

# air cargo update

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## REWIND

MEACL:  
Dubai Conference 2019

# Cargo Drones

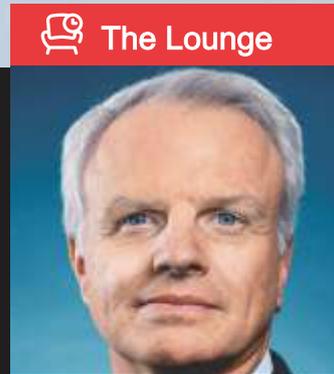
### New lifeline in the fight against the pandemic & humanitarian crisis



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Bringing the world together  
in the new normal



David Neeleman  
Azul Brazilian Airlines, Chairman  
Breeze Airways, CEO

Airlines

Airports

Logistics

move verb

↳ action to achieve sth; change in ideas/behaviour  
• ADJ. 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

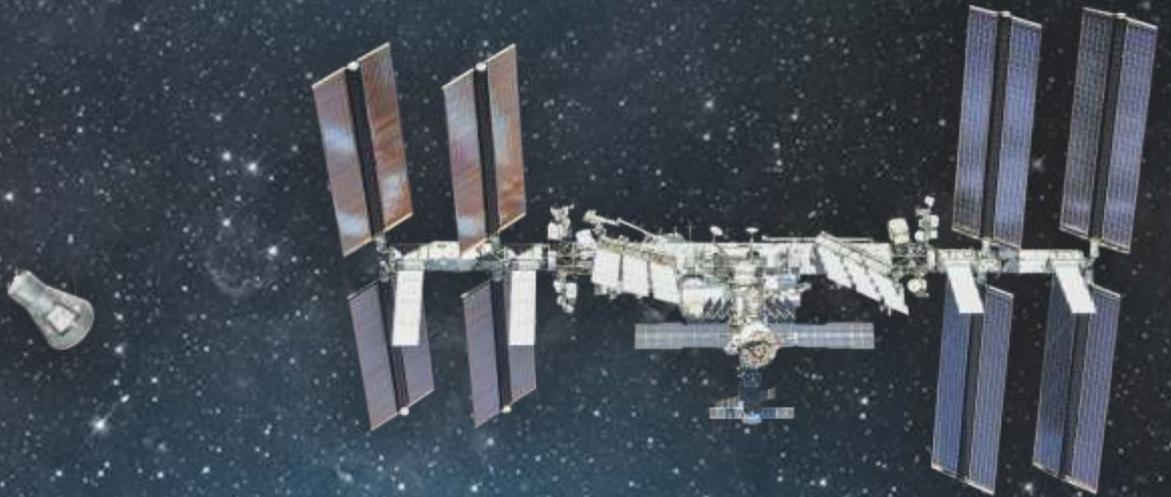
↳ act of moving  
• ADJ. big | little, slight, small, tiny The eyes of predators are highly sensitive to the slightest movement. | quick, rapid, swift | gentle, slow | easy, graceful, smooth She mounted the horse in one easy movement. | sudden | swift | sudden | deft | controlled | free

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## Dawn of a new era

Drones may be identified with military, having been used at varying stages of wars across different continents and conflict zones, but their use have evolved over time to benefit civilians and private businesses.

Today, drones are used for commercial aerial surveillance, oil and gas exploration, farming, filmmaking, photography, monitoring weather, rescue operations, and more recently, picking-up and delivering all sorts of goods like parcels, medicines, food, vaccines, including sensitive human organs, among many other things.

During this pandemic, drones' valuable contribution in reaching out remote areas and far-flung villages across many countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and other continents, is highlighted as the world grapples in distributing COVID-19 vaccines to contain the spread of the virus that constantly mutates.

Various government and healthcare agencies have teamed up with different drone makers, logistics and cargo firms, to reach out more people in remote communities, struggling to survive in the era of social distancing. Experts believe we'll be seeing more cargo drones in the future.

In this edition, we'll examine how cargo drones are changing people's lives and how the industry is navigating with its new aerial transport.

We'll also bring you the latest on Expo 2020 Dubai, UAE, the first World Expo ever held in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia region and one of the first major in-person global events taking place since the pandemic disrupted the world order more than a year ago and ushered what we now observe as the new normal.

The mega-logistics involved in creating the Expo site, itself a city within a city in the desert, in addition to the wonderful pavilions of some 191 countries participating, is astonishing and remarkable.

These and more this September on **Air Cargo Update**.

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

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**David Neeleman**  
Azul Brazilian Airlines, Chairman  
Breeze Airways, CEO

## Family and people for this serial airline entrepreneur

**T**he global aviation industry remains in a slump due to the pandemic. Not that many people dare fly despite the development of COVID-19 vaccines and new health and safety protocols in place.

But for some entrepreneurs, the situation difficult as it looks, still offers opportunities. And so on May 27, 2021, budget airline Breeze Airways was born to provide flights to



underserved cities throughout the United States.

It took off easily with its slogan “Home of Seriously Nice Flights and Fares” backed up with its seamless booking, no change or cancellation fees and customized flight features delivered via a sleek and simple app. As of July, the airline serves 16 cities and nearly 40 routes across the US, with plans for more domestic and international flights.

On September 13, the airline which has a fleet of 13 aircraft, announced an order for 20 more Airbus A220-330 in preparation for its planned longer flights. The new order brings to 80 its total pending aircraft up for deliveries.

Behind this new airline is the entrepreneur who founded four other airlines—Morris Air, WestJet, JetBlue Airways, Azul Brazilian Airlines—within a span of 30 years, the Brazilian-American businessman and serial entrepreneur David G. Neeleman who is also part-owner of Tap Air Portugal.

Neeleman who was dubbed as the “Steve Jobs of the Skies” says he believes flying is the greatest privilege and opportunity that we could all have and that it should be affordable and a genuinely nice experience for everyone.

The Dutch-descent Neeleman was born in Sao Paulo, Brazil where his father worked as a foreign correspondent for UPI and later became bureau chief for Latin America. The family stayed there until he was five before moving back to Salt Lake City, Utah in the US.

At 19, Neeleman served for two years as a Mormon missionary in Brazil, spending time with the poorest of the poor and the downtrodden, an experience he described as humbling that made him vow to serve the Brazilians and others in whatever way he can.

“When I was living there as an expatriate child and visited as a teenager, I ran with the influential people and the rich. Then I went back to Brazil and lived with the poor. And that contrast really annoyed me. It made me want to do something to make a difference for the lower classes and that's what we're doing-creating air travel for the bus fare,” Neeleman told the Business Jet Traveller in an interview when asked how his experience as a missionary affected him.

Neeleman would occasionally return to Brazil where he also holds a citizenship. In 2008, he made a milestone when he founded Azul Linhas Aéreas Brasileiras S/A, a low-cost quality carrier. It created jobs and the opportunity for poor Brazilians to travel across the country and overseas.

The airline now has a fleet of 143 planes and account for nearly 24% of Brazil's domestic and 5% international air market, making it the third largest domestic and second largest international airline in Brazil. Neeleman says he delights in serving others and creating opportunities that benefit people.

Despite his busy schedule, this divorced father of 10, now with 24 grandchildren, always make it a point to spend time with his family, be it in sports, school performances and other activities, where they can connect and exchange ideas.

Always compassionate and a dreamer, Neeleman once told the Deseret News, “The more people you touch, the more good you do, the more lives you change, the happier you are.”



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## Ethiopian sets up Cargo Conversion Center as it mulls converting more passenger planes into 'preighters'

**ADDIS ABABA:** Africa's leading aviation group, Ethiopian Airlines Group has teamed up with the Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) to establish a B767 passenger to freighter Cargo Conversion Center with the airline mulling to convert more commercial passenger planes into "preighters" to meet increasing air cargo demand in continent and other markets.

Ethiopian has so far temporarily converted at least 25 of its passenger planes into freighters since the Coronavirus pandemic began.

Ethiopian Airlines Group Chief Executive Officer Tewolde GebreMariam said the conversion center will be built inside the airline's MRO facilities at Addis Ababa International Airport. IAI will begin its business converting three of Ethiopian's B767-300 passenger aircraft into freighters.

"In line with our Diversified Aviation Business Model of Vision 2025, we have been increasing our cargo capacity in fleet, ground service infrastructure and cargo connectivity network. Accordingly, we are partnering with IAI, one of the global technology leaders in the Aerospace industry, in building a cargo conversion center in our MRO facilities in Addis Ababa Airport," said GebreMariam.

"The Cargo Conversion Center in Addis Ababa airport will expand its services to all airlines in Africa and the wider region. We are very happy that we are able to collaborate with IAI to enable us to expand our cargo



Ethiopian Airlines Group Chief Executive Officer Tewolde GebreMariam, right, with Yossi Melamed, IAI's Executive VP and General Manager of Aviation Group. Supplied Photo

and logistics services which is already the largest and leading cargo network in Africa. The capacity building will also help us expand our MRO services with cutting edge technology and knowledge transfer," he added.

Yossi Melamed, IAI's Executive VP and General Manager of Aviation Group, the company is delighted to work with Ethiopian and pledged to work side-by-side with the airline to meet its increasing cargo business.

"We are witnessing a sharp rise in the demand for cargo aircraft as a result of the rise in e-commerce, which has peaked to record levels during the COVID-19 pandemic. IAI has an excellent reputation as a conversion center of passenger-to-freighters aircraft, and we are constantly receiving requests to open such conversion centers in more and more locations around the world," said Melamed.

"The conversion line in Ethiopia will join existing conversion sites IAI operates at its campus in Ben Gurion International Airport and in Mexico. It is to be recalled that Ethiopian MRO, with its internal capacity, temporarily converted 25 of its passenger aircraft to freighter to boost its cargo capacity as demand to transport emergency medical supplies soared," he added.

Ethiopian serves more than 130 international passenger and cargo destinations across five continents. Its fleet includes ultra-modern Airbus A350, Boeing 787-8, Boeing 787-9, Boeing 777-300ER, Boeing 777-200LR, Boeing 777-200 Freighter and Bombardier Q-400 double cabin with an average fleet age of five years.



## Cargolux transports for free Singapore Changi Airport community's COVID assistance to Indonesia

**LUXEMBOURG:** Cargolux, Europe's leading cargo airline, provided free transport for donated oxygen concentrators from Los Angeles, where they are manufactured, to Singapore, en route to Indonesia's capital Jakarta as the country battles its worst COVID-19 cases.

The oxygen concentrators were donated by the Singapore Changi Airport community where Cargolux is an active member.

As a company committed to Corporate Social Responsibility principles, Cargolux said it is pleased to leverage its expertise and play its part in such initiatives.

"Cargolux and Changi airport have a long-standing relationship based on shared values. We are proud to be part of the Singapore Changi community and contribute to transporting vital medical appliances to the people of Indonesia. Singapore and Jakarta are key destinations in the Cargolux network and we are committed to supporting the communities we operate into," said Richard Forson, Cargolux President & CEO.

Strongly committed to being a responsible global corporate citizen, the airline has been actively engaged in the fight against COVID-19. Since the outbreak of the pandemic, Cargolux has played a crucial role in keeping the supply chain moving, delivering essential supplies where they are most needed.

## DoKaSch Temperature Solutions opens new service station in Hyderabad, India

**FRANKFURT/HYDERABAD:** DoKaSch Temperature Solutions recently opened a new service station at Hyderabad Air Cargo Terminal in India, a very important network station for the global supply of lifesaving medicines with Hyderabad recognized as a major pharma production and export hub.

DoKaSch said the move strengthens its network in the region and globally, especially during this pandemic. Hyderabad's Genome Valley business district is a hub for research and development as well as manufacturing for pharma and lifesaving medicines.

A large amount of generic medicine and bulk active pharmaceutical ingredients (API) are also produced on-site. Some of the largest and most important vaccine producers have facilities in the city, giving it additional relevance during the ongoing pandemic.

Andreas Seitz, Managing Director at DoKaSch Temperature Solutions, said, "India is a highly relevant location for pharmaceuticals, biosimilars and biotech and especially Hyderabad is of outstanding importance. In turn, we decided to open our new service station to complement our extensive network and contribute to a capable cool chain for these products. Not only is the station located at a globally relevant industry hub, but the airport is also used by many of our partner airlines and is well connected to destinations worldwide. We are certain that our new location will play an important role for the global supply with lifesaving pharmaceutical products like vaccines, especially during the ongoing pandemic."

Several key pharmaceutical companies are located in Hyderabad and export their products to the USA, EU, Japan and other major countries across the globe. The upcoming Pharma City, an extensive industrial park for pharmaceuticals,



will further increase the city's importance, DoKaSch noted.

DoKaSch said Hyderabad's airport is an international hub with global connections, part of GMR Hyderabad Air Cargo Terminal complex, located within the airport premises, which is highly beneficial for forwarders and airlines.

With its dedicated pharma export terminal named 'Pharma Zone', the GMR facility at Hyderabad is well established as the preferred hub for pharma exports in South Central India and positioning containers at the Hyderabad network station gives the local pharmaceutical manufacturers, forwarders and airlines easy access to solutions for the global transport of high-value lifesaving medications.

The station in Hyderabad has a capacity to equip up to 100 containers and can easily accommodate requests of up to 20 containers per day.

"Hyderabad Air Cargo terminal is the preferred gateway for pharmaceuticals and vaccine movements in the South Asia region and we are very pleased to partner with DoKaSch Temperature Solutions to establish a service station at our Cargo Terminal. The new facility will make the world-class DoKaSch Opticooler containers readily and easily accessible to our shared customers who will be assured of ready availability and fast turnaround with our new on-airport container station. With the addition of this facility, GMR Hyderabad Air Cargo will be the biggest hub for temperature-controlled air cargo containers in the region," said Pradeep Panicker, CEO-GMR Hyderabad International Airport.

**DUBAI:** Furniture giant IKEA recently launched a new store concept in Zagreb, Croatia, using small parts system powered by Swisslog, the first in a series of future micro fulfillment projects that IKEA stores around the world will see.

A global leader in robotic and data driven solutions for intralogistics, Swisslog implemented the new automated system, which is in the store between the Market Mall and the Cash & Carry warehouse area.

"The micro fulfillment solution at IKEA gives customers a choice between Click & Collect and home delivery," said Jens Schmale, Head of Region EMEA at Swisslog, emphasizing, "The micro fulfillment approach has countless advantages, including improved speed and efficiency of fulfillment, reduced transportation costs, and shorter delivery times."

IKEA selected the highly efficient robotized storage and order processing solution AutoStore, complete with 6,000

## Swisslog partners with IKEA to launch Micro Fulfillment shopping concept

bins, 14 robots and 4 picking stations. Currently hosting 2,900 articles, the system takes care of the storage and picking of small items weighing no more than 30kg.

Before adopting AutoStore, IKEA estimated an average of about 1km traveled by each operator to prepare an order, with a productivity rate of 20 order lines per hour. Today, with the new automated and data-driven solution, it is expected to increase productivity up to 170 order lines, allowing an important rationalization of the store's resources with a significant return on investment.

"Swisslog is very proud to be partnered with IKEA," Schmale continues. "The whole team is excited to be supporting in the development of their customer experience program, especially with this pilot project."



## American Airlines offers customers front-door pet delivery service provided by My Pet Cab

**FORT WORTH, Texas:** American Airlines has made pet travel easier through a new add-on service provided by the animal transportation experts at My Pet Cab, who offer pet owners a safe and seamless home delivery service for their furry friends.

The airline said starting September 1, 2021, customers booking travel for their cat or dog through American can add a delivery ground transportation service to their reservation through an American Airlines Cargo dedicated pet booking agent. This means customers can welcome their pet at home instead of waiting at the cargo terminal.

When customers contact American to make a travel reservation for a pet, a booking agent can help them opt into the ground transportation service. Agents will provide an exact price quote for My Pet Cab's services using the delivery address. The American agent can book both air and ground transportation at the same time and provide the customer with a single charge, preventing surprise costs and offering billing efficiency.

"Pet owners have depended on our animal transportation expertise for 65 years, and we're excited to combine our experience with My Pet Cab to offer this first ever front-door delivery service to our customers," said Roger Samways, Vice President, Commercial for American Airlines Cargo. "Not only will this new add-on service save our customers time, but it also gives their pets a safe and comfortable ride home on the final leg of their journey."

"My Pet Cab is excited to join American Airlines in bringing this new service to the customers of the nation's largest airline," said Brett Furlong, CEO of My Pet Cab. "At My Pet Cab, we have combined industry leaders in transportation and pet handling, and we have invested heavily in vehicles and infrastructure to make sure our customers' pets are transported in the ways we would want our own pets transported."

Known for their compassionate and individualized approach to animal transportation, My Pet Cab will work directly with American to coordinate and complete the final miles of each pet's trip. My Pet Cab



team members — who are thoroughly trained in animal care and transportation — will deliver pets in a specialized My Pet Cab vehicle equipped with secondary air systems and electronic monitoring thermometers, as well as remote cameras and vehicle monitoring systems, prioritizing each pet's health and safety on the ride home.

My Pet Cab Drivers will provide real-time text messages to give customers peace of mind. Pets will also have access to My Pet Cab's 24/7 on-call veterinarians.

The new ground transportation service is available for pets traveling to Boston Logan International Airport, Charlotte Douglas International Airport, Chicago O'Hare International Airport, Dallas Fort Worth International Airport, Washington Dulles International Airport, Houston George Bush Intercontinental Airport, Los Angeles International Airport, Miami International Airport, Newark Liberty International Airport, New York John F. Kennedy International Airport, New York LaGuardia Airport, Philadelphia International Airport, San Francisco International Airport and Seattle-Tacoma International Airport.

Customers can also take advantage of select long-distance transportation service, allowing pets to fly into Los Angeles and travel in a My Pet Cab vehicle to locations in Las Vegas, Nevada; Phoenix, Arizona; Tucson, Arizona; and Palm Springs, California. These connections make it easier for customers to transport their pets during summer months — when temperatures are too high to accommodate animals at the airports in those locations.

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## AirBridgeCargo extends global partnership with WFS with 10-year cargo handling contract in Liege



**LONDON:** AirBridgeCargo Airlines (ABC) has awarded a 10-year cargo handling contract to Worldwide Flight Services (WFS) in Liege, further extending the all-cargo airline's global strategic partnership with WFS, the world's largest air cargo handler.

Under the terms of the new contract, as well as handling import and export cargo on AirBridgeCargo's 15 Boeing 747 freighter flights a week, connecting Liege with prime markets in North America and Asia Pacific, WFS has subleased half of ABC's new cargo terminal at the Belgian airport to support its other handling clients.

The 12,500 sq. mt. Building 24 cargo terminal in Liege has the capacity to handle some 150,000 tons of airfreight a year. WFS will also provide handling for other Volga-Dnepr Group airlines when required to do so.

In Liege, WFS provides both cargo and ramp handling, supported by the facility's location next to the airport's freighter parking area. The building provides a dedicated pharma zone for temperature-controlled products and will also enable the highly-trained WFS team to meet the special handling requirements of ABC for shipments such as high value and perishable cargoes.

"We are extremely proud that AirBridgeCargo Airlines and Volga-Dnepr Group are making this long-term commitment to working with WFS. This 10-year contract in Liege follows our announcement in June of a three-year handling agreement with ABC at our new cargo terminal in Atlanta," said Barry Nassberg, WFS' Group Chief Commercial Officer.

"These types of contracts provide stability for both partners, are great news for our employees, and enable us to support AirBridgeCargo's long-term growth strategy which requires us to deliver high quality, reliable and innovative cargo handling services for its global customers. We thank ABC for giving us this great opportunity, which supports our own long-term plans in Belgium."

As well as Liege and Atlanta, WFS also hold contracts to provide handling services for AirBridgeCargo Airlines in Frankfurt, Madrid and Paris as well as in Dallas/Fort Worth, Houston, Los Angeles and Hong Kong.

WFS first commenced handling services in Liege in early 2020 after the airport authority called for expert support to help handle the surge of freighter flights carrying urgent shipments of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in response to the global Covid-19 pandemic.

By relocating members of its Brussels handling team to Liege and transferring essential equipment, including forklifts, slave masters, slave pallets and a truck dock, WFS was able to open a fully operational, safe and secure cargo facility within just 72 hours.

In January 2021, WFS also opened a new 250,000-ton capacity cargo terminal operation at Brussels Airport. This facility is in addition to WFS' 9,000 sq. mt. handling center at Brucargo West, which opened two years ago.

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## Etihad Cargo flies Manchester City player statues from across the world to UK

Etihad Cargo's expertise in special delivery together with the utilization of their extensive global network ensured that the statues were delivered on site and on schedule, ready to be installed for the Club's unveiling on Saturday 28th August.

**ABU DHABI:** Manchester City has teamed up with long-standing partner, Etihad Cargo, in safely transporting the statues of its two most famous players from across the world to Manchester in the UK.

The large scale statues of Club legends Vincent Kompany and David Silva have travelled 5,778 miles from the United States to Manchester for their August 28 installation at the Etihad Stadium.

Glasgow born and raised, but now operating from his studio in Philadelphia, Sculptor Andy Scott was appointed by the Club 15 months ago to bring the player legends to life in sculpture form. Uniquely, the entire process from commissioning, to design and build has been conducted remotely due to travel restrictions relating to the global pandemic.

Following completion of the statues in Philadelphia, the complex work of logistics and transportation began with Etihad Cargo exclusively providing dedicated and end-to-end service throughout the entire process. Carefully separated into four parts and meticulously packaged, these sizeable statues were trucked from Andy's studio in Philadelphia to Chicago, loaded onto a Boeing 777 Freighter and flown to Frankfurt and then transported by road to Manchester.

"These statues are bespoke and premium pieces of art that have been 15 months in the making. The precious nature of the pieces together with their sheer size and weight, meant that their transportation across the world to Manchester was always going to be a challenging and complex process," said Manchester City's Director of Infrastructure Ed Dalton.

"It was vital that we had an organization with the appropriate logistical know-how, a global network and a team of people with the requisite experience and expertise to take on a project of this kind. Etihad Cargo's dedicated team have worked with the Club closely throughout this process and have been the perfect partner - highly organized, professional and collaborative and we are extremely grateful for their invaluable assistance," he added.

Martin Drew, Senior Vice President Sales and Cargo, Etihad Aviation Group, noted, "The Etihad Cargo team is extremely proud to have been chosen by Manchester City to transport this unique cargo shipment.

"As partners to Manchester City for more than 12 years, we have watched at close quarters and in admiration at what Vincent Kompany and David Silva have achieved for the Club. Our team was therefore even more excited by this unique opportunity."

The complexity of this operation involved months of planning and technical expertise in close cooperation with the Club. The successful delivery of this highly-confidential consignment demonstrated the teamwork capabilities within the Etihad network.

## cargo-partner renews CHAMP's Traxon cargoHUB

**LUXEMBOURG:** Vienna-headquartered cargo-partner which provides a comprehensive portfolio of air, sea & land transport, and warehousing solutions for a wide-range of industries worldwide has renewed its contract with CHAMP for its Traxon cargoHUB community.

A CHAMP customer for over 15 years, the company has benefitted from access to the largest air cargo community, with digital access to thousands of stakeholders throughout the supply chain, enabling doing business with all community players via a single system regardless of message format or protocol.

In a move for further operational excellence, the forwarder has also implemented Traxon Quality. Rather than waiting for monthly reports to measure internal efficiencies, cargo-partner will now get the most up-to-date insights sourced from data from its Traxon cargoHUB solution.

As of 4 June 2021, forwarders are required to submit Advance Customs Information for all shipments entering Canada. As a longtime customer, cargo-partner chose CHAMP for its new compliance needs.

The solution adapts quickly to the latest country customs requirements and enables efficient, secure, and accurate information exchange in line with the customs authorities' requirements - regardless of format, communications protocols and processing rules.

Traxon Quality measures a customer's full network, for shipment flows and

performance. It will allow cargo-partner to create a transport plan for shipments, track the progress against events and get alerted for actions and improvements. Both solutions were implemented in under two weeks.

"With new data insights we will be able to further optimize our business and operations, and ultimately further improve our customers' experience with us," said Jo Feiks, Corporate Director Product Management Air Cargo, at cargo-partner. "We are pleased to renew for Traxon cargoHUB and implementing data insights solutions that will be of boundless benefits to our operations."

"As a longtime stakeholder in the air cargo industry, cargo-partner understands the benefits of using data to its advantage," said Nicholas Xenocostas, Vice President Commercial & Customer Engagement at CHAMP Cargosystems. "The data already collected in Traxon cargoHUB is brought together for simple and straightforward insights that can help make vital business decisions. We are pleased to support them in their pursuit of operational excellence."

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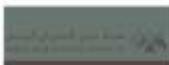
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# From 1 DC-3 carrying mushrooms to a fleet of over 800 planes, Delta marks 75 years of remarkable growth

**ATLANTA, Georgia:** Tracing its humble roots from carrying 200 lbs. of freshly-picked mushrooms in Ohio aboard a DC-3 destined for Atlanta, Delta Cargo marked this year its 75th anniversary with a remarkable growth that includes access to a fleet of more than 800 aircraft, a global reach to more than 310 destinations in 54 countries and carrying over 2.2 billion cargo-ton miles each year.

That first week of operation in 1946, the airline carried a little bit of everything to customers across the US—a 64-year-old, \$1,500 soup tureen; 1,100 pounds of auto parts filling six crates; 450 pounds of candy; a box of silver coins.

Delta planes had served the Allied cause during World War II, transporting everything from food and surgical supplies to weapons and auto parts overseas. That helped give Delta what was needed to turn cargo transport into a full-fledged business.

**In the decades since, the cargo team has marked a number of milestones, including:**

**1950-1953: Delta volunteers to ship blood donated through the American Red Cross to United Nations forces during the Korean War.**

**1953: The international cargo service launches, with flights to the Caribbean and Venezuela.**

**1958: Frank Taylor becomes Delta's first air freight passenger, flying with a shipment of roses from Philadelphia to Atlanta.**

**1959: "King" becomes the first dog to fly on a commercial jet from Houston to New York City.**

**1966: A Delta L-100 cargo plane carries NASA's Surveyor 3**

**spacecraft from Los Angeles to Cape Kennedy, Florida, launching site—the first time a spacecraft was carried by regular commercial aircraft.**

**1970: The launch of DASH, which has become Delta's most popular cargo product.**

**1986: Delta makes history in 1986 when U.S.-manufactured cars begin shipping to Germany via a U.S. air carrier. Two Corvettes were shipped on a L-1011-500 flight from Dallas to Frankfurt, with two Firebirds on a following flight.**

**1998: Delta launches the first international cargo alliance with Swissair, before becoming a founding member of SkyTeam Cargo in 2000.**

**2017: Delta opens its first Cargo Control Center to improve customer experience.**

"The airline has grown, and the nature of our Cargo business has changed significantly over the last 75 years, but we are still in the business of providing Best-in-Class service to our customers with any of their freight and logistics needs – large or small," said Robert Walpole, Vice President, Delta Cargo. "We are here to support our customers and communities in the U.S. and across the globe. We look forward to another remarkable 75 years."

Today, Delta Cargo offers access to industry-leading shipping solutions and carries on average 2.2 billion cargo ton miles every year. Whether it's transporting life-saving pharmaceuticals, organs for transplant, fresh flowers, seasonal produce or beloved pets, Delta Cargo's strong product portfolio provides world-class service for every customer's needs.

Delta also has carried essential protective equipment and medical supplies around the world during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Delta first living veg plants shipped-1945



Delta dash human organ shipment-1986



: "King" becomes the first dog to fly on a commercial jet from Houston to New York City - 1959



## RSGT announces completion of US\$280 million equity sale to PIF & COSCO SHIPPING Ports Limited



**JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia:** The founding shareholders of Red Sea Gateway Terminal Limited (RSGT) have officially completed their 40% RSGT equity sale to the Public Investment Fund (PIF) and COSCO SHIPPING Ports Limited (CSPL) (20% each), announced RSGT, which will remain an independent terminal operator.

The transactions imply an enterprise value for RSGT of US\$880 million and a total gross inflow of equity value for the founding shareholders US\$280 million. The founding shareholders will reduce their combined shareholding to 60%.

PIF is the economic engine of Vision 2030, driving the diversification of Saudi Arabia's economy. The investment in RSGT is in line with PIF's 2021-2025 strategy that focuses on 13 key priority sectors, including transport and logistics.

Located on the main East-West trade routes, with close proximity to the main cargo end destinations on the West Coast of Saudi Arabia and captures significant intra-Red Sea trans-shipment cargo volumes, the investment will help transform RSGT into both a regional and global logistics hub in line with PIF's mission of unlocking new economic opportunities locally and globally.

RSGT will benefit and enhance its value proposition with the support of and a leading global ports operator like CSPL, which they will bring new momentum to the growth of RSGT's business volume. Both new shareholders will help drive future growth on seaside and landside logistics.

"This is a significant milestone for RSGT, demonstrating both our strength a business and the confidence which the industry and investment community have in our strategic planning and implementation. Working closely with PIF and CSPL, we will accelerate our shared vision, further strengthen our customer

offering, and elevate our mandate to meet the increasing demand for terminal and logistics services. RSGT will continue to focus on developing a niche emerging market operator with a keen focus on ports in the Red Sea and East Africa," said Jens O. Floe, CEO of RSGT.

Formed in 2009, RSGT is located at the world-class Jeddah Islamic Port, a crucial logistics hub serving as a global trade nexus linking Asia, Europe, and Africa, as well as an increasingly important regional business center.

RSGT assumed the operations of the North Container Terminal in Jeddah Islamic Port and has significantly expanded its handling capacity from 2.5 million TEU to 5.2 million TEU, becoming the largest container terminal in KSA. Throughout the concession period, RSGT's annual throughput capacity is envisaged to grow to about 9 million TEU following an investment plan of USD 1.7 billion in infrastructure, equipment, & technology.

**BASILDON, Essex:** Companies seeking to trade with Russia and the CIS countries, currently deterred by the complexities involved, can rely on a new trade and logistics consultancy service introduced by an Anglo-Russian freight business specializing on these markets for many years. UK-based FSM Logistics Ltd., which offers a portfolio of freight forwarding and logistics services globally, now extends its services to those seeking to do business in the Russia and CIS anchored on its deep understanding of the markets of the former Soviet Union (FSU) as a result of being one of the first international logistics providers to establish itself in the Russian market following the unravelling of the USSR in the 1990s.

Alfred Stienen, director of FSM Logistics, said for some businesses, Brexit has made trading with traditional markets in the EU much more complicated, and many are looking at markets further afield.

"Russia and the CIS countries have a large middle class; and GDP across the region has been rising for many years, increasing the spending power of the nations' populations, for the potential benefit of UK traders. But, many businesses are dissuaded from considering trade with these markets as they are portrayed as impenetrable – 'a riddle, wrapped in a mystery, inside an enigma', according to Winston Churchill, which is an impression that we want to correct, and encourage UK traders to think again," said Stienen.

Stienen accepts that whilst trading with Russia and countries of the CIS can

## UK logistics firm launches trade and logistics advisory service for Russia and CIS markets

look complicated for the outsider, the fact that the former is the UK's 21st largest trading partner, with total trade in goods and services between the UK and Russia having a current value of over £150 billion per annum, speaks volumes.

"Our new trade and logistics consultancy service for Anglo-Russian freight is a full value-added support operation, including advice on fiscal, tax, insurance, credit and Customs; multilingual staff in all offices; documentation, such as letters of credit, and Certificates of Origin, and even armed-escorts for highly valuable cargoes," said Stienen.

"It complements our full range of overland trailer, oceanfreight and airfreight services between the UK and continental Europe with Russia and the FSU countries," he added.

## DAKOSY and dbh kickstart digitalizing release of import containers in Hamburg, other German cities

**HAMBURG/BREMEN, Germany:** A German joint solution for the digitalized release process of import containers is being developed by service providers DAKOSY AG, Hamburg, and dbh Logistics IT AG, Bremen, laying the foundation for the use of Blockchain technology in the country's port community systems.

The companies, which both specialize in port community systems, said the first shipping companies and forwarders will be connected to the platform, henceforth, marketed under the label "German Ports."

DAKOSY and dbh have laid the foundation for standardizing and digitalizing the release process for import containers in the German seaports of Hamburg, Bremerhaven, Bremen and Wilhelmshaven. The application offers multiple options for the release process, providing users with choices in technology and processes.

DAKOSY and dbh are now making blockchain technology available to their users for the first time. Blockchain's suitability and practicality for the release process has already been confirmed as part of the IHATEC research project ROboB. Another incentive for the rapid implementation of this project is the high level of interest among carriers in digitalizing the release process.



Getting started with the new process is easy for carriers, forwarders, transport companies and terminals alike. Dirk Gladiator, authorized officer of DAKOSY, explains, "Our solution for the digitalized release process is based on existing platforms and processes that are already being extensively used by the stakeholders in German seaports." The application will be available in both the Hamburg and Bremen Port Community Systems. In Hamburg, this will be integrated into the Import Message Platform (IMP), and in the ports of Bremen and Wilhelmshaven, as a part of the Business Integration Platform (BIP).

"Parallel to the proven IMP and BIP platforms, we are building the framework for blockchain in order to make it available as a hybrid alternative in the next step. We are already preparing the test phase," says Holger Hübner, Head of Port Solutions at dbh, outlining the concept and assuring that "digitalized releases meet all requirements for security and verification of identities."

Until now, release orders have generally not been communicated digitally, but exchanged between parties in the traditional ways via fax, e-mail or telephone. "The manual process causes a lot of extra work for everyone, as the players have to engage in bilateral dialog for each individual container to organize authorizations and empty container returns," said Hübner and Gladiator.

With the use of the established IMP and BIP platforms and the optional addition of Blockchain, the strict requirements for access authorizations and secure IT processes have now been met. Release is a sensitive process, as the release order entitles the holder to release the container, which often contains goods of considerable value.



**Mohamed Al Khadar Al Ahmed**



**Abdullah Al Hameli**

## Abu Dhabi Ports enhances gas network across 50 sqkm within industrial cities & free zone clusters

with detailed gas consumption and consumer analytics. The network upgrade will also ensure greater energy efficiencies in line with the highest international safety and maintenance standards.

"The enhancement of the gas network within our zones is part of a larger development plan aimed at providing the best services and infrastructure to our customers. We aim to maintain the highest standards in service by collaborating with premier service providers so that our valued customers can be assured of a risk-free and uninterrupted gas supply," said Abdullah Al Hameli, Head of the Industrial Cities and Free Zone Cluster at Abu Dhabi Ports.

"By reaching this development milestone, we will be safeguarding and improving the reliability of our network and modernizing our systems with the world's leading data-driven technologies to ensure business continuity."

Mohamed Al Khadar Al Ahmed, Chief Executive Officer, ZonesCorp, said: "A steady and secure supply of energy sources such as natural gas is the backbone of ZonesCorp's proposition and as a crucial prerequisite for our industrial investors."

ZonesCorp is set to complete the project in multiple phases by the end of 2022, leverage the latest technology and measures for leakage prevention, fire detection, surveillance, installation of fire-fighting systems and advanced monitoring and controls.

**ABU DHABI:** Abu Dhabi Ports announced that it has embarked on a wide-ranging network service upgrade across ZonesCorp, part of the Industrial Cities & Free Zone Cluster of Abu Dhabi Ports, to ensure non-stop gas supply to its customers.

The system modernization will take place over the next several months as part of a continuous comprehensive zone development plan, which will serve to reduce risk by protecting ZonesCorp's customer facilities to ensure an uninterrupted flow of gas to more than 700 manufacturing industries across the Industrial City of Abu Dhabi (ICAD).

Upon completion, customers will benefit from operating within a highly optimized data-driven network, together



# Cargo Drones

## New lifeline in the fight against the pandemic & humanitarian crisis

By Gemma Q. Casas

“UAVs play a vital role in disaster preparedness and response, from surveying potential transport bottlenecks, to helping to quickly assess damage after an event. While drones are being used successfully for last mile delivery of small medical packages in countries like Rwanda and Ghana, larger capacity drones are needed to better support humanitarian operations in remote locations.”

**- George Fenton, Chief Executive  
Humanitarian Logistics Association**





**I**ndonesia, the world's largest island-nation with over 17,000 islands and home to more than 270 million people, continues to be ravaged by the more transmissible and deadlier Coronavirus variant, Delta. The pandemic has so far infected more than 4 million Indonesians and killed nearly 140,000 as of early September.

The newly-industrialized oil-rich Indonesia is still faced with poverty and reaching out to those in remote villages during this pandemic is a major challenge.

But thanks to the emergence of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), more popularly known in the industry as cargo drones, some remote island villages in the country are getting medical help.

For instance, in Makassar, the capital of Indonesia's South Sulawesi province, a group of civilian drone enthusiasts have been using their drone skills to provide contactless medicine and food delivery to COVID-19 patients isolating at home, the media reported. The group works 24/7 for what they view as critical life-threatening mission using just five drones.

Garuda Indonesia, the country's national carrier, has explored the possibility of increasing its cargo fleet by using 100 drones to haul cargo to different islands as early as 2019, in partnership with a Chinese firm.

### ***Rise of Cargo Drones***

Time-bound and faced with limited manpower, governments and healthcare companies have found ways to reach out to more patients this pandemic using cargo drones.

The last-mile delivery of essential medical supplies and products can be very challenging in remote or hard-to-reach areas where there are inaccessible roads, shortage of vehicles and inefficient supply chains.

This pandemic, these cargo drones have become very essential in picking-up and delivering lab samples, medical supplies, transport vaccines, among other medical essentials, saving time and money while saving lives.

In some cases, drones are also used to spray disinfectant in public places or monitor movement of people while providing guidance during lockdown and quarantine.

According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the global agency responsible for providing humanitarian and developmental aid to children worldwide, at least 18 countries have so far used drones for delivery and transportation purposes during this pandemic.

**“Some of them did it as part of experimentation and tests, while others maintained their regular drone delivery operations. Three countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, namely Rwanda, Ghana and Malawi reported the use of drones to deliver regular medical commodities, COVID-19 supplies and medical samples since the beginning of the pandemic,” UNICEF said.**

But the agency cautioned, while the right drone solution could really offer a breakthrough helping to handle the pandemic crisis, “it also needs to be supported by appropriate regulatory framework, local skills and sustainability plan. Seeing the full picture is essential to enable supply chain managers make cost-efficient and impactful decisions as part of their COVID-19 response.”

Ghana has been using Zipline drones to deliver tens of thousands of temperature and time-sensitive COVID-19 vaccines since the WHO approved its roll-out in late 2020. Canada has also been using drones to reach out its remote communities.



“Drones are a clear part of the future transport and logistics landscape. There is vast potential when it comes to new cargo and delivery services, as well as other innovative applications, including drone flights with passengers on board in the future.”

**- European Commissioner  
for Transport Adina Vălean**



And so does the United States. The US Federal Aviation Authority has so far selected 10 companies for airworthiness certification to use drones for deliveries. These include Zipline, Amazon Prime Air and Wingcopter.

Among air carriers, UPS has intensively used drones during this pandemic taking advantage of its FAA certifications allowing it to deliver short and longer-distance as well as nighttime flights.

COVID-ravaged India where the Delta variant was first discovered is also anticipating to see more cargo drones working. In June, cargo carrier SpiceXpress and e-commerce logistics platform Delhivery, announced their joint venture on cargo drones.

“We are very excited about this project as it promises to be a game-changer in times to come. The MoU is a win-win for both companies leveraging their strengths to deliver great synergies,” SpiceXpress CEO Sanjiv Gupta said in the statement. His company was among the key consortiums shortlisted by India's Directorate General of Civil Aviation to conduct trials on Beyond Visual Line Sight (BVLOS) drones in the country.

### **Crucial to last-mile delivery**

Faced with the challenges of reaching out to communities, patients and healthcare facilities in remote areas, specialists from across the pharma air cargo supply chain had since launched an extensive review on how drones can be used to address the issue.

The nonprofit groups Pharma.Aero and

Humanitarian Logistics Association (HLA) had since launched a joint project aimed at developing a strategic roadmap to enable effective transportation of pharma and humanitarian medical goods to remote areas using UAV and drone technology.

The results of the survey and insights gathered amongst the presenters, the attendees and the project group were outlined in a White Paper, marking the completion of their joint project's first phase. The White Paper examined the competitive positioning of UAV against other transportation modes, the regulatory framework for drone operations & applications of UAV in the Pharma and Humanitarian Air Cargo sector.

**COVID-ravaged India where the Delta variant was first discovered is also anticipating to see more cargo drones working. In June, cargo carrier SpiceXpress and e-commerce logistics platform Delhivery, announced their joint venture on cargo drones.**



Their survey indicated that UAV would become the preferred and efficient transportation solution compared to traditional modes of transport for last-mile delivery, into remote and hard-to-access areas within certain concentration of health facilities like hospitals, health centers, clinics, etc.

But the groups noted for UAV to become an integral part of air cargo, industry and regulatory bodies must work for common goals and standards.

“Countries across the globe need to align on standards, regulations and guidelines to ensure safety of UAV for final mile deliveries. With this, there could be higher understanding and acceptance from the pharma and air cargo industry to increase the use of UAVs as a form of freight transportation in the pharma supply chain,” Pharma.Aero and HLA jointly said in a statement.



“The second phase of the project will involve a UAV flight in Germany capturing different steps of the supply chain journey. The demonstration flight will be filmed and showcased in an interactive and immersive 360° learning video giving our members and other interested parties the opportunity to explore the features and capabilities of drones and UAVs,” they added.

Trevor Caswell, Manager (Demand & Product Development), Edmonton International Airport and Vice Chairman, Pharma.Aero, is convinced that drones will become an integral part of the air cargo industry given today's situation.

“With the advancements in drone technology coming so far in recent years, the future of UAV is here. Drones being used for last mile delivery is here to stay, and projects like this will provide insights to our members and industry on how drone technology could become more integrated in the pharmaceutical supply chains, delivering life-saving products directly to the end user. It is very exciting for Pharma.Aero to be working with our partners on such a groundbreaking project, where we can incorporate both humanitarian logistical needs and advanced technology to ensure low-cost, reliable and just-in-time delivery of essential goods to where they are needed,” said Caswell.

**George Fenton, Chief Executive, Humanitarian Logistics Association, noted, “UAVs play a vital role in disaster preparedness and response, from surveying potential transport bottlenecks, to helping to quickly assess damage after an event. While drones are being used successfully for last mile delivery of small medical packages in countries like Rwanda and Ghana, larger capacity drones are needed to better support humanitarian operations in remote locations.**

“More support is needed to help develop the national regulatory frameworks required to ensure effective use of UAVs. The HLA is keen to help generate and share knowledge in the endeavor and is pleased to be collaborating with Pharma.Aero on this project.”

### ***U-Space package***

Last April, the European Commission adopted the U-Space Package—three regulations that essentially creates conditions necessary for both drones and manned aircraft to operate safely in the EU airspace known as the U-Space.

These regulations will become law on 26 January 2023. Essentially, they introduce new services for drone operators, allowing them to carry out more complex and longer-distance operations, particularly in congested, low-level airspace (below 120m), and when out of sight.

The EC believes the U-space creates and harmonizes the conditions needed for manned and unmanned aircraft to operate safely, to prevent collisions between drones and other aircraft, and to mitigate the risks of drone traffic on the ground.

“Drones are a clear part of the future transport and logistics landscape. There is vast potential when it comes to new cargo and delivery services, as well as other innovative applications, including drone flights with passengers on board in the future. This has clear added value in terms of achieving our decarbonization, digitalization and resilience ambitions, and the U-Space package is an important step towards creating the well-functioning, trusted and safe enabling environment that we need to develop a competitive EU drone services market,” said Commissioner for Transport Adina Vălean.

For the pharma industry, the U-Space is a milestone in creating conditions necessary for both drones and manned aircraft as the law is expected to leverage worldwide harmonization of drone operations, considering the potential experiences and foreseen needs to connect with non-European countries.

With cargo drone use likely to increase further for medical and humanitarian reasons, experts predict the drone market to reach \$6.15 billion by 2023 from only \$3.64 billion in 2020.



# AFGHANISTAN gets vital humanitarian aid as Taliban take over

War-torn Afghanistan finally received its first shipment of humanitarian aid on 30 August since the Taliban took over control of the government following America's withdrawal on its longest war.

The World Health Organization (WHO) said the successful airlift meant that it could "partially replenish" health facilities' reserves and ensure that services can continue, for now.

Some 12.5 metric tons of supplies arrived in the northern airport of Mazar-i-Sharif, aboard a plane provided by the Government of Pakistan. WHO said the shipment consisted of enough trauma and emergency health kits to cover the basic health needs of more than 200,000 people, as well as provide 3500 surgical procedures and treat 6500 trauma patients.

The supplies will be delivered immediately to 40 health facilities in 29 provinces across Afghanistan, the UN agency added.

## Airbridge vital

The plane was loaded with the supplies by WHO's logistics team at the International Humanitarian City in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

It is the first of three flights planned with Pakistan International Airlines to fill urgent shortages in medicines and medical supplies in Afghanistan.

"The support of the Pakistani people has been timely and life-saving," said Dr Ahmed Al Mandhari, WHO Regional Director for the Eastern Mediterranean. While WHO is working with partners to ensure more shipments to the country, the agency said a reliable humanitarian air bridge is urgently required, to scale up the collective humanitarian effort.

Tens of millions of vulnerable Afghans remain in the

country and the work of meeting their needs is now just beginning, said the agency adding that the world cannot now divert its attention from the people of Afghanistan at this critical time.



## International community must act

Adding his voice to the appeal, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi has urged the international community to help the many millions in need in Afghanistan and in neighbouring countries.

In an appeal for long-term solutions for Afghans whose lives have been blighted by 40 years of war, the UN Refugee chief said that although thousands had managed to escape via Kabul airport, "there will still be millions who need the international community to act".

Millions of Afghanistan were displaced this year. Their priorities include shelter and non-food aid; water, sanitation and hygiene, collectively known as WASH; health, protection, and humanitarian assistance in border areas, as well as emergency livelihood support and social cohesion.

Currently, some 5.5 million Afghans are internally displaced, including more than 550,000 who were newly displaced this year, almost half of whom fled their homes since July.

More than 18 million Afghans, or nearly half the population, already required humanitarian assistance, including 10 million children, with needs expected to rise. Source: UN



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# Expo 2020 Dubai:

## Bringing the world together in the new normal

The first World Expo ever held in the MEASA region kicking-off on 01 October 2021 is seen as a beacon of hope for future generations and the global business community

By Gemma Q. Casas



**T**he futuristic city of Dubai is welcoming the world on October 1, 2021 as it hosts the first World Expo ever held in the Middle East Africa and South Asia region. Expo 2020 Dubai is one of the first major in-person global events to take place since the pandemic disrupted the world order more than a year ago and ushered what we now observe as the new normal.

Some 191 countries are participating in this major event running through 31 March 2022, in parallel with major businesses, multilateral organizations and educational institutions and other stakeholders, working on the event's theme, "Connecting Minds, Creating the Future."

Described as the most diverse World Expo ever held, Dubai and the rest of the Emirates in the United Arab Emirates are thrilled to potentially welcome millions of visitors from across the world to the six-month event celebrating human ingenuity, innovation, progress and culture.

### ***Marvelous Logistics***

Each of the 191 countries participating in the event must build their own pavilion revolving around the Expo's key subthemes – Opportunity (unlocking human potential to promote growth), Mobility (movement of people and goods while harnessing technology) and Sustainability (clean environment while protecting the planet).

Inside the Expo site is a city itself—residential areas, parks, entertainment centers and other



*Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai  
His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.*

*WAM Photo*

facilities typically found in an urban smart area.

Since the UAE won the bid to host the Expo years ago, construction had silently begun at the site and so did the work for each country building their own unique pavilions.

**This involved massive logistics on air, land and sea transportation to haul construction supplies and building materials. For delicate materials and equipment, including high-value artifact, cargo planes were mainly utilized for different projects and special features that will be showcased throughout the six-month event.**

Consider these: 21-meter high portals overlooking the Expo entry ways, giant screens, unique architectural pieces, high-tech robots, pricey artifacts, and so on.

Hundreds of cargo specialists, logisticians, loadmasters, IT experts and other highly-skilled people involved in the air cargo and logistics industries worldwide, were needless to say, silent participants to this global event apart from numerous engineering and architectural firms that were commissioned to build pavilions, and thousands of others in different fields who will run the pavilions once it's officially opened to the public.

### ***UAE ready to welcome the world***

Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum has reaffirmed the UAE's readiness to welcome the world to Expo 2020 Dubai and herald a new era of international collaboration.

His Highness made these remarks as he visited the Expo 2020 Dubai site with by H.H. Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Chairman of the Expo 2020 Dubai Higher Committee, Reem bint Ibrahim Al Hashemy, Minister of State for International Cooperation, and Director General of Expo 2020 Dubai, among other officials, weeks before the doors were opened to the world's largest cultural event.

Sheikh Mohammed praised the efforts of Expo 2020's employees, and commended all local and federal government entities for their support to deliver a successful mega-event that befits the status and reputation of the UAE.



**The Expo 2020 Water Feature and the Garden in the Sky observation tower are both set to appeal to millions of visitors during Expo 2020 and will continue to serve as major attractions even after the event closes its doors.**

"We look forward to receiving delegations from 191 countries as well as businesses, multilateral organizations and educational institutions, who will join in the making of a better tomorrow for humanity. Amid this critical phase in the history of mankind, Expo 2020 Dubai will provide a unique opportunity for the world to come together, exchange knowledge and develop innovative solutions for a better future," His Highness said.

During his visit, Sheikh Mohammed also inspected two new landmarks – the Expo 2020 Water Feature and the Garden in the Sky observation tower. An award-winning composer was involved in crafting the original musical score for the Expo 2020 Water Feature, which includes water, earth and fire features.

Meanwhile, the Garden in the Sky observation tower, built at a height of 55 metres, will offer breathtaking 360-degree views of Expo 2020 Dubai, including the site's icons and pavilions representing 191 participating countries, many of whom will have their own pavilion for the first time in the 170-year history of World Expos.

The Expo 2020 Water Feature and the Garden in the Sky observation tower are both set to appeal to millions of visitors during Expo 2020 and will continue to serve as major attractions even after the event closes its doors.

### **Expo 2020 Passport**

Dubai residents and international visitors alike will get a special passport as a souvenir while exploring the 200-plus participating pavilions at Expo 2020 Dubai.

The passport will encourage visitors to see as many pavilions as possible during the 182-day event, while allowing them to look

back and relive the memories of their experiences after they visit, said a press release issued by Expo 2020 Dubai on Thursday.

Since its introduction at the 1967 World Expo in Montreal, the passport has become one of the most popular Expo souvenirs for visitors who want to keep track of all the different international pavilions they visit, collecting pavilion stamps as a memento.

The Expo 2020 version is inspired by the UAE's heritage, linking the past with the present. Shaped like an official passport, the 50-page booklet contains designs and pictures of the three Thematic Pavilions (Mission Possible – The Opportunity Pavilion, Alif – The Mobility Pavilion and Terra – The Sustainability Pavilion), as well as Al Wasl Plaza – the crown jewel of the Expo site – plus other Dubai landmarks, such as the city's iconic skyline, and other elements relating to the UAE.

The yellow, customisable passport also comes with its own enhanced security features – a unique number, an area to include a passport-sized photo, personal details and hidden watermarked images on each of its pages, ensuring that no two documents are alike.

With the UAE currently celebrating its Golden Jubilee year, the passport pays homage to the nation's Founding Father, His Highness Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, with a special page stamped in gold foil, and a photograph dating from 1971, when the UAE celebrated the birth of the nation. On 2nd December, visitors to Expo will also receive an exclusive stamp in commemoration of the UAE's 50th Anniversary.

Priced at AED20, the Expo 2020 Dubai passport is available for purchase from all official Expo 2020 Dubai stores located across the Expo site, the Expo 2020 Dubai store located in Dubai Airports' Terminal 3 & [expo2020dubai.com/onlinestore](http://expo2020dubai.com/onlinestore).

**-Photos & Text Source: WAM**



## **MEACL 2019: Experts weigh in on air freight and logistics in the digital age**

**Air Cargo Update took a bold step to enter this niche publication more than 20 years ago. It was a remarkable journey of ups and downs as the air cargo industry swung back and forth to the demands of the day punctuated by today's unforeseen Coronavirus pandemic impact.**

**To mark our historic journey, we'll bring you some of our best features from the past, the movers and shakers of airfreight, their insights and decisions that shaped the industry.**

**In this edition, we rewind with our feature on Middle East Air Cargo & Logistics Conference 2019 where experts from across the industry's broad spectrum weigh in on air freight and logistics in the digital world where everything is interconnected with speed and ease.**



NEWS FEATURE



From left: Mohsen Ahmad, Dubai South Logistics CEO; Lars-Gunnar Comen, Euroavia International Director; Thomas Crabtree, Regional Director Airline Market Analysis Boeing Commercial Airplanes; Henrik Ambak, Emirates SVP Cargo Operations Worldwide; Nadia Abdul Aziz, President National Association of Freight & Logistics; Vladimir Zubkov, Secretary General TIACA, and; Israr Ahmed, Publisher 7Dimensions Media.

# MIDDLE EAST AIR CARGO & LOGISTICS CONFERENCE

Experts weigh in on air freight and logistics in the digital age



مؤتمر الشرق الأوسط للشحن واللوجستية  
**MEACL** 2019  
 Middle East Air Cargo & Logistics Conference

Beyond the confluence of cyclical financial and commercial trends, a range of other issues affect the global air cargo industry like varying government business and environmental regulations, market liberalization, volatile fuel prices, among others.

While the potential risks and challenges will always be there, experts are convinced the industry is still headed for growth with demand for air freight increasing as the global market opts for faster and better ways to get their goods delivered.

**According to Boeing's World Air Cargo Forecast 2018-2037, air cargo traffic will more than double in the next 20 years and global freighter fleet will increase by over 70 percent to 3,260 planes from the current 1,870. The industry's revenue ton-kilometers (RTK) in 2018 jumped by 4 percent with cargo revenue estimated to have exceeded \$100 billion.**

At the two-day **Middle East Air Cargo and Logistics Conference (MEACL)** held on January 29-30 at Dubai South, industry

leaders discussed at length pressing issues challenging the sector while expressing hope for better times.

The two-day conference opened up discussing the topic "The Big Picture on Air Cargo & the Global Supply Chain" with Thomas Crabtree, Regional Director Airline Market Analysis for Boeing, responsible for Europe, the Middle East and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), as moderator.

Nadia Abdul Aziz, President of the National Association of Freight & Logistics (NAFL-UAE), Henrik Ambak, Emirates' SVP Cargo Operations Worldwide and Vladimir Zubkov, Secretary General of TIACA, talked at length about the issue.

Zubkov said the industry needs unity, political will and a strong partnership to overcome its challenges and facilitate much needed changes to keep up with the times, particularly in technology.

Tom Erling Mikkelsen, Head of Airfreight at Marine Harvest, shared later in the day how Norway's salmon industry keeps the airlines busy with more than 6 million salmon flown all-year-round by air to different countries.

Norway's prospect for salmon export looks better this year with solid growth emanating from the Chinese market.

On Day 2, Turkish Cargo CCO Turhan Ozen, Oman Aviation Group Business Development Executive Logistics & Cargo Sultan Al Rawahi, Oman Air Cargo Customer Service Manager Gianluca Marcangelo and ALS Logistics Solutions Marketing Executive Alexandra Deeva shared their thoughts on investments in air cargo and logistics infrastructure. Liege Airport VP Commercial Steven Verhasselt acted as the moderator.

All agree disruptive technologies will be the main driving force in



Alan White, Vice President Operations RSA National, on the podium, shares his insights on the competitive advantages of Middle East airlines to sustain growth in the industry. Seated from left: Peter Scholten Managing Director PAS Aviation Logistics; Eng. Majid Barzanji, Chairman, Executive Director & Co-founder of MATEEN Express & Logistics, and; Mazen Al-Homzi, Regional Manager Cargo, Africa & Middle East Region, IATA.



From left: Coyne Airways Director Liana Coyne, Nick Harris of Air Charter Service and Fatima Ait Bendawad of DHL.



Thomas Crabtree, Regional Director Boeing

**Istanbul Airport, the world's newest and biggest international airport, unveiled on October 29, 2018, Turkey's 95th Republic Day, is laden with technology and boosts of modern facilities, including in cargo, and enjoys the advantage of being in the crossroad of Europe and the Middle East.**

aviation, air freight and logistics, as well as the supply chain, with many companies already applying AI and high-tech systems into their operations to speed up the process.

Istanbul Airport, the world's newest and biggest international airport, unveiled on October 29, 2018, Turkey's 95th Republic Day, is laden with technology and boosts of modern facilities, including in cargo, and enjoys the advantage of being in the crossroad of Europe and the Middle East.

Ozen said Istanbul Airport will enable Turkish Cargo, a subsidiary of Turkish Airlines which has a fleet of 333 aircraft serving 124 countries, aims to haul as much as 3 million tons of cargo by 2023 and one of the top cargo brand carriers globally by then.

And that goal is attainable through the company's investment on technology and better facilities.

Marcus Berg, Dubai South Director of Business Development-Logistics District, disclosed the pioneering effort of the company to provide the local and regional e-commerce sector with a competitive platform through the creation of EZDubai, a 920,000 sqm purpose-built e-commerce zone within Dubai South's Logistics District set to unlock vast potentials in online

commerce.

Berg said EZDubai provides a range of logistics facilities and business solutions designed for startups, SMEs, innovation labs and incubation centers to support local, regional and trans-continental businesses serving both business-to-business and end consumers.

Fatima Ait Bendawad, Business Development Manager Aid & Relief Services, DHL Global Forwarding and Nick Harris, Cargo Sales Director-Middle East Air Charter Service, enlightened the delegates at the crucial role of air freight and logistics in bringing relief to people in conflict zones and those affected by natural disasters. Liana Coyne, Director Coyne Airways, an Oxford-educated lawyer engaged in various charity and philanthropic projects in poor communities across the world, acted as the panel moderator.

Other notable speakers at the event include—Sanjeev Gadhia, Chief Executive Officer of the Kenya-based Astral Aviation; Gregory Gottlieb, Managing Director, Airships Arabia; Sunil Malhotra, Managing Partner, Bchain Consultants; Palaniappan N, DNATA Business Improvements Manager, and; Alan White, Vice President Operations at RSA National.

H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, center with Dubai South Logistics CEO Mohsen Ahmad, left, and Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, right, President of the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, CEO and chairman of the Emirates Group



### **Mohammed bin Rashid Aerospace Hub and EZDubai open for business**

Dubai South's Aviation District has formally been renamed in January as the Mohammed bin Rashid Aerospace Hub in honor of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, who is widely credited for transforming Dubai into a global business and financial center.

"With the aviation industry as one of the key growth industries, it is only fitting to name this incredibly important hub in his honor. The Mohammed Bin Rashid Aerospace Hub remains committed to elevating Dubai as the region's aerospace capital by ensuring that we advance through excellence and deliver value that will benefit millions," said Khalifa Al Zaffin, Executive Chairman of Dubai Aviation City Corporation (DACC) & Dubai South.

At the renaming ceremony, EZ Dubai was simultaneously launched as the new e-commerce zone within Dubai South's Logistics District.

Experts estimate e-commerce in the GCC region to grow to US\$24 billion by 2022 and EZDubai's six dedicated areas—Last Mile Centers, E-Fulfillment Centers, Repair & Return Centers, Supply Centers, Business Blocks (shared buildings), and Business Blocks for Regional Headquarters—are tailored for the industry's growth.

**The Mohammad bin Rashid Aerospace Hub, with AED 17 billion total government and private sector investments, is designed to create an effective value chain for the aerospace sector & increase the GDP contribution of advanced industries to the emirate's economic growth. Spread over 6.7-sqm of land, the hub comprises of the commercial strip, maintenance and technical support, business aviation, education and R&D.**

The Aerospace Hub is home to a five-star VIP Terminal facility which hosts some of the world's leading Fixed Base Operators for private jets, including Falcon Aviation, JETEX, and Jet Aviation, providing major business entities bespoke aviation services and seamless connectivity, and proximity advantages to the world's largest airport in the making, the Al Maktoum International Airport.

It also serves as the E2 Event and Exhibition Centre, a dedicated exhibition zone and permanent home of the Dubai Airshow and the Emirates Flight Academy.

Dubai South is envisioned to become a smart and sustainable city, preferred as the place to live, work and invest for at least one million people. As an economic platform, it is home to leading world events such as Expo 2020 and the Dubai Airshow, expected to provide at least 500,000 jobs and become an important hub for global trade and commerce.



# New Generation DAF TRUCKS come alive digitally, an industry first

Multi-layer digital launch for  
New Generation XF, XG and XG<sup>+</sup>





**D**AF Trucks made its brand New Generation XF, XG and XG<sup>+</sup> come alive on computer screens and mobile devices with a stunning augmented reality app and a fully immersive online virtual experience – an industry first. DAF says both applications reflect its New Generation slogan 'Start the Future'.

With the interactive augmented reality New Generation DAF app – downloadable via the app stores at Google Play and Apple – each detail of the New Generation XF, XG and XG<sup>+</sup> is just a swipe away on the display of any mobile device.

Using the camera of your mobile phone or tablet, the software can place the truck where you want it. Right on top of a desk, in a parking area or even in a living room. App-users can then explore the truck from all angles, both inside and out, and discover all the details and features without leaving the seat.

“The DAF Virtual Experience has been designed to work on all devices – desktop and mobile. It is responsive, rapid and much more than just a video production, with the look and feel of a high-end gaming environment. The New Generation DAF app and the DAF Virtual Experience are part of a comprehensive digital launch of a new generation of trucks, and at the same time ushers in a new generation in communications too,” said Richard Zink, Director Marketing & Sales.

### **Virtual drive**

Together with the New Generation DAF app, the DAF Virtual Experience, an immersive and interactive online environment, has been launched, which convincingly emulates its physical equivalent at DAF's onsite Experience Centre in Eindhoven.

This virtual domain offers shows, presentations, videos, a live chat and even the possibility to register for a virtual drive in the New Generation XG and XG<sup>+</sup>. A visit to the DAF Museum and a virtual web shop are also included. More features will be added during the year.

### **Discover features**

At the heart of this Virtual Experience is the 'Start the Future' showroom. Here, visitors can get up close and personal with the New Generation XF, XG and XG<sup>+</sup> and discover some of the important features that make this new line of trucks so revolutionary. Photos & Text:





# First 1,000 New Generation DAF trucks sold



Less than a month after the official June launch, DAF says it has already received over 1,000 customer orders for its New Generation XF, XG and XG<sup>+</sup> trucks. The completely new range of vehicles for long distance transport will enter production in October and set a new standard in efficiency, safety and driver comfort.

***DAF's new New Generation XF, XG and XG<sup>+</sup> are the first trucks on the market to fully benefit from the New European Masses & Dimensions regulations. These allow truck cabs to be longer to achieve next levels of efficiency, safety and driver comfort.***

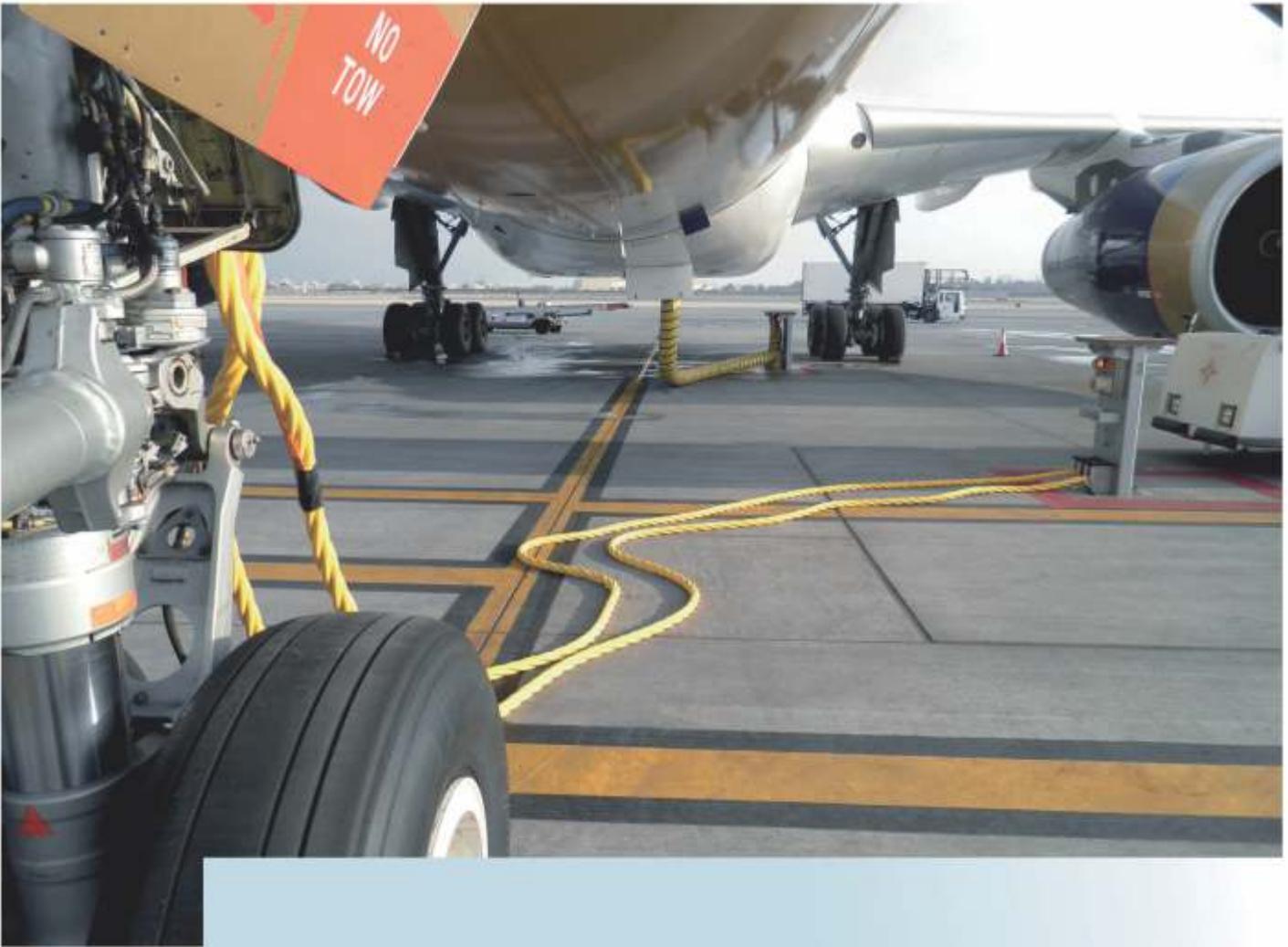
Features like optimal radii, a tapered cab design, a curved windscreen and a 16 cm elongation at the front, have resulted in industry-leading aerodynamics.

This contributes to an impressive improvement in fuel efficiency of up to 10%, with similar reductions in CO<sub>2</sub>.

Unparalleled safety is achieved through extremely low window belt lines and a kerb view window for outstanding direct view, as well as features like the new DAF Digital Vision System and the DAF Corner View. Swivel seats, a superb, fully digital instrument panel, a Relax Bed and ambient interior lighting, not to mention the unprecedented amount of interior space (12.5 m<sup>3</sup> for the XG<sup>+</sup>), all combine to deliver unrivalled driver comfort.

In addition, the New Generation DAF represents an entirely new platform, ready for alternative battery-electric and hydrogen drivelines which are currently under development at DAF.

"Never before in our more than 90-year history has the milestone of over 1,000 customer orders been reached so rapidly after the official launch," according to Richard Zink, member of the DAF Board of Management and responsible for Marketing & Sales. "What makes this milestone even more special, is that the New Generation DAF will only enter production in October and far most of the customers haven't been able to see our magnificent trucks in real life yet. It shows that we have started the future by launching a series of revolutionary trucks that are genuinely game-changing in terms of efficiency, safety and driver comfort."



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## SAL and Bahrain's Gulf Air sign 7-year cargo logistics partnership agreement

through its full-fledged modern facilities according to high international standards.

Gulf Air's Acting Chief Executive Officer Captain Waleed AlAlawi welcomed the partnership and noted that such agreements will strengthen its presence and expansion into important markets such as the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

SAL is a specialized ground handling company and in 2020 it handled a total of 900,000 kg for Gulf Air in all main airports in KSA. SAL provides premium ground handling services for multiple airlines at Saudi Arabia's local airports and logistic support with cargo chain solutions.

The company also connects all means of transportation with regional airports to make a significant contribution to Vision 2030 and transform the Kingdom into a global logistics hub.

**JEDDAH, KSA:** SAL, Saudi Logistics Services company, signed an agreement with Gulf Air – the Kingdom of Bahrain's national carrier – to provide ground handling solutions to their fleet at all KSA main airports.

SAL said the 7-year agreement is another step towards enhancing the expansion plans and strategic relations with diverse airlines with high cargo operational capacity.

SAL CEO Hesham Alhussayen noted the agreement represents years of mutual cooperation in both passenger and cargo flights with Gulf Air, and that the Bahraini leading airline will benefit from SAL's wide range of logistics services and offerings.

He highlighted the pivotal role SAL plays in facilitating cargo movement at all main airports where the company utilizes its full logistic capacity to effectively serve airlines



## flydubai passengers to enjoy 1-Day complimentary ticket to Expo 2020

"We are excited to welcome the world to Dubai as Expo 2020 opens its doors to visitors. flydubai will play an important role in supporting the UAE's efforts to make this a truly remarkable event by connecting underserved markets to Dubai. We share everyone's excitement as we come together to witness Expo 2020 connecting minds and creating the future," said Ghaith Al Ghaith, Chief Executive Officer of flydubai.

For 182 days, Expo 2020 Dubai will welcome the whole world in one place for a global gathering that will bring together 191 participating nations and millions of people for a unique and unmissable experience. Each of the participating countries will bring its own unique flavour, and with a programming calendar featuring up to 60 events per day and hundreds of varied experiences from food, art and music to business and sport, there will be something for every age and interest.

Sumathi Ramanathan, Vice President – Market Strategy & Sales, Expo 2020 Dubai, said: "Hosting the first World Expo in the region is a moment of immense pride for the UAE, particularly as we prepare to open our doors to the world in the year of the UAE's Golden Jubilee. The support from organizations across the country has been instrumental in helping us deliver a safe and spectacular event. Adding flydubai to our network of more than 2,500 Authorised Ticket Resellers from around the world will help make the Expo easily accessible to millions of people and we can't wait to welcome them to the event in less than one month."

Jeyhun Efendi, Senior Vice President, Commercial Operations and E-commerce at flydubai, said: "The gradual easing of restrictions on international travel and the UAE's efforts and stringent COVID-19 protocols, along with flydubai's readiness to safeguard travel, will see more people visiting Dubai over the next six months to explore everything that Expo 2020 and the city has to offer."

**DUBAI:** flydubai, the Dubai-based airline, says passengers booking a flight to Dubai will enjoy a complimentary 1-Day Ticket to visit Expo 2020 Dubai, taking place from 01 October 2021 to 31 March 2022.

The initiative is valid for all bookings made from 01 September for travel during the event dates and is offered to every passenger travelling on a flydubai inbound booking itinerary, a one-way ticket to Dubai or any connecting flydubai flight via Dubai. The complimentary 1-Day Ticket is offered to all passengers who are eligible for the promotion whether they are travelling in Business Class or Economy Class.



## Skyport sends off with TLC 30 live Falcons from Prague Airport to Kuwait

"At Skyport, we ensure live animal cargos receive the best care, best welfare, and as little stress as possible, so we move the animals at the very last moment in order to make their stay at our facility and overall travel time as short as possible," said David Adámek, Chief Executive Officer, Skyport.

"If there is a shipper request regarding any special considerations such as temperature, storage, or feeding instructions, we plan the project accordingly to make sure these needs can be followed and maintained."

Skyport operates the International Air Transport Association (IATA)'s Live Animal Transportation regulations, Skyport's in-house cargo handling manual, and the airline cargo handling manual for live animals, as well as receiving supervision by the shipper, border station veterinary staff, and the airline loadmaster.

"Skyport collects live animal cargoes one hour before departure followed by 30-40 minutes of animal checks and pre-flight preparations to ensure safety, comfort, and minimal stress," said Antonin Kovács, Sales Director, Skyport.

"The animals are then delivered to the aircraft approximately 10 minutes before departure where further checks take place to ensure secure stowage and that a suitable amount of food and water is available."

Skyport is the leading handler at Prague Airport, managing more than half of all cargo that passes through, and is highly experienced with live animal cargoes having previously transported rhinoceroses, Komodo dragons, and polar bears.

**PRAGUE, Czech Republic:** Czech ground handling specialist Skyport says it has handled 30 live falcons from Prague, Czech Republic to Kuwait City, Kuwait which will be used at airports to keep them clear of other bird species to combat bird strike incidents.

The birds of prey, bred in the Czech Republic, were transported in secure, carpeted boxes, and were provided with falcon hoods to help reduce stress and keep them safe, Skyport said.

Skyport specialises in quick turnaround for live animal consignments, and has recently handled rhinoceroses, Komodo dragons, and a polar bear.



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## DUBAI AIRSHOW 2021 WELCOMES YOU BACK

### Dubai Airshow 2021 to reflect Dubai's role in driving aviation industry recovery

**DUBAI:** The Dubai Airshow 2021, set to take place from 14-18 November 2021 at Dubai World Central, serves as a key indicator of Dubai's success in overcoming the challenges that the pandemic has posed, and moving in the right direction towards achieving a full recovery of the aviation industry.

"We have crossed many significant milestones this year despite the difficult period. Dubai has been a symbol of resilience and agility in responding to the challenges that the pandemic brought, and we are confident that the collaborative work done by the sector's key players to restore consumer confidence and boost travel operations will pave the way for a thriving aviation industry. Dubai Airshow 2021 will serve as the ultimate testament to the industry's steady recovery and growth and firmly establish Dubai as the leading global aerospace hub," said H.H. Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of Civil Aviation Authority, Chairman of Dubai Airports and Chairman and Chief Executive of Emirates Airline and Group.

Major Gen. Staff Pilot Ishaq Saleh Al Baloushi, Military Advisor to State Minister of Defence and Executive Director for Military Committee for Dubai Airshow, noted, "For many years we have been collaborating and working closely with different defense delegations from across the world for the Dubai Airshow. This engagement has continued virtually throughout the pandemic, and we are now planning on having in-person meetings and sessions at the Airshow itself. With the positive sentiment within the industry and the appetite for business continuity, we believe the Airshow will provide the ideal event for strategic development and the creation of new partnerships."

"Taking center stage will be the different technologies that enhance safety and accelerate efficiency. They will play a key role in the aviation, aerospace and defense industries getting back to business following the pandemic. A great experience awaits the industry as they once again gear up to network, discuss the future of the industry and do business at the Dubai Airshow," he added.

The UAE recently started opening quarantine-free travel corridors with multiple countries across the world, which counts as a major step for bringing a higher influx of travellers and tourists.

In addition, Dubai Airports recently re-opened Dubai International's (DXB) Terminal 1, following a 15-month closure, as part of its plan to ensure the airport's full operational readiness. DXB is targeting 28 million passengers in 2021. (WAM)

## FAA fines vs unruly passengers reach over \$1 million



**Airports asked to strictly impose federal facemask mandate & prevent passengers from bringing "to-go" cups of alcohol aboard the aircraft**

**WASHINGTON** – The US Department of Transportation's Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has proposed another \$531,545 in civil penalties against 34 airline passengers for alleged unruly behavior, bringing the total for 2021 to more than \$1 million.

Since Jan. 1, 2021, the FAA said it has received approximately 3,889 reports of unruly behavior by passengers, including about 2,867 reports of passengers refusing to comply with the federal facemask mandate.

The fines are part of the agency's Zero Tolerance campaign against unruly passenger behavior. Earlier in August, the FAA sent a letter to airports requesting they coordinate more closely with local law enforcement to prosecute egregious cases. The FAA does not have criminal prosecutorial authority. The letter also requested that airports work to prevent passengers from bringing "to-go" cups of alcohol aboard the aircraft.

#### The new cases include:

- **\$45,000 against a passenger on a May 24, 2021, jetBlue Airways flight from New York, N.Y., to Orlando, Fla., for allegedly throwing objects, including his carry-on luggage, at other passengers; refusing to stay seated; lying on the floor in the aisle, refusing to get up, and then grabbing a flight attendant by the ankles and putting his head up her skirt. The passenger was placed in flexi-cuffs and the flight made an emergency landing in Richmond, Va.**
- **\$32,500 against a passenger on a Jan. 2, 2021, Southwest Airlines flight from Orlando, Fla., to Kansas City, Mo., for allegedly assaulting passengers around him because someone in his row would not change seats to accommodate his travel partner.**
- **\$29,000 against a passenger on an April 12, 2021, jetBlue Airways flight from Boston, Mass., to Orlando, Fla., for allegedly interfering with crewmembers after refusing to comply with the facemask mandate. She also shouted obscenities at the flight crew, and intentionally bumped into a seated passenger on her way to the lavatory.**
- **\$19,000 against a passenger on a Feb. 11, 2021, American Airlines flight from Miami, Fla., to Nashville, Tenn., for allegedly interfering with crewmembers after refusing to comply with the facemask mandate; ignoring the fastened seatbelt sign; and pushing a flight attendant into another passenger with his hip.**

## Dubai Airports expects rebound in air traffic during H2 2021

**DUBAI:** Dubai Airports is projecting robust growth for Dubai International (DXB) in the second half of the year after the airport clocked 10.6 million passengers in the first six months of 2021 despite travel restrictions affecting its key source markets throughout the second quarter, the UAE state news agency WAM reported.

Paul Griffiths, CEO of Dubai Airports which operates DXB, said the outlook for passenger traffic in H2 looks very promising with two major international events happening in Dubai this year—Dubai Expo 2020 and Dubai Airshow 2021.

"In anticipation of the robust recovery of global air travel, we started the second half on a high note by reopening Terminal 1 and Concourse D – the home terminal for our 60 international carriers, after 15 months of hibernation to accommodate the seasonal rush of travellers over the summer holidays. This was essential to facilitate the continued expansion of the route networks of our home base carriers Emirates and flydubai, whose joint network currently spanning 168 destinations continues to grow," Griffiths said.

He added, "We have already witnessed some of our busiest weekends of the year in July, and with major international events such as the Dubai Expo 2020 and Dubai Airshow 2021 lined up for the months ahead, the outlook for 2021 in terms of passenger numbers looks very promising."

Griffiths stated that the UK's recent decision to move the UAE to the "Amber list" and the UAE's conditional lifting of travel restrictions for passengers arriving from four countries in the Indian subcontinent as well as Nigeria and Uganda are major developments that will significantly boost DXB's international traffic while enabling social and economic recovery.

However, he noted that the campaign to safely relax restrictions on global air travel will continue apace, in recognition of the UAE's world-leading vaccination program and successful management of the global pandemic.

DXB's passenger volumes in the second quarter totaled 4.9 million, taking the half-yearly figure for the year to 10.6 million, a year on year contraction of 40.9 percent. DXB is currently serving 68 percent of the destinations in 94 percent of the



countries on 70 percent of the airlines compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Cargo continued to outshine the passenger segment in terms of recovery with cargo volumes nearing 2019 levels in the second quarter. DXB recorded 571,568 tons of freight in the second quarter, propelling the first half volumes to 1.1 million tons, a year on year increase of 27.7 percent.

DXB recorded a total of 99,392 flight movements during the first half, a marginal year on year increase of 0.9 percent due to a low base resulting from the impact of the partial suspension of operations from 25th March to 7th July in 2020.

India continued to be DXB's top destination country by traffic volume in the first half with passenger numbers exceeding 1.9 million. Pakistan was second with 700,074 customers, followed by Russia (406,209 pax) and Egypt (401,361 pax).

Other destination countries of note include Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia and the US. The top three cities by traffic were Addis Ababa (354,804 pax), followed by Cairo (345,886 pax) and Moscow (344,175).

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Alain Kaddoum

## Savoie appoints Alain Kaddoum as Managing Director for Middle East

Kaddoum brings with him rich experience in intralogistics industry and solid background on automation and warehouse management, thus, will contribute in enhancing Savoie's long-term strategy in the region.

Commenting on the new appointment, Frédéric Zielinski, Managing Director of Savoie EMEA, said: "Our team is proud to welcome Alain as our Middle East Managing Director. As we have observed from his previous experience, Kaddoum goes out of his way to ensure the success of any business he is involved in. Knowing his leadership caliber and industry expertise, paired with our support and ambitious vision, we are confident that Savoie is ready to impact the region's supply chain industry even beyond our greatest expectations."

For his part, Kaddoum said he's excited to join the company and contribute in its further growth, saying, "The company has a lot of potential and has a big role to play within the region's supply chain, especially that the industry is continuously evolving to accommodate new trends and to cater to the changing needs of partner industries. Together, we will develop and integrate the most efficient solutions for Savoie and add value to all of our customers."

Kaddoum holds a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from INP-ENSEEIH and a Master's Degree in Automatics, Informatics, and Decisional Systems from INP Toulouse, France, in addition to other academic accomplishments and certifications.

**DUBAI:** Solidifying its position as the leading global warehouse automation integrator and software publisher in the Middle East, Savoie has named Alain Kaddoum as its Middle East Managing Director.

## B&H Worldwide further boosts business development team in Asia

**SINGAPORE:** B&H Worldwide, the award-winning aerospace logistics provider, has further expanded its business development expertise in Asia with the appointment of Joel Eley.

Eley, a long-term specialist in supply chain logistics for the aviation industry, will support the company's growth plans for the region and joins its growing team of B&H experts.

His most recent role was Head of Supply Chain at the AIRBUS MRO subsidiary SAE (Sepang Aircraft Engineering) and SR Technics in Malaysia. He has extensive experience in all areas of the business including roles as Procurement & Planning Manager at Virgin Atlantic in the UK and with materials and logistics providers in Malaysia, Indonesia, Bahrain and Greece.

Asia is now the fastest growing region in the world for the aviation industry thanks in large part to the expansion of low-cost carriers across the continent. With MRO (maintenance repair and overhaul) business there forecast to grow by 5% per annum between 2021 and 2027 expertise in the field is vital to deliver the specialist services being demanded by customers.

Eley will report to B&H Worldwide's Group Head of Sales Michael Haskins who said: "Joel is a results-driven individual with the kind of skills and commitment to continuous improvement which are demanded in our fast-paced industry. His knowledge and ability to drive both new solutions and efficiencies for our customers will be crucial as we target building new customer relationships in south east Asia."



Joel Eley

## Werner Dettenthaler appointed Regional Manager Land Transport Germany

**NUREMBERG/LAUTE RACH:** Werner Dettenthaler (54) took over as Regional Manager Germany in the Land Transport area at Gebrüder Weiss from July 1, 2021.



Werner Dettenthaler

"Werner Dettenthaler is an expert in the transport and logistics business who, by joining us, will help in efforts to implement our growth targets in Germany with his outstanding industry know-how," said Jürgen Bauer, member of the Gebrüder Weiss Management Board.

Dettenthaler succeeds the long-time Gebrüder Weiss Manager Anton Hagg who passed away last year.

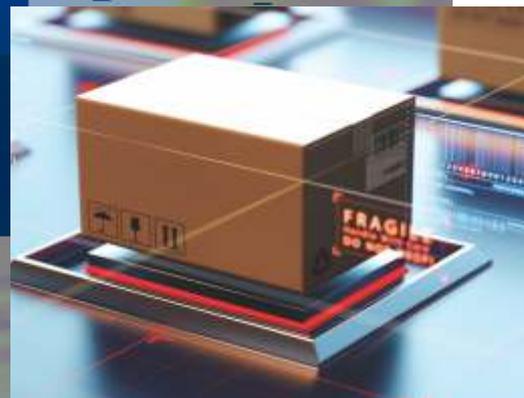
Native to the German region of Franconia, he brings to the position more than 30 years of professional experience in leading positions with well-known transport companies. Most recently, he worked in the management of an internationally active group.

Gebrüder Weiss has a well-developed network of own land transport locations in southern Germany – from Esslingen, Aldingen, Lindau, Memmingen, Nuremberg to Passau. In addition to groupage freight and direct transports by truck, the service provider also organizes rail transports and develops individual logistics solutions for its customers, with some 100,000 square meters of warehouse and freight handling space being available for this purpose.

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## Adrien Thominet is ECS Group's new Executive Chairman

**PARIS:** ECS Group, the global leader in GSSA business, has named its CEO, Adrien Thominet, as the new Executive Chairman, succeeding Bertrand Schmolli from 01 August 2021.

Thominet has been with ECS Group for more than 25 years, becoming its COO in 2011 and CEO in 2017. Over the past four years, the Group has seen enormous development, both in network and client base growth, including, innovation and technology.

The world's largest integrated GSSA which is driven by its credo to be "more than a GSSA", has worked to disrupt and reinvent the traditional GSA concept, and to future-proof the ECS Group service portfolio. In this regard, it offers airline customers a Total Cargo Management (TCM) concept, alongside a wide range



of "à la carte" services and abilities.

By investing heavily on digitalization, successfully introducing and adapting a range of in-house business intelligence and training platform tools, ECS Group ensures complete alignment with the evolving needs of its airline customers. It has proven to be a valuable air cargo logistics partner not simply in its operational expertise, but also as a forward-thinking industry consultant.

Today, it represents over 150 quality airlines of all sizes across the globe, and provides capacity support to around 10,000 freight forwarders. The Group has seen exponential development on all continents, and now numbers more than 1,200 employees across 167 subsidiaries in 50 countries within APAC, Europe, North America, and Latin America. In 2020, it transported a record 1,1 million tons of cargo.

**"I am honored to have been appointed Executive Chairman," said Thominet, the new ECS Group Executive Chairman. "Given the disruption and challenges the aviation industry has recently faced with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, there is an acute need for flexible, resource-efficient, expert business management solutions. This is precisely the kind of support that ECS Group strives to provide."**

"Today, more than ever, the air cargo industry is at a crossroads, and our ambition as the leading worldwide GSSA, is to provide the optimum support to our customers in this changing environment. We are therefore committed to continuously improving and developing innovative, sustainable, high value-added solutions and services to best serve them," he added.

ECS Group's intense digital, commercial, administrative, and organizational transformations over the past few years have culminated in a revised and enhanced product offering, along with an increased focus on sustainability going forward.

"We will soon be publishing the results of our revised commercial direction with the launch of our Augmented GSA concept in the coming weeks," the ECS Chairman noted.



**BRUSSELS:** After more than a year of online meetings, webinars and working from home, a long-awaited moment in true BRUcargo tradition finally happened—an in-person gathering of about 1,000 industry people representing nearly 200 companies in Air Cargo Belgium's sponsored event dubbed as the "Summer BBQ."

The event took place at the Colonial Palace in Tervuren, an idyllic scene for a delicious barbecue buffet. The air was filled with laughter and joy with people seeing familiar faces they work with in the industry after a long hiatus due to the pandemic.

Health and safety protocols were observed at the event, including an onsite Antigen test offered by Mensura.

In his opening speech, Chairman David Bellon thanked the entire air cargo community for their exemplary role during the pandemic

## Air Cargo Belgium welcomes about a 1,000 to post-pandemic Summer BBQ event

showing the true value of air cargo globally, even saving lives to a certain point.

He also acknowledged this was only thanks to the support and dedication of the Air Cargo Belgium team, its executive committee and Board members and all the members of the organization. It showed the real value of a community organization, in times of unprecedented crisis.

The Chairman also hinted at how the cargo community can apply digitalization to further ease cargo process henceforth.

Geert Keirens, Air Cargo Belgium Director, underscored the value of strong communities and cooperation between all stakeholders in the air cargo industry that have been instrumental and vital in the worldwide distribution of the Covid-19 vaccines.

He said lessons learned from the pandemic will accelerate further collaboration to stimulate innovation and digitization to the benefit of our industry but also the wellbeing of all mankind. In November, Air Cargo Belgium will be back with another event. Together with Brussels Airport, the team will host the Innovation Lab.



# Middle East Air Cargo & Logistics Conference 2019

## Dubai South HQ, Dubai, UAE



Team MEACL-2019



Coyne Airways Director Liana Coyne, 2nd left, with other delegates to the conference.



From left: Peter Scholten, Managing Director PAS Aviation Logistics; Eng. Majid Barzanji, Chairman, Chairman, Executive Director & Co-founder MATEEN Express & Logistics; Mazen Al-Homsi, Regional Manager Cargo, Africa & Middle East Region, IATA, and; Alan White, Vice President Operations, RSA National.



Enquanhone Minyashal, Ethiopian Airlines Cargo Manager, center, with other industry executives.





Liege Airport VP Commercial  
Steven Verhasselt



From left: Turkish Cargo CCO Turhan Ozen, Oman Aviation Group Business Development Executive Logistics & Cargo Sultan Al Rawahi, Oman Air Cargo Customer Service Manager Gianluca Marcangelo, ALS Logistics Solutions Marketing Executive Alexandra Deeva and Liege Airport VP Commercial Steven Verhasselt.



From left: Airships Arabia Managing Director Gregory Gottlieb, Boeing Regional Director for Market Analysis Commercial Airplanes Tom Crabtree and Astral Aviation CEO Sanjeev Gadhia.



ALS Logistics Solutions Marketing Executive Alexandra Deeva



Oman Air Cargo Customer Service Manager Gianluca Marcangelo



Marine Harvest  
Head of Air Freight  
Tom Erling Mikkelsen



Mateen Express Chairman,  
Executive Director &  
Co-founder Eng. Majid Barzanji









# Upcoming Events



## World Cargo Symposium

WCS is the largest and most prestigious annual event of its kind and the only one to bring together key stakeholders from the entire air cargo supply chain. Join over 1,000 air cargo leaders and more than 40 exhibitors, for this action-packed event which features plenary sessions, specialized tracks, workshops and executive summits, tackling aspects related to technology & innovation, security & customs, cargo operations and sustainability.

**12-14 October 2021 | Dublin, Ireland**

## 33rd IATA Ground Handling Conference

The IATA Ground Handling Conference (IGHC) is the premier annual ground handling industry conference in the world bringing together over 750 delegates representing the whole industry: 30% airlines, 60% ground service providers and airports, 10% manufacturers and solution providers; 60% commercial and 34% operational/safety positions represented, and; 50% executive management, 49% middle management.

This major trade event gives exclusive access to industry intelligence and developments among attendees.

**15-18 November 2021 | Prague Congress Center**

## Expo 2020 Dubai, UAE

With the purpose of 'Connecting 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**



## Dubai Airshow 2021

Dubai Airshow is set to return for its 17th edition on 14-18 November 2021. Welcoming experts from commercial and business aviation, defence and military, aircraft interiors, air traffic management, maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO), space and air cargo, the show will serve as an ideal platform for re-thinking strategies, navigating uncertainty and scaling up operations to ensure the smooth re-establishment of the industry in general.

A range of new features for Dubai Airshow have been confirmed, which include a strong focus on cutting edge technologies used in the aviation industry. The new Technology Showcase will provide a platform to exhibit the latest tech and will also include key conference programmes on topics such as 5G, cybersecurity, artificial intelligence (AI) and blockchain.

**14-18 November 2021 | DWC, Dubai Airshow Site**

## 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.

**22-24 Feb 2022 | Grand Hayatt, Mumbai**

## 2nd Global Airports Aviation Forum

Held in conjunction with MRO ARABIA and MIDDLE EAST GROUND HANDLING, the 2nd Global Airports Aviation Forum is the ideal platform for the Middle East, Africa and South Asia's aviation authorities to connect and collaborate with international industry leaders, experts and stakeholders to create the most advanced aviation facilities in the world.

**9-10 March 2022 |**

**Riyadh International Convention  
& Exhibition Center, Riyadh, KSA**

## 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.

**30 Aug-02 Sep 2022**

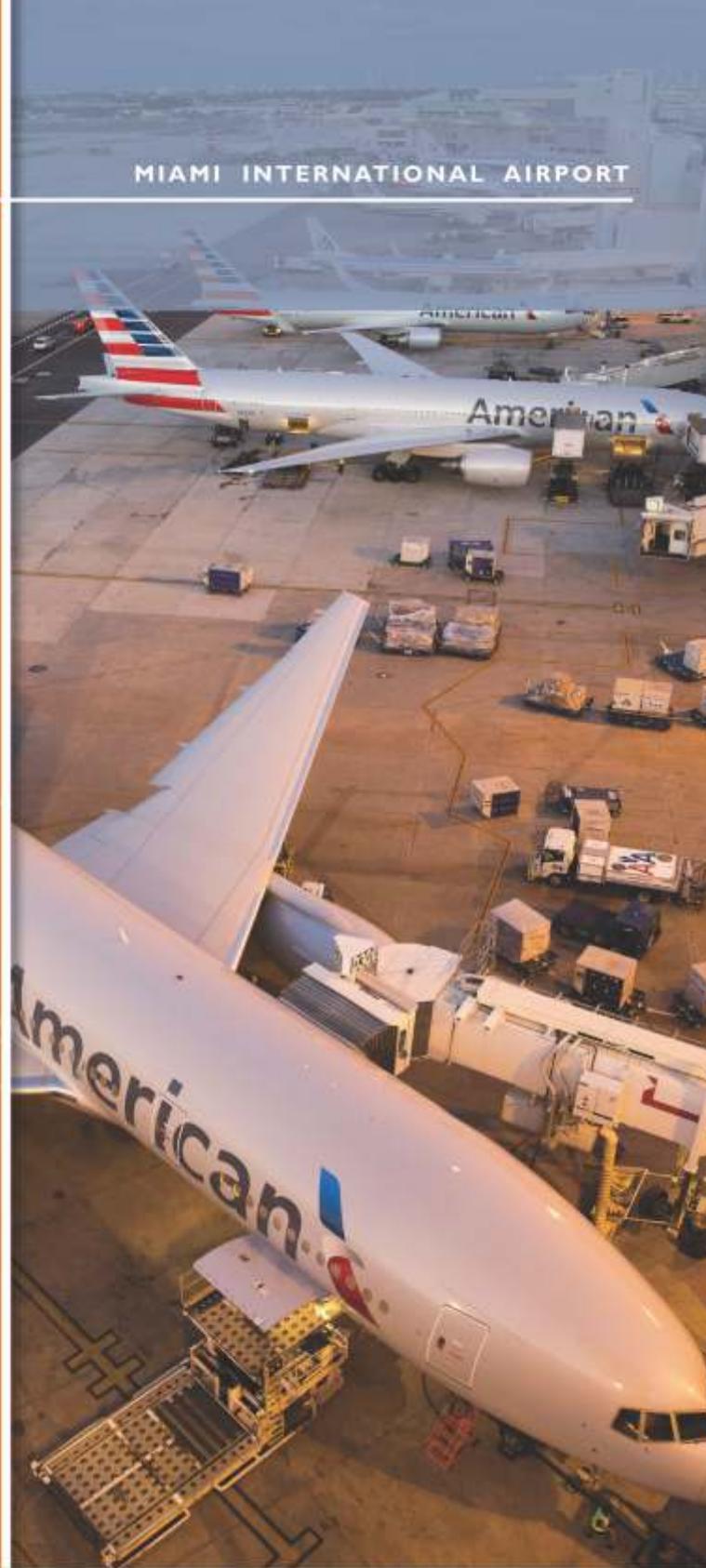
**Sao Paulo Expo Exhibition  
& Convention Center**

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