim plant in Germany and its Detroit (Michigan) plant in the US, it was disclosed.

"At Daimler Trucks & Buses, we are constantly leveraging our strong technological position and global presence through intelligent platforms and shared modules. We are extending this formula of success to our electric trucks as well, fulfilling our customers' needs with speed to market and best-available technology. Our E-Mobility Group and the new partnership with CATL are key elements of this approach," said Dr. Frank Reintjes, Head of Global Powertrain, E-Mobility and Manufacturing Engineering Daimler Trucks.

Gesa Reimelt, Head of E-Mobility Group Daimler Trucks & Buses, noted: "As the world's leading truck manufacturer, we strive to be first to

market with series production zero-emission transportation solutions on a global scale. Already today, we have battery-electric trucks in customer operation around the world. Working with CATL as a strong global partner will go a long way in providing a wide range of electric trucks for series production from 2021 onwards."

**Jia Zhou, President of CATL, said "CATL is committed to drive new energy innovations throughout the world" adding that providing highly efficient electric vehicles is vital to the overall development of the e-mobility market. "Our global partnership with Daimler Trucks & Buses is an important step forward to realize our shared vision of a more sustainable society in the near future."**



Headquartered in Ningde, China, CATL has produced 21.31 GWh worldwide. It has more than 24,000 employees around the world and subsidiaries in Beijing, Liyang (Jiangsu Province), Shanghai and Xining (Qinghai Province), as well as in Munich (Germany), Paris (France), Yokohama (Japan), Detroit (USA) and Vancouver (Canada).

In addition, the company owns and operates battery manufacturing facilities in Fujian, Jiangsu and Qinghai provinces, and the Europe plant located in Erfurt, Germany, as well as the first overseas plant is under construction. In June 2018, the company went public on the Shenzhen Stock Exchange with stock code 300750.

#### **e-Mobility redefines the future**

Since 2018, the E-Mobility Group bundles Daimler Trucks & Buses' global know-how in the field of e-mobility and defines the strategy for electric components and products across brands and segments.

As is the case with the global platform strategy for conventional vehicles, the E-Mobility Group develops an integrated electric architecture, maximizing the use of

synergies and optimizing the application of investments.

At the same time, the E-Mobility Group offers comprehensive consulting for customers and focuses on the entire ecosystem with the goal to make e-mobility economically feasible also in terms of TCO (Total Cost of Ownership).

The E-Mobility Group is set up globally with employees working in various locations throughout the company's worldwide development network, i.e. in Portland (U.S.), Stuttgart (Germany) and Kawasaki (Japan).

#### **2nd-life energy storage systems**

In July, Daimler AG with its wholly owned subsidiary Mercedes-Benz Energy GmbH and Beijing Electric Vehicle Co., Ltd. (BJEV), a subsidiary of the BAIC Group, entered into a development partnership, intending to establish 2nd-life energy storage systems in China in the future.

The companies said the partnership will see a consolidation of expertise and resources regarding the value-chain of automotive battery systems, while laying the groundwork for a sustainable renewable energy development.

Together, Mercedes-Benz Energy and Beijing Electric Vehicle plan to set up the first 2nd-life energy storage unit in Beijing, making use of retired BJEV electric car batteries. This project will serve as the basis for other types of cooperation in the future.

**Gordon Gassmann, CEO of Mercedes-Benz Energy, creating a sustainable future through responsible use of resources is of paramount concern to the company.**

**"The extension of regenerative and thus high-fluctuation energy production is rapidly increasing worldwide. The tendency towards increasing distances between the site of energy production and the site of energy consumption also means huge challenges for today's energy grids.**



## TRUCKING

"This is creating wide-ranging opportunities for stationary energy storage systems worldwide. 2nd-life battery storage units are a very sensible supplement, as with the further utilisation of disused car batteries we are also making sustainable use of valuable raw materials," said Gassman.

Ye Xiaohua, Deputy General Manager of BJEV, emphasized: "The rapid electrification of vehicles has transformed vehicles from a traditional means of transport, to a new tool of energy management. BJEV is an expert in areas such as charging and battery swap infrastructure and battery 2nd-life usage. I believe our cooperation in energy management will bring long-term and stable benefits."

As a subsidiary of Daimler AG, Mercedes-Benz Energy, which is based in Kamenz has been responsible for developing innovative energy storage solutions since 2016. These are based on the automotive battery technology, which is used in electric and hybrid vehicles from Mercedes-Benz and smart.

The spectrum of large-scale storage applications by Mercedes-Benz Energy ranges from load peak compensation through black start (power system independent start up of the power plant) to uninterrupted powersupply (USV).

The company's focus is in particular on applications from the 2nd-life and replacement parts storage unit sector. Together with its partners, Daimler has already put three mass storage devices with a total energy of 40 MWh from car battery systems into the German grid.

Mercedes-Benz Energy also furnished proof together with the transmission system operator TenneT: automotive battery storage systems can take over tasks from large power stations and make a fundamental contribution towards grid stabilisation and system reconstruction following a power station outage.

The cooperation with the Chinese partner BJEV is now paving the way for the Daimler subsidiary to go abroad. With extensive tests and simulations, the Mercedes-Benz

Energy engineers will demonstrate in the coming months how electric automotive storage units will in future also be able to support the Chinese power grid efficiently and sustainably with regard to fluctuation and power outage management.

Beijing Electric Vehicle Co., Ltd. was established in 2009 by the BAIC Group as a development platform for New Energy Vehicles. With more than 420,000 battery-electric vehicles on the market so far, BJEV is one of the leading manufacturers of all-electric vehicles in China.

Accordingly, their batteries form one of the largest pools worldwide and offer wide-ranging potential for 2nd-life applications in the area of stationary use.

In 2016, BAIC established Beijing Artcore Battery to perform research into the utilization of 2nd-life batteries. Beijing Artcore Battery is currently involved in the research of telecommunications base stations, highway renewable energy stations and mobile energy storage units. Research into micro-grid energy storage is also planned.





## Scot waives payment processing fees globally

**SINGAPORE:** Scot, the low cost carrier of Singapore Airlines, removed payment processing fees in selected markets in a bid to make travel more affordable for its growing market in the Asia-Pacific region.

In July, the airline announced it's investing on 16 brand new A321neo aircraft, with the first plane named "Wings of Change", up for delivery in the last quarter of 2020.

The new fleet, according to Scot, will enable it to meet its double-digit growth plan by the end of FY2020/2021 and the removal of the processing payment fees will make traveling affordable for more people.

Lee Lik Hsin, Scot's Chief Executive Officer, said the company offered a limited range of payment methods when it began its operations but technology changed this.

"As we expanded globally and



heard our customers' feedback, we took advantage of advances in payment technology to implement many more payment methods to improve our customers' experience. In order to pass on the savings to our customers as our costs came down, we have since March 2018 progressively removed payment processing fees," he said.

Scot currently offers a comprehensive range of payment options across its network of 67 cities in 17 countries and territories. The evolution of payment systems over the years, driven by technological improvements, significantly helped defray associated costs required to support and maintain the payment infrastructure, the airline said.

## SriLankan Airlines marks 40 years in aviation industry



**COLOMBO:** SriLankan Airlines marked on September 1st its 40th anniversary in the global aviation industry and serving Sri Lanka's need for a reliable airline to support its growing tourism and air cargo industries.

Its first flight was made on Sept 1, 1979 from Colombo's Bandaranaike International Airport to Bangkok, Thailand. Today, SriLankan Airlines is a global award winning airline that carries millions of passengers each year with a route network

of 109 cities in 48 countries, including codeshare operations in partnership with the world's finest airlines.

It is firmly established as one of the leading airlines in the Indian Ocean region, being the largest carrier to both Sri Lanka and the Maldives, and the largest foreign airline in India.

"Our objective is to become the most customer-centric airline in Asia, both in the air and on the ground, building on our four decades of excellence in customer service

for which we have won numerous international accolades with our emphasis on safety, punctuality and service," said Vipula Gunatilleka, Group CEO of SriLankan Airlines.

A member of the prestigious oneworld global airline partnership, SriLankan Airlines also connects travelers to over 1,000 cities in 160 countries through its oneworld partner airlines.

SriLankan Airlines also has stakes in ground handling services, logistics, air cargo, MRO, aviation college and catering services that produce about 40,000 meals per day.

"Our staff has been our biggest strength and we look to them to ring in many changes to help SriLankan evolve. Next year, new destinations such as Ahmedabad, Calicut, Katmandu, Saigon and Sydney will be added and several code-share agreements have been finalized with carriers from Africa, Middle East and the Far East to bridge the gaps in our network. What do we do to reduce carbon emissions and use of plastic on board? We are implementing many cost saving initiatives including fuel saving measures for our fleet. At the same time, the impact of global terrorism, trade tensions and climate change must be addressed," said the airline CEO.

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## Emirates is first airline outside of US to offer CBP-approved biometric boarding



**DUBAI:** Emirates once again pushed the boundaries of technology by becoming the first airline outside of the US to receive approval for biometric boarding from the US Customs Border Protection (CBP).

Soon, customers flying from Dubai to any of Emirates' 12 destinations in the US will be able to choose facial recognition technology at the departure gates, reducing the time taken for identity checks to two seconds or less, the airline announced. No pre-registration is required, and customers may also choose not to use the technology it added while noting that Emirates does not store any biometric records of its customers – all the data is managed securely by CBP.

The airline said the technology was piloted at the

departure gates of Emirates' flights from Dubai to New York and Los Angeles through the peak periods in July and August. The results were encouraging with some flights achieving 100 percent biometric boarding and zero manual checks. The airline expects to make biometric boarding available for all its U.S. destinations by year-end, once the equipment is in place.

How biometric boarding works: at the boarding gate, the system clicks the passenger's photo, which is matched against CBP's gallery in real-time to verify the person's identity in two seconds or less. The system may not work for those who haven't travelled to the U.S. for a long time or whose images are not in CBP's gallery, in which case they can simply approach the gate desks.

Dr. Abdulla Al Hashimi, Divisional Senior Vice President, Emirates Group Security, said: "Our ultimate aim is to help our passengers travel paperless, without the need for passports and IDs. Biometric boarding is one more step in streamlining processes at our hub using digital technology, saving our customers time and giving them peace of mind. We are talking with authorities of several countries to make security using facial recognition technology more acceptable and accessible."

John Wagner, Deputy Executive Assistant Commission, Office of Field Operations, CBP, noted his office has been working with major aviation stakeholders like Emirates "to build a simplified, but secure travel process that aligns with CBP's and the travel industry's modernization efforts."

## Air Astana moves operations to Moscow's Domodedovo Airport



**ALMATY:** Kazakhstan's national carrier, Air Astana, is moving its flight operations from Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport to Domodedovo Airport starting October 27.

The decision was made after the airline signed a code-share agreement with the Russian carrier S7 Airlines which operates out of Domodedovo Airport.

Located south of Moscow, Domodedovo Airport served 29.4 million passengers in 2018 and is the base airport for the largest

global airline alliances— One World and Star Alliance—which have a combined 50 scheduled airlines operating to 202 destinations.

Air Astana said the change of airport is for services from both Nur-Sultan (11 weekly services in winter) and Almaty (14 weekly services in winter).

Domodedovo Airport offers over 140 shops, cafes, bars and restaurants and is connected to Moscow city center through a high-speed train service (AeroExpress).

Air Astana has served more than 3.5 million passengers and 26,000 tons of cargo between Kazakhstan and Moscow since it started serving the routes in 2002.



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## China opens second Beijing airport billed as the world's most expensive



Chinese President Xi Jinping



**BEIJING:** China unveiled on September 25 its second airport in the capital, the Beijing Daxing International Airport, billed as the world's most expensive with the largest single terminal building.

Roughly the size of 100 football fields reportedly costing \$25 billion to construct, the airport is envisioned to handle up to 45 million passengers by 2021 and 72 million by 2025.

The entire airport has 5G access, uses facial recognition technology for check-ins and is powered by

photovoltaic solar energy.

Chinese President Xi Jinping inaugurated the new airport ahead of the Communist Party's 70th anniversary in power (October 1, 2019). A China Southern Airlines plane bound for the southern province of Guangdong took the first commercial flight to Daxing International Airport followed by six more flights bound for Shanghai and other destinations.

The phoenix-shaped airport designed by the late famed Iraqi-

born architect Zaha Hadid is located about 45 km south of downtown Beijing. It has four runways and 268 aircraft stands with room for expansion.

Xi, also the general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, noted the new airport, built in less than five years and put into operation smoothly, has shown China's prowess in engineering construction, the state news agency Xinhua reported.

## Heathrow Airport aims to turn unrecyclable passenger waste into furniture, uniforms and alternative fuels

**LONDON:** Heathrow Airport says it will kick-start a new trial turning unrecyclable plastic passenger waste – including food packaging and plastic film – into airport furniture, uniforms and lower-emission jet fuel by 2025.

In a UK first, the airport says it will test a new recycling unit that will help solve the issue of waste from terminals and aircraft cabins for which there are limited commercial recycling options.

Currently at Heathrow, close to 50% of airport and aircraft cabin waste is recycled. This is comparable with most local authorities despite the strict regulations in place for cabin waste from international flights, which mean most of that waste must be sent for incineration or landfilled.

The pilot plant, developed by Heathrow's Innovation Prize winners Sheffield-based company Catal and UCL Dr Massimiliano Materazzi, has the potential to save up to 5,000 tonnes waste from incineration by



turning it into its original oil state for recycling every year.

If successful, it will enable Heathrow to recycle all plastic waste from the airport where regulations permit. This technology could also help to salvage aircraft cabin waste should government review and adopt a more risk-based approach to regulations for waste from international flights which currently mean tens of thousands of tonnes of recyclable products across UK airports have to be sent for incineration.

Once the waste is refined using this new technology, the resulting oil will be collected and processed in a

separate facility which makes use of renewable hydrogen to upgrade the oil into new generation, low-carbon products such as furniture and uniforms. It is estimated that between 5 and 8 kg of plastics oil will be produced for every 10 kg of waste handled each hour. Researchers say it's also possible that this oil can be transformed into Jet A1-type sustainable fuel and will investigate further during the trial.

This autumn, Heathrow will help to kick start the R&D unit by awarding researchers a cash boost of £30,000. By 2025, Catal and UCL plan to roll out commercial units to other airports.

# Aero MRO India Aerospace & Defence 2019

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## UAE celebrates 89th National Day of Saudi Arabia



**ABU DHABI/DUBAI:** The United Arab Emirates joined on September 23 the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in celebrating its 89th National Day marking the occasion with numerous activities.

In Dubai, Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest building, lit up with the Saudi flag and had a special spectacle at

Dubai fountain. There were also fireworks, Saudi music and performances across the city's different malls.

In the UAE capital, the Abu Dhabi Airports held a range of activities in and around Abu Dhabi International Airport for three days which include a Saudi band performing several traditional songs each day, celebratory signage throughout terminals 1 and 3, and the distribution of Saudi flags, dates, coffee, stamps, scarves, pins and a variety of gifts to passengers arriving from or departing to the Kingdom.

In addition, Abu Dhabi Airports lit up the ATC Tower, projecting the UAE and Saudi flags, prepared a special signage and luggage tags for use at check-in counters and baggage claim, and unveiled a Snapchat filter designed to celebrate the occasion.

"Our wide variety of activities and activations embrace the close relationship and unity between the UAE and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

We look forward to ensuring everyone traveling to or arriving from the Kingdom feels at home in Abu Dhabi, enjoys a smooth and seamless travel experience, and has the opportunity to explore everything the UAE has to offer," said Bryan Thompson, CEO of Abu Dhabi Airports.

Non-oil trade exchange between the UAE and KSA has reached AED417.6 billion over the past five years, said UAE Minister of Economy Sultan bin Saeed Al Mansouri.

Non-oil exchange between the two countries reached AED107.4 billion in 2018, a surge of 35% over 2017, reflecting the strength of the strategic partnership and the unity of visions between the two brotherly countries in all development fields.

The Minister said Saudi Arabia is the first Arab trade partner and the third globally for the UAE in 2018 emphasizing that the UAE is also at the forefront of investing countries in Saudi Arabia with total value of over AED34 billion.

## World's only airport brewery turns 20 amid Oktoberfest vibe

**MUNICH:** Airbräu, the world's only airport brewery located at Munich Airport, turned 20 on September 9 just as the Bavarian region gets ready for the world's biggest folk festival, Oktoberfest.

Born out of a quest to offer passengers and visitors a unique Bavarian-themed dining experience, Airbräu, which features Europe's largest covered beer garden, quickly became a popular spot, beloved among staff on the airport campus, residents from the surrounding area and travelers from around the world.

Over the past 20 years, Airbräu has brewed 10 million liters of beer. Complementing the perennially popular year-round brews (lager, weissbier and märzenbier), Master brewer René Jacobsen also creates seasonal and festive beers.

On September 21, Oktoberfest, a tradition dating back to the 17th



century when Bavaria's Crown Prince Ludwig married Princess Therese of Saxony-Hildburghausen on Oct. 12, 1810 characterized by days of drinking, feasting and horse racing, kicked off in Munich.

The sights, sounds and the tastes of Oktoberfest dominated Munich through the first week of October. At Munich Airport, many employees even

swap their uniforms for a traditional dirndl dress or lederhosen, and with the airport brewmaster creating a special festival beer for the occasion.

For the 12th straight year, Lufthansa's popular "Oktoberfest crew" will delight international passengers on many routes by donning traditional Bavarian costumes in the airline's corporate colors.



## AVIATION

# Global Investment in Aviation Summit 2020 set for January 27-29



Saif Mohammed Al Suwaidi

**DUBAI:** The United Arab Emirates is hosting in Dubai for the second year in a row the Global Investment in Aviation Summit (GIAS), themed 'Enabling Global Aviation Growth through Fundraising and Key Partnerships.'

The UAE General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) said the two-day event will be held from January 27-29, 2020 with over 200 investors and

1,200 delegates, besides selected government officials, aviation organizations, finance & insurance firms, aviation asset owners, aircraft operators & logistic service providers and legal consultants are expected to turn up at the event.

UAE Director General Saif Mohammed Al Suwaidi highlighted the UAE's remarkable position in the international and regional aviation industry and described it as one of the cornerstones of the country's economic development.

"The national agenda for 2021 aims for UAE to be the world first in the quality of the air transport infrastructure. Although we are facing some challenges, such as determining the airspace and congestion in the UAE, we achieved great strides in the aviation industry," said Al Suwaidi.

Organizers said registration is now open on <https://www.gias.ae/> and the

website will have the latest updates on top policy makers, industry leaders and aviation experts who are attending the panel discussions and workshops.

Crucial projects and investment opportunities in the international civil aviation sector are expected to be unveiled at the event. The summit would also reveal the best practices of the first aviation business incubator Intelak, which provides training programs and workshops for trainees who want to learn the secrets and techniques of the aviation sector.

Launched in 2018 to establish a socioeconomic sustainable civil aviation system, the first edition of GIAS saw the participation of over 850 international delegates and 120 investors from 60 countries around the world, including the US, UK, France, Germany, India, Saudi Arabia and Egypt.

## IATA launches gender diversity campaign

**MONTREAL:** The International Air Transport Association (IATA) recently launched the 25by2025 Campaign—an initiative to advance gender diversity in the airline industry by 2025.

The 25by2025 Campaign is a voluntary commitment by participating IATA member airlines which totaled 290 as of last month.

Key among the commitments of airlines participating in the 25by2025 Campaign are: Increasing the number of women in senior positions (to be defined by the member airlines) by either 25% against currently reported metrics or to minimum representation of 25% by 2025; Increasing the number of women in under-represented jobs (e.g. pilots and operations) by either 25% against currently reported metrics or to a minimum representation of 25% by 2025, and; Reporting annually on key diversity metrics

IATA member airlines who have

already signed up to the 25by2025 Campaign include China Eastern, Lufthansa Group and Qatar Airways.

There is currently no comprehensive airline industry-wide gender diversity statistical report. But, with women representing around 5% (1) of the global pilot population and 3% (2) of CEOs, the gender imbalance in the industry is clear.

"Aviation is the business of freedom. An example of that is the freedom for 2.7 million women and men to develop exciting careers within this industry. But women are under-represented at senior levels and in some professions within airlines. Airlines understand the value that a diverse and gender-balanced workforce delivers," said Alexandre de Juniac, IATA's Director General and CEO.

"The 25by2025 Campaign provides a global context and encouragement for the many initiatives our members



Alexandre de Juniac

are already taking to address the gender imbalance. I am confident that 25by2025 will be a major catalyst for progress—progress that will set the industry up to achieve even more in this important area. Our work will not be done in 2025, in fact, this is only the beginning. Our ultimate aim is of course for a 50-50 gender split with equal opportunities for everyone in every part of our industry," he added.

## 16 experiments in space for first Emirati astronaut in ISS

**DUBAI/ISS:** After successfully lifting off to the outer space on Sept 25 aboard the Soyuz MS-15 spacecraft with veteran American and Russian astronauts, Hazza Al Mansoori, the first Emirati and Arab astronaut to reach the International Space Station (ISS), began working on 16 scientific experiments he was commissioned to do.

On Sept 29, Al Mansoori shared a series of photos with the team at the Mohammed bin Rashid Space Centre (MBRSC) while conducting an experiment on bone status indexes, body composition, and endocrine regulation in astronauts. This experiment on Osteology is conducted in cooperation with the Russian Space Agency Roscosmos reported the Emirates State News Agency WAM.

Al Mansoori and Russian cosmonaut Oleg Skripochka were pictured using the station's equipment to conduct the experiment. The Emirati also appeared in a photo calculating his body mass index to study the impact of microgravity on bone density.

Al Mansoori regularly communicates with the Emirati engineers at MBRSC's ground station in Dubai and Russia's Mission Control Centre, to brief them on his scientific experiments and daily routine, and send pictures and videos, while on board the ISS.

Al Mansoori will conduct 16 scientific experiments in cooperation with international space agencies, including Roscosmos, the European Space Agency, ESA, NASA, and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, JAXA.

Six of these experiments will be conducted in microgravity, and the results of the two environments will later be compared. The experiments include studying the reaction of vital indicators of the human body aboard the ISS, as well as



Donning the UAE national dress Kandura, Emirati astronaut Hazza Al Mansoori, center, poses with his colleagues aboard the International Space Station. Image Credit: Twitter/@roscosmos

other physical, biological and chemical experiments.

"I'd like to thank the UAE's wise leadership for their vision and guidance, and for the continuous support that we receive from H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Mohammed bin Rashid Space Centre," said Hamad Obaid Al Mansoori, Chairman of MBRSC.

"...for the first time, an Emirati astronaut travels to the ISS, carrying the ambitions of the entire Arab region. We congratulate him and congratulate ourselves for being blessed with a country that motivates its youth to reach the highest positions and achieve their aspirations, by supporting them and turning their dreams into a reality that would make every Emirati proud."

## 'Middle East is new promise land for creators and innovators'

**DUBAI:** Nearly a third of the Middle East's population are aged between 15-29 and business leaders and entrepreneurs in the region believe their number, estimated at over 108 million, will usher in a new era of "creators and innovators" in the years to come.

The Indian-origin Hong Kong born Chief Operating Officer of Jacky's Business Solutions, Ashish Panjabi, said there has been a growing interest in the use of technology in the region during recent years and it's likely to flourish with young minds in the region creating new ideas and innovations.

His company, which offers solutions to industries ranging from signage and print sectors to industrial tools to automation; from cutting tools to 3D manufacturing to customer service and client relations through robotics, hosted the first "Creators & Innovators Expo" showcasing new technology solutions for a growing interest in automation across various industry sectors.

At the expo, Hashish shared Jacky's has teamed up with Japan's Softbank Robotics as the exclusive UAE

humanoid robots partner in the UAE.

Softbank said about 25,000 humanoid robots are already being used worldwide. Recently, these robots have been utilized to treat autism, collaborating with different clinics. They are also now being utilized in the education sector at different grade levels.

Experts say the humanoid robots used in treating autism "never get tired" and are integrated with comprehensive data, making them effective teachers and companions for people with autism.

Over the last few years, Jacky's Group has expanded Jacky's Business Solutions' operations and evolved With Expo 2020 around the corner, Creators & Innovators Expo will bring in speakers that will help business owners harness innovative new technologies to help them future proof their business and tap into some of the opportunities that Expo 2020 will bring. From printing trends that explore new mediums like textiles to tapping trends in education to build the next generation of businesses.

**IATA**

**AIRLINE**

**INDUSTRY RETAILING**

**SYMPOSIUM**

Bangkok, Thailand  
29-31 October 2019

## Join the "Retail-Volution."

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EXECUTIVE MOMENTS

## Andrew Forbes is new Head of Middle-East and North-Africa Regions for Secure Land Communications of Airbus

**DUBAI:** Airbus has appointed Andrew Forbes as the new Head of the Middle East and North-Africa region of Secure Land Communications effective Sept 2, replacing Selim Bouri who has moved on to another position within Airbus.

Forbes will build on Airbus's previous strong performances in delivering the latest Tetra technology in those regions, targeting new markets, and developing mission critical-solutions tailored to customers' needs.

"We strongly intend to intensify efforts made in the fields of public safety networks, defense, transportation, energy and other critical industries such as the mining sector, in order to bring forward innovative and customised solutions that surpass competitors. In the Middle East region in particular, we

can build on our excellent existing customer relations," said Forbes.

"Our customers, particularly in the Middle East, are forerunners in mission-critical technology solutions. They are expecting their systems to follow the same megatrends that the civilian ones are following while maintaining the most important features such as security, reliability, resiliency, and of course, voice. Our aim is to bring forward hybrid possibilities, seamless connectivity, data-driven services, and applications with extremely high security standards while maintaining flawless voice services," added Forbes who is based in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Forbes has 36 years of experience in the implementation, operation, and management of geographically dispersed Information and Communication Technology (ICT)



Andrew Forbes

systems and is an experienced communications and structured cable design engineer.

Forbes began his career in the British Armed Forces. He has a Master of Science (MSc) in Information Technology Service Management Degree from Northampton University and a Diploma in Company Direction. He joined Airbus in 2014.

## WFS appoints Paul Carmody as Managing Director-UK Cargo



Paul Carmody

**LONDON:** Worldwide Flight Services (WFS), the world's largest air cargo handler, has appointed Paul Carmody as Managing Director of its cargo operations in the

United Kingdom.

Paul was Head of UK Operations for WFS in the UK prior to this promotion. He has a wealth of experience in the cargo handling industry, also holding senior positions at Menzies Aviation in Canada and the USA prior to joining WFS in 2009.

In his new role, Paul is responsible for all aspects of the company's cargo operations in the UK, reporting directly to John Batten, WFS' EVP Cargo, Europe, Middle East, Africa & Asia (EMEA). WFS' growing cargo operation in the UK handles close to 600,000 tons per annum for 40 airline customers at facilities in London, Manchester, Glasgow and UK regional airports.

"Paul thoroughly deserves this promotion. With his solid experience and operational skills, he will provide the leadership to grow our UK Cargo business and ensure we achieve our performance objectives in the coming years," said Batten.

## UPS picks Pepsi Co. financial expert Brian Newman as new CFO

**ATLANTA:** UPS Chief Financial Officer Richard Peretz, 57, who will retire in December will be replaced by Brian Newman, 50, the former Executive Vice President, Finance and



Brian Newman

Operations, Latin America for PepsiCo, effective September 16, 2019, UPS announced.

Newman will join the UPS Management Committee, the senior-most leadership team responsible for management of the company. Peretz will remain with the company through December 2019 to assist Newman to ensure a smooth transition period.

UPS said Newman is a proven senior corporate leader with extensive finance, operations, corporate strategy and information technology experience. He served in positions of increasing responsibility at PepsiCo over 26 years and has worked in Asia, Europe, Russia and the U.S. in various corporate, regional and sector assignments.

Newman began his career in investment banking prior to joining PepsiCo. Peretz was appointed UPS CFO in 2015 and served in numerous roles throughout his 38-year career with UPS which he first joined in 1981.

# Moscow Air Show 2019





August 27- September 01, 2019 | Russia





# UPCOMING EVENTS

air  
cargo  
update

## Dubai World Congress for Self Driving Transport

This Congress will bring together experts in the field of Self-driving technology to enhance and accelerate the adoption of Self-Driving Technology globally and contribute to the realization of the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, to make 25% of all trips in Dubai smart and driverless by 2030.

The event also features a cutting-edge exhibition showcasing the future of self-driving vehicles from over 60 exhibitors, over 40 seminars and product demonstrations and a challenge showcase.

**Dubai World Trade Centre, Dubai UAE  
October 15-16, 2019**

## Air & Sea Cargo Americas 2019

Air & Sea Cargo Americas 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 and service quality, responding to market changes and demands from shippers, consolidators and forwarders, and controlling costs while streamlining customer services.

**Doubletree By Hilton Hotel Miami  
Airport & Convention Center  
October 30-November 01, 2019**

## Saudi Transport and Logistics Services: 'Saudi Arabia World Trade Forum'

Saudi Arabia is investing \$140 billion over the next 10 years in expanding and upgrading its transportation sector—maritime, rail, road, air transportation, warehousing and distribution seaports—to support its goal of diversifying its economy. Major infrastructure projects include Riyadh Metro, Mecca Metro, Jeddah Airport and Riyadh Airport.

Saudi Transport & Logistics Services is a vital platform for key government decision makers, transportation bodies, port authorities and industry professionals to announce initiatives, formulate strategies, discuss up-to-the-minute case studies and exchange information on global transport industry. The event is a great resource for companies interested in learning more about Saudi Arabia's growing transportation sector and provides companies with a valuable "first step" toward breaking into the Saudi market and the GCC region.

**Riyadh International Convention & Exhibition Center, Riyadh, KSA  
November 04-06, 2019**

## India Warehousing & Logistics Show

The India Warehousing & Logistics Show is the region's largest and the most successful exhibition of its kind offering visitors seven major product categories—materials handling, storage, flooring, warehousing infrastructure, automation & IT, packaging and also logistics service solutions. The show takes pride in being the only platform to identify new trends, showcase a wide range of products, network with peers and gather competitive intelligence. Pune, the progressive industrial city of Maharashtra, hosts the event.

**Auto Cluster Exhibition Center,  
Pune, India  
November 15-17, 2019**

## Dubai Airshow 2019

The 2019 edition of the Dubai Airshow will once again bring the aerospace community together. Show on show, the Dubai Airshow delivers an unrivalled gateway to established and developing markets – with 80% of the world's population located within eight hours of one of the UAE's airports this is where the industry comes to make connections.

Dubai Airshow 2017 gathered together 1,200 exhibitors from 63 countries, over 79,380 trade visitors with 159 aircraft on display. The event generated an order book of \$113.8 billion, the biggest in its history.

**www.dubaiairshow.aero  
DWC, Dubai Airshow Site  
November 17-21, 2019**

## TIACA Executive Summit 2019

Budapest Airport (BUD) will host The International Air Cargo (TIACA)'s Executive Summit (ES) and Annual General Meeting from 20th to 22nd of November 2019. TIACA is working with EVA International Media to organise its ES, which brings together decision makers from across the globe for a series of panel discussions, keynote speeches, and round table debates. BUD will host an Opening Ceremony for its new dedicated freight center, called BUD Cargo City.

**BUD Cargo City, Budapest, Hungary  
November 19-21, 2019**

## 12th Global Supply Chain and Logistics Summit

This summit held annually in Dubai, acknowledged as the biggest and the most informative thought leadership conferencing for supply chain and logistics industry in Middle East, Asian subcontinent, Turkey, Central & East Europe and Africa region, will focus on the latest insight and trends of global trade, economics, transportation, logistics, manufacturing and distribution. Uniqueness and sophistication of supply chain pertaining to various industry verticals like retail, energy, healthcare, automotive and FMCG will be included.

**Dubai, UAE  
November 27, 2019**



To view Careers in Aviation Industry visit:

**<http://www.aircargoupdate.com/index.php/careers>**



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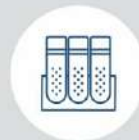
DANGEROUS GOODS



HONEYBEES



HORSES



PHARMA

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