



## The Air Cargo Digital Revolution

How cargo.one is Elevating the Industry

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Co-CEO of cargo.one



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**Olivier Hour**

Executive Vice President (EVP) & Chief Revenue Officer (CRO) of Smart Kargo

THERE WAS FORMULA 1.  
UNTIL THE DAY THERE WAS Ayrton Senna.

THERE WAS REVENUE MANAGEMENT.  
**UNTIL THE DAY**  
THERE WAS ECS GROUP.

**ECS** GROUP

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

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**How Technology is Building a Better Air Cargo Industry**

The air cargo industry, the backbone of global trade, is undergoing a revolution fueled by innovation. For decades, the sector relied on manual processes and paper trails, leading to inefficiencies and frustrations.

But a new era has dawned, with technology taking center stage to propel the industry towards a brighter future.

The adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) is a game-changer. AI-powered algorithms are streamlining operations, optimizing routes, and predicting demand with greater accuracy. This translates to faster turnaround times, reduced costs, and improved capacity utilization for airlines. Imagine a system that can anticipate surges in specific goods – like perishables during peak seasons – and allocate cargo space accordingly. This is the power of AI in action.

The rise of the Internet of Things (IoT) is another driving force. Sensors embedded in containers and on aircraft are providing real-time data on location, temperature, and potential security breaches. This allows for proactive management of shipments, ensuring the integrity of sensitive goods and minimizing disruptions. No more wondering where your precious cargo is – you can track it every step of the way.

Blockchain technology is also transforming the landscape. By creating a secure, shared ledger of transactions, blockchain fosters greater transparency and trust within the complex air cargo ecosystem. Imagine a system where all parties involved – shippers, airlines, customs authorities – have access to the same, tamper-proof record of a shipment's journey. This not only reduces paperwork but also expedites customs clearance, a notorious bottleneck in the air cargo industry.

These advancements are not just about efficiency; they are also about sustainability. Technology can help optimize flight paths, reducing fuel consumption and emissions. Additionally, data-driven insights can enable airlines to fill cargo holds more efficiently, leading to fewer empty flights and a smaller environmental footprint.

Of course, the human element remains crucial. Technology is a powerful tool, but it needs skilled people to operate and interpret its insights. The air cargo industry must invest in training and development programs to equip its workforce with the skills needed to navigate this digital transformation.

Learn more on how the industry is navigating through technological advances and innovations in this edition of **Air Cargo Update**.

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

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**Olivier Hourri**  
Executive Vice  
President (EVP) and  
Chief Revenue Officer  
(CRO) of Smart Kargo



**Relaxation, amidst the hustle and bustle of his professional life, is crucial for Olivier. "Golf is my sanctuary," he admits with a smile. "Spending four or five hours on the course allows me to disconnect from the world and focus solely on the game."**

**F**inding a balance between work and life can be difficult in the fast-paced, high-demanding world of aviation, where timetables are tight. But finding that balance is more than simply necessary for Olivier Hourri, the Executive Vice President (EVP) and Chief Revenue Officer (CRO) of Smart Kargo, it's a way of life.

Olivier started his career in management consulting before entering the aviation sector. His career path brought him into close collaboration with airlines and aviation-related enterprises as he dived into a variety of projects across multiple sectors. It was during significant airline restructuring projects that Olivier gained a profound understanding of the complexities and dynamics of the sector. His love of aviation grew, and he ended up devoting more than thirty years of his life to the industry.

As Olivier entered the world of air freight, he was thrust into a world where time was of the essence. With a global responsibility in his previous role and now serving as EVP and CRO at Smart Kargo, Olivier's work takes him across continents, demanding extensive travel and dedication. Balancing such a demanding career with personal life requires resilience and support, which Olivier finds in his family and lifestyle choices.

"For me, the aviation industry is not just a profession; it's a passion that has fueled my career for over 35 years," Olivier

reflects. "The fast-paced nature of the industry keeps me on the move, with travel consuming nearly half of my time each year. But it's the love for what I do that keeps me going."

Relaxation, amidst the hustle and bustle of his professional life, is crucial for Olivier. "Golf is my sanctuary," he admits with a smile. "Spending four or five hours on the course allows me to disconnect from the world and focus solely on the game."

Living in Phoenix, Arizona, offers Olivier the opportunity to explore the desert landscapes through hiking, further connecting him with the tranquility of the outdoors. "There's something incredibly rejuvenating about being surrounded by nature," he remarks. "It's a reminder to appreciate the simple pleasures in life."

Despite his extensive travels for work, Olivier's adventures extend beyond business trips. "Having visited 120 countries for work, I've developed a deep appreciation for diverse cultures and cuisines," he shares. "Each destination offers a unique culinary experience that adds colors to my travels."

Away from the boardrooms and airport terminals, Olivier indulges in another passion—cooking. "As a Lebanese-born French citizen, I embrace the art of fine cuisine," Olivier explains. "Cooking allows me to recreate flavors and experiences from around the world in the comfort of my own kitchen."

Reflecting on his extensive career, Olivier offers advice to the younger generation aspiring to join the ranks of the aviation industry. "Aviation is a dynamic and rewarding field that offers endless opportunities for growth," he emphasizes. "Embrace the challenges, and never lose sight of your passion for the industry."

As Olivier keeps flying across the aviation business, his experience serves as a tribute to the enthusiasm and commitment that propel people in leadership positions. In the life of Olivier, the sky is not just the limit—it's a boundless horizon of endless possibilities.



## Air Canada partners with SATS for its long-awaited return to Singapore

**Singapore:** Air Canada has awarded a passenger, ramp, and cargo handling contract to SATS as it prepares to resume flights to Singapore's Changi International Airport for the first time in over 30 years.

The airline launched four Boeing 787-9 flights a week connecting Vancouver and Singapore on 4 April 2024.

SATS currently handles all the Star Alliance partners in Singapore, enabling Air Canada the benefit of seamless passenger and cargo connections beyond Singapore to other key airports across Southeast Asia. The new route will provide the only non-stop service connecting Canada and Singapore.

The new contract also extends Air Canada's global partnership with SATS



and Worldwide Flight Services (WFS), a member of the SATS Group.

"We are delighted to welcome Air Canada back to Singapore and proud that the airline has chosen to extend its partnership with SATS Group into Southeast Asia. This is another significant business win for SATS Group at Changi Airport, reinforcing the good and longstanding partnership with Air Canada as a major customer of WFS. Air Canada and its customers will benefit from our combination of operational excellence and global network connectivity," said Bob Chi, CEO, Gateway Services at SATS.

## One Air commences Boeing 747 freighter operations at East Midlands Airport

**London:** British cargo airline, One Air, has commenced operations at East Midlands Airport (EMA). The central UK airport will now be a regular origin and destination point for the cargo carrier's Boeing 747-400 freighter services connecting Asia and Europe as well as for ad hoc global charter services.

"East Midlands Airport has a lot of important plus points that make it attractive for all-cargo operations, including the availability of slots and fewer restrictions around night flying compared to other airports. EMA also has a very understanding and progressive attitude towards freighter operators. As a growing British airline, we look forward to establishing our presence at EMA and supporting our freight forwarding, logistics and charter clients moving goods to and from the UK," said Chris Hope, One Air's Chief Operating Officer.

One Air's first flight into East Midlands arrived from Hong Kong at the weekend with a 105-tonne payload.

EMA boasts one-stop connections to 185 of the world's largest cities, including New York, Singapore, Dubai, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Paris, and Mumbai, and is home to the UK's most important express air freight hub. It enables cargo operators and their clients to move goods quickly and efficiently around the globe.

The airport handles the equivalent of more than one million packages every night, and its cargo operation provides vital support to regional businesses, including those in the advanced manufacturing, aerospace, pharmaceuticals, and automotive sectors, contributing around £443 million GVA to the regional economy.

EMA's Commercial Director, Chris Lane, added: "We're absolutely delighted to welcome One Air to East Midlands Airport. They bolster what is already a highly successful, nationally significant cargo operation which benefits from a strategic central location, fewer restrictions than many other airports, and a team who are totally dedicated to providing a top-class service. We hope this is the start of a long-standing partnership with One Air to help us continue to provide seamless trade that powers the UK."





## Air France KLM Martinair Cargo facilitates special transport of lions Vasylyna and Nikola to South Africa

**Amstelveen, The Netherlands:** Lions Vasylyna and Nikola embarked on a significant journey on 25 April, boarding on a Martinair Cargo 747 freighter aircraft headed for South Africa.

This remarkable flight marks a new chapter in the lives of these majestic creatures rescued in Ukraine and Montenegro, respectively. From FELIDA, the specialized sanctuary for big cats run by animal welfare organization FOUR PAWS in Friesland, the Netherlands, they were flown to LIONSROCK, an expansive 1250-hectare sanctuary managed by the same organization in South Africa.

Air France KLM Martinair Cargo is proud to play a significant role in this journey, leveraging its extensive experience in transporting wild animals. The airline boasts a dedicated animal hotel at its KLM Cargo facilities at Schiphol and expert staff members who diligently oversee the welfare of animals throughout the trip.

"At our animal hotel at Schiphol, we prioritize dedication to providing the best care for our animal passengers. We ensure the highest level of attention and care for every animal under our care, from the moment of arrival to departure. Our team of seasoned professionals is ready to deliver the best service and care, including special diets, administering medication, and, of course, plenty of love and attention. We strive to ensure that every animal with us is happy, healthy, and well-cared for," said Mirjam Scherer, Global Head of Specials Logistics at Air France KLM Martinair Cargo.

Vasylyna and Nikola share remarkably similar backgrounds. Lioness Vasylyna arrived at the big cat sanctuary on 7 June. Originally kept as a pet in Ukraine, she managed to escape and wandered through the war-affected streets of a village near Kharkiv before being captured and taken to a temporary wildlife shelter in Ukraine. Due to the wartime situation and lack of adequate care and space, she was swiftly relocated to the Netherlands.



Nikola's journey to the specialized sanctuary of FOUR PAWS began after being rescued from illegal private possession in Montenegro. In February 2022, he was found and confiscated by local authorities. After 10 days of roaming the streets near Budva on the Adriatic coast, exhausted and malnourished, he was brought to the safe haven of FELIDA.

"The relocation of Vasylyna and Nikola to LIONSROCK means they finally have the opportunity to live in a large sanctuary, surrounded by other lions. While it's saddening that they never had the chance to be released into the wild due to illegal trade, we are glad to offer them a more natural life here," said Petra Sleven, director of FOUR PAWS.

## WestJet Cargo strengthens international network with resumed Calgary to Paris-CDG Service

**Alberta, Canada:** WestJet Cargo announced the strengthening of its flights between Calgary and Paris Charles de Gaulle (CDG) with 5 to 7 flights a week, highlighting the airline's commitment to expanding its footprint in Europe and enhancing service efficiency through strategic hubs.

Paris CDG acts as a central hub, enabling WestJet Cargo to connect with various destinations across Europe using multiple modes of transport. This connectivity is bolstered by the strong partnership with ECS Group, whose expertise in logistics and network capabilities has been vital in overcoming transportation challenges and optimizing cargo routes. The route supports a diverse cargo base with a payload capacity of 18 tons, feeding and de-feeding various locations in France and beyond.

Kirsten de Bruijn, Executive Vice President of Cargo at WestJet, highlighted the strategic developments: "Our expansion into European markets through the Paris hub is a key part of our growth strategy. ECS



Group's technological support and network have been indispensable in enhancing our service capabilities, allowing us to pursue new opportunities in additional European countries."

Jean Ceccaldi, Managing Director of Aero Cargo France - subsidiary of ECS Group, commented on the technology integration: "We're proud to support WestJet Cargo with our Quantum e-quotation system and Apollo business intelligence platform. These tools enable efficient management of cargo capacities and market analysis, supporting WestJet Cargo's goals of technological excellence and enhanced service delivery."

The commitment to sustainability also plays a role in this partnership, with both companies working to integrate sustainable practices into their operations, reflecting their dedication to environmental stewardship.

As WestJet Cargo continues to grow, the airline remains focused on providing high-quality, efficient, and technologically advanced cargo services to meet the dynamic needs of its global customers.

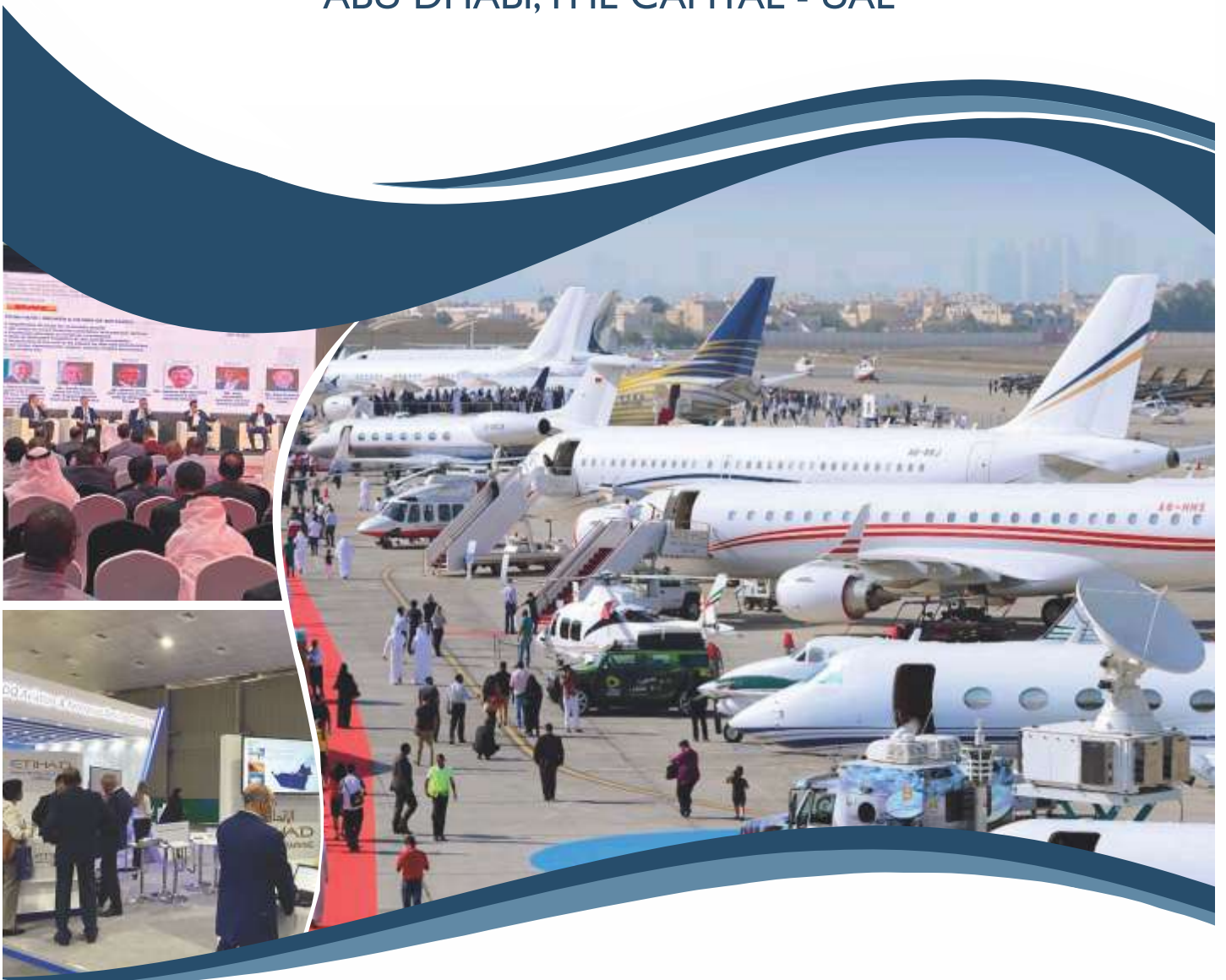


# AIR EXPO ABU DHABI

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## IATA: Air cargo posts 4th month double-digit growth in March

**Geneva, Switzerland:** The global air cargo industry posted a double-digit growth for the fourth time in March year-on-year, indicating a healthy year for the air transport sector despite continuing geopolitical conflicts in different continents and other issues, according to the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

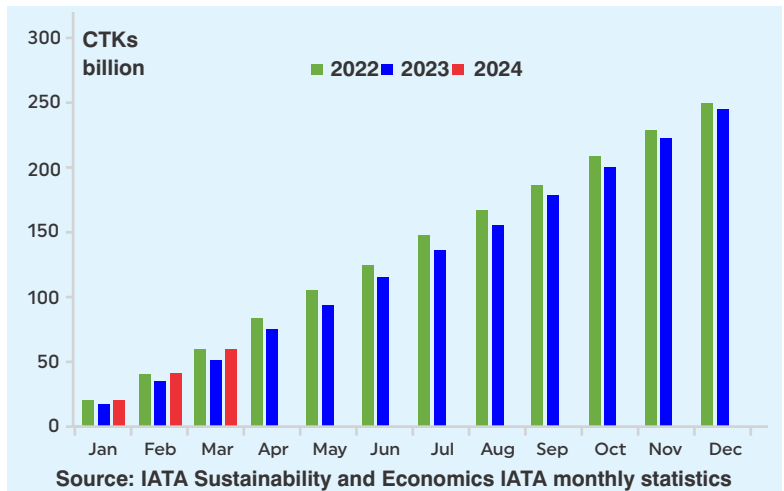
"Air cargo demand grew by 10.3% over the previous March. This contributed to a strong first quarter performance which slightly exceeded even the exceptionally strong 2021 first quarter performance during the COVID crisis. With global cross-border trade and industrial production continuing to show a moderate upward trend, 2024 is shaping up to be a solid year for air cargo," said Willie Walsh, IATA's Director General.

IATA said total demand, measured in cargo ton-kilometers (CTKs\*), rose by 10.3% compared to March 2023 levels (11.4% for international operations). This is the fourth consecutive month of double-digit year-on-year growth.

Capacity, measured in available cargo ton-kilometers (ACTKs), meanwhile, increased by 7.3% compared to March 2023 (10.5% for international operations).

IATA pointed out several factors in the operating environment should be noted. These include:

Global cross-border trade and industrial production increased by 1.2% and 1.6% respectively in February.



In March, the manufacturing output Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) climbed to 51.9, indicating expansion. The new export orders PMI also rose to 49.5, remaining slightly below the 50 threshold that would indicate growth expectations.

Inflation saw a mixed picture in March. In the EU and Japan, inflation rates fell to 2.6% and 2.7% respectively, while rising in the US to 3.5%. In contrast, China experienced a slight deflation of -0.01%. This latest figure marks a return to deflation after February's brief period of inflation

IATA said all regions posted growth during the period with the Middle East topping the list at 19.9% year-on-year demand growth for air cargo in March. The Middle East-Europe market was the strongest performing with 38.3% growth, ahead of Middle East-Asia which grew by 19.6% year-on-year. March capacity increased 10.6% year-on-year, the international trade group which represents nearly 300 airlines added.

## Jettainer marks two decades as ULD management market leader



**Thomas Sonntag**  
CEO of Jettainer

**Frankfurt am Main, Germany:** Jettainer is celebrating two decades of industry leadership this year as it marks its 20th anniversary with a bright outlook for the future.

"Over the past two decades, Jettainer has transformed from a modest operator into a leader in the industry, we extend our gratitude to our customers, partners, and employees for their unwavering support and dedication," stated Thomas Sonntag, CEO of Jettainer. "This milestone underscores the exceptional quality of our services and the innovative strength of our team."

Today, Jettainer operates the most efficient fleet of Unit Load Devices (ULDs), which numbers in the six

digits, across 500 locations worldwide, serving some of the largest and most reputable airlines.

Initially established on April 27, 2004 as a joint venture between Lufthansa Cargo and the US mobile asset management firm TrenStar Inc., Jettainer became a fully owned subsidiary of Lufthansa Cargo AG in 2009 and has experienced significant growth since its inception.

The global leader in ULD management has been dedicated to spearheading impactful innovations from the start, continuously committing to sustainability in the industry.

Founded in 2004, Jettainer began operations with an initial ULD fleet of approximately 27,000 units at a site near Frankfurt Airport. Since then, Jettainer has evolved into a global leader in ULD management and now operates at 15 major hubs in Asia, the Middle East, Europe, and the Americas. Its teams of aviation experts now manage a six-digit number of ULDs for a wide range of international passenger and cargo airlines.

In 2014, the company expanded into the American market with the establishment of Jettainer Americas Inc.

In 2017, Jettainer opened its Temperature Control Competence Center located in Abu Dhabi, where a specialized team ensures the efficient global management of temperature-controlled containers. Adapting to globalization, market demands and customer needs, Jettainer has continuously enhanced and strengthened its worldwide set-up.

Jettainer has consistently leveraged innovative technologies to enhance ULD management, increase efficiency and deliver substantial value to its customers and partners. Along with using digital solutions for ULD management, Jettainer is deeply committed to sustainability within the aviation industry.



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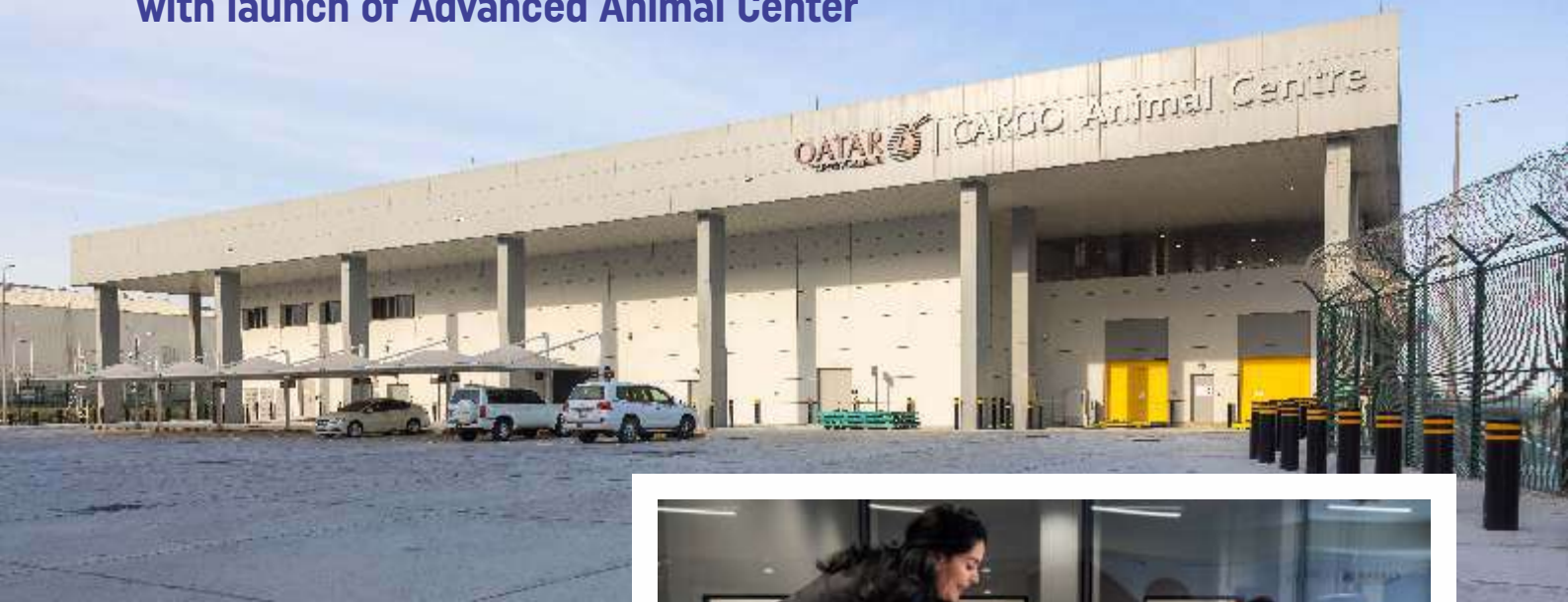
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## Qatar Airways cargo elevates live animal transport with launch of Advanced Animal Center



**Doha, Qatar: Qatar Airways Cargo recently unveiled its state-of-the-art Animal Centre and relaunched its Next Generation Live product, setting new benchmarks in the transport of live animals. As a leading transporter, with over 550,000 animals including 10,000 horses flown in 2023, the airline reaffirms its commitment to animal welfare.**

"At Qatar Airways Cargo, we recognize our responsibility extends far beyond the mere transportation of animals. We are committed to advocating for their welfare globally, ensuring our operations respect and contribute positively to their overall well-being," said Mark Drusch, Chief Officer Cargo at Qatar Airways Cargo.

"This holistic approach to animal care is a fundamental part of our ethos, driving us to innovate and lead in the industry. With our new Animal Centre and service enhancements, we're not just setting new standards for animal transport, we're actively working towards a future where every aspect of our operations reflects a deep respect for animal welfare, embodying our commitment to making a meaningful difference in their lives," he added.



### Qatar Airways Cargo Animal Center Highlights

- **Facility Size:** 5,260 square meters, featuring full temperature control for optimal animal comfort.
- **Kennel Capacity:** 140 dog kennels and 40 cat kennels.
- **Horse Stables:** 24 stables distributed in 4 zones with separate airflows for proper segregation.
- **Specialty Areas:** Custom spaces designed for day-old-chicks, birds, fish, reptiles and exotic animals.
- **Handling Features:** Includes airside and landside interfaces with multiple docks for efficient operations. Equipped with a sophisticated HVAC system for maintaining optimal air quality.
- **Technology:** Capacity for handling up to 47 ULD positions, with specialized ULD rooms for various operations.

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- **Kennel Calculator Tool:** An innovative online resource for determining the ideal kennel size, ensuring comfort and compliance with IATA LAR standards.
- **Streamlined Customer Service:** Procedures have been refined for faster and more efficient customer interactions with a dedicated Control Tower for the most sensitive shipments
- **Digitalized IATA LAR Training:** Ensures rapid compliance and enhances staff proficiency in animal handling.
- **Pet Card Service:** Continues to offer a personal touch by sharing updates and photos of pets during transit, enhancing customer experience and peace of mind.



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## United Cargo Launches UAPremium

**Chicago, United States:** In response to the escalating demands of today's business world, United Cargo unveils UAPremium, a groundbreaking solution tailored for high-priority shipments exceeding 100 lbs. (45 kgs).

"UAPremium signifies our unwavering commitment to meeting our customers' evolving requirements," states Manu Jacobs, Director of Specialty Products at United Cargo. "Our top-tier boarding priority ensures swift and efficient delivery, catering to essential cargo that demands urgency but falls short of QuickPak or traditional EXP service specifications."

UAPremium extends beyond mere delivery, offering customers comprehensive support throughout the shipping process. From proactive monitoring to personalized assistance, United Cargo's expert team guarantees meticulous care from origin to destination. Specially trained staff handle shipments, while distinct blue UAPremium tape enhances visibility for superior tracking and handling.

With over 50 strategically located stations across the United States and access to an expansive global flight network, UAPremium facilitates



seamless connectivity to local and international markets. Whether traversing domestic distances or spanning continents, UAPremium empowers businesses to capitalize on global opportunities and broaden their customer base.

UAPremium services are accessible at all United Cargo warehouse locations and EXP-accepted sites. For further information on transforming your shipping strategy with UAPremium, connect with the local United Cargo sales representative or visit [unitedcargo.com](http://unitedcargo.com).

## Hactl Commends HKIA's Recognition as World's Busiest Cargo Airport in 2023

**Honk Kong:** Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals Limited (Hactl) congratulates Hong Kong International Airport (HKIA) on being named the world's busiest cargo airport in 2023 by Airports Council International.

Hactl Chief Executive Wilson Kwong said, "As an industry leader in Hong Kong's air cargo industry, Hactl is very pleased that HKIA is once again named the world's busiest cargo airport. This achievement is also a testament to the commitment of the HKSAR Government in offering consistent policy support to the industry and a recognition of the resilience and strength of the local air cargo sector and its operators. We strongly believe that Airport Authority Hong Kong's on-going investments in upgrading HKIA's air cargo handling infrastructure will continue to sharpen our airport's competitive edge compared to other international and regional airports. To support the growth of Hong Kong's air cargo industry, Hactl will keep doing its part by investing in state-of-the-art technology, including robotics,

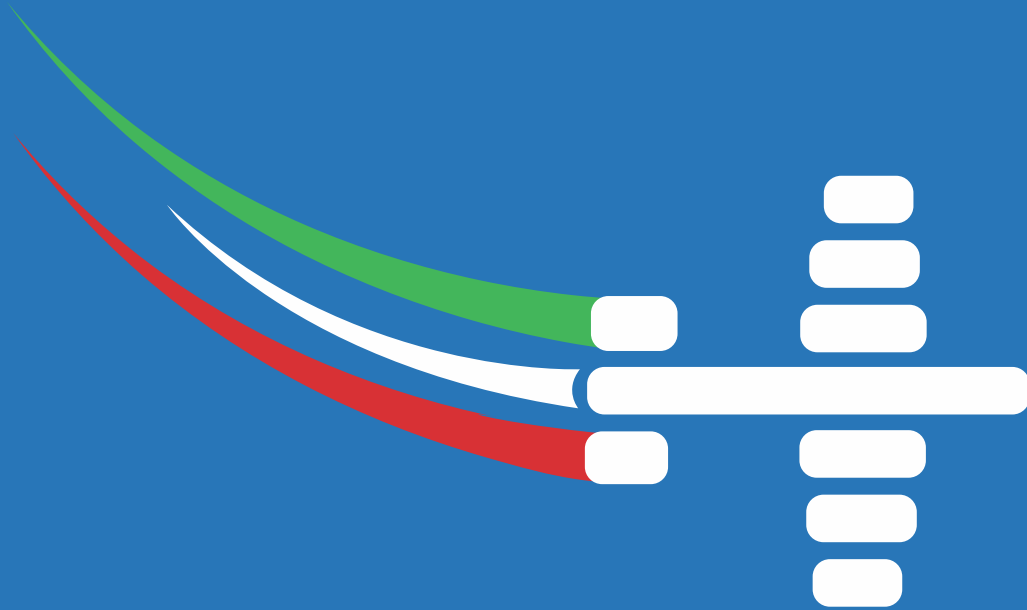


automation and artificial intelligence, to enhance its business and develop innovative solutions that anticipate the needs of customers."

Hactl is the first air cargo handler in Hong Kong to attain all three of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) CEIV Pharma, Live Animals and Fresh accreditations. Hactl has also been accredited under CEIV Lithium Batteries and is one of the first cargo handling companies in Asia to achieve IATA Environmental Assessment (IEnvA) certification.

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## Cargolux posts \$286 million profit in 2023

Luxembourg: The Cargolux Group generated a positive net result for its 2023 financial year despite challenging market conditions, a reflection of the company's agility in changing market conditions. It generated: Revenues of US\$ 2,975 million and profit after tax of US\$ 286 million.

This financial result allows the further strengthening of the group's Balance Sheet to enable the airline to remain resilient in weathering the expected volatility in the industry. The first half of 2023 saw the cyclical nature of the industry return with levels well below pre-Covid times and significant pressure on rates due to lower demand levels compounded by increasing levels of available belly capacity.

The restrictions on the use of Russian airspace continued to impact operations to and from North Asia with longer flight paths, increased fuel burn and higher operational costs. Geopolitical tensions amplified in the Middle East with the outbreak of the conflict between Israel and Hamas, creating challenges for global trade and further affecting customer confidence.

The disruption of shipping in the Red Sea at the end of the year did not benefit air cargo significantly, with only a marginal increase recorded in the shift from



Cargolux CEO Richard Fulton, left, with other key executives of Cargolux Group.

sea to air.

However, the demand for dedicated freighter capacity saw a welcome surge in demand in the fourth quarter of 2023 due to the volume of e-commerce shipments. Cargolux also acquired 3 Air Tractor AT-802F Fire Bosses for its new business unit, Aquarius Aerial Firefighting.

### Outlook 2024

After years of upheaval due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the air cargo industry is heading towards a more normalized pattern. The cyclical nature of the market, the return of belly-hold capacity on a large scale, and the global economic downtrend will no doubt affect air cargo.

The ongoing increase in geopolitical tensions worldwide make it difficult to predict future demand and cost implications.

Returning volatility as well as increasing global concerns on sustainability, especially the reduction of CO2 emissions and the cost implications thereof on the aviation sector, will continue to put pressure on our industry.

## Singapore Airlines Group Procures Sustainable Aviation Fuel from Neste

**Singapore:** The Singapore Airlines (SIA) Group has signed an agreement with Neste to purchase 1,000 tonnes of neat Neste MY Sustainable Aviation Fuel TM. This will make SIA and Scoot, the two airlines in the Group, the first carriers to receive Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), produced at Neste's refinery in the country, at Singapore Changi Airport.

In accordance with the necessary safety regulations, Neste will blend SAF with regular jet fuel. The blended fuel will be delivered to Changi Airport's fuel hydrant system in two batches, one in the second quarter of 2024 and the other in the fourth quarter of this year.

This milestone will also mark the first direct supply of Neste's SAF to airlines at Changi Airport, reinforcing their end-to-end SAF supply chain capabilities in Singapore. This follows the completion of the expansion of Neste's Singapore refinery in May 2023. The refinery has the capacity to produce a million tonnes of SAF each year, making it the world's largest SAF production facility.

Neste's SAF, which is made from 100% renewable waste and residue raw materials, reduces greenhouse gas emissions by up to

80% over the fuel's life cycle. Blended with conventional jet fuel, it seamlessly integrates with existing aircraft engines and fuelling infrastructure.

Starting from May 2024, SIA will offer 1,000 SAF Book & Claim Units (BCUs) for purchase by its corporate travellers, shippers, and freight forwarders. Each BCU represents one tonne of neat SAF with its associated carbon dioxide reduction benefit. Purchasing SAF BCUs allows corporate travellers, shippers, and freight forwarders to claim the associated environmental benefits for flights related to their business travel and operations, validating the demand for SAF BCUs and supporting the development of the nascent SAF industry. The Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials (RSB) Book & Claim system, a trusted industry standard, ensures the traceability and credibility of these transactions.





## Emirates SkyCargo launches direct connection with DB Schenker

**Dubai, UAE:** Emirates SkyCargo, the cargo arm of the world's largest international airline, has established an API connection with DB Schenker, a global leader in logistics service solutions.

By leveraging digital tools, Emirates SkyCargo says it aims to elevate its world-class customer experience and enable the swifter and more efficient flow of international trade.

The host-to-host connection with DB Schenker's internal booking engine optimizes the air freight booking process, providing agents with direct access to Emirates SkyCargo's schedules, Standard and Contract Tariff rates and available capacity, as well as the airline's vast global network of over 140 destinations across six continents.

Launching first in Germany, Austria and Switzerland, the connection will then launch globally, facilitating trade with key markets including Hong Kong, China, Singapore,



India, Germany and the USA. Initially, the service will enable agents to book general cargo, with the possibility of adding other products from Emirates SkyCargo's multi-vertical, industry-leading portfolio in the near future.

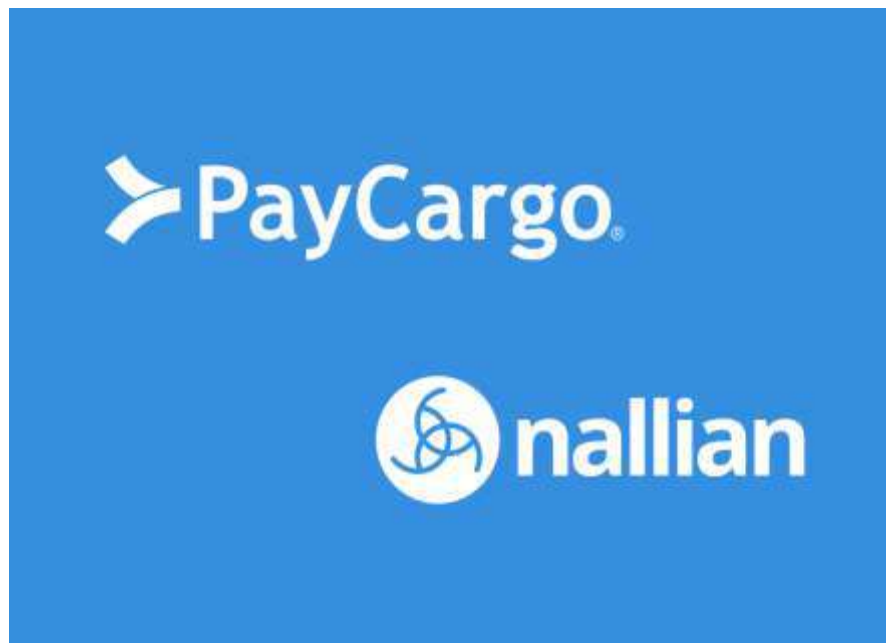
## PayCargo and Nallian forge strategic partnership to offer faster, streamlined freight pick-ups & deliveries

**Brussels, Coral Gables:** PayCargo, the leading logistics payment platform, and connected cargo solutions specialist Nallian proudly announce their strategic collaboration aimed at accelerating and streamlining air cargo management.

By integrating Nallian's cutting-edge slot management solution with PayCargo's efficient payment platform, customers will benefit from a powerful system to optimize every aspect of the freight pick-up journey. This will eliminate truck wait times, shorten dock turnaround, improve staff planning, and reduce administration.

Freight forwarders and trucking companies schedule a time slot at the cargo handler using Nallian's Truck Visit Management System to pick up or drop off freight. The PayCargo platform will streamline all payments and transactions related to import cargo.

Upon arrival, drivers no longer have to wait but can immediately proceed to the dock door assigned to them. This integrated



approach enhances operational efficiency, enables faster cargo release, and reduces paperwork and administration.

"We are thrilled to partner with Nallian to offer an integrated solution that addresses the evolving needs of the air cargo industry. By combining our expertise, we enable our customers to streamline truck visits, accelerate payments, and achieve greater success," commented Eduardo Del Riego, CEO of PayCargo.

Jean Verheyen, CEO of Nallian, adds: "We are committed to driving innovation and delivering value to our customers. Our collaboration with PayCargo represents a strategic alignment of our shared vision to raise the bar for efficient, paperless freight management. It will allow our customers to better coordinate activities so they increase efficiency and reduce their environmental impact."

## CMA CGM and CEVA Logistics Ready for Paris 2024 Olympics Logistics Challenge



### Marseille, France: CMA CGM and CEVA Logistics have assumed their roles as the official logistics partners for the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, gearing up to tackle the monumental task ahead.

With a workforce of 180,000, the CMA CGM Group is leveraging its expertise to organize one of the world's largest sporting events. Since February 2023, in collaboration with the Organizing Committee of the Paris 2024 Games, the Group and its subsidiary CEVA Logistics have been diligently coordinating freight services, international transport, customs clearance, storage, delivery, site logistics, special freight, and IT systems integration.

As Paris prepares to host over 10,500 athletes and nearly 10 million spectators, the teams from CMA CGM and CEVA Logistics are working tirelessly to establish a seamless logistics chain and deploy all necessary equipment to ensure the smooth running of the Paris 2024 Games.

Facing a logistical challenge unparalleled worldwide, CMA CGM and CEVA Logistics are tasked with transporting and delivering over 900,000 items of sports equipment, including trampolines, poles, firearms, boats, and surfboards. Additionally, the

Group will handle the transportation of more than 250 containers of bleachers and mobile seats, along with the delivery and assembly of 1.3 million items of furniture, fixtures, equipment, and merchandising materials. Moreover, 17,000 beds for athletes and their teams will be delivered, assembled, and dismantled, while CEVA Logistics will oversee the storage, assembly, and transport of nearly 650 advanced mobility vehicles and 2,745 electric vehicles for venue transportation.

As the countdown to the opening ceremony begins, CMA CGM will manage the transportation of over 68,000 pieces of luggage from airports to Olympic venues, as well as oversee the end-to-end logistics for the world's largest audiovisual network to ensure global broadcast coverage of the competitions. With a fleet of over 300 vehicles, including vans and trucks, the Group will make more than 7,000 trips to deliver the necessary equipment for the competitions, covering the last mile with precision and efficiency.

To meet the demanding logistics requirements of the Olympic Games, CMA CGM and CEVA Logistics are hiring 700 new employees, providing training opportunities for the long-term unemployed in some cases.

In line with the goal of delivering more sustainable Olympic Games, CMA CGM is collaborating with Paris 2024 to minimize environmental impact. The Group is committed to achieving Net Zero Carbon by 2050 and is implementing low-carbon and energy-efficient logistics solutions, including the use of LNG, biofuels, electricity, and sustainable aviation fuel in its transport services. CEVA Logistics will utilize low-carbon vehicles powered by biofuels for at least 50% of deliveries between storage warehouses and Games venues.

With their 180,000 employees playing a pivotal role, CMA CGM and CEVA Logistics are fully dedicated to the success of the Paris 2024 Games, embodying the spirit of "Logistics, from the starting blocks to the finish line."

As an Official Partner of the Paris 2024 Games and Paralympic Torch Relays, the Group's employees have been selected to carry the Torch in relay across various regions of France, symbolizing their commitment to promoting sports as a means of well-being, social cohesion, and community inclusion.

Tanya Saadé-Zeenny, Executive Vice-President of the Group, emphasizes the commitment of CMA CGM and its subsidiaries to delivering low-carbon and responsible Games, ensuring the enduring legacy of the 2024 Paris Olympics.



# The Air Cargo Digital Revolution

## How cargo.one is Elevating the Industry

Founded in 2017 by Moritz Claussen, Oliver Neumann and Mike Rötgers, with a vision for digitally transforming air freight procurement, cargo.one has become the go-to solution for airlines and freight forwarders alike, streamlining operations and propelling the industry into the digital age.

By Mohammed Irshad

**Moritz Claussen**  
Co-CEO of cargo.one

**T**he air cargo industry, once bogged down by manual processes and outdated systems, is undergoing a digital revolution. At the forefront of this transformation is cargo.one, a cutting-edge platform that brings efficiency, transparency, and real-time data.

Founded in 2017 by Moritz Claussen, Oliver Neumann and Mike Rötgers, with a vision for digitally transforming air freight procurement, cargo.one has become the go-to solution for airlines and freight forwarders alike, streamlining operations and propelling the industry into the digital age.

**Air Cargo Update** had an exclusive opportunity to sit down with the Co-CEO of cargo.one, Moritz Claussen, to delve deeper into the platform's impact on the industry and its plans for the future. Claussen provided valuable insights into cargo.one's mission, innovative strategies, and ongoing commitment to elevating air cargo logistics.

### Digitalization Journey

"We founded the company in 2017," Claussen recalls. "My two co-founders and I have spent all of our careers building technology for different sectors. We come from finance and gaming backgrounds. And in 2017, we looked for a new challenge and we started to look at logistics because we thought logistics, being very global, being just a really important part of the world's background, essentially needed that digitalization."

This digital journey began with a simple realization: The air cargo industry was still reliant on outdated, manual processes. Claussen explains, "We reached out to freight forwarding companies and airlines and said, 'We think your space is super interesting. Can we spend two or three days with you and just observe exactly what you're doing?'"

Their exploration led them to Frankfurt Airport, where they witnessed firsthand the inefficiencies plaguing the industry. "We realized that the way air cargo was being booked involved picking up the phone and calling



**From Left: Moritz Claussen, Mike Rötgers and Oliver Neumann**

multiple airlines, waiting for quotes, sometimes for days," Claussen recounts. "This archaic process stood in stark contrast to the seamless online booking experiences we had grown accustomed to in other sectors."

Determined to bridge this gap, cargo.one embarked on a mission to digitalize the booking process, forging partnerships with airlines and empowering freight forwarders with instant access to real-time offers. "We work with around 55 airlines globally, including industry giants like Qatar Airways, Air France KLM, Lufthansa, and American Airlines," Claussen proudly states. "And we serve 20,000 freight forwarders, enabling them to quote and book cargo capacity digitally in real time."

### Empowering Through Integration

At the heart of cargo.one's success lies its robust technological infrastructure, built upon the best quality real-time integrations with airlines' core cargo systems. Claussen elucidates, "Our platform provides a live view of availability, pricing, and schedules, enabling instant bookings and confirmations. Gone are the days of static spreadsheets and delayed responses; we operate on the forefront of real-time data."

By harnessing the power of APIs and tailored integrations, cargo.one ensures agility and responsiveness, empowering clients to make informed decisions swiftly. "Our goal is to provide a seamless experience," Claussen emphasizes. "Whether you're a freight forwarder searching for available capacity or an airline optimizing operations, our platform delivers actionable insights in real-time."

### Unleashing the Potential of Data

cargo.one doesn't just make things easier; it's a game-changer. By harnessing data analytics, it helps airlines and freight forwarders improve how they work. In today's data-driven world, cargo.one is a leader, using its wealth of market knowledge to help airlines and freight forwarders operate at their best. Claussen explains, "Data is the lifeblood of our platform. Through cargo.one360, we offer actionable intelligence, enabling stakeholders to refine their strategies and enhance efficiency."



**cargo.one**

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From sales to operations for every shipment. Effortlessly generate door-to-door quotes, win new business, and book with airlines and agents.

[Learn more at cargo.one](#)

New York → Singapore  
Southeast Distributors

Quote view

€ 7,110 Total cost

€ 950 Profit estimate

**Air Sea Logistics** (Germany)  
Air freight cost: € 6,128  
Local charges: € 985  
Total cost: € 7,113

**American Airlines**  
€ 3.21

**Air France Cargo**  
€ 1.74

**Emirates SkyCargo**  
€ 1.89

**Lufthansa Cargo**  
€ 2.85

By analyzing millions of offers generated on the platform each month, cargo.one empowers clients with compliant granular insights into market dynamics, pricing trends, and customer preferences. "Our goal is to enable personalized offerings tailored to each customer's unique needs," Claussen explains. "Whether it's providing airlines with the tools to revenue optimize or route planning for freight forwarders, our data-driven approach drives tangible results. This enables informed decision-making and fosters greater efficiency throughout the supply chain."

### Driving Industry Growth

Reflecting on cargo.one's exponential growth, Claussen emphasizes the platform's role in driving industry-wide digital adoption. "From early adopters to late majority, airlines have recognized the imperative of embracing digital solutions," he asserts. "And cargo.one has emerged as the leading facilitator of this transformation, helping airlines navigate the complexities of digitalization and unlock new opportunities."

**As cargo.one continues to scale its operations, the impact on the air cargo industry is palpable. Claussen reveals, "We facilitate tens of thousands of bookings monthly, driving exponential growth year over year. From established markets in Europe and North America to emerging hubs in Asia, our platform is reshaping the landscape of air freight."**

Claussen acknowledges the role of external factors, notably the COVID-19 pandemic, in accelerating digital adoption within the industry. "The pandemic served as a catalyst for change," he observes. "Airlines recognized the imperative of digitalization for survival, leading to a surge in demand for our services."

As cargo.one charts a course for the future, Claussen remains optimistic

about the opportunities that lie ahead. "We've transitioned from early adopters to the mainstream, with airlines across the globe embracing digital distribution," he asserts. "Our focus now is on driving continued innovation, empowering our partners to thrive in an increasingly digital landscape."

In quantifying the impact of cargo.one, Claussen paints a vivid picture of transformation. "Imagine a process that once involved endless emails and phone calls," he muses. "Now, with cargo.one, it's as simple as a few clicks. Time is saved, costs are reduced, and valuable resources are freed up to focus on strategic initiatives."

### cargo.one's Impact on Air Cargo Booking

As cargo.one solidifies its position as the digital enabler for the air cargo industry, Claussen sheds more light on the pioneering features that have propelled the platform to prominence. He reminisces on the early days of cargo.one, recalling the visionary airlines that embraced digitalization from the outset. "Lufthansa, Finnair, and ANA were among the first to recognize the transformative potential of our platform," Claussen recalls. "Their forward-thinking approach set the stage for widespread adoption across the industry."

The transition from manual booking processes to instant digital transactions was not without its challenges, Claussen acknowledges. "Implementing instant booking across multiple airlines posed logistical and technical hurdles," he explains. "Each airline operates on distinct systems, necessitating tailored integrations to ensure seamless connectivity."

Despite the complexities, cargo.one's commitment to innovation prevailed, ushering in a new era of efficiency and convenience for users.

From the perspective of freight forwarders, the impacts of cargo.one's end to end quoting and booking

functionalities are profound. Claussen elucidates, "Prior to cargo.one, freight forwarders navigated a labyrinth of emails and phone calls to secure capacity, a laborious process fraught with delays and uncertainty."

By contrast, cargo.one streamlines the entire capacity discovery and booking experience into a matter of seconds. "With cargo.one, freight forwarders gain instant digital access to offers from dozens of airlines with a single search," Claussen explains. "Gone are the days of manual inquiries and lengthy response times; now, bookings are finalized in mere seconds."

The tangible benefits of cargo.one extend beyond time savings, Claussen emphasizes. "Freight forwarders experience a dramatic increase in productivity," he notes. "Tasks that once consumed hours can now be completed in minutes, allowing personnel to focus on value-added activities and strategic initiatives." Additionally, the cost savings associated with streamlined operations are significant, further enhancing the bottom line for businesses.

## Strategic Partnerships

At the heart of cargo.one's success lies its commitment to forging strategic partnerships with airlines and enterprise forwarders around the globe. For example, Claussen underscores the company's mission to onboard every carrier onto the platform, emphasizing the importance of inclusivity and accessibility. "Our mission as a platform is to have every carrier on the platform," says Claussen, highlighting cargo.one's dedication to providing freight forwarders with a comprehensive selection of options for their shipping needs.

But it's not just about quantity; cargo.one also prioritizes the quality of its partnerships. Claussen stresses the significance of including both industry giants and niche players, ensuring that freight forwarders have access to a diverse range of supply options with a single search. Moreover, cargo.one's approach goes beyond mere inclusion; the company's dedicated teams work closely with airlines to facilitate their transition to digitalization, providing guidance and support every step of the way. By helping airlines leverage the full potential of the platform, cargo.one enables them to optimize their offer quality, raise performance and stay ahead of the curve in an increasingly dynamic and competitive market.

## Product Offerings

cargo.one's commitment to meeting the diverse needs of its users is reflected in its range of product offerings. From the free-to-use cargo.one platform to the advanced features of cargo.one pro and cargo.one for enterprise, the company provides solutions tailored to the requirements of freight forwarders of all sizes.

"cargo.one as a platform has always been free for freight forwarders," Claussen explains, highlighting the accessibility of the basic platform. This free version allows freight forwarders to perform essential tasks such as

searching for available capacity, comparing options, and making bookings—all within a user-friendly interface.

**For those seeking additional functionality and customization options, cargo.one offers pro—a premium version with advanced features such as the ability to use different CASS numbers, quote and book agent to agent rates instantly, leverage advanced rate management, and build workflows and collaborate with team members. Claussen notes that cargo.one pro is incredibly popular among mid-tier freight forwarders, providing them with a joyful and robust solution to meet their growing needs.**

At the enterprise level, cargo.one for enterprise offers fully customizable solutions designed to seamlessly integrate with larger freight forwarders' trade management systems. Through its comprehensive and high quality API suite, cargo.one equips enterprise forwarders with its unrivaled market offer data and advanced quotation and rate management features directly within the forwarders' existing workflows, eliminating the need for duplication and streamlining their operations.

## Steering the Future

As cargo.one continues to push the boundaries of digital air freight, Claussen remains focused and optimistic about the future. "There's so much to come," he says, hinting at the company's ongoing efforts to further enhance the platform via its targeted innovation. One area of focus is its smart tools to help freight forwarders generate accurate end to end quotations for customers at speed—a capability that can do much to revolutionize performance and efficiency across the air cargo industry.

By providing freight forwarders with instant access to often dynamic pricing data, as well as all relevant additional local cost components such as trucking, TSA fees, and customs clearance costs, cargo.one can empower them to provide accurate quotes to their customers more competitively than ever before. This increased transparency and efficiency not only benefits freight forwarders but also enhances the overall customer experience, leading to greater satisfaction and loyalty.

In conclusion, cargo.one's vision for the future is one of continued and meaningful innovation and growth. By fostering strategic partnerships, expanding its product offerings, and embracing emerging technologies, cargo.one remains at the forefront of the air cargo industry, driving progress and delivering new value to its users every step of the way. As Claussen aptly puts it, "Digital is here to stay," and cargo.one is leading the charge toward a more efficient, connected, and sustainable future for air cargo logistics.



# Global Cargo Security:

## How air cargo navigates through tough supply chain disruptions

By R. Chandrakanth

**As of 2023, 35% of the world annual cargo shipments are regulated by individual Pre-Loading Advance Cargo Information (PLACI) initiatives by EU, UK, UAE and Canadian authorities. The percentage breakdown of world cargo traffic regulated by individual PLACI programmes – EU & UK – 18.6%; United States – 12.3%; United Arab Emirates – 2.5 %; Canada 1.7% and the rest of the world.**

**T**he world has seen major disruptions in supply chain in recent years due to security issues, geopolitical tensions, the COVID-19 pandemic and a host of other events, both natural and man-made.

Since November last year, Yemen's Houthi rebels launched over 40 attacks on commercial ships in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, disrupting a key sea trade lane. The conflicts between Russia and Ukraine and Israel and the Hamas have also disrupted supply chain – no fly-zones being one of the outcomes.

Unlike sea trade lanes which are prone to such attacks, air cargo is free of the piracy menace. Nevertheless, there are other threats that the aviation sector needs to deal with. In the light of this, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the World Customs Organization (WCO) have been issuing regular guidelines to mitigate security threats associated with air cargo.

“Maintaining operational efficiency and commercial viability has always been at the cornerstone of ICAO's efforts towards improving aviation security, as demonstrated by the tremendous adaptability and resilience the air cargo



sector showed during the COVID-19 pandemic," remarked ICAO Secretary General Juan Carlos Salazar, noting that the understanding of the nature and level of related security threats – and how to combat them – has also significantly improved in recent years. "Moving Air Cargo Globally' will help to support the implementation of robust and harmonized standards worldwide, while fostering the improved air transport connectivity which is so critical to the future sustainability of societies and economies everywhere."

### PLACI, new security protocols

Responding to security threats and incidents, WCO and ICAO had introduced in 2019 an additional layer in the management of air cargo security risk called the Pre-Loading Advance Cargo Information (PLACI).

As a result, Customs and aviation authorities are increasingly enforcing new security protocols to identify any potential 'bomb in the box' before shipments are loaded onto aircraft. This additional security layer comes on top of existing security regimes based on pre-arrival Advance Cargo Information (ACI) requirements.

**One of the key challenges for the industry is to comply with multiple PLACI initiatives while maintaining the speed and flow of cargo. Some of the PLACI regimes are Air Cargo Advance Screening, USA; Import Control System (ICS2), European Union; Pre-Load Data Air Cargo Targeting (PACT), Canada; Pre-Load Data Informed Cargo Targeting United Kingdom (UK) – PreDICT (Pre-Load Data Informed Cargo Targeting) and National Advance Information Center (United Arab Emirates (UAE).**

As of 2023, 35% of the world annual cargo shipments are regulated by individual PLACI initiatives by EU, UK, UAE and Canadian authorities. The percentage breakdown of world cargo traffic regulated by individual PLACI programmes – EU & UK – 18.6%; United States – 12.3%; United Arab Emirates – 2.5 %; Canada 1.7% and the rest of the world.

### Cargo Security Working Group

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has underscored the importance of ensuring the flow of commerce and how security is at its crux. IATA established the Cargo Security Working Group (CSWG) to ensure that the experiences and constraints of the airline industry are considered in the development of effective security regulations.

To support regulators and strengthen supply chain security, IATA said that it is working with the industry on the following main initiatives: Standard advance cargo information (ahead of the arrival of goods, aiding processing and clearance of cargo); and Consignment Security Declaration (CSD) providing an audit trail of how, when and by whom specific cargo shipments have been secured.

IATA conducted a survey in April 2022 to identify the Global Acceptance of e-CSD, document which presents the list of countries that accept the security status in electronic format and those that still require a paper CSD.



**Sanjeev Kumar**  
Chairman, Airports Authority of India

In India, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) is implementing security measures as per international standards. The AAI Chairman Sanjeev Kumar said as regards security, cargo or otherwise, "We should not be happy with the minimum and should strive to be safer than yesterday." The AAI has established a 'Safety Directorate' which has initiated various measures to enhance safety and security at AAI airports.

Sanjeev Kumar said the continuing surcharged security environment around the globe has brought into focus the need for strengthening security of vital installations. Post 9/11, there was urgent need to further revamp the security at airports for safeguarding International civil aviation against acts of unlawful interference but also to restore confidence of travelling public, the cargo sector, etc., in the security apparatus.

With this in view, a number of steps have been taken by AAI as per the direction of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), the Indian aviation security regulator under the Ministry of Civil Aviation, including the deployment of the Central Industrial Security Force for airport security, CCTV surveillance system at all airports, latest and state-of-the-art X-Ray Baggage inspection systems, perimeter security & surveillance systems and BDDS (bomb detection and disposal squads) at



sensitive airports. Bio-metric / smart cards for access control to vital installations at airports are also being considered to supplement the efforts of security personnel at all airports.

Airports in India are already working on securing cargo security. Talking about cargo security at Delhi International Airport Limited, Mr. Vineet Kumar, Vice President and Head of Safety and Compliance, said the airport was following the best safety practices. "Using technology and human intelligence, the airport has always been on a high alert when it comes to security of the airport, cargo and other facilities."

For instance, last November, the Air India domestic cargo terminal came under cloud. On a routine screening of a consignment, initially listed as auto parts, it was revealed that a stash of arms and ammunition concealed in nine boxes. The consignment weighing 353 kg and dispatched by Bhagwati Air Express Pvt. Ltd., arrived at the Air India domestic cargo facility. Upon inspection, Air India staff discovered that the boxes, initially declared as 'Auto parts,' contained weapons and ammunition.

The discrepancy was immediately flagged during the cargo screening process, prompting physical checks by the Cargo Screener. The investigation revealed a mismatch between the declared contents and the actual contents of the nine boxes.

The cargo, identified as highly sensitive due to its nature, was subsequently secured in the cargo cage under lock and key. The inventory of the seized items included advance weapons, live cartridges, barrel telescope etc.

**With the size of India, it has witnessed exponential growth in air traffic and trade, calling for bolstering security. The introduction of advanced X-ray screening systems, explosive detection systems (EDS), and enhanced trace detection technologies has fortified the ability to detect concealed threats within cargo shipments.**

Furthermore, the integration of biometric authentication, RFID tracking, and blockchain-enabled transparency mechanisms has engendered a seamless and

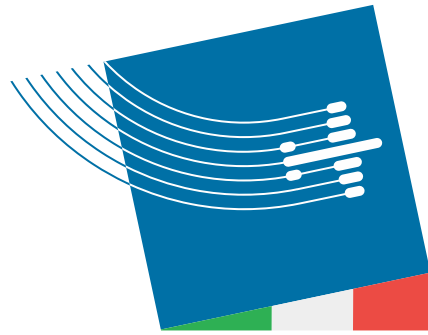
secure cargo flow, reducing vulnerabilities and increasing accountability.

Stakeholders across the spectrum, from airlines and ground handlers to regulatory authorities and law enforcement agencies, have joined hands to create a cohesive and resilient cargo security ecosystem. Information sharing, joint training programs, and synchronized risk assessments have led to a more agile and adaptive security apparatus.

Additionally, emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, and data analytics are generating predictive insights that empower security agencies to stay ahead of evolving threats. The utilization of risk-based approaches, where resources are allocated based on threat assessments, has led to a more efficient and targeted allocation of security measures.

To combat the ever-increasing security threats, authorities are continuously enhancing their cargo security programs. Aimed at the safety of people and goods, these security programs are generally based on a risk management approach based on the advance collection of shipment data.

Such risk management approach is focusing on the supervision and monitoring of the flow of goods into the country, to anticipate risk and facilitate legitimate trade while ensure the mitigation of safety and security threats.



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Our DHL Middle East and Africa (MEA) Innovation Center in Dubai, introduced in 2021, serves as a collaborative space where business leaders, logistics experts, academics, and startups develop innovative logistics solutions. The center showcases interactive exhibits on big data analytics and the Internet of Things (IoT), inspiring innovative approaches to logistics practices.

**Amadou Diallo**

CEO of DHL Global Forwarding  
Middle East & Africa,

# Transforming Logistics:

## Unveiling Trends and Innovations Shaping the Future of Supply Chains

By Poonam Chawla

In an exclusive interview with Poonam Chawla, Associate Publisher of Air Cargo Update, Amadou Diallo, CEO of DHL Global Forwarding Middle East & Africa, shares insights into the dynamic landscape of logistics. From the impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on supply chains to sustainable practices in packaging and transportation, Diallo delves into key trends and DHL's pioneering role in driving innovation across the industry.

**Artificial Intelligence is at the forefront of technological developments. Could you give specific examples of how AI impacts logistics and supply chains?**

Research indicates that 51% of businesses harness AI primarily to bolster innovation and 47% use it to enhance customer experiences. However, only a quarter of these organizations recognize AI's potential to unlock new revenue streams. This suggests a substantial underestimation of AI's role as a driver for both top-line growth and market differentiation.

In the logistics sector, AI is revolutionizing logistics and supply chain management by enabling efficiency in critical business operations, leading to faster delivery times and reduced fuel costs.

In regions like the Middle East, the integration of AI into supply chain practices is setting the stage for a major overhaul of the logistics sector. By adopting AI-driven tools like predictive analytics and automated inventory management, companies are not only boosting operational efficiency but are also positioning themselves as competitive players on the global stage. This strategic adoption of AI marks a critical shift from traditional methods to a more agile and data-driven approach in logistics.

**The imminent future will be driven by digitalization and sustainability. What trends do you see in both that benefit the logistics industry?**

The logistics industry is rapidly evolving under the dual influences of digitalization and sustainability. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a major trend, already implemented by 36% of businesses to enhance supply chain operations, with projections suggesting a productivity increase of over 20% by 2035. In the Middle East, AI's impact is pronounced in e-commerce markets like the UAE and Saudi Arabia, driving advances in predictive analytics and automated warehousing. Alongside AI, supply chain diversification is gaining traction as companies strive to mitigate risks from global disruptions by developing more flexible and strategically located logistics networks. Sustainability is also a key focus, reflected in services like DHL's GoGreen Plus, which promotes the use of sustainable fuels and electric vehicles to reduce GHG-emissions in supply chains. The Internet of Things (IoT) is set to further revolutionize the industry with smart labels that enhance visibility and improve inventory management through real-time data transfer using technologies like QR codes and RFID.

Concurrently, as digital vulnerabilities increase, cybersecurity is becoming a priority, with the sector enhancing its defenses against threats such as phishing and ransomware to protect sensitive data and maintain operational integrity. These trends collectively herald a transformative period for logistics, emphasizing efficiency, security, and environmental responsibility.

As these technologies and strategies become more embedded in the logistics infrastructure, they promise to significantly reshape the industry landscape, especially in regions actively embracing digital and sustainable practices.



## As e-commerce grows globally, the need for sustainable packaging and transportation becomes central; tell us about trends in this direction and how DHL is leading in this realm.

As global e-commerce expands, the importance of sustainable packaging and transportation is increasingly becoming more evident. The logistics industry, grappling with the challenges of excessive packaging waste from materials like plastic shrink wrap, is pushed further by high return rates and specific demands from products such as meal kits that require extensive protective packaging.

In response to these challenges, the industry is shifting towards more sustainable solutions. Innovations in biodegradable materials are emerging, with companies adopting starch-based foams, tree pulp, and plastics derived from sugarcane. These are complemented by simpler, cost-effective strategies such as reusable packaging and incentives for consolidated deliveries, which significantly reduce waste.

DHL is leading this transformative shift by implementing advanced technologies to optimize packaging efficiency. We use algorithm-driven tools for precise box-sizing to maximize space utilization and minimize waste, as our research showed that 24% of package volume is empty space. It also accounts for up to 50% of otherwise unnecessary shipment space. Furthermore, DHL is transitioning from traditional paper labels to smart technologies like OLED and e-ink, enhancing package tracking and reducing the incidence of damaged goods returns.

In line with our company's purpose to connect people and improve lives, DHL has also launched the GoTrade initiative, fostering sustainable and inclusive trade. This initiative targets expanding globalization's reach and benefits. It is designed to increase the number and volume of SMEs trading across borders, including teaching them about the benefits of cross-border trade and assisting them with navigating the complexities of customs clearance.

In addition to these sustainability advances, our collaboration with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) exemplifies our commitment to leveraging our network for broader social and economic impact. This partnership launched the "Innovation for Food Systems



Transformation" global innovation challenge, aimed at supporting Agro-Tech and empowering small farmers and SMEs. This initiative serves as a beacon, seeking out trailblazing technology providers who have designed sustainable solutions within agribusiness supply chains and logistics, enabling participants to meet the demands of emerging markets, contribute to job creation, particularly in Africa, and reduce food waste in African markets.

DHL is also making substantial investments in sustainability beyond packaging. Over the next few years, DHL plans to invest 7 billion euros in measures to reduce its CO2e emissions. This includes expanding our electric vehicle fleet to cover 60% of last-mile deliveries and increasing the use of sustainable fuels across all transport modes to cover more than a third by 2030.

These efforts not only meet consumer demands for sustainability but also enhance operational efficiencies, significantly contributing to the development of a circular economy within the logistics sector.

## Tell us about the DHL Innovation Center Network, giving examples of innovations that have emerged from these Centers and how they have helped DHL in particular and the logistics sector in general.

The DHL Innovation Center Network was initially established as a platform to showcase DHL's logistics capabilities but has since evolved into a crucial hub for collaboration and idea exchange among industry experts, customers, and partners. These centers are instrumental in driving innovation within DHL and the broader logistics sector.

Our DHL Middle East and Africa (MEA) Innovation Center in Dubai, introduced in 2021, serves as a collaborative space where business leaders, logistics experts, academics, and startups develop innovative logistics solutions. The center showcases interactive exhibits on big data analytics and the Internet of Things (IoT), inspiring innovative approaches to logistics practices.

The DHL Innovation Center Network has been instrumental in fostering a culture of innovation across the logistics industry. A prime example of this is the DHL Fast Forward Challenge MEA. This flagship initiative serves as a testament to our dedication to finding and promoting groundbreaking solutions that tackle global sustainability issues. In its third edition this year, this event, historically held at the premises of the Innovation Center, will take place at the Museum of the Future in collaboration with the Dubai Future Foundation. The challenge provides a dynamic platform for thought leaders and innovators to collaborate and contribute to sustainable development efforts in the region. With each year, the challenge evolves, reflecting our enduring pursuit of excellence and sustainability in logistics.

Such initiatives from the DHL Innovation Centers have significantly contributed to advancing technological and operational efficiencies, not only for DHL but for the logistics industry at large, enhancing the way goods and information are managed and transported globally.

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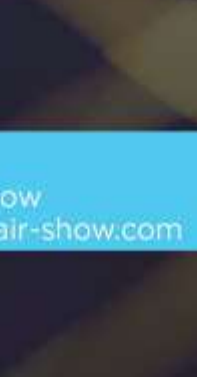
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# Why Pharma Giants Trust Emirates SkyPharma:

## A Look at their Cutting-Edge Solutions

By Mohammed Irshad



**T**he global healthcare scene is changing quickly, and drugs are becoming more and more important. The safe and effective air cargo transfer of complex treatments, vaccinations, and life-saving drugs is essential. However, these delicate products require stringent temperature control throughout their journey to maintain their potency. This presents a significant challenge for airlines, as ensuring consistent temperatures across diverse environments can be difficult.

Enter Emirates SkyPharma, a revolutionary force in the world of pharmaceutical air cargo. This trailblazing facility boasts the title of the world's first and largest multi-airport hub to achieve GDP certification by Bureau Veritas. This prestigious recognition signifies adherence to Good Distribution Practices, a strict set of guidelines guaranteeing the quality and integrity of pharmaceuticals during transport.

Established in 2016, Emirates SkyPharma emerged as a direct response to the burgeoning demand for reliable and secure pharmaceutical transportation solutions. According to Nabil Sultan, Former Divisional Senior Vice President for Emirates SkyCargo, the story of Emirates SkyPharma is one of innovation and meticulous planning. In an interview with **Air Cargo Update**, Nabil



described the challenges Emirates faced just six or seven years ago when they first ventured into the pharmaceutical air cargo market.

#### Understanding the Challenge

Back then, major pharmaceutical companies were hesitant to trust Emirates with their delicate products. The primary concern? The scorching summer temperatures in the GCC region, reaching nearly 50 degrees Celsius, seemed entirely unsuitable for temperature-sensitive pharmaceuticals.

Nabil and his team recognized the need for a complete paradigm shift. They went "back to the drawing board," as he says, to understand every aspect of the pharmaceutical supply chain. This involved analyzing operational challenges, designing dedicated infrastructure, and establishing robust processes and training programs.

#### Building a First-Class Facility

The answer came in the form of Emirates SkyPharma, a purpose-built facility spanning a massive 30,000 square meters across Dubai International (DXB) and Dubai World Central (DWC). This state-of-the-art complex boasts meticulously designed temperature-controlled zones catering to a wide range of pharmaceutical needs. Nabil highlights the existence of zones ranging from negative temperatures to controlled ambient temperatures (plus 8 and plus 25 degrees Celsius), ensuring optimal conditions for every product.

But the commitment to quality goes beyond temperature control. Special cool dollies ensure uninterrupted temperature control during offloading from aircraft. Similarly, Emirates SkyPharma has invested in advanced in-flight temperature control technology to maintain consistent conditions throughout the journey.

#### A Hospital-Like Environment

Nabil describes the awe of pharmaceutical representatives who visited the Emirates SkyPharma facility. "They were shocked with the process that we have laid out," he says, "with the facility and the infrastructure that we have built." The meticulous attention to detail extends to hygiene protocols and a spotless environment, resembling a hospital more than a traditional cargo facility. This dedication to cleanliness minimizes contamination risks, a crucial factor for pharmaceutical products.

The focus on maintaining the pristine environment extends to regular inspections

by pharmaceutical companies. Nabil emphasizes that these inspections consistently yield positive results, showcasing the ongoing commitment to quality.

#### Building a Dedicated Workforce

The success of Emirates SkyPharma hinges not just on infrastructure but also on a highly trained workforce. Nabil emphasizes the importance of a dedicated team trained specifically for handling pharmaceuticals. This specialized training goes beyond standard cargo procedures, encompassing hygiene protocols and proper handling techniques to ensure product integrity.

**Emirates SkyPharma adheres to the highest international standards. Both DXB and DWC facilities boast GDP compliance certification, an internationally recognized benchmark for the proper handling of pharmaceuticals during transportation. This certification, awarded by the Ministry of Health, further underscores the facility's commitment to global best practices.**

The significance of this certification was highlighted during the COVID-19 pandemic. Emirates SkyPharma played a vital role in the global vaccine distribution effort. Nabil points out that the facility was specifically certified to handle the ultra-low temperature requirements of vaccines like Pfizer, which necessitate storage at around -75 degrees Celsius.

#### Beyond Infrastructure: The Challenge of Distribution



The journey doesn't end at the facility doors. Emirates SkyPharma understands the complexities of global distribution, particularly in regions with limited infrastructure. Nabil describes the meticulous planning required to ensure sufficient vaccine quantities reach even the most remote locations in Africa, ensuring timely consumption and replenishment.

This focus on comprehensive logistics solutions extends to real-time shipment tracking. Emirates SkyPharma offers customers complete visibility into their shipments, eliminating the "black box" effect and fostering trust with pharmaceutical companies.

#### A Story of Innovation and Reliability

In conclusion, Nabil paints a compelling picture of Emirates SkyPharma's journey. From overcoming initial skepticism to becoming a global leader in pharmaceutical air cargo, the story is one of relentless efforts, meticulous planning, and innovation. Emirates SkyPharma has not only built a world-class facility but also established itself as a reliable partner for pharmaceutical companies worldwide. Their dedication to quality and focus on customer needs have positioned them at the forefront of this critical and ever-evolving industry.



# How Lufthansa Cargo

## navigates today's complex aviation industry challenges

By Ayesha Rashid



Europe's air cargo industry was valued at USD 42.2 billion in 2022, down 11.8% year-on-year, according to Statista. The downward trend is expected to ease this year through 2027 but cargo airlines face a complex web of challenges.

**C**hallenges abound in the aviation industry, especially for European airlines. From rising fuel costs to intense competition and changing passenger and consumer demands, navigating these obstacles is no easy feat.

As the aviation industry continues to evolve and adapt to various global issues, European carriers, cargo or passenger, are encountering a series of intricate dilemmas that require immediate attention and innovative solutions to ensure their long-term sustainability and success in an ever-changing market.

One of Lufthansa Cargo's officials who asked not to be named shares the complex web of challenges that European airlines face today, and discusses how the company strategizes and innovates to stay ahead in an ever-evolving industry.

### Market Size and Growth Trends

The Europe Aviation Market size is estimated to reach USD 67.81 billion in 2024, and is expected to grow to USD 78.53 billion by 2029, growing at a CAGR of 2.98% during the forecast period (2024-2029), according to Mordor Intelligence™ Industry Reports.

In Europe, some airlines' financial performance has been curtailed by the war in Ukraine. The market value of the air cargo industry in Europe amounted to USD 42.2 billion in 2022, a year-on-year decrease of around 11.8%. After three years of a downward trend, the European air freight market is expected to recover and reach approximately 42.9 billion U.S. dollars by 2027, according to Statista.

The Lufthansa Cargo spokesperson said, "As the world's third largest air cargo market, the European freight aviation sector plays a vital role in supporting key industries in Europe. The sector is of significant economic importance in contributing to trade flows with economies abroad.

"Cargo airlines facilitate the movement of high-value goods such as electronics, pharmaceuticals, perishables, and automotive parts. Although the sector faces challenges from fluctuating demand, slower economic growth in key exporting countries and increased capacity impacting rates, it is expected to experience growth through 2024".

### Global Trade Connectivity

Lufthansa Cargo offers its customers 83 weekly connections with currently 17 Boeing 777 freighters

to intercontinental destinations in this year's winter flight schedule and markets the belly capacities of more than 6,000 flights operated by Lufthansa, Austrian Airlines, Brussels Airlines, Discover Airlines and SunExpress.

According to the Lufthansa Cargo spokesperson, the fleet is expected to grow to 18 freighters this year.

In recent years, the industry has witnessed a rapid increase in online-shopping, largely driven by the global expansion of e-commerce platforms and the remarkable rise of direct-to-consumer e-commerce companies.

### e-Commerce growth

**"The Asia-Europe trade lanes remain very important for Lufthansa Cargo. This is reflected in the increase of our services between Europe and our Asian destinations to up to 42 times a week. But the importance of e-commerce is not only growing in the Asian market, as we are currently expanding our RFS services in Europe.**

**"Together with our subsidiary 'heyworld', focussing on the e-commerce business, we are keen to support our customers with individual solutions to enable their participation in this growing business branch. Moreover, the positive feedback in the Asian market for our new 'td.zoom' product proofs that we are on the right track. In general, Lufthansa Cargo is constantly monitoring the industry and market to detect expansion potential early on."**

**To Lufthansa Cargo, sustainability remains an important topic.**

**"We extended our cooperations with various partners using Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) on our flights, jointly pushing the research and availability on SAF in our industry."**



### Challenges and Opportunities

For a comprehensive understanding of the challenges faced by European cargo carriers, reviewing past successes and setbacks is essential.

The cargo industry has witnessed periods of rapid growth, driven by economic expansion and increased global trade.

However, this success has been accompanied by challenges such as fluctuating fuel prices, regulatory changes, and intense competition.

"The airfreight business remains a volatile business with challenges such as dynamic market development, geopolitical events, unforeseen crises or new political regulations. Additionally, sustainability, digitization and talent acquisition will remain important topics in the coming year.

"We tackle this range of topics aiming at resilient and flexible supply chains for our customers. With a continually growing e-commerce business, the speed of transporting goods worldwide gains additional importance. Therefore, we introduced our new product, td.zoom, at the end of last year, offering our customers even more speed and flexibility for their shipments."

The fluctuation in fuel prices directly impacts the profitability of flights, leading to difficult decisions regarding route planning, fuel purchase timing, and overall fleet management.

### Technology and Innovation

According to Lufthansa Cargo's spokesperson, their biggest savings potential is in the air. That's why their CO2 reduction activities are divided into four areas: Fleet Modernization, Fuel Efficiency, Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF) and Offsetting.

#### AeroSHARK

- Special coating reduces aircraft frictional resistance by 1%.
- Mimics shark skin's microscopic structure, reducing aerodynamic drag.
- Applied to Lufthansa Cargo's entire fleet of 777 freighters.
- Expected fuel savings of 1% per freighter, totaling 4,000 metric tons of kerosene and almost 13,000 metric tons of CO2 emissions annually.
- Four freighters already equipped; all 777 Freighters to be coated by 2027.

#### Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF)

- Lufthansa Cargo pioneers use of SAF, reducing CO2 emissions by up to 80%



compared to fossil fuels.

- SAF consumption increased from 1% in 2021 to 2.1% in 2022.
- Remaining emissions offset by contributions to climate protection projects.
- Key to CO<sub>2</sub>-neutral air traffic, can be integrated into regular flight operations.

### td.Zoom

- Introduced in November 2023, transforms transportation efficiency.
- Enables instant booking confirmations and fastest access to capacity.
- Specialized handling at key hubs ensures fast and accurate processing.
- Premium 24/7 customer service enhances reliability and response time.
- Commitment to minimum transit times, ability to handle various cargo types.

### OneRecord

- Investment in OneRecord data standard to improve information flow in air cargo industry.
- Promoting IATA OneRecord standard integration with major players.
- Planned solution for tracking shipments based on OneRecord.
- Focus on implementing basic capability to process shipment data via OneRecord.
- Future enhancements to tracking with additional time stamps and single piece information.
- Regulatory Environment
- The importance of stable supply chains cannot be overstated, as they are essential to maintaining global trade and economic activity.

Air freight enables the rapid movement of products over long distances, which is especially important for time and temperature-sensitive goods such as pharmaceuticals, medical equipment and fresh food.

"Policy regulations and decisions present both opportunities and challenges. In general, we support regulations for the airline industry, such as those that are part of the Green Deal. However, competitive neutrality is crucial for us as a level playing field. In some cases, however, regulation leads to competitive distortion, as can be seen with the SAF mandate connections via European hubs are increasing in cost compared to connections through points outside of the EU.

"We focus on an ongoing dialogue with authorities and policy makers. These discussions are essential for us to understand and address the challenges and opportunities that exist. For example, SAF is not available in large quantities yet, and

requires a fast scale-up of production: If we were to buy up all SAF in the world, it would still only last Lufthansa Group two weeks. Air freight is still the fastest mode of transport and is particularly important for time- critical and temperature-sensitive goods".

### 'Phygital' Future of Air Cargo

Lufthansa Cargo began digitizing its structures and processes at an early stage and will continue to digitize shipment information and speed up data exchange throughout the supply chain.

For example, Lufthansa Cargo is transforming previously analogue, complex processes into digital, efficient workflows.

Great potential lies in the "phygital" future, which combines a digital core with human expertise: real-time, connected and data driven.

In addition, Lufthansa Cargo is investing around 500 million euros in the construction and modernization of Cargo City North as part of the LCCevolution project.

"With a state-of-the art Cargo Center, we will be able to adapt quickly to any coming regulations or processes which need to be adjusted. To facilitate global business and offer our customers the best possible options and solutions, we are constantly reviewing our activities and operations. This includes increasing our capacities with the introduction of our fourth A321F freighter end of last year as well as the expansion of our B777F fleet. With the start of our winter schedules in autumn 2023, we have added new destinations and expanded our network. In 2024, we will continue to create capacity where it's needed and respond quickly to new customer demands."

### Path to Carbon Neutrality

Lufthansa Cargo's sustainability strategy includes ambitious CO<sub>2</sub> reduction targets: Efforts such as ISO-certified environmental management, and operational and technical measures, such as the adaption of innovative technologies like AeroShark, underscore the shift toward improving the entire supply chain.

Essential to these advances is collaboration across the supply chain, including with airframe manufacturers, to develop innovative propulsion systems and aircraft designs that ensure a sustainable future for the industry while meeting the challenges of



regulatory compliance.

"Our goal is to be a role model as a sustainable air cargo provider. In concrete terms, this means that we aim to cut our net CO2 emissions in half by 2030 (compared to 2019) and that we aim to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. Furthermore, we have validated SBTi targets for which the Lufthansa Group reduces its specific CO2 emissions by 30.6% until 2030 based on 2019," the company spokesperson emphasized.

**"In our pursuit to lead the air cargo industry towards sustainability, our focus is clear: fleet modernization, fuel efficiency, Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF), ground processes, and contributing to high-quality carbon offset projects. We've achieved significant milestones, including the complete transition of our long-haul fleet to the Boeing 777F, renowned for its exceptional environmental performance. Currently at 18 B777s, our fleet is set to expand further by 2024."**

A standout example to Lufthansa Cargo's commitment to fuel efficiency is AeroSHARK, a cutting-edge coating that reduces aircraft frictional drag by 1%. Developed jointly by Lufthansa Technik and BASF, it's slated for application across our entire 777 fleet, promising substantial fuel and emissions savings.

"With four freighters already equipped, our aim is to have all 777 Freighters AeroSHARK-coated by 2027, reinforcing our dedication to sustainability and integration into our global network of services.

"Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we swiftly adapted to market shifts, emerging as a pivotal player in transporting critical supplies such as masks

and vaccines. Despite facing unprecedented challenges, we restructured processes and utilized passenger aircraft for cargo flights, ensuring continuity in vital supply chains. This agility and commitment to stability amid crisis underscore our resilience and dedication to meeting global needs."

### Progress and Future Directions

Lufthansa Cargo expects a rise in demand for fast and dependable transportation options, which they can offer to their customers.

"To meet our customer's needs, we rely on efficient, sustainable and digital solutions such as td.Zoom, the fastest choice with top priority and shortest transit times for our most urgent cargo."

"Especially e-commerce is a growth market and plays a major role in our business and for our customers. Therefore, collaboration is key, and we have been working closely with all major logistics providers and partners such as our subsidiaries heyworld and CB Customs Broker to driving forward the expansion of the e-commerce business worldwide.

"To facilitate global business and offer our customers the best possible options and solutions, we are constantly reviewing our activities and operations. This includes increasing our capacities with the introduction of our fourth A321F freighter end of last year as well as the expansion of our B777F fleet. With the start of our winter schedules in autumn 2023, we have added new destinations and expanded our network. In 2024, we will continue to create capacity where it's needed and respond quickly to new customer demands," concludes the spokesperson.



Thomas Nickels (left), Senior Vice President Engineering at MAN, and Floris van de Klashorst, Senior Vice President Products & Hardware Platforms at ABB E-mobility, at the signing of the cooperation agreement on the MAN test track in Munich.

# Megawatt charging and more: MAN and ABB E-mobility announce R&D cooperation

By Gemma Q. Casas

**M**AN Truck & Bus, one of Europe's leading commercial vehicle manufacturers and providers of transport solutions with an annual turnover of about EUR 11 billion annually, and ABB E-mobility, the global leader in electric vehicle charging solutions, signed an exclusive cooperation agreement in January. Their strategic partnership aims to work even more closely together, particularly in the area of development.

Thomas Nickels, Senior Vice President Engineering at MAN, sees the cooperation as a specialty in the market.

"Cooperation in the area of research and development is rather rare in our industry. Together with ABB E-mobility, we are striving for a trusting, binding and transparent partnership. We are already starting with the development of products and



standards and are focussing on the special requirements of the commercial vehicle industry," Nickels said.

The importance of cross-industry cooperation for the entire sector is particularly evident for megawatt charging system (MCS), Nickels continued: "At MCS, we are working with players from the entire sector to enable charging capacities in the megawatt range in the future and thus sustainable and economical long-distance heavy goods and passenger transport. By cooperating with ABB E-mobility, we can tackle the challenges of the new technology at an early stage and drive standardisation forward more quickly."

These challenges include the ISO15118-20 communication standard and new ways of transmitting signals. The basis for megawatt charging is Ethernet communication, which is being used for the first time in electromobility. Early software and interoperability tests with vehicles and charging stations should help to establish reliable products as quickly as possible in an emerging market environment.

This is why the cooperation, which is initially scheduled to run for three years, is focussing on the customer experience right from the start, in addition to the internal development and further development of charging stations, vehicles and software.

"High charging performance, reliable technology and customer confidence - these are the prerequisites for the success of electromobility in heavy goods and long-distance passenger transport. By working together with MAN right from the early product phase, we can respond even better to the needs of our customers. By 2025, we want to bring a product to the market that meets the requirements of logistics," said Floris van de Klashorst, Senior Vice President Products & Hardware Platforms at ABB E-mobility.

"The market needs an ecosystem that interlocks and works reliably. That's why we want to jointly develop a concept for the interaction of MCS and CCS that addresses issues such as space, energy supply and grid expansion. MAN's extensive expertise helps us to develop customer-oriented solutions - both for use in the depot and on the track," says van de Klashorst, giving an outlook on future projects.

The cooperation is not just limited to logistics: "MCS will also be used in the future in the travel sector, for example for motorhomes and coaches. This will bring additional challenges and a change in user behaviour," continued the Head of Development. SOURCE: [www.mantruckandbus.com](http://www.mantruckandbus.com)



# MAN rolls out battery repair centers in Europe



**In 2024 and 2025, MAN Truck & Bus will establish battery repair centres in Italy, Denmark/Norway, Austria, Belgium, Netherlands, France, Poland and UK, with further countries in Europe being planned.**

Millions will be invested in these centers over the next two years. Two battery repair centers are already in operation in Germany (Hanover-Laatzten site) and Spain (Barcelona). The roll-out of the battery repair hubs in Europe is necessary because the first units of the new MAN eTruck generation will be delivered to customers in 2024.

Over 1,000 battery-electric MAN city buses and more than 2,400 all-electric MAN vans are already on Europe's roads. With the ramp-up of MAN eTruck production, the electric vehicle population will continue to increase significantly in the coming years. The Munich-based commercial vehicle manufacturer is preparing intensively for this within its service organisation.

"Battery repair is a necessity for MAN to ensure the economic efficiency and operational readiness of our customers' electric vehicles at a high level. We also make a major contribution to the closed-loop approach of traction batteries, as this extends the battery life in the vehicle, which conserves important resources," said Christopher Kunstmann, Senior Vice President of Customer Service Management at MAN Truck & Bus.

The first battery repair centre and the associated build-up of expertise in the repair of batteries dates back to 2020. The first pilot repairs and process documentation were carried out for the battery of the MAN eTGE electric van, which was launched on the market in 2018.

This was followed by the battery packs of the MAN eTGM distribution truck,

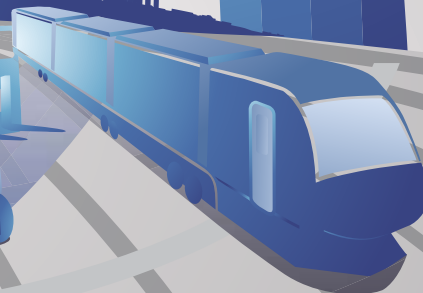
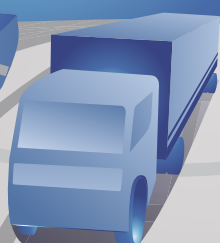
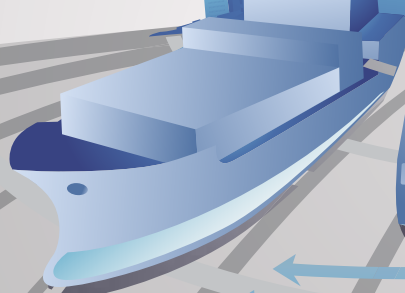
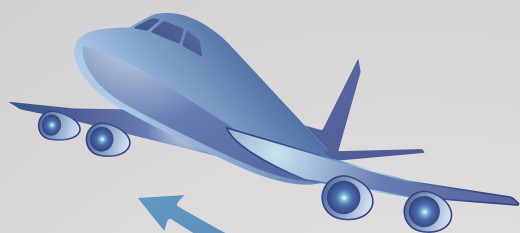
which was launched in a small series in 2020, and the start of series production of the MAN Lion's City E electric city bus—also in 2020. Repair steps were trialled for all of these different batteries, employees were trained, repair instructions were created and workplace requirements were defined.

This knowledge, which was built up in the first MAN battery repair centre in Hanover-Laatzten, is now being successively transferred to the other markets. The aim is to operate a battery repair hub in every market in which MAN is represented with battery-electric commercial vehicles. Short transport routes and highly trained technicians on site will ensure that the battery can be repaired quickly. This minimises vehicle downtime.

At MAN, a battery repair center has to meet certain criteria based on practical experience and legal standards in the respective countries. On the one hand, the appropriate high-voltage and special tools are required for handling the respective battery types of the vehicles. In addition, special protective equipment must be available for the electricians working there. The premises also fulfil certain requirements, e.g. access control, double doors, air conditioning, ventilation concept, 400 V socket and load crane.



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## flynas Announces Extensive Expansion Plans for UAE Operations

**Dubai:** Saudi budget carrier flynas revealed extensive expansion plans for the UAE during the Arabian Travel Market (ATM) 2024. Starting September 2024, flynas will incorporate Abu Dhabi, Sharjah, and Al Maktoum Airport (DWC) into its network, operating from its main bases in Riyadh, Jeddah, Dammam, and Madinah.

This expansion boosts the Saudi Arabia-UAE routes to nine, with flight frequencies surpassing 20 daily flights. Bander Almohanna, Managing Director and CEO of flynas, remarked, "We've doubled our fleet in under two years to accommodate the burgeoning low-cost travel market, aligning with our expansion strategy and Saudi Arabia's National Civil Aviation Strategy."

The national strategy aims to link Saudi-based carriers with 250 global destinations, serving 330 million passengers and hosting 100 million tourists annually by 2030. With the latest expansion, flynas will operate



flights to the UAE from its four bases in the Kingdom. Presently, the airline serves Dubai International Airport from Riyadh, Jeddah, Dammam, and Madinah.

The carrier will introduce flights to Al Maktoum International Airport (RUH) in Riyadh, to Sheikh Zayed International Airport in Abu Dhabi from King Abdulaziz International Airport in Jeddah (JED) and Prince Mohammad bin Abdulaziz International Airport (MED) in Madinah, and to Sharjah International Airport from both Jeddah and Madinah.

flynas currently connects over 70 domestic and international destinations with more than 1,500 weekly flights, having flown over 78 million passengers since its inception in 2007. Its ambition is to reach 165 domestic and international destinations.

Last month, the carrier announced plans to acquire 30 widebody aircraft to bolster its network and compete more effectively with regional rivals.

## Oman Air Cargo Partners with RTS to Automate Operations

**Muscat, Oman:** Oman Air Cargo has entered into a strategic agreement with Revenue Technology Services (RTS) to implement a comprehensive suite of digital solutions. These solutions aim to automate essential revenue and pricing processes within the airline's cargo operations.

The collaboration is geared towards enhancing efficiency, enabling more informed pricing decisions, optimizing belly cargo capacity utilization, and ultimately elevating customer experiences.

Ahmed Al Amry, Chief Transformation Officer at Oman Air, emphasizes "Our partnership with RTS represents a strategic investment in the future of our Cargo business. As air cargo continues to play an increasingly important role in airline revenue, it's essential for us to leverage cutting-edge technologies to optimise operations, drive profitability and secure our long-term sustainability."

Raja Kasilingam, President of RTS, echoes this sentiment, highlighting the joint commitment of both companies to challenging industry norms. They aim to drive significant advancements in air cargo



handling, reflecting the evolving needs of the industry and the demands of customers.

Oman Air's agreement with RTS represents an important part of the airline's wider transformation journey, demonstrating its willingness to embrace change and innovation for the benefit of its passengers and cargo customers.

Over the course of four years, the transformation will focus on four key pillars - financial sustainability, commercial optimisation, human capital development, and enhanced corporate governance.

These pillars are aimed at securing financial stability and fostering long-term success and growth for Oman Air Cargo. Through strategic partnerships and innovative solutions, the airline seeks to maintain its position as a leader in the air cargo industry, delivering excellence in service and operations.

## Challenge Technic unveils dedicated A-CHECK line in Hannover

**Malta:** Challenge Group has launched Challenge Technic's dedicated A-CHECK line at its new hangar facility in Hannover, Germany.

Challenge Technic is the Group's subsidiary dedicated in providing flexible technical support services to airlines around the world, including MRO and AOG.

A-CHECK line, according to Challenge Technic's website, provides detailed inspection and maintenance of filters, critical systems, and emergency equipment, carried out every 8 to 10 weeks.

The facility is designed to accommodate a variety of aircraft, including the larger B747, and will centralize all heavy maintenance works for both Challenge Group fleet and third-party clients. Challenge Technic said the introduction of this line is a testament to its commitment to best-in-class service, offering time-efficient maintenance that ensures a swift return to service, regardless of aircraft size or weather conditions.

"This new facility not only meets the growing demand for our services but also marks a significant milestone in Challenge Technic's strategy for 2024 and beyond," said



Petur Ulfarsson, CEO of Challenge Technic. "Reliable maintenance and strategic expansion are at the heart of our operations, ensuring we meet our clients' needs effectively and efficiently."

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His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai with Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, First Deputy Ruler of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance of the UAE and President of DIFC and other government officials at the opening day of Arabian Travel Market 2024. ATM Photo

## Arabian Travel Market returns with largest number of exhibitors from 165 countries

Experts outline a promising future for the GCC hospitality sector. The UAE market is forecasts to exceed US\$7 billion by 2026



## Dubai, UAE: The Middle East's leading global travel and tourism event kicked off on 06 May welcoming 2,300 exhibitors from 165 countries, its largest to date, and some 41,000 attendees expected to visit through 09 May.

Policymakers, industry leaders, and travel professionals will gather at the event to explore the theme 'Empowering Innovation: Transforming Travel Through Entrepreneurship'. The four-day conference agenda of ATM 2024 through 9 May will feature 200 speakers across more than 50 sessions at the DWTC

"The massive interest generated amongst ATM 2024 attendees reaffirms Dubai's standing as a major destination for tourism and travel in the region, highlighting its role in shaping the future of the industry by bringing together leaders of allied sectors from around the world," said His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of Dubai Civil Aviation Authority (DCAA), Chairman of Dubai Airports, and Chairman and Chief Executive of Emirates Airline and Group, who inaugurated the Arabian Travel Market (ATM) 2024.

Recent data from global research companies indicates a bright future for the GCC hospitality industry, with insights from Deloitte and STR demonstrating sustained growth as tourism continues to be a key priority for regional governments.

According to Deloitte, Dubai is leading the regional hospitality markets with a strong outlook for 2024. The city now offers more hotel rooms than major capitals such as London, New York City and Bangkok, and as of this month, Dubai has a hotel room capacity of over 150,000.

Data from the Dubai Department of Economy and Tourism (DET) shows that the city welcomed 17.15 million overnight visitors during 2023, with the average length of stay also increasing. According to Deloitte, occupancy peaked at 88% in February.

Elsewhere in the region, STR figures show that Riyadh is leading the way in terms of hotel supply growth, offering an additional 28,465 rooms, a 134% increase. Meanwhile, Doha has doubled its hotel inventory over the past decade, with a current supply of 39,968 rooms.

"As the hospitality landscape in the GCC region continues



to evolve, the data paints a compelling picture of growth and opportunity. ATM 2024 will feature a wide range of hospitality brands from around the world, and we are pleased to report that there has been a 21% increase in exhibition space dedicated to hotel brands this year, demonstrating strong interest and demand," said Danielle Curtis, Exhibition Director ME, Arabian Travel Market.

"IHG Resorts is the official hotel partner for ATM 2024, and this year's edition is set to welcome back some of the most respected brands in the hospitality industry, including Four Seasons Hotels, Rosewood Hotels and Resorts, and the Shangri-La Group. It's worth noting that the number of hospitality brands showcased at

ATM has increased by 12% with a good selection of well-known international and regional brands. With so many world-class brands in attendance across all categories of luxury, upper-midscale and midscale, ATM 2024 promises an enriching experience for all attending," Curtis added.

Several new European hotel brands, including Ethno Belek in Turkey and Buff Medical Resort in Germany, will exhibit at ATM for the first time. European Voyages, which specializes in tours, transfers, and private jets, will also mark its debut appearance.

There has been a notable surge in exhibitor participation from Italy and Turkey, reflecting a growing interest from these regions in reaching the lucrative Middle East tourism market.

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## Aviation INDIA Summit points out 'Pilot training is one of the key pillars to build if India is to achieve its aviation growth ambitions'



**New Delhi, India:** The inaugural Aviation INDIA Summit & Exhibition scheduled for June 12-13 at JW Marriott Hotel in New Delhi Aerocity will bring a team of leaders from the industry to discuss "How the Indian pilot training infrastructure is adjusting to support the growth of airlines."

The training segment is being offered in conjunction with AFM Aero. Headquartered in Dubai, AFM has quickly grown to become a leading global knowledge (news, research and advisory) platform for the pilot training industry.

Over 200,000 platform visits on an annual basis and a Weekly Pilot Training Industry Updates Newsletter distributed to over 16,000 industry stakeholders displays the impact AFM has on the global aviation and pilot training industry.

The company's managing director Maximilian Buerger will be leading the training discussions at the Summit.

"Indian airlines have placed orders for more than 1,600 new aircraft during the past 15 months," Buerger said. "The accelerating fleet growth of airlines has resulted in



Maximilian  
Buerger

huge demand for new pilots with the Indian DGCA issuing a decade high number of commercial pilot licenses (over 1,600) and type ratings (over 4,000) in 2023. To satisfy the increasing demand for pilots the global pilot training infrastructure has turned its attention to India and more importantly the Indian pilot training ecosystem has announced significant investment into the countries pilot training infrastructure.

"At the moment the 1.4 billion people country only has around 36 flight training organizations which combined operate a training aircraft fleet smaller than a few individual pilot training organizations in the United States. Similarly, the domestic full flight simulator training infrastructure is playing catch up with hundreds of Indian pilots doing their advanced pilot training outside of the country on an annual basis," he said. Of course, it is more than pilot shortage that drives concern.

"The aviation skill in India has a gap which is widening and unless a "Training in India" drive is effected immediately for all verticals of aviation industry it would be a lost opportunity and maybe a disruption due to the shortage of engineers, pilots, technicians, airport and ground staff, etc.," said Ashwani Acharya, from CAE Simulation Training Private Ltd (CSTPL), currently India's largest ATO providing pilot training across 15 FFS at three locations in Greater Noida, Gurgaon and BLR.

Another speaker on the panel is YN "Bobby" Sharma, the CEO of Chimes Aviation Academy.

"We believe that India has to create the infrastructure required to create the pilots' Indian airlines need, and we are on a mission to build teams and facilities that meet and even surpass the expectations of airlines in India and around the world. The demand for pilots will only increase in the coming years and the supply must advance with an even greater pace considering the pre-existing gap between the demand and supply for pilots in India. I firmly believe that there is enough space for everyone in the Indian flying training space to grow without stepping on each



Bobby Sharma



Ryan van Wijk

other's toes, as the gap in supply is huge and seems to be set to widen even further with the massive orders placed by major carriers in India," Sharma said.

There is already mounting interest from overseas to attract prospective pilots from India for training. Alt Academy in South Africa is one of these, already training a large number of pilots from the sub-continent. Its CEO, Ryan Van Wijk, will be flying in to join in the debate.

Moderator Buerger is convinced the Summit segment will be a must-watch for India's training industry and the airlines concerned with recruiting the future workforce.

"Join this panel discussion to hear from chief executive officers of the largest pilot training organizations in India on how they view the demand for pilots, the development of the domestic pilot training infrastructure and the opportunities, challenges and risks they see," Buerger said.

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# Dubai poised to become world's largest airport passenger hub

By Gemma Q. Casas

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates: Dubai is poised to become the hub of the world's largest airport terminal capable of handling 260 million passengers annually with the government announcing a AED128 billion (about USD 35 billion) design plan for the emirate's new aviation gateway at the Al Maktoum International Airport.**

Dubai International Airport (DXB), currently the world's busiest airport for international travel, will be moved to the sprawling Al Maktoum International Airport once the project is completed within the next 10 years.

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, announced the ambitious aviation milestone for Dubai on 28 April 2024.

"Today, we approved the designs for the new passenger terminals at

Al Maktoum International Airport, and commencing construction of the building at a cost of AED 128 billion as part of Dubai Aviation Corporation's strategy. Al Maktoum International Airport will enjoy the world's largest capacity, reaching up to 260 million passengers. It will be five times the size of the current Dubai International Airport, and all operations at Dubai International Airport will be transferred to it in the coming years. The airport will accommodate 400 aircraft gates and feature five parallel runways. New aviation technologies will be employed for the first time in the aviation sector," the Dubai ruler said on X (formerly twitter).

Sheikh Mohammed discussed the plan when he visited the Dubai Aviation Engineering Projects, accompanied by H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of Dubai Executive Council, and H.H. Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, First Deputy Ruler of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.

H.H. Sheikh Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Second Deputy Ruler of Dubai; H.H. Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Chairman of Dubai Aviation City Corporation, Chairman of Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, and Chairman and Chief Executive of Emirates Airline and Group; and Mohammad bin Abdullah Al Gergawi, Minister of Cabinet Affairs, and Chairman of the Dubai Executive Office, were also present during the announcement.

"As we build an entire city around the airport in Dubai South, demand for housing for a million people will follow. It will host the world's leading companies in the logistics and air transport sectors," Sheikh Mohammed noted. "We are building a new project for future generations, ensuring continuous and stable development for our children and their children in turn. Dubai will be the world's airport, its port, its urban hub, and its new global center."

Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed said the new airport is designed to meet Dubai's growing aviation needs for the next 40 years,



**His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, left, with H.H. Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Chairman of Dubai Aviation City Corporation, Chairman of Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, and Chairman and Chief Executive of Emirates Airline and Group.**  
WAM Photo



saying, "It will respond to the Hub Airline ambitious plans in terms of fleet acquisition and passenger growth. The airport will provide cutting-edge technologies, passenger facilities with unmatched level of service, and state-of-the-art aviation support facilities."

"Al Maktoum International (AMI) is planned in such a way as to represent a leap into the future. It will comprise of five parallel runways with a quadruple independent operation, west and east processing terminals, four satellite concourses with over 400 aircraft contact stands, uninterrupted automated people mover system for passengers, and an integrated landside transport hub for roads, Metro, and city air transport," he added.

Paul Griffiths, CEO of Dubai Airports, said Dubai's growth has always gone hand-in-hand with the growth of its aviation infrastructure, and today, one sees another bold step in that journey.

"The announcement of phase two of Dubai World Central - Al Maktoum International Airport's (DWC) expansion, representing a substantial investment of AED128 billion, marks the start of a huge investment of resources by our many stakeholders in designing and building a state-of-the-art airport that will provide a quick, convenient, and high-quality 21st-century experience for our customers. This further solidifies Dubai's position as a leading aviation hub on the world stage," Griffiths commented.

He said DXB will continue to serve as the primary hub, in the meantime, while the new airport project is being constructed, meeting the needs of 100 million plus guests over the next few years as phase two of DWC takes shape.



*As we build an entire city around the airport in Dubai South, demand for housing for a million people will follow. It will host the world's leading companies in the logistics and air transport sectors," Sheikh Mohammed noted. "We are building a new project for future generations, ensuring continuous and stable development for our children and their children in turn. Dubai will be the world's airport, its port, its urban hub, and its new global center."*



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# Turkish Airlines, Airbus and Rolls-Royce vow to strengthen partnership

National carrier and aerospace companies in Türkiye to further develop the Turkish aerospace industry

**Istanbul, Türkiye:** Celebrating the historic order for 150 A321neo and 80 A350 family aircraft placed in December 2023, Türkiye's flag carrier Turkish Airlines, Airbus and Rolls-Royce came together at Turkish Airlines' headquarters in Istanbul.

Present were the Turkish Minister of Trade Prof. Ömer Bolat, Minister of Industry and Technology Mehmet Fatih Kacir, Minister of Transport and Infrastructure Abdulkadir Uraloğlu, and Deputy Minister of National Defence Bilal Durdalı, representatives of top Turkish aerospace companies as well as the British Consul General, and undersecretaries of France and Spain.

The celebration also marked the unveiling of the Strategic Türkiye Enhanced Programme (STEP), which was created by Airbus, Turkish Airlines and aerospace companies in Türkiye to further develop the Turkish aerospace industry in line with Turkish Airlines' long-term strategic growth plan and create exponential economic value over the next 15 years.

The recent aircraft order positions Turkish Airlines as the world's largest operator of Rolls-Royce's Trent XWB engine. In line with the partnership with Rolls-Royce, the manufacturer is exploring the implementation of several industrial initiatives in Türkiye, including the potential establishment of a competitive Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) capability and further supply chain sourcing.

Commenting on the STEP and



the partnership with Rolls-Royce, Turkish Airlines Chairman of the Board and the Executive Committee, Prof. Ahmet Bolat, stated: "We are glad about the launch of the Strategic Türkiye Enhanced Programme with Airbus, which is a testament to our deepening collaboration with the aircraft manufacturer. Given the rapid advancements in technology, today marks the commencement of our efforts to help cultivate Turkish aviation companies into prospective suppliers, aligning closely with Airbus' strategic objectives and their newly identified business domains."



"We are also delighted to further strengthen our relationship with Rolls-Royce. By joining forces with the manufacturing giants, we underscore our commitment to both excellence and the further development of Türkiye's aerospace capabilities. With the significant cooperation between three valuable companies, Turkish Airlines will continue to leverage advanced technologies and collaborative strategies to enhance our operational efficiencies and contribute to continuing our sustainable growth, while reinforcing our leading role on the global aviation stage."



Guillaume Faury, Airbus CEO, thanked the Turkish Airlines for its trust, saying, "We are honoured to both support their growth as one of the world's elite airlines and develop our partnership with Türkiye through the new STEP programme we are unveiling today. The programme will provide the framework for Airbus to further broaden its collaboration with Türkiye and support Turkish Airlines' growth ambitions, with a particular focus on supply chain development, skills and sustainability."

Tufan Erginbilgic, Rolls-Royce CEO, commented: "Türkiye is a strategically important market for Rolls-Royce across our business. We are very pleased with the confidence that Turkish Airlines has placed in our Trent XWB engines. We now look forward to working with Turkish Airlines and our partners to use our extensive aerospace engineering experience to benefit the Turkish economy, grow the country's skills base and expand its role in the energy transition. I am personally very energised by the strengthening relationship between our great company, Turkish Airlines and the Republic of Türkiye."



## Seahorse Freight Association appoints new board members and relaunches summer BBQ event

**London, UK:** The Seahorse Freight Association has appointed Parveen Raja, Director and Publisher at EVA International Media Ltd and Robert Minton-Taylor, Visiting Fellow at Leeds Beckett University to its Board and relaunched its Summer BBQ networking event.

The two new Board members bring decades of experience in public relations, journalism, publishing, and sales to the management team of the not-for-profit organization, which champions career and networking opportunities for journalists in supply chain and transport.

Parveen has launched and managed aviation titles and events including Airtransport Publications in 1994, and EVA International in 2007, which publishes titles such as Cargo Airports and Airlines Service (CAAS) and Airline Routes & Ground Services (ARGS), organizes events globally, and broadcasts the EVA Podcast.

"I am looking forward to working with the Board to help shine a light on best practices in journalism for our industry, we must encourage new writing talent by recognizing excellence," said Parveen. "My experience of running the commercial side of publications and launching magazines means that I understand the importance of great journalism and I am pleased to be able to bring that insight to the



Seahorse Board."

Robert trained and worked as a journalist before moving into public relations, spending over 47 years working for clients in the air cargo, rail, road and maritime sectors. Twenty-four of those years were spent working with Wallenius Wilhelmsen as their Global Media Relations Manager while also teaching public relations at Leeds Business School, part of Leeds Beckett University. He is a former Chairperson of Seahorse and a recipient of its Lifetime Achievement Award for services to shipping.

"I am passionate about helping young people to thrive in careers in journalism and PR and have been a long-term supporter of Seahorse, which I believe provides fantastic opportunities for the NextGen to both network and understand what great journalism looks like," said Robert.

"I campaign for greater diversity in the PR profession, as well as for gender equality and Living Wage for internees, and am looking forward to helping the Board to drive initiatives around these important issues."

## dnata appoints global head of airport operations



Clive Sauv -Hopkins

**Dubai, UAE:** dnata, a leading global air and travel services provider, announced the appointment of Clive Sauv -Hopkins to the position of Divisional Senior Vice President (DSVP), Airport Operations.

In his role, Clive will oversee dnata's global ground handling and cargo business at 97 airports in 16 countries. He will manage a team of over 37,000 customer-centric aviation professionals, ensuring consistent high-quality and safe services for more than 330 airline customers.

Clive brings with him extensive international experience in commercial strategy and business transformation, having held several senior leadership positions with Swissport, Servisair, Aviapartner, Qatar Airways, and the Abu Dhabi Developmental Holding Company (ADQ).

Clive will be based in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and report to Steve Allen, dnata's Group Chief Executive Officer. His appointment is effective immediately.

"I'm pleased to have Clive on board our global management team. Clive has all the experience and skills to drive our growth strategy and ensure consistent quality and safe services, with a continued focus on people and sustainability across our global operations. I look forward to working together as we enhance our business and offering," said Allen.

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

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# Upcoming Events



## 23rd Airport Show

The 23rd Airport Show will bring together the world's leading airport suppliers and services providers, as well as aviation leaders and regional decision-makers to showcase the latest innovations and technologies in the industry. This year's theme is "Sustainability and Innovation," reflecting the industry's focus on embracing cutting-edge technology and greener initiatives to drive growth and efficiency.

With its co-located events ATC Forum, Airport Security Middle East, and the Global Airport Leaders' Forum, the unparalleled three-day event known as the Airport Show will host exhibitors from all over the world.

**14-16 May 2024**

**Dubai World Trade Center, Dubai, UAE**

## EBACE 2024

The 2024 European Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (EBACE2024) is Europe's premier on-demand aviation and advanced air mobility event. This is THE place where you will experience, enhance and help shape the future of business aviation.

And for the first time, EBACE will showcase leading advanced air mobility (AAM) companies both in the exhibit hall and outdoors. Join the conversation on initiatives and ideas driving sustainability, propelling the industry towards achieving the mission to net zero. Connect with companies leading the way in the future flight, showcasing a range from high-tech small aircraft to ultra-modern intercontinental jets.

Explore the cutting-edge in advanced air mobility and electric propulsion through first-hand views of the latest innovations. Visit [www.ebace.aero](http://www.ebace.aero)

**28-30 May 2024 | Geneva, Switzerland**

## Air Cargo China 2024

Asia's biggest air freight exhibition will be held once again at Shanghai New International Expo Center. Held for the past 12 years, next year's event is expected to be more attuned to the post-pandemic realities, with focus on both international and regional aspects. All participants can attend the event free of charge.

**25-27 June 2024, Shanghai New International Expo Center, Shanghai, China**

## Annual General Meeting & World Air Transport Summit 2024

The 80th IATA AGM and World Air Transport Summit will take place in Dubai, United Arab Emirates on 2-4 June 2024, hosted by Emirates.

This event is by invitation only. More details on the venue, registration and program will be announced soon.

**02-04 June 2024 | Dubai, UAE**

## Volare International Airshow

AVIATION - AEROSPACE CONVENTION & EXHIBITION Volare International Airshow features a range of activities, including live demonstrations, interactive displays, technical conferences, and panel discussions. Attendees will have the opportunity to witness the capabilities of cutting-edge aircraft, experience virtual reality simulations, and explore the future of aerospace technology. Volare International Airshow will connect the global aviation & aerospace industry to Italy by providing manufacturers and suppliers a platform to showcase their products and services to a global audience. The event hosts a mix of business, general, commercial aviation, and aerospace exhibitors on a 100,000 sqm static area, accommodating more than 100 aircraft, and will include an extensive conference program featuring keynote speeches, panel discussions, and interactive sessions.

**03-05 October, 2024, Italy**

## The MEBAA Show 2024

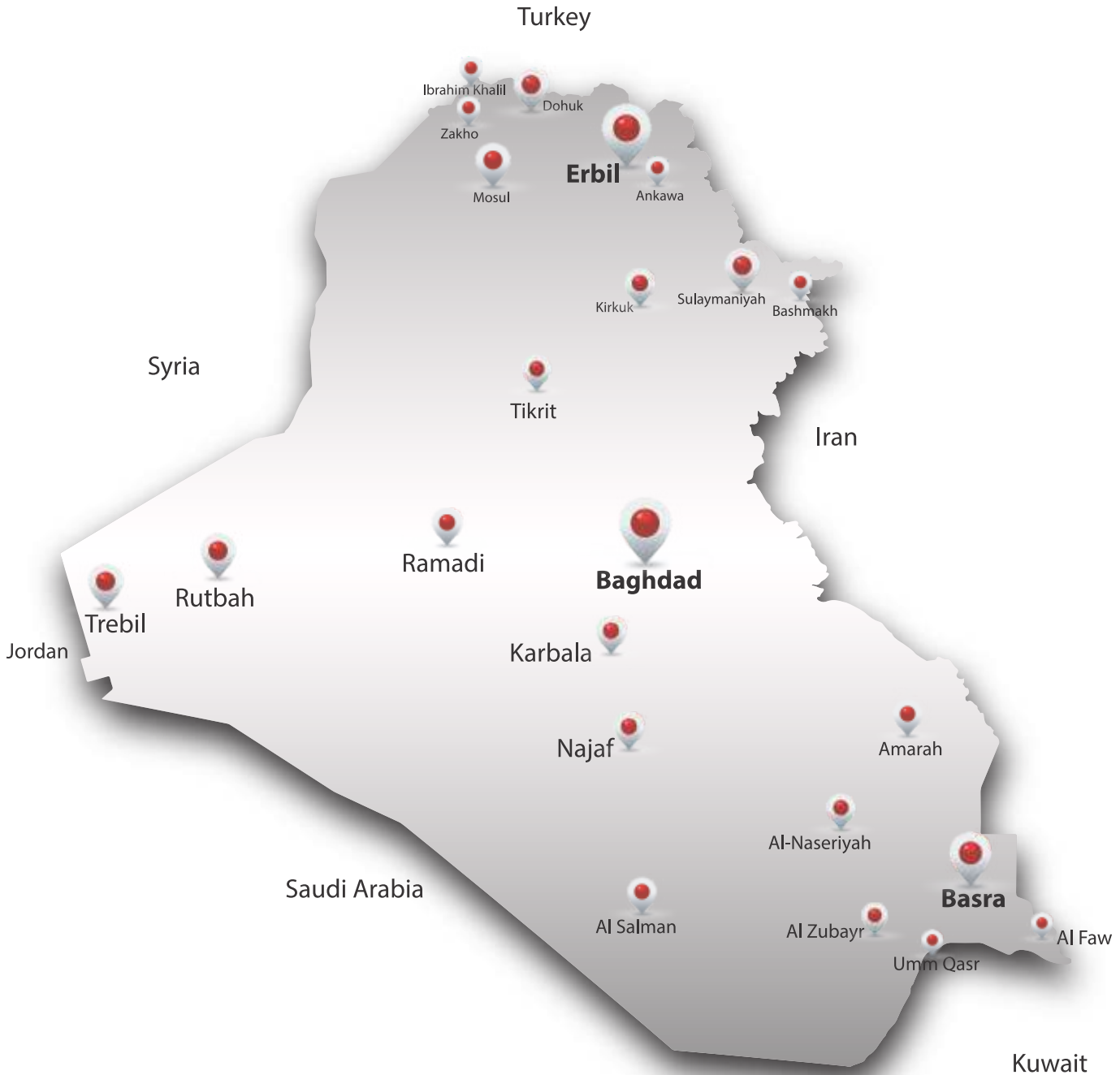
Held under the patronage of H.H. Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, Chairman of Dubai Airports, Chairman and Chief Executive of Emirates Airline and Group. After the success of the re-invented 2022 edition, MEBAA Show 2024 returns this December with even more business and networking opportunities. 2022 saw the launch of insightful content on the show floor through our BizAv talks, a tailored operators meeting programme, and multiple platforms for our exhibitors to meet with UHNWI highlighting synergies with luxury lifestyle and business travellers.

**December 10-12 DWC, Dubai**



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