

air cargo update

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Airglow Aviation Group Defying adversity

Rohit Thakwani
 Managing Director
 Airglow Aviation Group

REWIND

Ajay Singh
 Chairman, Spice Jet

SpiceJet chairman spices up his life with boxing

After being named chairman of SpiceJet, Ajay Singh has been in the spotlight. He is also a professional boxer and has been training for several years. Singh is also a former captain of the Indian national football team. He is a passionate sports enthusiast and has been involved in various sports activities throughout his life.

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 Emirates SkyCargo transported over 400,000 tons of pharma

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Airports

Brad Tilden
 Chairman, Alaska Air Group

Logistics

MOVE noun

1 action to achieve sth; change in ideas/behaviour
• A22. big, important, major, radical, significant, substantial | decisive | astute, brilliant, clever, good, inspired, sensible, shrewd, smart, wise | bad | right She wondered whether she had made the right move in getting the truth. | false, wrong One false move could lead to war | positive | bold, brave, strong

Moved by people *(mu:v bai pi:p(ə)l, n.)*

1. Having high performance teams across the globe apply their expertise to transport customers' shipments with utmost care. 2. Being emotionally moved by teams and customers and the incredible bond they share.

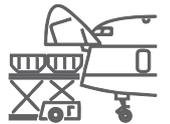
movement noun

1 act of moving
• A22. big | little, slight, small, tiny The eyes of predators are highly sensitive to the slightest movement. | quick, rapid, swift | gentle, slow | easy, graceful, smooth She mounted the horse in one easy movement. | sudden | swift | sudden | deft | controlled | free

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Air Cargo Update is a platform to disseminate news and tackle issues in the global air freight industry with emphasis in the Middle East, South Asia and Africa.

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Connecting the world

Despite the many negative news about the Middle East, particularly on security issues due to conflicts in varying degrees, it cannot be denied that it remains an ideal base for many companies looking for a location that easily connects the East and the West.

In the air transport industry where time and resources are critical in transporting people or goods, the Middle East is strategically ideal with continents within reach in just a few hours and jet fuel relatively cheaper than other places on earth.

Within the GCC region, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Bahrain, have the most robust business infrastructure, digital technologies as well as friendly tax and investment policies that attract foreign investors.

And while the region may have limited manpower, it attracts hordes of hopeful and highly-skilled people from across the Middle East, Asia, South Asia, Africa and even Europe, in search of jobs and pursuing dreams of a better future.

The region had since become a major investment destination for many startups hoping to make it big by jumpstarting their operations here. Major players in finance, research & development, fintech, manufacturing and yes, even air cargo.

FedEx, the largest cargo airline in the world, recently announced plans to expand operations in Saudi Arabia amid the country's quest to diversify its oil-based economy to tourism, logistics and other industries. The company is investing as much as SAR 1.5 billion (about \$400 million) to Saudi within the next decade.

Airglow Aviation, another up and rising aviation firm located in the UAE, is also optimistic about the region's business prospects, defying adversities even during a pandemic. Read on our cover story on the company's remarkable journey partly due to its operations on this part of the world.

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

Gemma Q. Casas
Editor-in-Chief

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IN TODAY'S WORLD, EVERYTHING HAS CHANGED
OUR ENTIRE INDUSTRY HAS CHANGED
THE RULES HAVE CHANGED
WE HAVE CHANGED

ECS GROUP



Brad Tilden may have retired as the CEO of Alaska Airlines early this year but his legacy remains and his presence still felt with him opting to remain serving as the Chairman of the Board of Alaska Aviation Group, the parent company of Alaska Airlines and Horizon Air.

Under Tilden's leadership, Alaska Airlines grew profitable, reduced unnecessary expenses in the millions, focused on low fares, expanded route network and successfully created an airline brand that people love. The airline has been named Highest in Customer Satisfaction Among Traditional Carriers in North America in the J.D. Power North America Satisfaction Study for 11 consecutive years and won the "Best U.S. Airline" in the Condé Nast Traveler's annual 2018 Readers' Choice Awards.

Combining Alaska Airlines and Horizon Air's staff, Alaska Aviation Group has about 23,000 employees, owns 298 aircraft and fly to more than 120 destinations throughout the United States, Canada,

Boy Scouts, cycling, flying and philanthropy for this busy aviation chairman

Brad Tilden
Chairman, Alaska Air Group



Mexico and Costa Rica. and for them, Tilden helped make it happen.

Unlike other aviation executives who had it good growing up, Tilden takes pride in building himself

from scratch. He worked aboard Amtrak trains as a "food specialist" to pay his tuition at Pacific Lutheran University where he studied Business Administration.

After graduation, he worked for the accounting firm PwC for eight years before moving to Alaska Airlines upon a colleague's invitation. That was in 1991. And three years later, he was named as the airline's corporate controller. Later as CFO, executive vice president of finance and in 2012 as its CEO.

When the pandemic struck in 2020, Tilden remained focus and optimistic despite the difficulties facing the global aviation industry. He told the Investor's Business Daily, he draws strength from his father, Doug Tilden, who was tied to a wheelchair because of a childhood bout with polio but never thought of it as a barrier.

The older Tilden became an Eagle Scout and a senior engineer in Boeing's Apollo lunar rover program.

"My father was one of the last victims of polio (before the vaccine). He had no use at all of his right leg and little of his left. But he never complained about his plight. He had a 32-year career with Boeing. Raised a family of six kids," Tilden told Investor's Business Daily.

Outside of the corporate world, Tilden and his family are widely recognized for their many philanthropic projects promoting education, opportunities for young people and supporting the Boy Scouts of America.

Tilden is also a licensed pilot and an avid cyclist who even participated at Tour de France several times.



Brad Tilden: "I spent the bulk of Wednesday in our Anchorage cargo operation, an experience I can only describe as humbling. There was an amazing sense of teamwork among our folks there, and a clear focus on our customers who live in small villages in the state of Alaska. Here I am with my coach for the day: Jacob Scanlan."
Alaska Airlines Photo



Turkish Cargo: 25 years of unrivaled support to global health & cancer fight

ISTANBUL: Capitalizing on its strong global flight network, Turkish Cargo has been safely transporting Turkey's medicine and medical products, particularly for cancer treatment, to more than 50 countries across five continents for over 25 years now.

In the nuclear medicine sector, Turkish Cargo plays an important role for cancer patients to reliably reach high quality diagnosis and treatment products in Turkey and abroad.

Turkey's national airfreight carries radioactive cancer diagnosis medicine used in the treatment of cancer and tumors to Germany, Colombia, India, Algeria, Taiwan and all around the world. With 8 percent market share in medical transportation, national brand gives hope to cancer patients by providing fast and safe transportation for radioactive medicine with half-life, which are produced at night by Eczacıbaşı-Monrol.

Eczacıbaşı-Monrol Nuclear Products General Manager Aydın Küçük shared: "Our mission as Eczacıbaşı-Monrol is to benefit human lives with innovative and pioneering approaches when it comes to diagnosis and treatment of life-threatening illnesses.

As Turkey's first radiopharmaceutical manufacturer, we are one of the significant producers of nuclear medicine for cancer treatment in the world and we export our products to over 50 countries. We can deliver these successes to patients all around the world from Europe, Africa, America and Far East thanks to our strong logistical operation. With this in mind, Turkish Cargo is one of our strongest supporters since 1995 with its speed, operational quality and wide transportation network."

Turkish Cargo greatly contributes to delivery of medical products to patients even sooner than planned with the opportunities provided to manufacturers and helps exporters reach new countries. Easily meeting demands of exporters with its wide flight network, it also contributes to the country's economy with special campaigns and discounts for exporters.

Touching people's lives with 30 years of experience in special cargo operations

Turkish Cargo continues to deliver health to over 300 destinations around the world via its medicine and medical product transportation operations conducted with its operational quality, special transportation methods and expert teams.

Stored in rooms featuring special temperature control with necessary infrastructure, medicine shipments are protected with specialist teams. Also possessing the IATA CEIV (Center of Excellence for Independent Validators) Pharma certificate, Turkish Cargo maintains the cold chain at ideal conditions with its TK Pharma product designed with global standards for medicine and vaccine transportations.

Maintaining its dialog with medical manufacturers, transportation companies, airports, ground operations and official authorities, successful brand can meet the requirements of medicine and vaccine producers when it comes to transportations at ultra-frozen range (70° C) by using its specially frozen containers such as dry ice and vehicles.

Able to meet the export and import demands from any country in the world, Turkish Cargo has begun telling the story of its cooperation with Turkey's exporters via the promotional videos prepared within the "#WeProudlyCarry the Labor of Our Country" project.

The goal of the project is to effectively convey the opportunities of air cargo to Turkey's exporters such as unparalleled market reach options along with effective, on point and reasonable prices. After successful narrative of Turkish rose products with the Gülbirlik promotional video, the new segment focuses on Turkey's health exports with the Eczacıbaşı-Monrol video. Here's the link to that [video https://youtu.be/V-clOl4949g](https://youtu.be/V-clOl4949g)



IATA says industry cooperation, safety, sustainability and modernization are key to air cargo resilience in a post-pandemic era

DUBLIN: The International Air Transport Association (IATA) urged the air cargo industry to continue working together at the same pace, with the same levels of cooperation as during the COVID-19 pandemic to overcome future challenges and build industry resilience.

Sustainability, modernization, and safety were also highlighted as key priorities for the industry in the post-pandemic era. The call was made at the 14th World Cargo Symposium (WCS), held in Dublin, Ireland, last October.

“Air cargo is a critically important industry. This pandemic reminded us of that. During the crisis, it has been a lifeline for society, delivering critical medical supplies and vaccines across the globe and keeping international supply chains open. And for many airlines, cargo became a vital source of revenue when passenger flights were grounded. In 2020, the air cargo industry generated \$129 billion, which represented approximately a third of airlines’ overall revenues, an increase of 10–15% compared to pre-crisis levels. Looking towards the future, the outlook is strong. We need to maintain the momentum established during the crisis and continue building resilience post pandemic,” said Brendan Sullivan, IATA’s Global Head of Cargo.

Outlook for Air Cargo

The outlook for air cargo in the short and long-term is strong. Indicators such as inventory levels and manufacturing output are favorable, world trade is forecast to grow at 9.5% this year and 5.6% in 2022, e-commerce continues to grow at a double-digit rate, and demand for high-value specialized cargo – such as temperature-sensitive healthcare goods and vaccines - is rising.

This year cargo demand is expected to exceed pre-



Brendan Sullivan
Global Head of Cargo
IATA

crisis (2019) levels by 8% and revenues are expected to rise to a record \$175 billion, with yields expected to grow by 15%. In 2022 demand is expected to exceed pre-crisis (2019) levels by 13% with revenues expected to rise to \$169 billion although there will be an 8% decline in yields.

“The surge in demand for air cargo and attractive yields are not without complications. Pandemic restrictions have led to severe global supply-chain congestion and created hardships for aircrew crossing international borders. Resourcing and capacity, handling and facility space and logistics will be an issue. This will create further operational challenges for our industry that must be planned for now. But we have demonstrated resilience throughout the crisis and with that same focus we will overcome these challenges,” said Sullivan.

Sustainability

“Sustainability is our industry’s license to grow. Shippers are becoming more environmentally conscious and are being held accountable for their emissions by their customers. Many are now reporting how much their supply chains produce in emissions, and they are looking for carbon-neutral transportation options. We all need to meet customer expectations for the highest standards of sustainability. The path from stabilizing to reducing net emissions will require a collective effort,” said Sullivan.

At IATA’s recent Annual General Meeting, airlines committed to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. This commitment will align with the Paris Agreement goal for global warming not to exceed 1.5°C. The strategy is to abate as much CO₂ as possible from in-sector solutions such as sustainable aviation fuels, new aircraft technology, more efficient operations and infrastructure, and the development of new zero-emissions energy sources such as electric and hydrogen power.

Any emissions that cannot be eliminated at source will be eliminated through out-of-sector options such as carbon capture and storage and credible offsetting schemes.

Modernization

“The pandemic accelerated digitalization in some areas as contactless processes were introduced to reduce the risk from COVID-19 transmission. We need to build on this momentum not only to drive improvements in operational efficiency but to meet the needs of our customers. The biggest growth areas are in cross-border e-commerce and special handling items like time and temperature sensitive payloads. Customers for these products want to know where their items are, and in what condition, at any time during their transport. That requires digitalization and data,” said Sullivan.

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ECS Group introduces Cargo Digital Factory

CGF is the backbone of the tech pillar behind ECS Group's "Augmented GSA" concept

PARIS: They say excellence is born of necessity and that's exactly what prompted ECS Group, a global leader in GSSA industry, in introducing its Cargo Digital Factory, the engine behind its full digital transformation.

By 2018, ECS Group's rapid expansion across more than 50 countries had brought with it many different ways of working, encompassing heterogeneous processes and old systems. At the same time, airlines partners outsourcing their business to ECS Group were expecting consistent high standards at all their network stations.

ECS Group saw the clear need to harmonize, simplify, and standardize processes in order to maximize its efficiencies and deliver reliable quality. The Cargo Digital Factory (CDF) was launched that same year to drive a full digital transformation.

Based in Paris, France, the CDF is made up of 10 air cargo industry and technology experts, an equal balance of men and women, and follows three clear principles: harmonize and ensure uniform standards, digitize and automate processes, and offer new services to customers.

Prior to the global launch of CDF, ECS Group Chairman and CEO Adrien Thominet announced the Group is reorganizing and taking the archetypal GSA structure to a whole new level.

"Over the course of the past almost quarter of a century, serving hundreds of airlines of all shapes and sizes across the globe, ECS Group has developed a huge and diverse skill set, and it is this that we have now structured to form our innovative Augmented GSA concept," Thominet, Chairman and CEO of ECS Group, explains.

"Though we already began developing a number of the individual components during the past 2-3 years, the devastating effect of the pandemic on the aviation industry recently has increased the problems that our concept is designed to solve. As smaller and medium-sized airlines begin to ramp up again, they may face a number of organizational challenges, many of them related to lack of staff. ECS Group can lift the burden to whatever extent the airline wishes. Our Augmented GSA concept goes far beyond the traditional sales activities."

The new concept is built on four pillars: New Abilities, Technology, Commercial, and Sustainability. The New Abilities pillar contains 10 single modules such as the established Total Cargo Management (TCM) solution which covers all operational requirements, a data-scanning service, or a quality and safety management component, for example.

CDF explained

Cédric Millet, Chief Strategy & Digital Officer at ECS Group, explains: "From the start, our focus in the Cargo Digital Factory has been to bring experienced air cargo and IT talents together to professionalize the way we work. By automating manual processes, we increase efficiencies. At the same time, we focus on using the data and systems we have to create new, value-added services for our customers." Alongside the CHAMP reservation system, which was enhanced to meet ECS Group's requirements, three best-in-class, in-house products were developed over the past three years: Apollo, Pathfinder, and Quantum.

ECS Group developed Apollo, its state-of-the-art Business Intelligence & Reporting System and deployed it across its entire sales force. "All companies have data. The question is not whether you have data, but how



Adrien Thominet
Chairman & CEO, ECS Group

you use it," adds Millet. "Apollo has been designed to be the catalyst of our commercial strength. In the blink of an eye, our sales staff have real-time visibility of the airline's results and can immediately identify the gaps and determine performance improvement actions."

ECS Group successfully implemented a data-driven sales approach and performance improvement process, taking its customer airlines' revenue optimization to the next level.

Pathfinder is a web-based track and trace system which knows exactly where each shipment is located, providing real-time information and in-flight geolocation. It can also be used to identify process inefficiencies along the transportation chain. Quantum is the latest digital solution supporting the pricing process by aiding in pricing quotes and following them up.

Developing intelligent, digital tools is just one component of the CDF. Knowing how to best make use of them is a second, vital function. "Change management is crucial in business transformation, and we approach this in two ways: by creating Discovery; our online e-learning platform, and by adopting a proactive change infrastructure across our network. Change Ambassadors in each country are responsible for system implementation. They are not only experts in using the tools, but also provide important feedback which helps us to further improve the systems," Millet emphasized.

ECS Group which collaborates with hundreds of companies in more than 50 countries handled more than 1.1 million tons of cargo in 2020 on behalf of the many airlines it represents.



TIACA launches 2nd annual Air Cargo Sustainability Survey

Steven Polmans
Chairman, TIACA

MIAMI, Florida: The International Air Cargo Association (TIACA) has launched its second annual Air Cargo Sustainability Survey in a bid to measure how the global air cargo community is making progress towards a more sustainable industry.

TIACA said the respondents would come from the entire air cargo industry: shippers and consignees, forwarders, airlines, airports, ground handlers, manufacturers, IT solution providers; regardless of size or geographic location. The results will be aggregated and presented to the industry and will drive the association's Sustainability initiatives, it added.

"I am glad to see so much focus on sustainability and climate in the news lately. The need for making changes towards a sustainable future has reached a fever pitch and we as an industry must rise up and lead the efforts to make not just our industry sustainable but also the world we will pass to our children. This annual survey is so important as it monitors the progress towards a sustainable air cargo industry," said Steven Polmans, TIACA Chairman.

The Annual Air Cargo Sustainability Survey was launched last year as part of TIACA's Sustainability program that is aimed at uniting the air cargo industry towards a common vision, goals and action plan, drive and accelerate sustainability progress.

"The importance of understanding the progress of how our industry is progressing in its efforts to become more sustainable has never been more crucial as leaders from all over the world meet in Glasgow during the COP26 to address climate change. The world needs leaders from every industry to step up and do their part," said Glyn Hughes, Director General of TIACA.

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FedEx Express to invest over SAR 1.5 Billion in Saudi Arabia

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia: FedEx Express, a subsidiary of FedEx Corp. (NYSE: FDX) and the world's largest express transportation company, announced in mid-October its transition to a direct-serve presence in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, investing as much as SAR 1.5 billion (USD 400 million) over the next 10 years.

In a virtual news conference, Jack Muhs, Regional President of FedEx Express Middle East, Indian Subcontinent, and Africa, said Dubai will remain the company's regional hub but it will expand to Saudi Arabia to meet the country's growing international shipping demands and Vision 2030's goal to establish the Kingdom as the new global logistics hub.

Muhs said FedEx will invest more than SAR 1.5 billion (US \$400 million) into the Saudi economy over the next 10 years through talent management and local operations and infrastructure. He noted the investment reaffirms the company's commitment to the country's non-oil economic growth, in line with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 goals, and the 'National Industrial Development and Logistics Program' which seeks to



Jack Muhs
Regional President of
FedEx Express Middle East,
Indian Subcontinent & Africa

increase non-oil exports to more than SAR 1 trillion (approximately US \$266 billion).

FedEx Express has been facilitating trade in Saudi Arabia since 1994, offering international solutions and connectivity through local service providers, most recently through SAB Express. The announcement and the company's direct presence in the country will further help local businesses trade with ease and expand their reach into the more than 220 countries and territories FedEx serves.

"Our customers will be able to take advantage of FedEx digital tools and a wider service portfolio. This strategic expansion in the Kingdom will help Saudi-based businesses connect to new markets and customers around the world, supporting Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 goals to diversify the national economy," said Muhs.

"In addition to our commitment to the Saudi economy, we see FedEx Express playing an important role in developing the small and medium enterprise environment in Saudi Arabia, which forms the backbone of the economy, and represents 99% of Saudi Arabia's private sector," he added.

FedEx Express will continue to work closely with SAB Express to provide pickup, delivery, and customs clearance services across the country.

Sheikh Salah Al Bluewi, chairman of SAB Express, said, "We're happy to continue supporting FedEx Express in Saudi Arabia with their growth journey, and join them in playing a critical role in developing Saudi Arabia's logistics infrastructure, in line with the country's coordinated efforts and strategy in diversifying the economy. The logistics sector is a key contributor towards employment, investment, and overall economic growth in our nation."

Under Saudi Vision 2030, the Kingdom is committed to increasing its total air cargo capacity. With nearly 50 years of experience, specialized services, and advanced technology solutions, FedEx will support the trade requirements of the healthcare, e-commerce, technology, energy, aerospace, automotive, and petrochemical sectors.

PARIS, France: Worldwide Flight Services (WFS) has won a new three-year contract to provide cargo handling, cargo towing and trucking services for EVA Air in France.

The Taiwanese international airline currently operates three Boeing 777 and 787 flights per week from Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport to Taipei, with additional frequencies expected during the term of this extended contract. EVA Air, which has been a customer of WFS in France since November 1993, has traffic rights for daily Paris-Taipei services.

EVA Air also uses WFS' regional transport services in France to feed cargo to its flights from Paris CDG, and to connect customers across France.

Laurent Bernard, Managing Director of WFS in France, said: "EVA Air is an important and longstanding client of WFS and clearly appreciates our professionalism and the quality benefits which come from our long-term partnership. We wish to thank the airline's management team for their continued support. Our WFS teams across France welcome this positive news and will continue

EVA Air renews cargo contract with WFS in France



to deliver the best cargo handling experience for EVA Air's growing customer base."

Jean-Marc Baduel, Cargo Manager France for EVA Air, noted, "After 28 years of our business relationship, WFS is a part of our DNA in France. We have been through many challenges and WFS have always been on our side, and we value their commitment to EVA Air."

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Emirates SkyCargo transported over 400,000 tons of pharma over the past 5 years



DUBAI: Emirates SkyCargo, the global leader in the air transport of temperature sensitive pharmaceuticals, marked in September an important milestone in its history—transporting more than 400,000 tons of pharma over the last 5 years.

Five years ago, in September 2016, Emirates SkyCargo raised the bar in the air cargo industry for the safe and efficient transport of pharmaceuticals by launching its dedicated GDP certified pharma handling facility at Dubai International Airport and at the same time unveiling its three-tiered specialized product - Emirates Pharma.

Nabil Sultan, Emirates Divisional Senior Vice President, Cargo, said: "At Emirates SkyCargo, we recognized very early on that our customers were looking for increasingly specialized solutions for their cargo and this was true especially for valuable and life-saving medicines that have to be transported under very strict conditions. After extensive planning and significant investment to our infrastructure, processes and people, we introduced our 360-degree transportation solution backed by state of the art GDP certified Dubai handling facility for our pharma customers in September 2016.

"The response from the market was overwhelmingly positive and we managed to very quickly transform the perception that Dubai was a destination to be avoided for pharma cargo in the summer to that of Dubai being a reliable hub for pharma customers all year round. Our pharma volumes have continued to grow over the years and to date we have transported more than 400 million kilos (400, 000 tons) of pharma cargo under our Emirates Pharma umbrella."

Hub Dubai

Emirates SkyCargo has over 20,000 sq. meters of GDP compliant storage and handling space at its hub in Dubai processing close to 200,000 kilos (200 tons) of pharmaceuticals every single day comprising vaccines, biologics, medicines for illnesses such as cancer, diabetes and a range of other medical treatments.

Emirates SkyCargo's pharma operations in Dubai have undergone rigorous evaluation for compliance to GDP guidelines by Bureau Veritas, Germany including two full certification cycles involving multiple certification and surveillance audits. Emirates SkyCargo's pharma operations have also successfully undergone multiple audits conducted by customers and pharmaceutical manufacturers.

The carrier has one of the world's largest fleet of Cool Dollies which help maintain cargo at a stable temperature between aircraft and terminal. Close to 50 of these Cool Dollies are dedicated for pharmaceutical cargo. Emirates SkyCargo also works with a number of specialized container providers in order to offer customers a better choice and fit for their shipping needs.

Building connections to deliver cures

The establishment of a world class transportation hub for pharmaceuticals at Dubai by Emirates SkyCargo has facilitated the rapid and secure transport of pharmaceutical products from manufacturing locations to end destinations. Over the years, the

carrier has been able to connect increasing volumes of pharma cargo between markets spread across six continents including India, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, UK, Russia, United States, Brazil, Australia, Korea, Japan, UAE, Saudi Arabia and Egypt. Nearly one third of the total pharma cargo exported on Emirates SkyCargo every year originates from India.

Emirates SkyCargo has also worked with ground handlers across more than 35 leading pharma origin and destination airports to ensure high standards of pharma handling from origin to destination. In Chicago, one of the major pharma stations in the Emirates SkyCargo network, the carrier worked closely with the local ground handler for developing a GDP certified airside pharmaceutical handling facility spread over 1000 sq. meters. Pharma operations at Copenhagen, another important pharma station were also moved to a dedicated GDP certified facility in 2019.

COVID-19 pandemic

During the pandemic, it became even more essential for Emirates SkyCargo to maintain the supply chain across the world for

pharmaceutical products, for treatment of COVID-19 and other illnesses. By deploying an increasing number of cargo only flights on passenger aircraft, Emirates SkyCargo offered continued connectivity for the transport of urgently required pharmaceuticals.

As early as August 2020, Emirates SkyCargo commenced preparations to make its hub fit for purpose for the transportation of COVID-19 vaccines. More recently, the carrier expanded its cool room infrastructure with 94 airline pallet positions at its EU GDP certified dedicated pharma facility at Dubai International Airport. The extended cool room provides additional capacity in a temperature controlled environment (2-25 degrees Celsius), allowing for the equivalent of between additional 60-90 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines to be stored at any one point of time.

Between October 2020 and September 2021, Emirates SkyCargo has transported more than 250 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines to more than 75 destinations through its hub in Dubai.

As part of the Dubai Vaccine Logistics Alliance, Emirates SkyCargo joined hands with DP World, International Humanitarian City and Dubai Airports to combine expertise and strengths to expedite the movement of vaccines to developing nations through Dubai. The carrier also entered into an MoU with UNICEF to facilitate the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines in support of the COVAX facility for equitable distribution of vaccines.

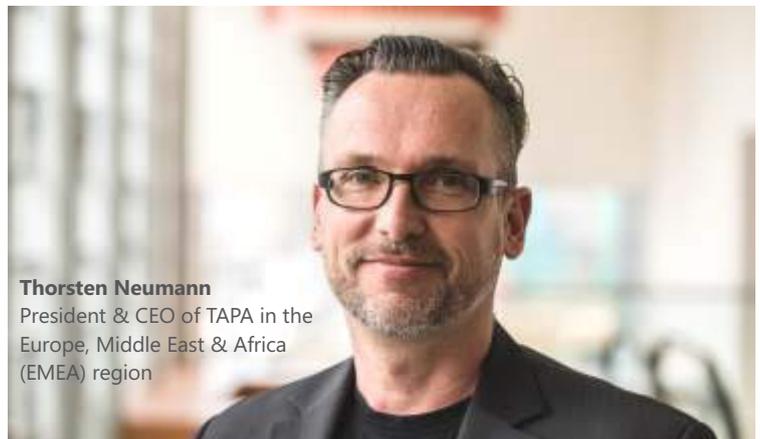
In May 2021, Emirates SkyCargo set up the Emirates India Humanitarian Airbridge and donated cargo capacity to transport essential supplies including oxygen cylinders, concentrators and relief tents free of charge on flights from Dubai to Indian destinations to help the Indian community battle the COVID-19 pandemic.

TAPA EMEA welcomes introduction of European Commission's EU Safe & Secure Truck Parking Areas Standard

LONDON: The Transported Asset Protection Association (TAPA EMEA) says it welcomes the European Commission's introduction of its EU Safe & Secure Truck Parking Areas (SSTPA) Standard which it sees as another important step towards improving driver safety and reducing cargo crime in Europe.

The lack of secure parking places now represents the biggest threat to the safety and security of drivers, trucks and cargoes in Europe, TAPA said.

“TAPA EMEA supports the introduction of the EU SSTPA because urgent action is needed to support the resilience of road transport supply chains in Europe, minimise the level of cargo crime, and, of course, protect the safety of truck drivers. The capacity for secure truck parking will not meet demand for many years but this is a positive step forward. TAPA EMEA estimates the industry has a shortfall of over 2,000 secure truck stops and over 400,000 parking bays in Europe,” said Thorsten Neumann, President & CEO of TAPA in the Europe, Middle East & Africa (EMEA) region.



Thorsten Neumann
President & CEO of TAPA in the Europe, Middle East & Africa (EMEA) region

“The overwhelming priority – at a time when we are seeing severe driver shortages across Europe – is to deliver a safer and more secure operating environment for drivers, trucks and cargoes. On this, we all agree,” he added.

As a leading supply chain resilience and security Association representing Manufacturers, Logistics Services Providers and all supply chain security stakeholders, TAPA EMEA has played an active role in supporting the Commission's SSTPA Standard.

However, the Association – which has been helping to protect its members' supply chains for over 24 years – has also recognized that businesses are cautious because the EU LABEL project, the predecessor to SSTPA, failed to attract many parking sites and certifications were not maintained.



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Logistics & transport industry among top 10 targets by ransomware

PANAMA, Costa Rica: Logistics and transportation is the 7th industry most likely to be hit by ransomware, according to the new desk research by NordLocker, the world's first end-to-end file tool with a private cloud.

NordLocker was created by the same cybersecurity experts behind NordVPN – one of the most advanced VPN service providers in the world.

The top 10 industries hit by ransomware include—construction, manufacturing, finance, healthcare, education, Information Technology, logistics & transportation, automotive, municipal services, and legal.

NordLocker's research has discovered that, out of 35 identified industries, the seventh greatest

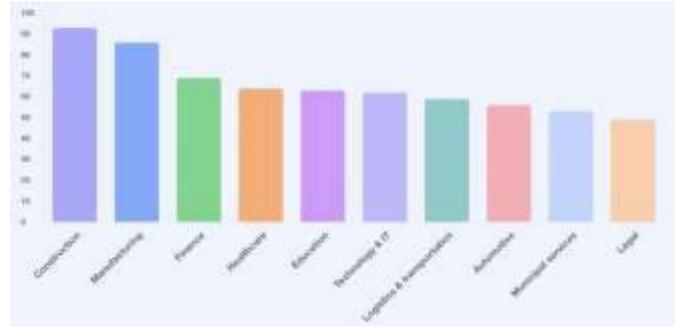
number of ransomware attacks were detected in the logistics and transportation sector. The 59 companies affected range from industry leaders, such as one of the biggest European shipping companies with a fleet of 230 ships, to small enterprises, such as a household moving company in Montana, US.

The findings raise the question: Why do cyber criminals prioritize hitting the logistics & transport sector? Nordlocker said that's because it plays a core role in global trade.

"The interconnected nature of logistics to businesses all over means that, in the event of a ransomware attack, not only does the company's reputation get questioned but also numerous supply chains get disrupted, exerting mounting pressure to pay the demanded ransom," says Oliver Noble, a cybersecurity expert at NordLocker, an encrypted cloud service provider. "In addition, the industry's relatively traditional business model, which is in large part yet to include up-to-date cybersecurity solutions, could incentivize hackers towards certain companies."

How to protect your business from ransomware Nordlocker suggests the following to protect yourself against ransomware attacks:

- Make sure your employees use strong and unique passwords to connect to your systems. Better yet, implement multi-factor authentication.
- Secure your email by training your staff to identify signs of phishing, especially when an email contains attachments and links.
- Implement and enforce periodic data backup and restoration processes. An encrypted cloud might be the most secure solution for this.
- Adopt zero-trust network access, meaning that every access request to digital resources by a member of staff should be granted only after their identity has been appropriately verified.



AD Ports Group and the Egyptian Group for Multipurpose Terminals Sign MoU to Develop and Operate Multipurpose Terminal in Safaga Port

Abu Dhabi, UAE: AD Ports Group, a leading facilitator of trade and logistics, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Egyptian Group for Multipurpose Terminals, the commercial arm of the Egyptian Ministry of Transportation, for the development and operation of a multipurpose terminal in Safaga Port.

The signing was conducted on the sidelines of the 4th Smart Transport, Logistics & Traffic Fair & Forum for the MEA Region (TransMEA 2021), held under the patronage of His Excellency Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt. The legal document was signed in the presence of His Excellency Kamel El Wazir, Minister of Transportation in Egypt; by Saif Al Mazrouei, Head of Ports Cluster, AD Ports Group; and Rear Admiral Abdul Qadir Darwish, Chairman of the Egyptian Group for Multipurpose Terminals.

Under the MoU, AD Ports Group will explore investment opportunities and conduct feasibility and local market studies related to developing and operating a multipurpose terminal in Safaga Port, with both parties benefitting from the exchange of expertise and best practices.

The MoU aims to support the growth of the Middle East's industrial and logistics sectors, as well as assist in opening new markets for Egyptian exports via direct maritime routes across the Arabian Gulf, East Asia, and Africa regions. It will also facilitate commercial activities operating within the Golden Triangle and Upper Egypt and will elevate the country's ability to compete with



other nations that manufacture similar industrial products.

"The strategic location of Safaga Port on the Red Sea holds great potential for a significant role within the global supply chain. We are confident that the cooperation will prove beneficial for both sides, as it combines the unique characteristics of Safaga Port with the long-standing expertise offered by AD Ports Group in managing and operating maritime terminals, along with the Group's extensive capabilities in delivering end-to-end services across the entire supply chain," said Saif Al Mazrouei, Head of Ports Cluster, AD Ports Group.

Rear Admiral Abdul Qadir Darwish, Chairman of the Egyptian Group for Multipurpose Terminals, expressed his appreciation for the newly announced cooperation with AD Ports Group, noting that the MoU will serve as a promising starting point for further collaborations, which will provide a wide range of services beneficial to each nation's trade and logistics sectors.



Urban & logistics transport to undergo biggest transformation in 140 years, experts at Hypermotion Dubai say



Dubai, UAE: Experts who participated at the recently concluded Hypermotion Dubai, the industry convex reimagining the transportation and logistics industries, say the urban and logistics transport will undergo the biggest transformation in the coming years manifested by fewer roads, less cars, safer highways, underground networks and driverless vehicles.

Experts addressing the event's Hypermotion Lab and Smart Mobility conferences said road and urban transport are undergoing the biggest transformation since the invention of the internal combustion engine in the 1880s with policymakers and regulators facing tough choices needed to drive widespread mind-set change.

Anthony Foxx, the former US Transportation Security and Chief Policy Officer of ride sharing app Lyft, said the transport industry had been slow to adopt technological transformation and was now facing a perfect storm of change.

Foxx told delegates that to address public demands for fewer emissions to meet climate change goals, the industry would have to reinvent its approach to sustainable infrastructure maintenance, while partnering with urban planners to ensure the best use of land and transport connectivity.

"The intensity of urban growth will put pressure on the transport system," he said. "We have to think much differently about the future than we have in the past. The time is now for new ideas and ideas that can scale. We cannot understate the value of land use in the equation.

"The old way of building infrastructure is going to die out. Planning is an under-utilized resource in the transportation industry. We have to have a game plan. In a way, we are going to have to go back to the future using

our feet in walkable communities to further the future."

The shape of things to come: Road networks 2071

In the Smart Mobility Conference, experts painted a picture of our roads in 50 years, predicting fewer roads, underground networks, safe, smart highways, less vehicle ownership, and more driverless, shared rides.

Prof. Dr. Sabih Khisaf, VP International, Institution of Civil Engineers, said while he expected road networks to still exist, hyperloop technology would change the way we travel, while Andrew Stevenson, Transport & Built Environment Sector Leader, Middle East, Mott MacDonald, said planners needed to recapture the opportunity of Covid lockdowns, when roads were less crowded and emissions much reduced.

The industry, he said, had to aim for "greener roads", greater space efficiency, more autonomous vehicle use, and 'naked' smart highways where signs and signals are redundant.

Dr. Nahid Sidki, Chief Technology Officer, Research Products Development Company (RPDC) said car ownership would be greatly reduced with mind-sets embracing the ride sharing economy in autonomous vehicles travelling on smart highways resulting in safer journeys.

"There will be fewer roads," said Dr. Nahid, "and there will be underground roads with NEOM in Saudi Arabia

among the few in the world now emphasizing underground networks for transportation and utilities.”

Dr. Georges Aoude, CEO & Co-Founder, Derq said the road network of 2071 would be “electric, connected and autonomous” and said policy makers and regulators could face unpopular choices such as road usage charges.

Asset sharing to become logistics industry norm: aggregation to ease congestion, emissions & road fatalities

Asset sharing within the logistics sector will be the new industry norm as the segment strives to curb emissions and meet sustainability targets, delegates heard at Materials Handling Middle East’s Scalex conference, running alongside Hypermotion Dubai.

Addressing Scalex, which focuses on supply chain and logistics excellence, Avishai Trabelsi, CEO and co-founder of Quicargo, the Amsterdam-based digital freight platform, said regulation of the sector would make asset sharing inevitable to reap sustainability and safety goals.

“There are currently 13 million trucks on the road in Europe and five million businesses shipping goods, yet the trucks travel half empty. Trucking accounts for only 2% of the vehicles on Europe’s roads but for 20% of the mileage covered and 30% of all road fatalities and emissions,” he explained. “Asset sharing can immediately bring about a 20-50% reduction in these impacts so regulation will push the sector forward and deliver better pricing for all parties involved.”

Gaurav Biswas, Founder & CEO of Trukker – the MENA region’s leading digital freight platform – said asset class is an example of technology transforming the industry. “Technology is now at the point where we can capture the data and connect demand with supply,” he commented.

Jamil Shinawi, co-founder and director of AHOY which develops technology empowering next-gen logistics and supply chain solutions, said the impact of asset sharing would be far-reaching. “The potential is huge but there are challenges in the MENA region with a lack of infrastructure and standardization. Asset sharing will also impact the insurance sector with liabilities shifting and the entire system of asset ownership changing.”

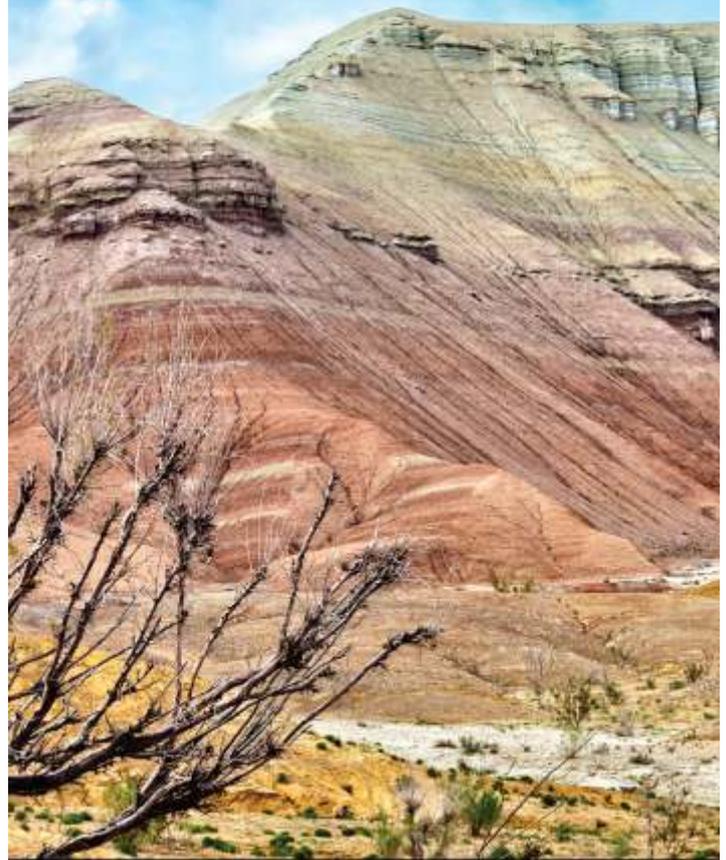
Hypermotion Dubai and Materials Handling Middle East were organized by Messe Frankfurt Middle East and held under the patronage of HH Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, Chairman & CEO of Emirates Group and Chairman of Dubai Airports. It was the first showing of the industry game-changing event outside of Europe and gathered over 150 global experts speaking at its three sector-leading conferences.

“The conferences laid bare the impending challenges facing these vital sectors and the technology which is enabling change,” explained Simon Mellor, CEO of Messe Frankfurt Middle East. “Industry delegates were privy to the disruptive technology which can transform industries, super-charge the creation of localized hi-tech economies and better the lives of the people they serve.”

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Airglow Aviation Group

Defying adversity

The only authorized distributor of CCN Solutions in GCC, which is an integrated platform service for streamlining the supply chain management of the cargo community, Airglow Aviation Group continues to soar despite the many challenges that come along with this pandemic

By Dr. Ali Akbar Khan



Established in 2009 in the UAE as an ACMI based operator providing cargo charter services, Airglow Aviation Group has since grown to offer different aviation solutions and services, including airline representation, aircraft leasing, aviation training, travel & tourism, aircraft spare parts trading and even engineering services.

With combined industry experience of over 60 years, Airglow Aviation's highly-skilled staff provide professional, reliable and cost-effective services to its growing list of customers 24/7, anywhere in the world.

Its extensive network curated over the years allows the company to provide agile professional services, responding to enquiries in a timely manner. The team of professionals at Airglow are equipped with the required training and skills to allow them to act diligently to offer exceptional service to clients and deliver qualitative value.

Add to that is the company's comprehensive portfolio of services



which help its airline partners reach measurable goals.

The company said it has successfully done so by understanding and analyzing the portfolio of products, services and network of its partners which leads to the deployment of market experts who capitalize on existing business opportunities and secure profitable agreements.

"The objective is to maximize the yield, utilize payloads and generate long-term revenue streams for the partners. These objectives are compounded with Airglow's commitment to provide a comprehensive range of marketing activities, customer and operational services and accounting & finance support," Airglow Aviation said.

"At Airglow, our expert team members analyze routes, payloads and timescale to propose suitable aircraft for the relevant requirements. This is coupled with innovative solutions that provide part-charters, backloads and commercially innovative solutions for ad hoc requirements, peak season and specific cargo projects," it added.

Airglow Aviation also offers advice on pre-flight packing requirements, customs, warehousing and provides supervision of aircraft loading & unloading including arrangements for special equipment requiring custom built solutions.

It is also the only authorized distributors of CCN Solutions in GCC which is an integrated platform service for streamlining the supply chain management of the cargo community. With this software, the customers have an added advantage as they have access to cargo management, customs security compliance, documents management, business performance analytics and other value-added



“The objective is to maximize the yield, utilize payloads and generate long-term revenue streams for the partners. These objectives are compounded with Airglow’s commitment to provide a comprehensive range of marketing activities, customer and operational services and accounting & finance support.”

Rohit Thakwani
Managing Director
Airglow Aviation Group



services. CCN’s partnership with IATA has permitted the Freight and Air Way Bill to be provided in electronic format which has made tracking and communication effective and easier.

Airglow Aviation Group Founder and Chairman Zaidan Khalifat and its Managing Director Rohit Thakwani briefly discussed with **Air Cargo Update** their business insights as the world turns into the air transport industry to fight the pandemic and achieve some semblance of normalcy despite the ongoing global health crisis.

How did the pandemic impact your business?

As the pandemic hit and its waves rippled across many industries, it crippled the aviation industry. Our partners were constantly operating on a daily basis and the dramatic drop in the number of passengers due to flight restrictions and health concerns came as a tremendous shock, as operations fell to a complete standstill.

This left a crater in our lives which had

to be filled and hope came in the form of demand for medical equipment, consumables and medication. Transport was required but was naturally unavailable and that is where Airglow decided to step in and create a business path facilitating the journey for their partners.

In April, the team at Airglow started operating passenger freighters out of Afghanistan for Air Arabia and from UAE for Cham Wings as well as others from India, KSA & USA. This became a

lifeline for the partners as they decided to fill the void with cargo to fulfill the increasing demand. This step was possible due to the agility demonstrated by Airglow and the resilience we showed in the face of challenges.

How hard was it to convince your partners to consider cargo as a business model for their operations?

It was quite a challenging task to convince partners to change their business model which relied on passenger traffic to cargo and it required a certain kind of dedicated resilience to convince them by communicating the benefits and addressing their concerns. There was an overwhelming notion amongst the partners that this pandemic would be short lived, therefore they preferred to be conservative in adapting to the change.

Air Arabia, however, was quite eager to adapt and they were one of the first partners to come onboard with the new strategies and it was due to this eagerness that we managed to bring 20 Tonne of cargo from Afghanistan to Sharjah on an A320 passenger aircraft.

What are your priorities at the moment?



Airglow Aviation started as a Charter Operator but evolved their offerings to provide Airline Representation (Cargo GSSA/GSA services). The pandemic has taught us agility and resilience but we prioritize our core business and values. Therefore, our priorities remain to be representatives for our partner airlines providing them solutions in the face of challenges. We want to highlight our success to increase the number of airlines we represent and provide them with the same kind of value adding service we currently offer our existing airline partners.

What are your long term goals?

Resilience is the key and a testament to that is our recent signing of a partnership with Uganda Airlines in Dubai and Air Peace in India. Therefore, it is vital for us to focus on our core strengths and provide comforting service to our partners. Customer satisfaction is often overlooked as GSAs sometimes focus more on the financial aspect of a business relationship, but we intend to continue to provide an elevated level of service to our partners which will allow us to retain them as partners and lead us to acquiring fruitful partnerships in the future.



Daimler Truck AG

and BP to pioneer deployment of hydrogen infrastructure, supporting decarbonization of UK freight transport industry

BP to assess feasibility of designing, constructing, operating and supplying 25 hydrogen refueling stations across United Kingdom which includes England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland as Daimler Truck AG expects to deliver hydrogen-powered fuel-cell trucks to its UK customers from 2025.

Stuttgart /
Sunbury –
Daimler Truck
AG and BP Advanced
Mobility Limited (BP)
have announced
plans to work
together to help
accelerate the
introduction of a
hydrogen network,
supporting the roll-
out of a key
technology for the
decarbonization of
the UK freight
transport.



Karin Rådström, CEO of Mercedes-Benz Trucks and Member of the Board of Management at Daimler Truck said: “We are consistently pursuing our vision of CO2-neutral transport. Especially for CO2-neutral long-haul road transportation, the hydrogen-powered fuel-cell drive will become indispensable in the future.”

The companies said they intend to pilot both the development of hydrogen infrastructure and the introduction of hydrogen-powered fuel-cell trucks in the UK. Under their memorandum of understanding (MoU), BP will assess the feasibility of designing, constructing, operating and supplying a network of up to 25 hydrogen refueling stations across the UK by 2030.

These stations would be supplied by BP with ‘green’ hydrogen – generated from water using renewable power. Complementing this, Daimler Truck expects to deliver hydrogen-powered fuel-cell trucks to its UK customers from 2025.

Karin Rådström, CEO of Mercedes-Benz Trucks and Member of the Board of Management at Daimler Truck said: “We are consistently pursuing our vision of CO2-neutral transport. Especially for CO2-neutral long-haul road transportation, the hydrogen-powered fuel-cell drive will become indispensable in the future.

“Together with BP, we want to jointly develop and scale the required hydrogen infrastructure

by putting our hydrogen-powered fuel-cell trucks into our customers’ hand and thus supporting the decarbonization of the UK freight network. At the same time, political support plays an important role in promoting the creation of an infrastructure for green hydrogen and making an economically viable use of fuel-cell trucks possible for our customers.”

Emma Delaney, BP’s executive vice president for customer and products, highlighted hydrogen’s critical role in decarbonizing hard-to-abate sectors like transport.

“Hydrogen is critical to decarbonizing hard-to-abate sectors – and for heavy and long-distance freight it is sometimes the only answer. Working with a leading manufacturer like Daimler Truck, we can accelerate the deployment of both vehicles and infrastructure and pioneer the use of hydrogen to fuel the next generation of UK freight. From producing and supplying hydrogen through to building and operating the fuelling stations, BP is perfectly positioned to transform transport and ultimately build a better energy future,” said Delaney.

CO2 neutral vehicles

Daimler Truck has the ambition to offer only new vehicles that are CO2-neutral in driving operation (“from tank to wheel”) in Europe, North America and Japan by 2039.

The company is focused on both CO2-neutral technologies battery power and hydrogen-based fuel-cells. Currently, the truck manufacturer is testing a new enhanced prototype of its Mercedes-Benz GenH2 Truck on public roads in Germany.



Convenience and mobility are core for BP's strategy, including working with partners, to help deliver the future of mobility and services for customers. BP already has 11,000 electric vehicle charging points globally and is expanding its network to 70,000 by 2030.



The first series-produced GenH2 Truck are expected to be handed over to customers starting in 2027. Daimler Truck has a clear preference for liquid hydrogen. In this state, the energy carrier has a far higher energy density in relation to volume than gaseous hydrogen.

As a result, the tanks of a fuel-cell truck using liquid hydrogen are much smaller and, due to the lower pressure, significantly lighter. This gives the trucks more cargo space and a higher payload. At the same time, more hydrogen can be carried, which significantly increases the trucks' range. This will make the series version of the GenH2 Truck, like conventional diesel trucks, suitable for multi-day, difficult-to-plan long-haul transport and where the daily energy output is high.

Convenience and mobility are core for BP's strategy, including working with partners, to help deliver the future of mobility and services for customers. BP already has 11,000 electric vehicle charging points globally and is expanding its network to 70,000 by 2030.

Complementing its agreement with Daimler Truck AG represents BP's first steps towards deploying hydrogen for transport. It also intends to develop hydrogen refueling stations in Europe and already has plans for hydrogen refueling stations in Germany.

BP said it aims to develop a leading market position producing and supplying low carbon hydrogen. In the UK, BP has plans to build a hydrogen-producing facility in Teesside, UK, which could produce 1GW of blue hydrogen, produced from natural gas integrated with carbon capture and storage.

BP said it is also exploring the potential for green hydrogen in the region, including supporting the development of Teesside as the UK's first hydrogen transport hub. These activities support the UK government's target of developing 5GW of hydrogen production by 2030. Photos & Text from www.media.daimler.com



Daimler Truck's

hydrogen-based fuel-cell truck receives license for road use

Milestone means the truck maker is on its way to series production.

Daimler Truck says it is consistently pursuing its technology strategy for the electrification of its vehicles and has now reached the next milestone: In October, the further enhanced prototype of the hydrogen-based fuel-cell truck Mercedes-Benz GenH2 Truck received approval from German authorities for use on public roads.

In April, the truck manufacturer began to conduct tests of the Mercedes-Benz GenH2 Truck, which was unveiled in 2020, on the company's test tracks. There, the truck, which aims to achieve ranges of up to 1,000 kilometres and more without any stops for refueling in its series version, has successfully accumulated several thousand miles by now.

Now, testing is expanded to public roads i.e. on the B462 road near Rastatt. There, as part of the eWayBW project, freight will be electrified to test catenary trucks in operation.

The project will also include comparative tests of the purely battery-electric Mercedes-Benz eActros with the catenary trucks and fuel-cell trucks from other manufacturers. Daimler Truck has no plans for catenary trucks.

Since July 2019, the purely battery-electric Mercedes-Benz eActros has proven its worth in extensive field-testing in the region around Rastatt at the company Logistik Schmitt. With the approval for road use of the Mercedes-Benz GenH2 Truck, Daimler Truck has reached an important milestone on the way to series production.

The first series-produced GenH2 Truck are expected to be handed over to customers starting in 2027 and additionally, Daimler Truck has the ambition to offer only new vehicles that are carbon-neutral in driving operation ("tank-to-wheel") in Europe, Japan and North America by 2039.

To achieve this goal, Daimler Truck is electrifying its vehicles and pursuing a dual-track strategy with the use of battery-powered drive systems or based on hydrogen. This combination of technologies enables Daimler Truck to offer customers the best vehicle options for their specific use cases: the lighter the load and the shorter the distance, the more likely it is that batteries will be used. The heavier the load and the longer the distance, the more likely it is that fuel cells will be system of choice. Source: www.daimler.com

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Emirates to fly nonstop to Tel Aviv from 06 December

from Dubai to points across the combined networks of both carriers, which today consists of 210 destinations in 100 countries.

“Emirates is excited to announce Tel Aviv, one of the region’s key gateways, as its newest destination. With the start of services in just a few weeks, Emirates will provide more options for travellers to fly better to and from Tel Aviv via Dubai. We also look forward to welcoming more business and leisure travellers from Israel to Dubai, and onwards to other destinations on Emirates’ network,” said Adnan Kazim, Chief Commercial Officer, Emirates Airline.

In addition to passenger operations, Emirates SkyCargo will offer 20 tonnes of cargo capacity each way between Dubai and Tel Aviv on the Boeing 777-300ER to support exports of pharmaceuticals, high-tech goods, vegetables and other perishables from Tel Aviv. The flights are also expected to transport manufacturing raw materials and components, semiconductors and e-commerce parcels into Israel.

Emirates has fully restored its Middle East network and currently flies to 12 cities across the region.

Tel Aviv is Israel’s largest and most populous city, and is the economic and technological hub for the country. The city attracted more than 4.5 million visitors in 2019, according to the Israeli Ministry of Tourism. Tel Aviv is known for its pristine beaches, thriving culinary scene, cultural sights, and the world’s largest collection of 4,000 signature white Bauhaus style buildings, which have become a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

DUBAI: Emirates will launch a daily non-stop flight between Dubai and Tel Aviv, Israel, starting from 6 December, amid continued economic cooperation between the UAE and Israel.

The move comes as the UAE and Israel continue to develop greater economic cooperation to drive growth across a range of sectors, in addition to boosting trade flows between both nations. With the new daily flights, Israeli travellers will be able to connect safely, seamlessly and efficiently to Dubai, and through Dubai to Emirates’ global route network of over 120 destinations.

The flight timings to/from Tel Aviv will offer travellers convenient access to major leisure destinations beyond Dubai like Thailand, the Indian Ocean Islands and South Africa, among others.

Furthermore, the new flights introduce convenient inbound connections to Tel Aviv from close to 30 Emirates gateways across Australia, the United States, Brazil, Mexico, India and South Africa, all home to some of the largest Jewish communities in the world. Travellers from the United States looking to stop in Dubai before embarking on their onwards journey to Tel Aviv can avail the Dubai Stop Over package, which includes stays at world-class hotels, sightseeing, and other activities.

Daily flights are scheduled to depart Dubai as EK931 at 14:50hrs, arriving at Ben Gurion Airport at 16:25hrs local time. The return flight EK 932 will depart Tel Aviv at 18:25hrs, arriving in Dubai at 23:25hrs local time.

Emirates’ customers will also benefit from the airline’s codeshare partnership with flydubai. The codeshare provides travellers with short and seamless connectivity

Boeing 777X completes first international & longest flight in time for 2021 Dubai Airshow

DUBAI: Boeing’s 777X has successfully completed its first international and longest flight to date, a 15-hour nonstop flight from Seattle’s Boeing Field to Dubai, in time for the four-day Dubai Airshow (14-18 November 2021).

The plane which continues to undergo a rigorous test program landed at Dubai World Central on Tuesday, 9 November 2021.

Boeing, a leading global aerospace company which has customers in more than 150 countries, joined the airshow’s flying program and featured the 777X on static display.

Building on the best of the industry-leading 777 and 787 Dreamliner families, Boeing said the 777X will be the world’s largest and most efficient twin-engine jet,

delivering 10% better fuel use, emissions and operating costs than the competition and an exceptional passenger experience.





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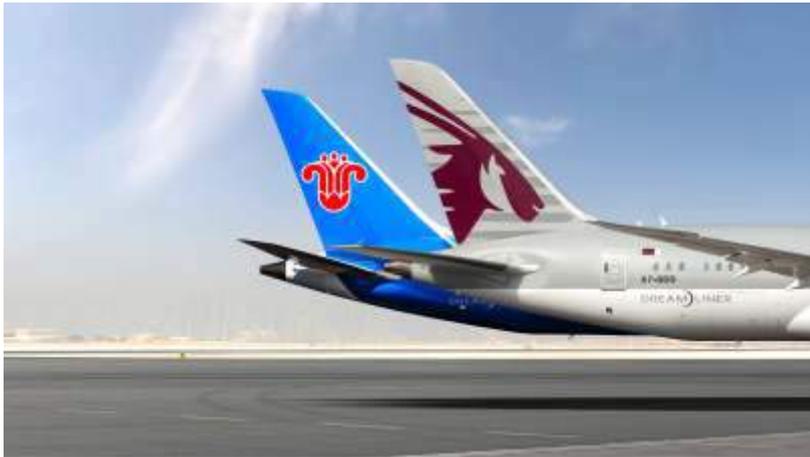


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Qatar Airways and China Southern Airlines expands codeshare agreement to include other mutual benefits

travelling via our two hubs of Hamad International Airport, the new Beijing Daxing International Airport and Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport,” said Al Baker. “We look forward to further deepening our close relationship with China Southern Airlines and explore even greater opportunities for collaboration in the years to come.”

DOHA, Qatar – Qatar Airways and China Southern Airlines have signed a joint Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) confirming a significant expansion of the existing codeshare agreement, and outlining greater benefits and more seamless connections between the two partners.

The comprehensive MoU signed by Qatar Airways Group Chief Executive Akbar Al Baker and China Southern Airlines President and Chief Executive Officer Han Wensheng, builds upon the existing codeshare agreement signed by the airlines in December 2019.

As part of the collaboration, all future flights between China and Qatar will be codeshared, allowing passengers to benefit from seamless connecting flights. The closer cooperation will also provide greater customer benefits, including increased joint lounge access and a soon-to-be confirmed enhanced frequent flyer agreement.

In addition, the two airlines agreed to support the growth of Beijing’s Daxing International Airport, into a leading international aviation hub for both passenger and cargo services.

“This is the latest chapter in the story of our airline’s continued journey to provide an enhanced and seamless customer experience for passengers

China Southern Airlines President and CEO, for his part, said: “As the largest airline in China, the strategic cooperation between China Southern Airlines and Qatar Airways will provide global passengers with expanded travel options and an exceptional travel experience. Our collaboration will also lay a solid foundation for the development of Beijing Daxing International Airport into a global aviation hub.”

The expanded codeshare agreement is the latest development in Qatar Airways programme of strengthening strategic cooperation between key global airlines, which has already seen partnerships with American Airlines, JetBlue, Alaska Airlines, Oman Air and RwandaAir in recent months.

The enhanced cooperation between Qatar Airways and China Southern Airlines is subject to the lifting of current travel restrictions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and regulatory approvals.

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Gulf Air marks successful launch of its boutique charter services



MANAMA, Bahrain: Gulf Air, the national carrier of the Kingdom of Bahrain, recently marked the successful launch of its boutique charter services which allows global clients to book private direct charter flights with personalized itineraries.

Its first boutique charter flight landed back from Malaga, Spain to Manama, the capital of Bahrain.

To mark the occasion, Gulf Air Acting Chief Executive Officer Captain Waleed Abulhameed AlAlawi led the celebration at the airline's headquarters in Muharraq where he recognized some of the airline's staff from the Commercial and Operations departments, for their efforts to make the project a success. Each received a certificate of recognition.

"This is yet another achievement to add for the national carrier as a direct result of the success of its boutique strategy as we

continue to cater to passengers' preferences in the tourism and travel sector. This success would not have been possible if it wasn't for all the efforts of our distinguished staff that worked really hard on this project to realize its fruitful results; and for that I thank each and every one of them," said Capt. AlAlawi.

In 2019 and in line with its strategy to become the customer's airline of choice, Gulf Air announced its boutique business model concept which would reinforce its focus on product and customer experience.

Similarly with the hospitality industry, Gulf Air differentiates itself as a boutique airline that is different and unique in the way it operates comparing to the bigger airlines that are more volume driven. This new concept is derived from the airlines business model to offer its boutique services to a more niche clientele whilst highlighting the key services the airline is renowned for.

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flynas to launch first international flights to Saudi's AlUla Int'l Airport



Riyadh, KSA: flynas, Saudi's first budget airline and one of the leading carriers in the Middle East, announced its flight expansion, including having the first ever direct international flights to the Kingdom's AlUla International Airport, the gateway to its hidden tourism gem, the AlUla.

Located 1,100 km from Riyadh, in North-West Saudi Arabia, AlUla is a place of extraordinary natural and human heritage. The vast area, covering 22,561km², includes a lush oasis valley, towering sandstone mountains and ancient cultural heritage sites dating back

thousands of years to when the Lihyan and Nabataean kingdoms reigned.

The most well-known and recognised site in AlUla is Hegra, Saudi Arabia's first UNESCO World Heritage Site. A 52-hectare ancient city, Hegra was the principal southern city of the Nabataean Kingdom and is comprised of 111 well-preserved tombs, many with elaborate facades cut out of the sandstone outcrops surrounding the walled urban settlement.

flynas said the first flight to AlUla will begin on 19 November, taking off from Dubai and Kuwait. Domestic routes added as part of the expansion include Riyadh, Dammam and Jeddah.

The announcement marks the first time that international travellers will enjoy direct access to one of the most significant archeological and historical sites in the world.

"We are excited to make AlUla more accessible to all travellers in the region, a destination that is truly unique and never fails to impress even the most experienced travellers," said flynas CEO Bander Almohanna.

"We are confident that our partnership with the Royal Commission for AlUla will be one of many contributing factors to achieving the ambitious targets of Saudi Vision 2030 advancing the Kingdom's position as a leading regional and global tourism destination," he added.

Phillip Jones, Chief Destination Management and Marketing Officer for Royal Commission for AlUla (RCU) commented, "For millennia, AlUla has been a crossroads of civilisations. Our ancient oasis has welcomed travellers and settlers to share commodities, ideas and build communities. Today is a huge milestone for AlUla as we will once again be on the international travellers route. Visitors can directly access AlUla with flynas direct flights from Dubai and Kuwait we look to introducing more visitors to the monumentality of the destination."

The first flight on 19th November is timed to coincide with the next musical event at Maraya. Faia Younan, the young soprano and her world-class band will perform live at Maraya on November 19th.



ABU DHABI, UAE: The UAE General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) says the average aviation activity in the country rose from 1,238 flights at the end of 2020 to 1,538 flights in September 2021, up by 24.5 percent.

Saif Mohammed Al Suwaidi, GCAA Director General, said aviation activity in the UAE witnessed a significant increase prior to the Expo 2020 Dubai, a major global event showcasing the UAE to the entire world.

Emirates News Agency (WAM) reported Al Suwaidi as saying UAE civil aviation sector has recovered and the aviation activity figures recorded in recent months are promising. They are expected to rise further during the EXPO and the UAE's Golden Jubilee celebration & the start of the winter holidays, despite the strict preventive

measures adopted by the country to ensure everyone's safety.

The GCAA's report also showed the country's national carriers travel to 108 countries, benefitting from the logistical services provided by ten registered airports. It also highlighted the significance of the national aviation sector, which contributed US\$47.4 billion to the national economy, accounting for 13.3 percent of the country's GDP, in addition to creating 800,000 jobs.

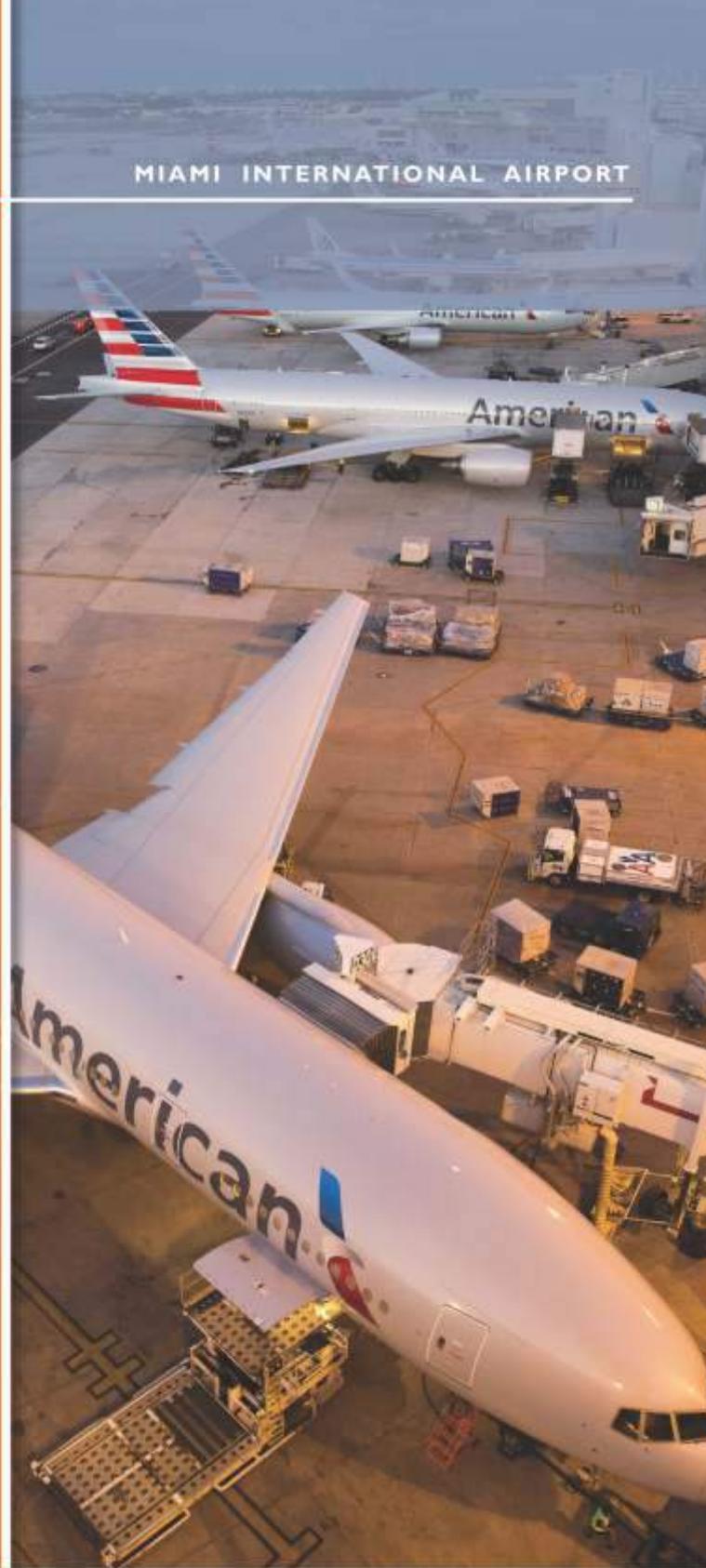
According to the report, the Emirati aviation market is among the world's leading markets to attract capital and investments. It also confirms that the GCAA supported the strategic partners and national carriers during the critical period when the COVID-19 pandemic affected the entire world, which allowed the sector to regain its previous operational levels. For example, Emirates Airlines and flydubai are now operating in 90 percent of their destination networks.

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FAI dedicates Global Express to ultra-long-range air ambulance operations

NUREMBERG, Germany: FAI rent-a-jet GmbH, Germany's leading Special Mission Operator, has configured one of its seven Global Express aircraft (D-AFAM) as a dedicated air ambulance to meet increasing demand for ultra-long-range air ambulance missions.

FAI has completed 10 ultra-long-range air ambulance missions over the past two months alone. The company is focused on building up its air ambulance capabilities in long and ultra-long-range missions with a view to strengthening its position as a world leader in the field.

Volker Lemke, Head of FAI's Air Ambulance Division said: "Over the past year, we have experienced a significant increase in demand for long and ultra-long-range air ambulance business on sorties from Europe, Africa and the Middle East. Equally, we have seen increased demand in the short and medium range repatriation air ambulance business. As a result, we are pleased to commit and dedicate one of our Global Express aircraft to air ambulance, which will enable us to be more agile and mission-ready within minutes."

Previously, FAI converted the interior of the Global Express and configured it for air ambulance missions on a case-by-case basis. In medevac use, the aircraft features up to

three Spectrum Aeromed ICUs.

The Global's non-stop range of 6000 nm enables transport of up to three intensive care patients in addition to FAI's specially trained medical teams and co-travellers from the west coast of the US to Europe, the US east coast to the Middle East or from Europe to the Far East.

Award-winning FAI has been at the forefront of supporting the Covid pandemic response and earlier in the year was honoured with the Pandemic Response Special Award at the Middle East Annual Aviation Achievement Awards. In 2020, FAI had one of its busiest years ever for its air ambulance fleet owing to the pandemic.

This included medical evacuations of infected patients and repatriation flights of unaffected healthy individuals from all corners of the globe. During this time, FAI pioneered the roll-out of Covid-19 aeromedical transport capability, the EpiShuttle isolation pod. This enables self-contained oxygen and air ventilation directly to the patient, isolated from the cabin's airflow.

The company is one of the world's largest air ambulance jet operators by revenue. The 10-strong air ambulance fleet comprising Bombardier Global Express, Challenger 604 and Learjet 60 is based at FAI's Headquarters at Albrecht Dürer International Airport in Nuremberg. It is supported by more than 200 full-time staff plus 50 part-time physicians, nurses and paramedics. The company also specializes in air support in hostile areas for the world's largest NGO.

ATC Aviation Services wins ITA Airways contract

FRANKFURT: ATC Aviation Services AG, one of the world's leading cargo GSSA, has begun its partnership with ITA Airways, Italy's national airline to do airline cargo sales promotion and marketing activities

in the regions of Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Germany, Peru, South Africa, Switzerland, and United States.

ITA Airways operates with a network of 44 destinations and 59 routes – 191 flights in total (24 domestic and 56 international) – which will increase to 58 destinations and 74 routes in 2022 and 74 destinations and 89 routes in 2025.

Ingo Zimmer, CEO ATC Aviation Services, said: "We



warmly welcome our new partner ITA Airways, and we will make every effort to increase the cargo business of ITA Airways with our experience and market knowledge."

Emiliana Limosani, CCO at ITA Airways, said the airline "value the commercial partnership with ATC Aviation Services as key for a successful start of our operations and the development of ITA Airways cargo business in the coming months."

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TIACA's Chair and Vice Chair retain posts for another two-year term

MIAMI: Following a successful two years serving the membership and industry, The International Air Cargo Association (TIACA) announced Chair Steven Polmans and Vice Chair Sanjeev Gadhia will continue their work at the association's helm for the next two years.

Amid the association's successful transformation, including a revision to the Bylaws facilitating a possible second term for the Chair and Vice Chair, the Board of Directors considered and approved an additional term for the current Chair and Vice Chair to ensure there was stability of leadership and a long-term focus at the Board level.

The Board says it has complete confidence that this will be in the best interest of the association and industry. The re-appointment will allow continuity



Sanjeev
Gadhia



Steven Polmans

of leadership that will steer the Association through its Executive Summit in March 2022 and the Air Cargo Forum which will be held in its new home at the Miami Convention Center in November 2022.

"I am grateful for the strong support that the Board of Directors has given me by this re-appointment. The industry and the association have recently faced many challenges but have risen above them. I look forward to continuing the work that has already begun on ensuring the association is financially viable and can meet the needs of our members, who are the real drivers of this association. We will continue to ensure our efforts are membership and content-driven and will focus on the membership, advocacy, partnership, knowledge, sustainability and events," said Polmans.

Re-appointed Vice Chair Gadhia said: "I am proud of the work that we have achieved, transforming the Association, particularly during such a difficult time for the industry was quite an achievement but we still have a lot of work to do and I look forward to continuing our work for the members and the air cargo industry and I appreciate the confidence the board has shown by this re-election."



Heidi Grant

ARLINGTON, Virginia: Heidi Grant, Director of the U.S. Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA), has been selected to lead Boeing's defense, space and government services sales teams.

She will join the company Nov. 8 as vice president of Business Development, leading the organization previously known as Global Sales and Marketing (GSM).

In her current role, Grant is responsible for the administration and execution of U.S. Department of Defense security

Pentagon veteran to lead sales team for Boeing's defense, space and government services portfolios

cooperation programs and activities involving defense articles, military training and other defense-related services.

She began her U.S. Department of Defense career in 1989 and held key roles with the departments of the Navy and Air Force, Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Staff and two combatant commands with assignments from base to headquarters levels, including an overseas assignment.

"Heidi brings extensive experience in global strategy and competitive positioning across the life cycle," said Leanne Caret, president and CEO, Boeing Defense, Space & Security. "We look forward to working closely with her as we compete, win and grow our business around the world." Grant will report to Caret and Boeing Global Services President and CEO Ted Colbert and serve on both leadership teams. She will be based in Arlington, Virginia.

Grant succeeds Jeff Shockey, who departed the company in July. Mike Manazir, who has served as interim GSM vice president, returns to his role as vice president, Boeing Global Services business development.

As a leading global aerospace company, Boeing develops, manufactures and services commercial airplanes, defense products and space systems for customers in more than 150 countries.

As a top U.S. exporter, the company leverages the talents of a global supplier base to advance economic opportunity, sustainability and community impact. Boeing's diverse team is committed to innovating for the future and living the company's core values of safety, quality and integrity.

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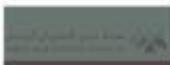
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Gulf Air appoints Bahrainis in different operational managerial roles

MANAMA, Bahrain: Bahrain's national airline, Gulf Air, has appointed nine experienced Bahraini professionals in various operational managerial roles as part of the carrier's commitment to invest on the local workforce.

In an internal ceremony to celebrate this milestone, Gulf Air's Acting CEO Capt. Waleed AlAlawi with

CCO Capt. Suhail Ismaeel and Director Human Resources Jamal AlKuwaiti received the newly appointed staff who will take the lead in significant projects and be accountable for essential operational business units. They congratulated them on their new posts and encouraged them to continue their hard work and commitment towards the national carrier.

The newly-appointed managers are:

- Mohamed Mubarak Mejalli - Senior Manager Integrated Operations Centre
- Sameer Yousef Ahmed Hasan - Senior Manager Training
- Adel Abdullatif AlKhan - Manager Pilot Training, Boeing
- Ali Adel Albinali - Manager Pilot Training, Airbus
- Hesham Mohammed Mohammed – Manager Fleet, Airbus
- Mohamed Habib AlMansoori - Manager Fuel Optimization & Emissions Reporting
- Muath Ishaq AlKooheji - Manager Advanced Qualification Programme
- Mohamed Abdulaziz Bahram – Technical Pilot, Airbus
- Yousif Ahmed Akbari – Technical Pilot, Boeing

"At Gulf Air we take pride of our experienced Bahraini workforce and we encourage them to elevate their capabilities and take management roles. We trust and believe in our local talents to lead the way for Gulf Air's future and we constantly invest in their training and career development so they continue the airline's legacy and journey of over 70 years," said Capt. AlAlawi.

Gulf Air is a leader in the Bahrainisation program in the Kingdom, providing opportunities for local and experienced talents to work and build a career on the airline's various businesses.

France brings 13 major companies to International Astronautical Congress in Dubai

DUBAI: At least 13 top French companies held intensive three-day business meetings with engineers and technicians from the UAE Space Agency, the Mohammed Bin Rashid Space Center (MBRSC), the National Space Science and Technology Center (NSSTC) and the Al Yah Satellite Communications Company (Yahsat) at the recently held International Astronautical Congress 2021 in Dubai.

Organised by Business France, the French Space Days was held from October 26 to 28 in partnership with the CNES, the French government agency responsible for shaping and implementing France's space policy, the MBRSC and the International Astronautical Federation (IAF). The three-day event was aimed at strengthening commercial and strategic ties between the United Arab Emirates and France.

After launching the Hope Probe mission in Mars and sending the lunar rover named Rashid to the moon, the UAE clearly demonstrated its huge ability to innovate in the space industry and through the French Space Days program, France says it is willing to develop new way of collaboration through technical contributions, share of expertise and advanced solutions fitting the UAE's vision in the field of space exploration, technologies, and applications.

After celebrating France day at Expo 2020 with an unprecedented duplex between Dubai & the International Space Station currently commanded by Thomas Pesquet, Ambassador of France at Expo 2020 and the first French astronaut in the history to take command of the ISS, the French Space Agency will showcase for two weeks the cutting-



edge technologies that allow astronauts to live in Space and to explore Mars while celebrating the milestones reached thanks to international Space cooperation.

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Upcoming Events



Expo 2020 Dubai, UAE

Minds, Creating the Future', Expo 2020 will be the world's most impactful global incubator for new ideas, catalyzing an exchange of new perspectives and inspiring action to deliver real-life solutions to real-world challenges.

Running from 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022 and coinciding with the 50-year anniversary of the founding of the UAE, Expo 2020 will bring the world together, creating an open, global dialogue that looks to the future. Millions of visitors from across the globe will be invited to join the making of a new world, as they discover life-changing innovations that will have a meaningful, positive impact on both people and planet.

01 October 2021-31 March 2022

Dubai Exhibition Center, Dubai, UAE

Messe München's transport logistic & TIACA's air cargo forum come to the US in 2022

TIACA's Executive Summit and Messe München's transport logistic Americas Forum come together at the 2-day conference March 22-23, 2022 at the Hyatt Regency San Francisco.

With the innovation journey to Silicon Valley the second highlight is scheduled March 24-25, 2022. Get inspired and discover future trends to move your business forward.

In parallel transport logistic, the leading international exhibition for Logistics, Mobility, IT and Supply Chain Management now finds an additional home in the booming Florida metropolis in the south of the USA. transport logistic Americas and air cargo forum Miami thus compliments the worldwide coverage of the successful trade show concepts organized by Messe München.

The combination of both brands offers a central platform for connections, most notably to USA, North and South America, as well as to other continents.

22-25 March 2022 in San Francisco (ACF)

**November 08-10, 2022 in Miami
(Transport logistics Americas)**

Air Cargo India 2022

Messe München India says the 9th edition of Air Cargo India is taking place next year. The show will be focused on Pharma, E-Commerce, Drones and Technology sectors. It will offer three days of immense business opportunities, global perspectives and strong networking platforms for the stakeholders, buyers, and sellers of the air cargo industry.

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Logistics Congress 2022

Next year's Logistics Congress hosts "Supply Chains in Science and Practice 2022" organized in cooperation with the European Logistics Association ELA. The congress brings together all parties in any way whatsoever connected to logistics: logistic, transport, and production companies; suppliers of IT solutions; educational institutions, and national authorities.

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M&T Expo 2022

The 11th edition of M&T Expo - Int'l Trade Fair for Construction and Mining Equipment, part of bauma NETWORK, will finally take place next year after being postponed due to the pandemic. This is the largest equipment trade show for construction and mining in Latin America and a meeting point for Brazilian and international professionals in the construction industry.

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The LOUNGE

SpiceJet chairman spices up his life with boxing

Ajay Singh wears many hats but he is probably best known in India as the man who founded the low-cost carrier SpiceJet in 2005. Sold it and successfully revived from near closure in 2014, taking over from the buyer when the company was buried in mountains of debts.

"I did not take over SpiceJet, when it was on the verge of a shutdown two years ago, to become rich. I did that as I had an emotional connect with the employees and the company, which I founded in 2005," Singh was quoted in the Indian media as saying.

Today, SpiceJet is debt-free and is considered as India's third largest private airline with about 200 aircraft. Its stock was up 124 percent in 2017 and has gained more than 800 percent since its near-demise in December 2014 with market value of US\$1.2 billion.

And Singh is credited for the airline's dramatic turnaround and expansion overseas.

SpiceJet currently flies 10 times a week to Dubai from several key cities in India. The airline plans to add more flights once India and the UAE sign new bilateral air agreements allowing more slots for Indian carriers to serve the route.

Well exposed and experienced in business even at an early age, Singh was raised in a family that successfully dabbled in real estate and fashion accessories business in India where the majority of the population are women.

His ability to resurrect a company from near death has been noticed early on when he successfully brought to profits the Delhi Transport Corporation in 1996. Back then, the company had only 300 buses and within two years, Singh grew it to 6,000 buses with good revenues.



Ajay Singh
Chairman and Managing Director, SpiceJet

As a student, Singh was into crickets and hockey, even playing as a captain for his cricket team at St. Columba's School in New Delhi.

After finishing his engineering degree in New Delhi, he went to the United States where he took up his MBA in Finance at Cornell University.

He initially joined his family's business before setting his sights in India's private sector.

The aviation billionaire said he doesn't have much free time with his many responsibilities at SpiceJet and his other businesses but when he does, he likes to spend it with his family, the simple things in life and his new advocacy—promoting boxing in India.

"I don't have that much free time," he told **Air Cargo Update** in an interview on the sidelines of Aviation Show MENASA held in Dubai where he was among the panelists. "When I do get free time, I watch movies. I listen to music and watch a lot of sports."

"I have two wonderful daughters and I like to spend time with them. One is studying in the US and the other is just one-year-old," he added.

As President of the Boxing Federation of India, Singh said he devotes time to promote the sport among Indians saying the country needs to professionalize boxing.

Among his priorities is to provide boxers with the best training, coaches and technical officials as well as improve infrastructure related to the sport.

"We will try to win a lot of medals in boxing in the coming Olympics," said Singh who is bent on winning no matter what the battle is.

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