

# air cargo update

AIR • LAND • SEA

aircargoupdate.com



## Silk Way West Airlines

Leading the path to profitable growth and pragmatic sustainability



### 08 | Global News

Whisk-er your pets away to Europe: K9 JETS announces new routes from Dubai to Switzerland and Italy

Airlines



### 22 | Features

WestJet Cargo: Caring for Animals in the Air

Airports



### 34 | Airports

Airports for Innovation launches an open call for startups from around the world

Logistics

The Lounge



Zameer Marikkar

CCO - Fits Cargo



THERE WAS SPRINTING.  
UNTIL THE DAY THERE WAS USAIN BOLT.



THERE WAS TCM.  
**UNTIL THE DAY**  
**THERE WAS ECS GROUP.**

**ECS**GROUP



• BAHRAIN • CYPRUS • IRAN • IRAQ • JORDAN • KUWAIT • LEBANON • OMAN  
• QATAR • SAUDI ARABIA • SYRIA • UNITED ARAB EMIRATES • YEMEN • ALGERIA  
• ANGOLA • BENIN • BOTSWANA • BURKINA FASO • BURUNDI • CAMEROON  
• CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC • CHAD • CONGO • COTE D'IVOIRE • DJIBOUTI  
• E.GUINEA • EGYPT • ERITREA • ETHIOPIA • GABON • GHANA • GUINEA • BISSAU  
• KENYA • LESOTHO • LIBERIA • LIBIYA • MADAGASCAR • MALAWI • MALI  
• MAURITANIA • MAURITIUS • MOROCCO • MOZAMBIQUE • NAMIBIA • NIGER  
• NIGERIA • RWANDA • SAO TOME & PRINCIPE • SENEGAL • SEYCHELLES  
• SIERRA LEONE • SOMALIA • SOUTH AFRICA • SUDAN • SWAZILAND • TANZANIA  
• TOGO • TUNISIA • UGANDA • ZAIRE • ZAMBIA • ZIMBABWE • BANGLADESH  
• BHUTAN • INDIA • PAKISTAN • SRI LANKA • NEPAL



7|dimensions  
M E D I A F Z E

PO Box: 9604, SAIF Zone, Sharjah - UAE  
Tel: +971 6 557 9579, Fax: +971 6 579569,  
info@7dimensionsmedia.com  
www.7dimensionsmedia.com

#### DIRECTOR & PUBLISHER

Israr Ahmad

israr@7dimensionsmedia.com

#### ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

Poonam Chawla

poonam@7dimensionsmedia.com

#### CHIEF EDITOR

Gemma Q. Casas

gemma@aircargoupdate.com

#### ONLINE EDITOR

Ayesha Rashid

ayasha@7dimensionsmedia.com

#### EDITOR

Laique Khan

laique@7dimensionsmedia.com

#### STAFF REPORTER

R. Chandrakanth

chandrakant@aircargoupdate.com

#### HEAD OPERATIONS

Mohammad Karimulla

karimulla@7dimensionsmedia.com

#### CREATIVE DESIGNER

Sunitha Sunil Kumar

design@7dimensionsmedia.com

#### PHOTO JOURNALIST

Deepu Raj

deepu@7dimensionsmedia.com

#### WORLDWIDE MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES

France, Belgium, Monaco, Spain:  
Aidmedia, Gerard Lecoeur; Tel: +33 (0) 466 326 106; Fax: +33 (0) 466 327 073

India:  
RMA media, Fareedoon Kuka;  
Tel: +91 22 5570 3081; Fax: +91 22 5570 3082

Taiwan:  
Advance Media Services Ltd, Keith Lee;  
Tel: (886) 2 2523 8268; Fax: (886) 2 2521 4456

Thailand:  
Trade and Logistics Siam Ltd, Dwight A Chiavetta;  
Tel: +66 (0) 2650 8690; Fax: +66 (0) 2650 8696  
UK, Ireland, Germany, Switzerland,  
Austria: Horseshoe Media, Peter Patterson; Tel: +44 208 6874 160

## Transforming the air transport industry through innovations

The air transport industry has undergone a remarkable transformation over the decades, revolutionizing global connectivity and fostering economic growth. However, to sustain its momentum and meet the ever-evolving demands of passengers, cargo shipments and the environment, continued innovation is imperative.

One of the most pressing challenges facing the industry is the need for more sustainable and efficient operations. Advances in technology have led to the development of hybrid-electric and fully electric aircraft, which promise to significantly reduce carbon emissions and noise pollution. These innovations not only align with environmental goals but also offer potential cost savings for airlines.

In recent years, self-repairing composite materials used in making planes have also gained popularity. They require minimal maintenance and have the ability to repair their own microcracks and breaks, thus, reduce repair costs for aircraft.

Advancements in airport infrastructure are equally crucial. Automated check-in systems, biometric security, and self-service kiosks streamlines the passenger experience and reduce waiting times. Furthermore, the integration of artificial intelligence and machine learning can optimize airport operations, improve resource allocation, and enhance safety.

Innovations are also rolling in the air cargo industry with even old uniforms upcycled for a sustainable world.

In this edition, we'll share with you how Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals Limited (Hactl), Hong Kong's largest independent handler, has successfully transformed its old staff uniforms into 5,000 upcycled cups through its "Zero Waste Uniform Upcycling Project"—an initiative marking the first zero-waste upcycling project for old clothing in the history of Hong Kong's aviation industry.

Fire resistant containers carrying lithium batteries and other dangerous goods have also been invented, an innovation that Jettainer, the leading global ULD expert offers.

Other notable innovations in the air cargo industry to improve efficiency, reduce costs, and enhance security include technology-driven solutions such as:

● **RFID and Blockchain:** Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags and blockchain technology are being used to track shipments in real-time, ensuring transparency and reducing the risk of loss or theft.

● **Drones and Autonomous Vehicles:** Drones can be used for last-mile delivery and inspections, while autonomous vehicles can transport cargo to and from airports.

● **AI-Powered Optimization:** Artificial intelligence can optimize routes, improve load balancing, and predict demand, leading to more efficient operations.

These innovations are driving the air cargo industry forward, making it more efficient, sustainable, and reliable. As technology continues to advance, we can expect to see even more groundbreaking developments in the years to come.

#### Gemma Q. Casas

Editor-in-Chief

All rights reserved. The opinions and views expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the publishers. Readers are requested to seek specialist advice before acting on information contained in this publication, which is provided for general use and may not be appropriate for the reader's particular circumstances. The publishers regret that they cannot accept liability for any error or omissions contained in this publication.

# CONTENTS



**06** **The Lounge**  
Jonathan's Story: 'Balancing work across 24 time zones is like spinning plates at a circus'

**22** **Cover Story**  
Silk Way West Airlines: Leading the path to profitable growth and pragmatic sustainability

**26** **Features**  
WestJet Cargo: Caring for Animals in the Air

**34** **Trucking**  
Hyundai Motor and Kia team up with Hyundai Steel and EcoPro BM to enhance EV Battery Technology

**38** **Trucking News**  
FAMCO Qatar to supply 25 Volvo Heavy-Duty FMX460 4x2 Truck to Al Nasr Holding

**9** **Global News**

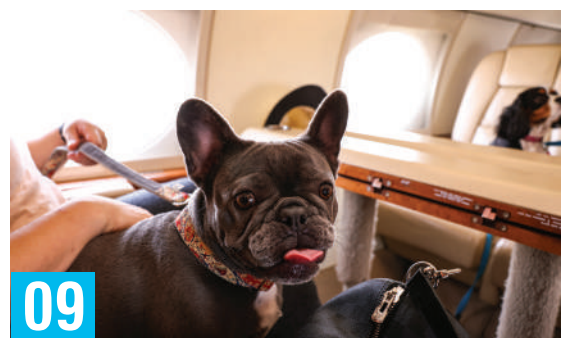
**18** **Logistics News**

**40** **Airlines**

**44** **Airports**

**50** **Executive Moments**

**54** **Events**





# Your Trusted Partner in Global Cargo



**Air Freight**



**Air Cargo charter**



**Cargo consolidation**



Prime Aviation excels in offering customized cargo solutions to a diverse clientele, including international freight forwarders, shippers, logistics providers, governments, and humanitarian relief organizations. With a global reach extending from Europe to China, CIS countries, India, and the USA, we have cultivated an extensive network of agents and established offices around the world.

▪ **Cargo acceptance, handling & warehousing**

▪ **Pickup & Delivery Options**

▪ **Customs clearance**

▪ **Online Booking**



The Lounge

air  
cargo  
update

## Watching movies and hanging out with his loved ones is the best way to relax for this CCO who finished his aeronautical studies working as a Japanese chef



Zameer Marikkar  
CCO – Fits Cargo

**G**rowing up, Zameer Marikkar has always dreamt of becoming a pilot. And that ambition would lead to his lifelong career in the aviation industry.

Zameer is the Chief Commercial Officer of Fits Cargo, a hybrid physical and virtual cargo carrier, offering efficient and seamless cargo transportation solutions globally. The company is part of Aberdeen Holdings Pvt Ltd, a privately held investment vehicle specializing in portfolio management.

"From childhood, I always dreamed of becoming a pilot, which led me to study aeronautical engineering. I also have a deep love for travel and exploring new cultures, which further strengthened my passion for this field," Zameer shares.

Adding, "The aviation industry is dynamic and constantly evolving, offering endless opportunities for growth and innovation. I was drawn by the global nature of the business, the fast-paced environment, and the ability to connect people and goods across borders. The idea of being part of such a vital industry that supports both business and personal travel inspired me to pursue a career in aviation."

But the path to getting a degree in aviation is not for everyone. It is expensive and requires a lot of focus and determination.

Zameer struggled financially pursuing his degree but made it by working while studying and with the help of his parents. His next hurdle was how to penetrate the competitive global aviation industry.

**"Breaking into the aviation industry is always difficult, and it took time and perseverance to secure opportunities. I overcame these challenges through persistence, networking, and staying committed to my goals. By continuously improving my skills and seeking out every available opportunity, I was able to establish myself in the industry," he said. And as they say, the rest is history.**

**Striking a work-balance lifestyle is always a struggle for busy workaholic executives in all industries. And Zameer is no exception.**



"To be honest, I'm a workaholic, therefore, I don't have a perfect work-life balance. However, I do manage to juggle both my work and personal life by being flexible and adapting to the demands of the moment. While it's not always easy, I've learned that it's important to carve out time for yourself, even in small ways," he said.

For him, the perfect way to relax is spending time with his loved ones watching movies and doing other activities. "For me, the best way to unwind is by watching movies or hanging out with loved ones. It helps me relax and disconnect from the demands of work. Spending time with people I enjoy or getting lost in a good movie is a great way to recharge and refresh my mind."

Zameer also delights in having a bowl of ramen or a plateful of sushi with fresh ingredients. "Whether it's the subtle taste of sashimi or the comfort of a hot bowl of miso soup, Japanese cuisine offers a perfect mix of flavor and nutrition that I really appreciate. I also have a personal connection to it as I worked as a Japanese chef while studying, which has deepened my appreciation for the art of Japanese cooking," he shared.

This CCO is also into traveling, swimming and snorkeling and Maldives is one of his favorites.

**"Maldives offers some of the best underwater experiences with its vibrant coral reefs and marine life. There's something special about staying by the beach, hearing the sound of the waves, and feeling completely at peace. In the future, I'd love to visit Switzerland. The idea of exploring the beautiful Swiss Alps, picturesque villages, and serene lakes really appeals to me. Switzerland offers a perfect blend of nature and tranquility, and I'm excited about experiencing its breathtaking scenery," said Zameer who remains curious and eager to learn new things despite his achievements in the industry.**



Kale Logistics  
Technology that Transforms



## Cybersecurity in Air Cargo: Securing Airports through Cargo Community Systems (CCS)

In the increasingly digital world of air cargo, airports face heightened cybersecurity threats. With global supply chains relying on real-time data exchange, the risk of cyberattacks disrupting critical operations has never been higher. The air cargo ecosystem involves over 40 primary stakeholders—airlines, freight forwarders, ground handlers, customs authorities, and more—each operating with disparate IT systems, varying levels of security, and potential vulnerabilities. This complex web of interconnected systems creates multiple entry points for cyberattacks, making it possible for threats to originate from any stakeholder in the chain.

To combat these threats, Cargo Community Systems (CCS) play a pivotal role. A CCS is an integrated platform that enables secure, real-time communication between stakeholders. By offering a centralized, encrypted system for data exchange, CCS ensures that information is safeguarded from cyberattacks and unauthorized access.

Furthermore, CCS enhances cybersecurity by utilizing advanced encryption protocols, multi-factor authentication, and role-based access control, limiting data exposure. It also ensures compliance with global data protection regulations like GDPR, while maintaining the integrity and confidentiality of data.

By providing a secure, unified platform for all air cargo participants, Cargo Community Systems strengthen the resilience of airports against cyber threats, ensuring the smooth, secure, and efficient flow of goods across the globe. In the face of evolving cybersecurity challenges, CCS proves to be a vital tool in safeguarding the future of air cargo at airports.

# Helishow

## DUBAI 2024

### 22 - 24 OCT

#### SKYDIVE DUBAI



Under the Patronage of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Vice President & Prime Minister of the U.A.E and Ruler of Dubai



SCAN TO REGISTER

TO BE CO-LOCATED WITH:



## Register for FREE to Attend the MENA's Leading International Exhibition and Conference Dedicated to the Helicopter, VTOL, and UAV Industries.



10,000+

Visitors



100

Exhibitors



400+

Delegates



35

Speakers

SUPPORTED BY



ORGANISED BY



FOR MORE INFO, CONTACT US:

info@domusgroup.ae

+971 4 241 7177



## Aerios' first product, Carrier App is off blocks

**London, Britain:** Air cargo charter software company, Aerios, member of CargoTech, has released its first product, the Carrier App, positioned as the charter management system for cargo charter carriers, helping them increase team efficiency and maximize revenue opportunities whilst surfacing actionable data and insights.



The Carrier App has been developed specifically for carriers operating within the cargo charter market which, because of its highly complex and ad hoc nature has been left unsupported by commonly used sales tools, Aerios explained. This leaves carriers faced with the decision to choose between accepting a largely manual process, or a costly investment to customize their existing CRM tool or develop their own digital solution which lacks wider market integration.

"Our mission at Aerios is to enable brokers, charter professionals and carriers to work more efficiently, surface real time-data and maximize revenue opportunities in the air cargo charter market. We do that by designing software that enables your team to spend less time on traditional manual processes and more time on relationships and growth," said Simon Watson, Founder of Aerios. "I am proud to launch the first version of our Carrier App, which has been built in conjunction with a number of cargo charter carriers, following extensive trials and a large number of research workshops."

Aerios' charter management system is built to meet the unique demands of the charter market and seamlessly integrates with flight operations, CRM and communication systems, to create a single digital workflow. The Carrier App offers three key benefits: increased efficiency, maximized revenues, and an informed team.

The increase in efficiency comes from automating manual, repetitive tasks in a single

tool to create one consistent process across the entire team. The Carrier App does away with the cumbersome and error-prone use of spreadsheets combined with group email inboxes, where requests, quotes and key CRM data has to be manually entered and maintained. Nor does it require expensive or lengthy IT integrations or adaptations.

Aerios aims to provide access to aggregated market trends and data that help support carriers' decision making and maximize revenue opportunities. Combining internal data reports, market insights, quotations and centralizing communication, ensures that the charter team is informed at all times, and leads to more consistent processes and increased response times that enhance customer experience.

"The Carrier App is already live with a group of carriers and we will be announcing our airline partnerships in the coming months. Carriers interested in seeing a demo can book on our website by visiting [aerios.app](http://aerios.app)," Watsons shared, adding, the air cargo charter software company is planning to launch additional tools in the near future.

## Whisk-er your pets away to Europe: K9 JETS announces new routes from Dubai to Switzerland and Italy

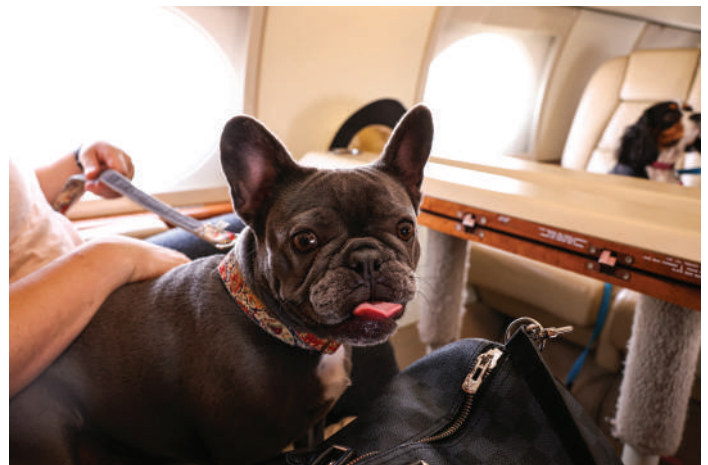
**Birmingham, UK:** K9 JETS, the world's leading pay-per-seat pet charter service, has expanded its network with new routes between Dubai and Europe. Now, owners can gift themselves and their pets a VIP travel experience from the Emirates to Switzerland and Italy.

Currently, the operator flies to and from Dubai into the United Kingdom, but thanks to popular demand, pet owners can now skip the Eurotunnel and put paws on Continental tarmac in time for breakfast.

"We've experienced great success from our UAE market since launching our first route in September 2023. Now, we're expanding our network by offering direct options into the heart of Central Europe, opening up more exciting destinations to families with four-legged friends," said Adam Golder, Founder, K9 JETS.

"We've received a lot of client demand for a direct option into the continent. We are starting by offering flights to Geneva and Milan, and hope to add more European destinations in the near future."

Inaugural flights are now on sale for Geneva, embarking on March 29 and June 29, 2025, respectively. The first Milan route takes flight on May 30, 2025.



The company began operations in 2023 as the World's first pay-per-seat pet charter service and has so far flown nearly 2000 pets across the Middle East, Europe, UK, and US.

The service, which offers seats from \$9,925, allows owners and their pets to seamlessly jet-set in style, while remaining side-by-side from start to finish. Owners can take up to two pets under 50lbs each per seat, or one large pet over 51lbs. And despite its name, more than five percent of its VIPs (Very Important Paws) are cats.

Now, with the additions of Geneva and Milan, Dubai's most eligible pooches can trade crates for window seats and in-flight treats. Flights depart from the new private terminal JETEX, Al Maktoum International Airport (DWC). Passengers can arrive just 60 minutes prior to boarding. K9 JETS flies to more than 10 destinations across the Middle East, UK, US, and now Europe.

# inter airport

south east asia

25 - 27 MARCH 2025

The 8th Edition

Marina Bay Sands, Halls B & C  
Singapore



## EVERYTHING TO (RE)IMAGINE THE GSE INDUSTRY



Electric GSE



Alternative-fuelled GSE



Hybrid GSE



Autonomous Systems

### 2023 KEY FIGURES

3131

Attendees

150

Exhibitors

### WHO ATTENDS

Airline ground operations, Airport management, Airport operations, FBO management, Ground handling management, GSE engineering support, GSE fleet management, GSE maintenance, GSE operations, and many more...

### TOP VISITING COUNTRIES / REGIONS



Australia



China



Hong Kong SAR



India



Indonesia



Japan



Malaysia



Philippines



Singapore



Sri Lanka



Thailand



Vietnam

Built by



In the business of  
building businesses

[in](#) [X](#) @interairportsea

[f](#) @interairportsoutheastasia

[✉ iasea@rxglobal.com](mailto:iasea@rxglobal.com)

[🌐 www.interairport-southeastasia.com](http://www.interairport-southeastasia.com)

[Privacy Policy](#) [privacy.rxglobal.com](http://privacy.rxglobal.com)



## Global air charter specialist Chapman Freeborn eyes stronger presence in Africa

**Gauteng, South Africa:** Chapman Freeborn, a global air charter specialist providing personalized and bespoke air charter solutions for passenger and air cargo movements, is looking to expand its presence across the African market by showcasing its market-leading services during its participation at Aviation Africa 2024 happening at the Sandton Convention Centre in Gauteng, South Africa.

Chapman Freeborn's participation at the region's aviation industry event also reflects its commitment to supporting the growth of aviation across Africa.

With Africa's aviation sector rapidly evolving through new airlines, expanded airports, and increased demand for business aviation, Chapman Freeborn offers tailored solutions to meet these needs. Its ACMI (Aircraft, Crew, Maintenance, and Insurance) services, designed to address seasonal demand fluctuations and operational challenges such as Aircraft on Ground (AOG) recovery and maintenance delays, are particularly relevant to the region's airlines.



Chapman Freeborn's global expertise, combined with its local market knowledge, enables the company to provide flexible ACMI solutions that help airlines operate efficiently without the burden of long-term fixed costs. In addition, the company offers comprehensive aircraft charter services, including cargo and passenger charters, as well as private jet services.

The Aviation Africa 2024 will likewise provide Chapman Freeborn with an opportunity to network with industry leaders, engage with key stakeholders, and further develop its partnerships across the African aviation sector.

Alain Champonnois, President and CEO of Chapman Freeborn IMEA, expressed his enthusiasm for the event: "Aviation in Africa is at a pivotal moment of growth and transformation, and we are excited to be part of that journey. The Aviation Africa Summit is the ideal platform for us to strengthen existing partnerships, forge new ones, and showcase our expertise in providing tailored, flexible solutions that support the region's evolving aviation landscape. We look forward to working closely with our partners across Africa to unlock new opportunities for growth."

Aviation Africa 2024 is hosted by the Republic of South Africa's Department of Transport and the South African Civil Aviation Authority, will bring together key stakeholders to discuss the future of African aviation.

## Cargo Integrity Group reminds the need for accurate and reliable emergency contact information

**Arkansas, United States:** The Cargo Integrity Group is urging shippers of the need for an emergency contact telephone number to be provided for shipments of dangerous goods, following recent experiences reported by its partner organizations.

The majority of dangerous goods shipments are carried and handled without incident. Nonetheless, should an incident occur despite all safety precautions, it is essential that the necessary steps to respond to the dangers can be taken swiftly and reliably by those attending the scene.

A requirement of many national dangerous goods regulations for transport by sea, in order to comply with international dangerous goods regulations, including the IMDG Code, is that a suitable 24-hour emergency response number be provided within shipping documentation, safety data sheets or other compliant means for each shipment of dangerous goods.

The phone number must be answered by a person who is knowledgeable of the dangerous goods being shipped and has comprehensive emergency response and incident mitigation information for the product or products in the shipment, or has immediate access to a person who has that information.

This phone number must not have a call-back function, such as the use of voicemail or pager, nor be a general answering service. The number must

be current during the shipment and monitored 24 hours a day.

Shippers of dangerous goods must therefore take appropriate measures to establish access to an appropriate and knowledgeable person or persons and include their telephone contact number on the transport documents and safety data sheets, to ensure full compliance with this requirement.

The Cargo Integrity Group points out that the IMDG Code starts from the premise that the transport of dangerous goods is prohibited, unless they are shipped in accordance with the applicable regulatory provisions.

Only when mandatory regulations and guidelines are followed can it be expected that such cargoes are able to be transported safely. Extreme diligence and accurate emergency response information is necessary to prevent minor incidents from becoming major casualties. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in shipments being refused for transport by terminals or shipping lines and parties may incur heavy fines and product liability risks in any legal actions, the Group pointed out.

# WORLD CARGO SUMMIT 2025

Air Cargo Economics | Strategy | Trends

January 27-29, 2025

Ostend – Bruges | Belgium



**GLOBAL AIR CARGO CONFERENCE**

**+ 50 SPEAKERS & 16 SESSIONS**

**MINI EXHIBITION**

**AIR CARGO EXECUTIVES PARTY IN BRUGES**

**WELCOME TO BELGIUM!**

Organized by



Host sponsor



Platinum sponsor



Knowledge partner



Media partners



[www.worldcargosummit.com](http://www.worldcargosummit.com)



## Hactl turns old uniforms into upcycled cups, demonstrating limitless potential of zero-waste upcycling



**Hong Kong, China:** Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals Limited (Hactl), Hong Kong's largest independent handler, has successfully transformed its old staff uniforms into 5,000 upcycled cups through its "Zero Waste Uniform Upcycling Project"—an initiative marking the first zero-waste upcycling project for old clothing in the history of Hong Kong's aviation industry.

The old uniforms were made of durable, waterproof blended fibers, which are typically difficult to recycle and often end up in landfill. Through the "Zero Waste Uniform Upcycling Project", polyester fibers from the old uniforms were recycled through melt-granulation and other processes into raw plastic granules that were then used

to manufacture recyclable plastic cups.

The project has demonstrated the unlimited possibilities of zero-waste upcycling of old uniforms for the aviation industry and other sectors.

"In Hong Kong, the aviation industry, like many industries, provides uniforms for frontline staff. Dealing with old uniforms is an important environmental issue. We hope that through this project, we can break through traditional limitations and recycle old uniforms to achieve 'zero waste upcycling' and reduce the burden on landfills, while encouraging the industry to contribute towards a circular economy and sustainable development," said Hactl Chief Executive Wilson Kwong.

Since launching its "Green Terminal" program in 2018, Hactl has been making positive impacts on the community and environment. It has committed to achieving a 75% waste recycling rate by 2030. The "Zero Waste Uniform Upcycling Project" is one of Hactl's most significant initiatives to help realize this goal.

According to statistics released by the Environmental Protection Department, Hong Kong's textile waste recycling rate increased from about 4% in 2018 to nearly 11% in 2022. However, company uniforms are mostly made of blended materials and are rarely recycled. Even when recycled, they are only used to create recycled textile fibers for manufacturing new clothing.

## One Air ramps up operations with third Boeing 747-400 freighter as demand rises for Asia-Europe cargo

**London, UK:** British cargo airline, One Air, has entered its second year of flight operations by adding a third Boeing 747 freighter to its fleet to meet strong demand for cargo capacity in Asia and Europe.

The Boeing 747-400ERF has joined One Air on a five-year lease from AeroTransCargo FZE and completed its first flight for the airline on September 16, from Hong Kong to East Midlands Airport, the airline said.

An original Boeing-built freighter, it is the first aircraft in One Air's fleet to offer a nose door as well as a side door for loading and unloading.

The -400ERF version also offers a higher payload capacity of up to 124,000kgs.

One Air commenced B747F flights in July 2023 after receiving its AOC certification from the UK Civil Aviation Authority and added a second 747-400 aircraft to its fleet in December to support its growing flying programme between China/Hong Kong and Europe.

The airline's first 12 months of charter operations included flights from airports across the UK, including London Heathrow, London Stansted, East Midlands Airport, Birmingham, Doncaster/Sheffield, Glasgow Prestwick, and Cardiff. Supporting its growing client base of freight forwarders, logistics providers, and charter brokers, One Air's 747s have also served points in Europe, the Middle East, and Asia, notably Almaty, Amsterdam, Astana, Châteauroux, Hahn, Hong Kong, Jinan, Larnaca,



Maastricht-Aachen, Muscat, Shannon, and Singapore.

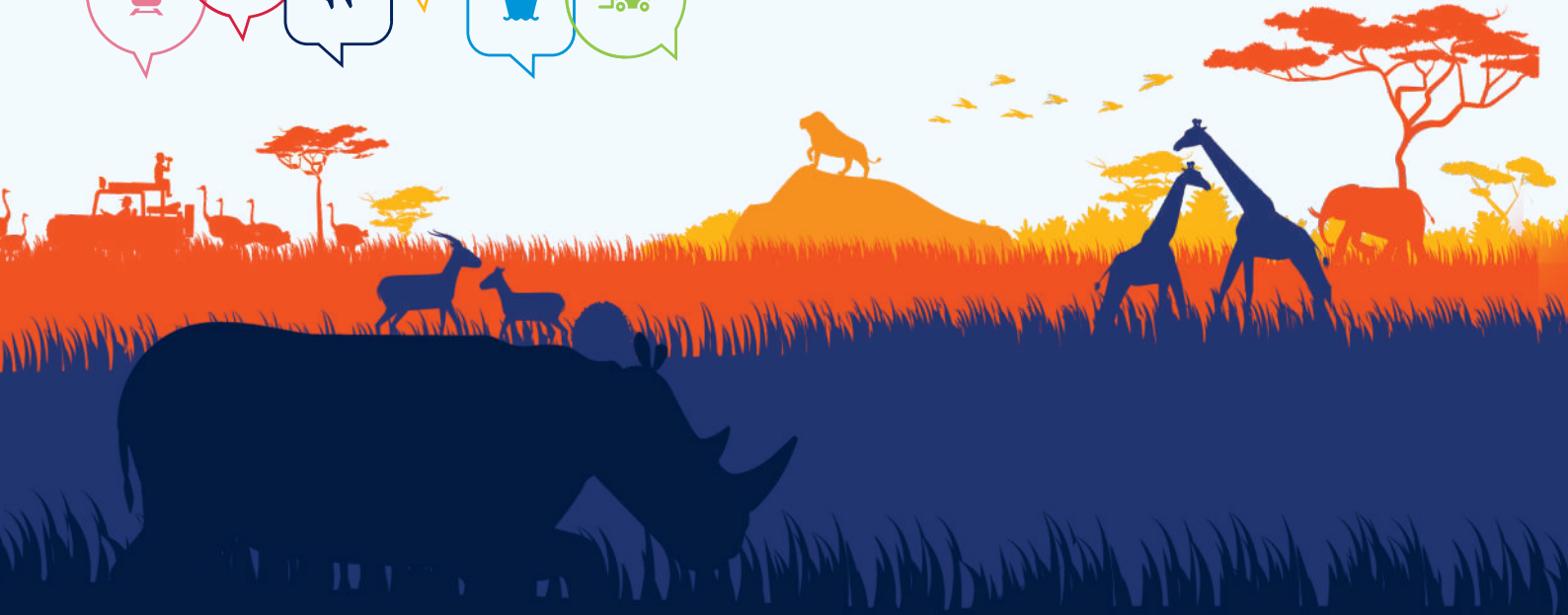
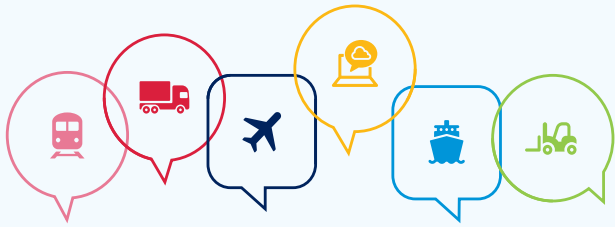
Most recently, as well as ad hoc charter flights, One Air has been operating a contract for seven 747F flights a week ex Hong Kong into Europe carrying general cargo. This strong demand also reflects the successful commercial activities of Air One Aviation, the airline's launch global sales agency.

Paul Bennett, One Air's Chairman & CEO, said: "Our business case was always based on the high demand we saw for a British cargo airline, and this is being borne out by the volume of flights we are operating. The arrival of our third 747-400 and its increased capacity and capability will enable us to provide more availability to our growing client base. We are also pressing ahead with our future fleet plans and expect to add at least one more freighter in the first half of 2025 based on our current growth plan."

In support of its third aircraft, One Air has recruited a further 27 flight crew and support staff, taking the total workforce at its UK headquarters to over 125 aviation and cargo professionals.

# Welcome to Africa

## Join East Africa's Logistics Growth Story



### Global Brands On Board



& many more...

**February 19 – 21, 2025**

The Sarit Expo Centre, Nairobi, Kenya

[www.aircargoafrika.aero](http://www.aircargoafrika.aero)

**air cargo**  
AFRICA

**transport**  
logistic  
AFRICA

#### For Booking & Inquiries, Contact

**air cargo Africa 2025** : Romaldine Fernandes | E : romaldine.fernandes@mm-india.in | M : +91 98190 56866

**transport logistic Africa 2025** : Karim Khoja | E : karim.khoja@mm-india.in | M : +91 99300 89697

**International Contact** : Carolin Tausch | E : carolin.tausch@messe-muenchen.de



## FedEx CSR efforts make positive impact on communities across the Middle East and North Africa

**Dubai, UAE:** Federal Express Corporation, the world's largest express transportation company, remaining steadfast in its commitment to drive positive social and environmental impacts in the Middle East, Indian Subcontinent and Africa, dedicated 2,400 volunteer hours for community projects in 13 cities across the MEISA region last fiscal year.

Through a series of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives, the FedEx team has touched so many lives and engaged in various activities that would have long-lasting impact to the environment such as tree-planting initiatives, clean-up drives, and recycling programs.

They also packed food hampers and donated essentials to hundreds of beneficiaries across the region. Additionally, FedEx collaborated with INJAZ UAE to mentor students through workshops on workplace skills, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship.

"The FedEx network spans billions of people across six continents. Through our operations, we go beyond business to the heart of the communities we serve," said Taarek Hinedi – vice president of FedEx Middle East and Africa operations. "From environmental sustainability initiatives to youth empowerment, we are dedicated to leaving behind a positive impact across the communities we live and work in. Our volunteer-driven projects in MENA empower our team members to create a meaningful difference, and through these efforts, we aim to continue delivering a better future, one community at a time."

FedEx team members in the UAE planted 11 indigenous Sidr and Ghaf saplings at Al Naseem Reserve in Ajman as part of the Emirates Environmental Group's (EEG) annual tree planting campaign.



Team members also participated in a community clean-up drive as part of the company's 'Let's Go Green Week' to boost environmental awareness. Volunteers in the UAE and Bahrain collected 228 kilograms of trash from around office facilities, public parks, and beaches, and planted trees to enhance local green spaces.

FedEx team members donated over 1,800 kilograms of food and necessities to 300 beneficiaries through non-profit organizations (NGOs) as part of the FedEx Cares Purple Tote Campaign.

In Egypt, FedEx team members contributed to the well-being of children at the Awlady Orphanage in Cairo.

In Ramadan, 100 FedEx team members volunteered to lend a helping hand to those in need, in collaboration with SmartLife Foundation in the UAE and Misr Life Makers in Egypt. The teams packed a total of 2,300 food hampers with essentials such as rice, lentils, salt, and other items, for blue-collar workers in Ajman and families in Cairo.

## Philippine Airlines partners with cargo one to supercharge its first ever digital sales

**Manila/Berlin:** Philippine Airlines (PAL), the national carrier airline of the Philippines and Asia's first commercial airline, will soon debut its capacity in the digital booking market, following a new partnership with cargo.one.

Cargo.one will enable PAL to target thousands of freight forwarders in relevant markets, digitally around the clock, bolstering its brand presence, reducing its cost of sale, and gaining market responsive digital pricing. Freight forwarders are sure to benefit from the airline's renewed cargo service offers for the Philippines and across the region.

PAL extends its renowned attentive customer service levels to its air cargo services. The carrier is expanding its widebody fleet to facilitate an ambitious cargo growth strategy. Philippine Airlines offers freight forwarders a unique combination of 37 international destinations throughout South and East Asia, North America, Australia and the Middle East, and 32 destinations in the Philippines as well as favorable regional connectivity.

Jason Siy, VP Cargo at PAL, commented, "A key pillar of our digital transformation and continued growth is the ability to steer strategic digital sales. Gaining cargo.one's technology and extensive experience means Philippine Airlines can build digital sales at speed and scale with low capital expenditure. Our teams are working closely to build a custom digital sales channel to maximize upon our many strengths."



Moritz Claussen, Founder & Co-CEO of cargo.one, added, "We are excited to launch Philippine Airlines digital sales journey and strengthen its exciting growth plans. cargo.one continually brings the freight forwarding market new capacity options first, an important element in how our platform enables even the very largest forwarders to win shipments faster, grow their business and serve their customers better than ever."

In addition to the industry's most user-friendly digital booking experience, cargo.one offers Philippine Airlines an unrivaled capability to boost visibility and continually optimize its booking offer quality. From Autumn 2024, forwarders using cargo.one can discover, quote and book Philippine Airlines capacities for general cargo and perishables, connecting hubs in Manila, Cebu, Clark, and Davao with dozens of important cargo destinations worldwide.



## Rotate shares e-commerce insights and market outlook at EU cross border e-commerce forum

**Utrecht, Netherlands:** e-commerce will continue to be dynamic and grow but its origin is diversifying and security concerns from misdeclaration and politically motivated policies are considered its greatest challenges for further development.

Those were the findings of Rotate, a data-driven consulting and proprietary software and data products firm that is transforming the global air cargo industry's landscape.

Ryan Keyrouse, CEO and co-Founder at Rotate, shared those insights and expectations on the global e-commerce market with 450+ delegates at the EU Cross-Border e-commerce Forum in Liege, Belgium.

The analysis leveraged Rotate's Live Capacity data and showcases Rotate's recently developed air cargo demand data product – a holistic view on the market that uniquely provides insights on e-commerce.

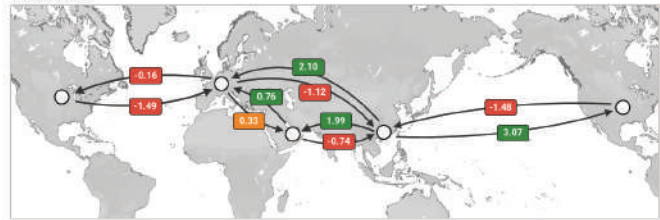
Highlighting the phenomenal growth of e-commerce out of China in the last two years, Rotate's materials revealed that growth is no longer concentrated solely in the southern province of Guangdong (+15%) but rather in other provinces (+37%).

Capacity data supported this trend, showing China's secondary airports out-performing, as airlines increasingly operate dedicated e-commerce freighters to these airports. This also means the share of e-commerce transported via mail has dwindled.

It is not only the origin of e-commerce that is diversifying. While China to the United States and Europe indeed experienced the largest tonnage growth over the last two years in absolute terms, China to Malaysia and Mexico combined added as many e-commerce tons as Europe – with YoY growth rates of 46% and 73%, respectively.

## Growing imbalances increase the gaps between one-way profitability

Estimated contribution of B777 freighter flights by trade lane, August 2024  
\$/kg of demand



Notes: Data Bulletin is based on average unit cost and revenue of a B777. Figure is based on data for the last four weeks (31st August 2024). Sources: Bureau Van Dijk, Freight Capacity and Demand (FCAD) database (last updated 15th August 2024), IATA's last four week (L4W) data (last published 15th August 2024), OAG's (logistics) industry benchmark (handling, loading, unloading, and repair fees, Release analysis September 2024).

Copyright © Rotata 2024. All rights reserved.

Ahead of the forum, Rotate surveyed the 450+ delegates on various e-commerce trends. This revealed several inconsistencies between industry perception and the data. For example, while half the delegates believed e-commerce growth came on top of a growing general cargo market, trade data indicates the general cargo market over the last two years was flat at best. The survey also revealed the biggest risks to e-commerce growth was not changes to De Minimis thresholds, but rather security concerns from misdeclarations and politically motivated policies.

When asked what drives operational issues, respondents again pointed to misdeclarations along with the digital constraints from so many small packages, unprepared airport facilities and staff, and unbalanced flows. The growing imbalances leads to increasing gaps in one-way freighter profitability.

Looking ahead to 2025, Keyrouse discussed a range of possible market scenarios. Delegates were split between e-commerce continuing its aggressive growth and maturing to a more moderate growth, while a small minority thought e-commerce volumes had peaked.

This positive outlook would put the industry in uncharted territory – setting records for consecutive months of growth – but also leaving the industry wondering how much the available capacity will constrain demand growth given deliveries and conversions are limited and the utilization of freighters is still near its peak.

Reflecting on the forum, Keyrouse remarked “We have all seen bits of this data in the past – so it's exciting to have finally combined various data sources to build the first holistic view of demand. It is something we have wanted to build for a long time – and more is coming soon.”

## Magma Aviation signs freighter handling contract with WFS in Liege

**Singapore/Gatwick/Liege:** Worldwide Flight Services (WFS), a member of the SATS Group with high reputation for freighter handling at Liege Airport, has earned a new multiyear contract with Magma Aviation.

From September, WFS will provide ramp and warehouse cargo handling for a minimum of five regular Boeing 747-400F flight rotations a week.

WFS will also handle cargo onboard charter flights operated by Magma Aviation's freighter fleet. The overall contract will see WFS handle more than 50,000 tons of cargo a year for Magma Aviation and its customers.

“This is a significant contract gain for WFS in Liege. We look forward to working closely with the Magma Aviation team to jointly develop handling solutions suited to the products and services they offer,” said Nathan De Valk, Managing Director, Belgium at WFS.

James Le Poer Trench, Head of Operations at Magma Aviation, added: “This collaboration strengthens Magma Aviation's supply chain and enhances our ability to deliver exceptional products and service to our customers. By



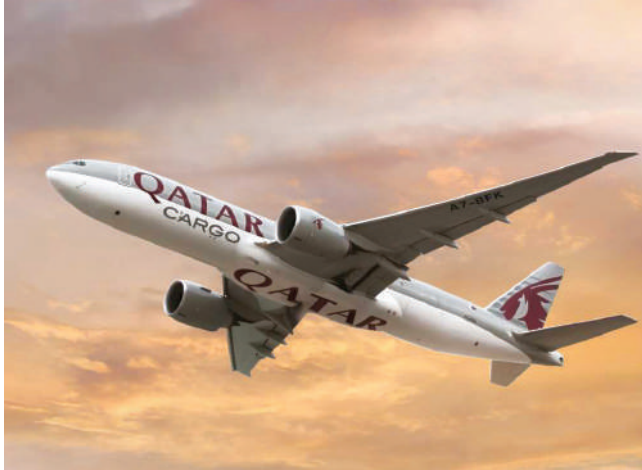
leveraging WFS's expertise and innovative solutions, we expect to drive increased efficiency, improve quality, and unlock new growth opportunities.”

Today, WFS supports cargo operations across two warehouses in Liege utilizing 24,000 square metres of warehouse space. LGG is part WFS' global network spanning over 215 freight and ground handling stations in 27 countries.





## Qatar Airways Cargo Introduces AirPlus Solutions



**Doha, Qatar:** Qatar Airways Cargo has launched AirPlus Solutions which offers enhanced services for various cargo products. Customers can now choose from three options; Q-Climate, Q-Plus, and Q-Prime to elevate their shipment's journey.

"As the world's leading cargo carrier, we are committed to continuously innovating our product offerings. We recognize

that our customers have unique requirements and often need greater flexibility. With the launch of AirPlus Solutions, we are providing tailored options that best meet our customers' needs, while delivering our best -in s-class service," said Mark Drusch, Chief Officer Cargo at Qatar Airways Cargo.

**Q-Climate:** Provides temperature-control for additional product categories, ensuring a seamless cool chain and ramp protection against external weather elements and is applicable to general cargo and vulnerable cargo. Customers can select from three standard temperature ranges: COL (+2°C to +8°C), CRT (+15°C to +25°C), or ERT (+2°C to +25°C).

**Q-Plus:** Offers prioritized capacity for time-sensitive shipments, ensuring high-priority handling on confirmed flights or the next available flight if the requested flight can no longer accept bookings. Available as an add-on for Qatar Airways Cargo's General Cargo, SecureLift (Vulnerable Cargo), Fresh Care (perishable cargo), and Drive (automobiles) products.

**Q-Prime:** Guarantees urgent shipments needing guaranteed uplift with prioritized processing, best or preferred connections, and a money-back guarantee if the shipment does not fly as confirmed. Q-Prime can also be used to gain capacity on full flights in urgent cases, where possible. The Control Tower monitors the shipment throughout its journey proactively solving possible disruptions. Available as an add-on for Qatar Airways Cargo's General Cargo, SecureLift (Vulnerable and Valuable Cargo), Fresh (perishable cargo), and Drive products (automobiles)

The solutions are available on most online routes and follow the usual booking cut-off times per origin. See <https://www.qrcargo.com/s/products/airplus-solutions> for more details.

## Silk Way West Airlines Joins COP29 as Global Air Cargo Partner

**Baku, Azerbaijan:** Silk Way West Airlines, the leading cargo airline in the Caspian and Central Asian region, proudly announced its role as the Global Air Cargo Partner for COP29, which will take place in Baku in November 2024.

"We are honored to serve as the Global Air Cargo Partner for COP29. Sustainability is at the heart of everything we do at Silk Way West Airlines, and this partnership affirms our dedication to reducing the environmental impact of air cargo. By participating in this landmark event, we aim to contribute to a greener future for the global logistics industry and support Azerbaijan's environmental goals," said Zaur Akhundov, President of Silk Way Group.

The airline said this partnership emphasizes its commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility, aligning with global efforts to combat climate change, while also being in keeping with Azerbaijan's declaration of 2024 as the Year of Solidarity for a Green World.

The Year of Solidarity for a Green World has featured a number of endeavors in support of environmental protection and reflects the Azerbaijani nation's commitment to sustainable development. Silk Way West Airlines stands



**COP29**  
Baku  
Azerbaijan

**silkway**  
west airlines  
Worldwide Azerbaijan Cargo

in full support of these initiatives, reinforcing its alignment with the country's vision for a greener future.

As the Global Air Cargo Partner, Silk Way West Airlines will ensure the efficient transportation of essential materials and supplies for COP29. This role highlights the airline's contribution to achieving global environmental objectives.

COP29 is a unique platform for Silk Way West Airlines to collaborate with global leaders, innovators, and policymakers. As a company operating at the crossroads of global trade, Silk Way West Airlines said it recognizes the importance of reducing its environmental impact and advancing green logistics solutions.

By joining COP29, the airline continues to further its vision of fostering a sustainable future for the aviation and logistics sectors, in line with its mission to connect East and West through its strategic hub in Baku.

A key pillar of Silk Way West Airlines' sustainability strategy is its fleet renewal plan, which will see the introduction of eight state-of-the-art aircraft by 2030. This includes four Boeing 777F, two Boeing 777-8F, and two Airbus A350F, designed to significantly reduce emissions and enhance operational efficiency.



## International Cargo Logistics opens Vietnam office



**Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam:** International Cargo Logistics Ltd (ICL), has opened a new office in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, as part of its continuing global growth plan.

The Heathrow-headquartered forwarder, which this year

celebrates its 20th anniversary, aims to develop its multimodal offering in the region, capitalizing on Vietnam's proximity to major shipping routes.

This announcement follows the opening of an office in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, in February of this year, with a total of 10 ICL offices now established across the globe.

"Our new office will be integral in driving operations in Southeast Asia, with a particular focus on supporting our clients in the e-commerce sector," said Yoav Izhari, Chief Executive Officer, ICL. "Vietnam's position facilitates easy access to the South China Sea Route, a shipping route that is integral to our operations between Asia and Europe."

The Vietnam office will allow ICL comprehensive oversight of its operations in the region, strategically situated near the Saigon Port network.

ICL operates in over 180 countries and has over 50,000 meters of logistics and storage facilities after doubling the size of cold storage facility at Heathrow in July of this year.

## Mammoet turned SPMTs into giant forklifts for successful marshaling project

**Utrecht, Netherlands:** Mammoet, the Dutch company specializing in engineered heavy lifting and transporting large objects, has once again proven its expertise by successfully turning Self-Propelled Modular Transporters (SPMTs) into giant forklifts for marshaling in connection with a wind turbine project in France.

Situated 12km from the island of Yeu, and 16km from the island of Noirmoutier, the Îles d'Yeu, the project marks the fifth offshore wind farm to be commissioned in France.

It will be home to 61 offshore wind turbines, with an individual capacity of 8MW. With an estimated annual production capacity of 1,900GWh, it will generate enough electricity for approximately 800,000 people per year.

A client of Mammoet for many years, BOW Terminal approached its engineers to assist with the marshaling, movement and temporary storage of the offshore wind turbines' transition pieces (TPs), which were being fabricated in Belgium.

TPs are traditionally moved using crawler cranes, or with Self-Propelled Modular Transporters (SPMTs) fitted with a gantry system that requires assembly, and rigging to be connected at a height over 20m.

This project marked the first opportunity for Mammoet to showcase an innovation that makes TP handling safer and more efficient for the offshore wind energy sector.

It transforms SPMT trailers into giant forklifts – resulting in an offshore wind marshaling solution that is faster and more secure.

All 61 transition pieces were being shipped from Antwerp to BOW Terminal Vlissingen, the Netherlands. Each TP weighs 400 tonnes and measures 30 meters in height and 6 meters in diameter.

Arriving by barge in fours, the TPs were lifted onto the quayside by a 1,200t crawler crane and placed onto temporary concrete supports.

Each TP was then collected on a 2 x 14 axle line configuration of SPMT and moved to a temporary laydown area. There, they were

placed on supports waiting to be called off, after which they were simply lifted and driven back from the storage area to a setup location on the quayside.

In the past, the SPMT trailers would be fitted with a gantry system that is constructed and parked over the top of the transition piece so it could be lifted from above.

In this instance, Mammoet utilized a new attachment for the SPMT that essentially turned it into a giant forklift, allowing the units to be picked up more quickly and easily from underneath.

Lars de Haas, Project Manager at Mammoet, explains: "BOW Terminal came to us and asked if we had a system like this available. We explained that there was already a concept in progress, and we just had to develop it. This took around four months, including all fabrication and testing – which was carried out at BOW Terminal."

The TPH800, as it's known, has a heavy lift capacity of 800 tons. It has two main cross beams that sit on top of two lines of SPMTs. From the cross beams hang two lower beams, which act like forklift forks.

As the SPMTs approach the TP, the front cross beam lifts like a parking barrier to allow the lower beams to be slotted underneath the transition piece. Once these are in position, the front beam lowers and the TP is firmly locked into place by pinning both cross beams to both lower beams.





**IATA**  
**WORLD**  
**CARGO**  
**SYMPOSIUM**

Dubai, UAE  
15 - 17 April 2025

# SAVE THE DATE

The IATA World Cargo Symposium, the largest and most prestigious air cargo annual event, comes back in Dubai, UAE, in April 2025.

The 2024 edition brought close to 2'000 delegates to Hong Kong (SAR), China. The next WCS will continue offering plenary sessions, specialized streams, workshops, and executive summits tackling aspects related to technology, innovation, security, customs, cargo operations, and sustainability.

Registration will open in a few weeks. Save the Date !

**JOIN US NOW**

Find out more at [www.iata.org/en/events](http://www.iata.org/en/events)

Host Partner



Host Airline



#IATAWCS





messe frankfurt

**logimotion**



10 – 11 December 2024  
Dubai World Trade Centre

# Navigating the Future

## Secure your spot at Dubai's premier logistics & mobility event

**Launch Edition**

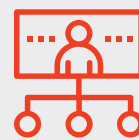
Collocated with:

**automechanika**  
DUBAI

Meet  
**2,000+**  
Visitors



Join our  
**Mainstage**  
Conferences



Network  
with  
**125+** Speakers



**EXPLORE MORE**





# Messe München acquires Miami's Air Cargo Americas Conference & Exhibition



**Munich, Germany:** Messe München, organizer of the globally popular transport logistic trade fairs, has acquired the renowned Air Cargo Americas Conference & Exhibition from the World Trade Center Miami, marking a significant expansion of its logistics portfolio.

While Messe München is taking over the trade fair, the World Trade Center Miami will remain on board as a strategic partner for a further three editions and will also support the Munich team in operational matters, ensuring the best possible synergies for the benefit of customers.

Since 1991, Air Cargo Americas has been a staple in Miami, firmly rooted in the Americas, and highly valued by the local logistics community. As one of the leading air freight exhibitions globally, it has long provided a platform for industry professionals to engage and innovate.

"We are delighted that Air Cargo Americas is joining our portfolio of trade fairs. For Messe München, this is an important step towards further expanding our activities in North and Latin America and tapping into one of the most attractive markets in the logistics industry. Air Cargo Americas is the ideal complement to transport logistic Americas, which we organized for the first time in Miami in 2022 and which was a great success thanks to the overwhelming response," Messe München CEOs Dr. Reinhard Pfeiffer and Stefan Rummel said in a statement.

## Air Cargo Americas and transport logistic Americas together

The first co-located event will take place at the Miami Beach Convention Center from November 11-13, 2025. This marks a significant milestone, as the World Trade Center Miami had originally planned to move Air Cargo Americas to this iconic venue, and now, with Messe München on board, the enhanced concept will be realized.

This combined trade show promises to deliver unparalleled insights and networking opportunities, solidifying its place as the premier logistics event in the Americas.

A free to attend conference will delve into every critical aspect of the logistics industry, curated with the expertise of leading publishers and associations, ensuring a top-tier agenda that meets the highest standards of quality and relevance. Both

organizers are expecting over 6,000 participants and 350 exhibitors for the 2025 trade fair.

## A Unified Platform for All Transport Modes

The unification of Air Cargo Americas with transport logistic Americas reflects the growing demand for a logistics event that spans all modes of transportation, including air, sea, road, and rail. As the logistics industry continues to evolve, the importance of a multimodal approach cannot be overstated. The combined event will offer exhibitors and attendees a unique opportunity to explore synergies between different transport modes, fostering innovation and efficiency across the supply chain.

## Gateway to Latin America

Miami's strategic location makes it an ideal host for this expanded logistics platform. As a gateway to Latin America and a major hub for international trade, Miami provides unparalleled access to key markets across the Americas. The World Trade Center Miami's deep-rooted connections within Florida and Latin America ensure that the event will attract a diverse range of participants, while Messe München's global network guarantees a strong international presence.

Ralph Cutié, Director & CEO of Miami International Airport, the Western Hemisphere's busiest international freight airport, commented: "This new partnership between Messe München and the World Trade Center Miami will foster greater collaboration and innovation in the air cargo and logistics industries, benefitting businesses and consumers alike."

The partnership between World Trade Center Miami and Messe München is built on a shared vision of creating a world-class logistics event. Messe München's expertise in organizing international trade fairs, combined with World Trade Center Miami's deep understanding of the local market, ensures that this event will meet the highest standards of quality and relevance.

"The cooperation between the World Trade Center Miami and Messe München marks a milestone for the logistics industry," said Ivan Barrios, President & CEO of the World Trade Center Miami, and Dr. Robert Schönberger, Global Industry Lead at Messe München. "We are both excited about the opportunities this partnership will bring for the future. The multimodal approach is exactly what the industry needs to address the challenges of today and tomorrow, and this event will be the ideal platform to showcase the latest innovations and solutions."

As the logistics industry faces increasing challenges and opportunities, the combined air cargo Americas & transport logistic Americas event is set to become the must-attend event for industry professionals. By bringing together key players from across all modes of transport, this event will foster collaboration, drive innovation, and shape the future of supply chain.







# Silk Way West Airlines:

## Leading the Way to Profitable Growth and Pragmatic Sustainability

By R. Chandrakanth  
Interview By Israr Ahmad





With the demand for cargo services continuing to rise, Silk Way West Airlines has positioned itself as a key player in the global logistics sector. The airline has placed orders for eight new Boeing freighters, including the world's largest and longest-range twin-engine freighter, the Boeing-8, marking



its commitment to operational efficiency and sustainability. This strategic move ensures that the airline stays at the forefront of environmentally sustainable operations while responding to market demands with greater capacity and improved efficiency. In an exclusive interview with Air Cargo Update at the Air Cargo China 2024 event, Wolfgang Meier, President and CEO of Silk Way West Airlines, shared insights into how the cargo carrier from the Caspian region has distinguished itself from its competitors. Mr. Meier discussed the airline's strategic expansion plans, its focus on sustainability, and its vision to be the leading "Ambition Movers" from Azerbaijan.

## Defining an "Ambition Movers"

When asked about the meaning of "Ambition Movers," Mr. Meier explained that the tagline reflects the airline's internal and external drive to capitalize on growth opportunities. The concept of "Ambition Movers" resonates with the idea of progress and leadership, highlighting Silk Way West Airlines as a company that drives ambition, not just for itself, but for its customers and stakeholders. This also reflects the company's strategic role in bridging Eastern and Western markets through its Baku hub, ensuring that the airline plays a pivotal role in shaping the future of global logistics. It suggests that the airline plays an active role in moving the ambitions of businesses

across the globe, which aligns perfectly with its mission of connecting the East and West. The philosophy behind this concept is to inspire employees and partners alike, creating a culture that thrives on innovation and a forward-thinking approach. Over the last 12 years, Silk Way West Airlines has leveraged this mindset to achieve impressive growth, currently operating hundreds of flights monthly across Europe, Asia, and the Americas and handling over half a million tons of cargo annually.

One of the most notable recognitions of this success came in 2020, when Silk Way West Airlines was awarded the prestigious title of "Cargo Airline of the Year" by Incheon Airport. This award recognized the airline for achieving up to 25,000 tons of international cargo turnover and excelling in operational performance on its routes to South Korea.

## Phase-Out of Older Aircraft Models

Growth must be sustainable and profitable, according to Mr. Meier. To align these goals, Silk Way West Airlines has embarked on an ambitious fleet renewal program, phasing out older aircraft and replacing them with more fuel-efficient models. "We began re-fleeting last year, and this process will continue over the next six to seven years," Mr. Meier shared.

The airline has already ordered six Boeing 777 freighters, two of which are currently in service, with four more expected to join the fleet in the near future. Additionally, the airline has placed orders for two Airbus A350 freighters and two Boeing 777-8



At Silk Way West Airlines, our view on sustainability is pragmatic and focused on tangible results. By investing in fuel-efficient aircraft, we immediately cut emissions by 10 to 12%. Adding sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) takes us even further, with an additional 1 to 2% improvement. Our decision to renew the fleet is not just significant—it’s a decisive step toward ensuring that our business remains aligned with a sustainable future for the next 20 years. ”

**Wolfgang Meier**  
President and CEO  
Silk Way West Airlines

freighters, which are set to be delivered by 2030. The choice of these aircraft reflects Silk Way West Airlines’ commitment to both expansion and environmental stewardship. The incorporation of these advanced models will not only increase the airline’s operational efficiency but will also contribute to its long-term sustainability objectives.

### Sustainability at the Core

Sustainability is at the heart of Silk Way West Airlines’ operational strategy. As part of its fleet renewal efforts, the airline is focused on incorporating the latest aviation technologies that directly reduce emissions and improve fuel efficiency. Mr. Meier highlighted the importance of utilizing modern aircraft, noting that the new Airbus A350F, for example, boasts 20% lower fuel consumption and CO2 emissions compared to older models. Similarly, the Boeing 777-8F, the world’s largest twin-engine freighter, reduces fuel use by 30% and operating costs by 25%.

In addition to upgrading its fleet, Silk Way West Airlines has made significant strides in embracing Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF). SAF has the potential to reduce the airline’s carbon footprint even further, contributing an additional 1-2% reduction in emissions. “Our sustainability approach is pragmatic,” Mr. Meier stated. “We focus on immediate actions that deliver measurable results.” These efforts, combined with the airline’s commitment to fleet renewal, underscore its long-term dedication to sustainable growth.

Moreover, Silk Way West Airlines’ commitment to sustainability is not limited to its fleet. The airline recently joined the United Nations Global Compact initiative, which solidifies its pledge to integrate sustainable and ethical business practices into its core operations. As part of its broader ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) strategy, the airline is also heavily involved in community-driven initiatives in Azerbaijan, contributing to educational programs, infrastructure projects, and environmental conservation efforts. This move ensures that the airline’s sustainability strategy aligns with global

benchmarks and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### Strategic Partnerships and Global Connectivity

At the Air Cargo China 2024 event, Silk Way West Airlines signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with China Henan Aviation Group. This strategic partnership aims to enhance air cargo connectivity and efficiency between Zhengzhou and Baku, creating a dual-hub model that spans the Asia-Pacific region and connects Europe, America, and Africa. The partnership represents just one of the many ways in which Silk Way West Airlines is expanding its global network.

By forming such alliances, Silk Way West Airlines can tap into new markets and leverage the strengths of its partners, further solidifying its position as a key player in the global cargo industry. This approach also supports the airline’s broader strategy of increasing efficiency across its operations, whether through optimized routing or improved supply chain management.

### Resilience in the Face of Market Fluctuations

The global cargo industry is not without its challenges, and Silk Way West Airlines has certainly faced its share of market volatility. However, the airline has demonstrated remarkable resilience. In 2023, despite a challenging year for the industry as a whole, Silk Way West Airlines managed to transport over half a million tons of cargo, reflecting the company’s strong market position and adaptability.

“While last year wasn’t the best for the industry, we took it in our stride and stayed focused on our goals,” Mr. Meier remarked. This attitude of perseverance has enabled Silk Way West Airlines to weather difficult market conditions and emerge stronger, reinforcing its role as a trusted carrier for global clients.

### Focused Growth and Niche Strengths

When discussing the competition, Mr. Meier acknowledged that Silk Way West Airlines is smaller compared to some of its global





rivals. However, the airline has successfully carved out a niche in key vertical markets such as oil and gas. "The Caspian region is our home, and we see this as a competitive advantage rather than a limitation," he said. This regional strength, coupled with the airline's focus on specialized industries, has allowed Silk Way West Airlines to differentiate itself from its competitors.

Rather than attempting to compete in every market, Silk Way West Airlines is selective in its approach. For example, the airline has deliberately chosen not to enter certain markets that are already highly competitive. Instead, it focuses on regions and sectors where it can offer unique value and capitalize on strategic opportunities.

## A Roadmap for the Future

In conclusion, Mr. Meier outlined Silk Way West Airlines' roadmap for the future. "We will continue to grow moderately, expand our networks strategically, and enhance our operations with a modernized fleet," he said. This balanced approach to growth, combined with a strong emphasis on sustainability and efficiency, positions Silk Way West Airlines as a key player in the global cargo industry.

By aligning its growth strategy with sustainable practices and leveraging strategic partnerships, Silk Way West Airlines is well equipped to navigate the evolving landscape of global air cargo. As the airline continues to expand, its focus on operational excellence and environmental responsibility will undoubtedly play a pivotal role in its ongoing success.

## Silk Way Group's 3 main pillars at a glance



**Silk Way Group** was established in 2006 to manage freight operations from Heydar Aliyev International Airport in Baku. Over the years, Silk Way Group expanded to include a number of subsidiaries active in the aviation industry as well as in other sectors.

At the end of 2019, a strategic decision was taken to focus on freight transportation, and following a process of divestment of non-core activities, the group was consolidated into three companies engaged in cargo aviation and related services: **Silk Way West Airlines, Silk Way Airlines, and Silk Way Technics.**

### Silk Way West Airlines

Founded in 2012 in Baku, at the heart of the Silk Road, Silk Way West Airlines operates hundreds of flights every month across the globe via its fleet of 12 dedicated Boeing 777F, 747-8F, and 747-400F

aircraft based at Heydar Aliyev International Airport.

In line with its commitment to sustainability and efficiency, Silk Way West Airlines plans to renew its fleet with eight new state-of-the-art aircraft by 2030, including four Boeing 777F, two Boeing 777-8F, and two Airbus A350F, to better meet global logistics demands. The airline offers comprehensive cargo services to over 40 global destinations across Europe, the CIS, the Middle East, Asia, and the Americas, managing an annual cargo turnover exceeding 500,000 tons.

### Silk Way Airlines

Silk Way Airlines was founded in 2001 and operates charter flights to Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. The Silk Way Airlines fleet consists of five latest-generation Il-76TD and Il-76 PS-90 aircraft, certified to fly anywhere in the world. The airline also provides transportation for the UN and the ISAF (International Security Assistance Force) programme.

### Silk Way Technics

Silk Way Technics was founded in 2006 and specializes in aircraft maintenance. The company has the largest hangar in the region, as well as state-of-the-art equipment, and holds certificates of compliance with international standards for the maintenance of a wide range of aircraft, including Airbus, Boeing, Embraer, and Gulfstream models. It should be noted that the highly qualified staff of Silk Way Technics provide technical services not only for Silk Way Group and Azerbaijan Airlines (AZAL) aircraft, but also for other airlines from the CIS, Europe, and the Near East.



# WestJet Cargo: Caring for Animals in the Air

By Ayesha Rashid

“At WestJet Cargo, transporting live animals goes beyond logistics it’s a mission rooted in animal welfare. Executive Vice President Kirsten de Bruijn highlights WestJet Cargo’s commitment to exceeding regulatory standards through breed-specific care and veterinary collaboration.”

**L**ive animals, whether pets, exotic species or for livestock breeding, must be transported safely.

At WestJet Cargo, this commitment to animal welfare is central to everything they do.

With Kirsten de Bruijn, WestJet Cargo’s Executive Vice President, **Air Cargo Update** explores how the airline goes beyond regulatory compliance, providing breed-specific care and working closely with veterinarians for safe and humane animal transportation.

Animal transportation isn’t just about moving animals to a new location, it’s also about creating a safe, comfortable, and stress-free environment for each species.

Canada’s WestJet Cargo prioritizes animal well-being in all its operations, from reuniting families with pets to supporting conservation efforts.

## Global Regulations Guiding Animal Transport

Cargos carrying live animals are subject to a complex web of regulations and guidelines, designed to ensure the safety and welfare of these precious cargo.

At the forefront of these regulations is the International Air Transport Association’s (IATA) Live Animals Regulations (LAR), which provides a comprehensive framework for the transportation of live animals by air and set the global standard for safely transporting live animals by air.

It provides up-to-date, efficient practices to help ensure smooth live animal shipments, avoiding delays and ensuring compliance with both international and local regulations.

The LAR includes:

- Current airline and government requirements for transporting live animals.
- Guidelines on handling, marking, and labeling.
- Essential documentation needed for animal transport.
- A detailed classification of thousands of animal species with specific container requirements.
- Advice on non-air transport of live animals.

“At WestJet Cargo, we strictly follow the global standards set by the IATA Live Animals Regulations (LAR). However, we pride ourselves on going above and beyond the minimum requirements. For us, the well-being of animals is paramount. Not only do we ensure that animals are housed in IATA-compliant kennels that are secure, well-ventilated, and appropriately sized, but we also work closely with veterinarians during the transport process.

“Our team is trained to handle specific breeds with additional care, such as brachycephalic animals during the summer. We also have detailed protocols that vary by region to ensure compliance with local regulations, ensuring a smooth experience wherever the animal travels.”

LAR is the gold standard for industry best practices.

These regulations cover every aspect of live animal transport, from kennel design and animal handling to veterinary care and emergency procedures.

From species-specific guidelines to detailed protocols for







handling and caring for animals, IATA’s LAR provides a roadmap for cargo carriers seeking to prioritize animal welfare.

Due to the complexity and ever-evolving nature of live animal transport, it’s crucial for cargo carriers to stay informed about the latest regulations and guidelines.

By doing so, they can ensure that their operations are not only compliant but also aligned with the latest best practices in animal welfare.

### Step-by-Step Process of Transporting Live Animals

While transporting live animals requires meticulous planning and attention to detail, WestJet Cargo’s comprehensive process ensures the safe and humane transportation of your precious cargo.

From booking to arrival, every step is carefully designed to prioritize the well-being of the animals in their care.

Stage	Description
Booking	Specialized support and partnerships with freight forwarders and IPATA agents.
Kennel Preparation	IATA-compliant kennels verified for safety and comfort.
Pre-Flight	Temperature-controlled, quiet areas for animals.
Arrival	Swift and safe handovers with clear communication.

“At WestJet Cargo, we’ve designed a customer-focused process to ensure the safety and comfort of animals throughout their journey. We offer specialized booking support through freight forwarders and IPATA agents, making sure every detail is handled from the start. Pet owners just provide us with the necessary details, and we take care of the rest to ensure a smooth experience.

“We also make sure that all kennels meet IATA regulations, with our ground staff checking that they’re secure, well-ventilated, and equipped with absorbent materials. Pet safety and comfort are our top priority from drop-off to arrival.

“Before the flight, animals are kept in a secure, quiet, and temperature-controlled space to reduce stress. And when they

arrive, we ensure a smooth handover with clear communication to the recipient.

“What really sets us apart is our real-time updates—pet owners are kept informed at every stage of their companion’s journey.”

### Temperature-Controlled, Quiet Areas for Animals

To ensure the comfort and safety of your animal, WestJet Cargo’s facilities are designed to provide a peaceful and serene environment.

The temperature-controlled areas are carefully monitored to ensure that the animal is kept at a comfortable temperature, reducing the risk of heat stress or discomfort pre-flight.

Step	Description
Kennel Placement	Placing the kennel in a temperature-controlled, quiet area.
Temperature Monitoring	Monitoring the temperature to ensure the animal’s comfort.
Loading Preparation	Preparing the kennel for loading onto the aircraft.

“At WestJet Cargo, we tailor our transportation approach to meet the specific needs of each animal. We’re very strict about kennel size, ventilation, and making sure animals have enough space to move comfortably. Our pilots maintain stable temperature and air pressure in the cargo hold to ensure a safe environment throughout the flight,” de Bruijn explains.

“While we can’t directly monitor the animals during the flight,

our staff performs welfare checks before loading, during the process, and immediately upon landing to make sure they are safe and stress-free. Whether it’s a small pet or a larger animal, we go beyond the basics to ensure a smooth and comfortable journey.”

According to IATA, the following table outlines the optimal conditions maintained in the cargo hold:

Condition	Optimal Range
Temperature	10°C to 21°C (50°F to 70°F)
Air Pressure	Between 10,000 and 12,000 feet above sea level

On the ground, WestJet Cargo’s team ensures that kennels are designed and prepared to meet the specific needs of each species. This includes:

Kennel Requirement	Description
IATA-compliant kennel size	To ensure the animal has enough space to stand up, turn around, and lie down comfortably.
Secure and absorbent materials	To prevent escape and minimize mess during transport.
Ventilation systems	To maintain a comfortable air quality and prevent respiratory issues.
Temperature control	To regulate the animal’s body temperature and prevent heat stress or hypothermia.



Size matters when it comes to kennels.

WestJet Cargo ensures that kennels are specifically designed to accommodate the size and breed of the animal, providing enough space for comfort and minimizing the risk of injury or stress.

## Staff Training and Emergency Protocols

All WestJet Cargo ground handlers are IATA-certified and undergo rigorous training to ensure they are equipped to handle the unique demands of transporting live animals.

This training goes beyond the basics, covering topics such as animal behavior, species-specific requirements, and emergency procedures.

This comprehensive training program enables ground handlers to identify potential issues before they arise, taking proactive steps to mitigate risks and ensure the safety and well-being of the animals.

In the unlikely event of an emergency or diversion, WestJet Cargo's trained staff springs into action, following established procedures to mitigate risks and ensure the animals receive the care they need.

From communicating with customers to coordinating with veterinarians, WestJet Cargo's emergency protocols are designed to provide a swift and effective response.

"All our ground handlers are certified under IATA's Live Animal Regulations, so they're fully trained to handle animals and respond quickly in case of emergencies. Our team is ready for any situation, and if a flight is ever diverted, we immediately work with local veterinarians and customer service to ensure the animals in our care are well looked after.

"What really sets us apart is our focus on preparation and transparency. Our customer service team is always aware of any special cargo onboard, ensuring clear communication and quick solutions in any scenario."

## Collaboration with Veterinarians and Experts

Not all animals are created equal, and each species has its unique set of needs and challenges when it comes to transportation.

Animal transportation can be a stressful experience for many animals, and stress can lead to anxiety, which can have severe consequences on their health.

When animals are separated from their owners, they may feel anxious or scared, leading to increased heart rates, breathing difficulties, and even self-injury.

According to the International Air Transport Association (IATA), stress and anxiety are among the most common health issues affecting animals during transportation.

Stress and anxiety can also be exacerbated by environmental factors such as temperature fluctuations, noise, and changes in air pressure.

With the guidance of veterinarians and experts, WestJet Cargo is able to manage special cases that require extra care and attention.

This may include animals with specific medical needs, such as those requiring medication or specialized equipment, or those that are particularly sensitive to temperature fluctuations or other environmental factors.

In these cases, WestJet Cargo works closely with the veterinarians and experts to develop customized care plans that address the unique needs of each animal.

This may involve modifying the transportation process to

minimize stress and discomfort or providing additional support and care during the journey.

"We partner closely with veterinarians and animal welfare experts to uphold the highest standards of care. Our collaboration ensures that each animal's unique needs are addressed, particularly for specialized cases like transporting brachycephalic breeds, where we consult with vets during the booking process to guarantee their safety every step of the way.

"We also recognize that stress and anxiety are the most common challenges animals face during air travel, so we create a calm, quiet, and temperature-regulated environment before the flight. To provide additional comfort, we allow pets to bring their favorite toys or blankets along, helping to ease their journey."

## Dogs and Cats as Frequent Travelers

An estimated 70% of WestJet Cargo's live animal shipments consist of dogs and cats, making them the most common species transported by the airline.

Dogs and cats require special attention to ensure their comfort and safety during transport.

WestJet Cargo's staff is trained to handle these animals with care, providing a calm and comfortable environment that minimizes stress and anxiety.

From providing familiar objects like toys or blankets to ensuring the correct temperature and ventilation in the cargo hold, WestJet Cargo goes above and beyond to ensure the safe and humane transportation of dogs and cats.

Across the animal kingdom, certain breeds require extra attention due to their physical characteristics.

Brachycephalic breeds, such as pugs, bulldogs, and Persian cats, are prone to respiratory issues and heat stress.

WestJet Cargo takes extra precautions when transporting these breeds, particularly during summer months when heat can be a concern.

The team ensures that these animals are provided with additional ventilation, temperature control, and monitoring to prevent any potential health issues.

## Technological Advancements

In today's digital world, having access to real-time information is crucial for reducing uncertainty and enhancing peace of mind.

WestJet Cargo understands this need and has introduced a variety of technological solutions aimed at keeping customers informed at every stage of the process.

Their advanced tracking systems and real-time updates showcase the company's commitment to exceeding the basic requirements of animal transport.

"As a carrier, WestJet Cargo does not have the ability to speak for the rest of the industry, but we utilize state-of-the-art tracking systems to provide real-time updates to customers, which helps create a better service experience and enhanced customer confidence.

"For pet owners, WestJet Cargo offers a seamless way to communicate with the carrier. We have a dedicated customer service team available over the course of the day to answer any questions you may have. Using an online tracking tool, customers can see when the PET's flight has taken off and landed."



## Jettainer: The global ULD expert protecting cargo in the sky for over 20 years

Our experts live and breathe ULD management, and we have the suitable digital solutions to meet even highest customer requirements with our services at all times and offer significant added value. We want to growth further on the path we have embarked on in the long term and, with an openness to innovation, continue to convince with leading services in the future.”

– Dr. Jan-Wilhelm Breithaupt, Jettainer CEO







**I**n just about two decades time, Jettainer, a wholly owned subsidiary of Lufthansa Cargo AG, has emerged as a global leader operating one of the world's most efficient unit load devices fleet.

It has over 100,000 ULDs in 500 locations worldwide and is constantly enhancing its operations to meet the challenging demands of the air cargo sector, whether it is handling dangerous goods, live animals, pharma and what-have-you?

Jettainer is truly an industry leader, deploying a unique combination of dedicated teams and leading IT solutions, big data and artificial intelligence.

The CEO of Jettainer, Dr. Jan-Wilhelm Breithaupt, who is new to the company but has known the business from a customer perspective for many years as an experienced airfreight expert gives Air Cargo Update an in-depth insight in this Q&A into what Jettainer is doing to stay ahead of the competition.

Dr. Jan-Wilhelm Breithaupt holds a doctorate in production logistics and has been driving industry-wide digital transformation projects and process improvement initiatives for more than 20 years. He held various positions within the Lufthansa Group and was most recently responsible for global customer service and handling management at Lufthansa Cargo before taking on the role as Jettainer CEO. Here's our interview.

### **With encouraging growth of global air cargo in 2024, how is the ULD segment coping with this demand?**

The aviation industry is on the rise, and with it the need for ULDs and their management. Especially in the cargo sector, demand is increasing. Our leasing service lease&fly was almost completely booked out at times. We are also experiencing the effects of growth with our existing customers, for which we are stocking up the ULD fleets. By the end of the year, we will be managing around 110,000 ULDs for our customers worldwide.

Our highly efficient management is therefore also becoming even more interesting for new customers. With Jettainer, the available ULDs of an airline can be utilized more efficiently, so that significant growth from the existing ULD fleet is possible without any need for additional units.

As e-commerce is witnessing exponential growth, tell us how ULDs have been configured to deliver safely and in a day?

E-commerce is driving air cargo and has a considerable influence on the ULD business. Demand for ULDs is increasing and the requirements for handling speed and tracking have also grown. The entire industry must adapt to this. As part of this, efficient ULD management is also becoming more important.

Another aspect is that for safety reasons, the demand for fire-resistant containers is also increasing. Here, too, we responded at an early stage. Since last year, we have been offering the first fully certified fire-resistant container. The new container is the result of close cooperation with Satco Inc., a renowned manufacturer with decades of technological expertise and quality standards. We also provide a range of other fire-resistant containers and fire containment covers for pallets that have been successfully tested.

### **With 20-year forecasts of 40,000 new airplanes, what does that translate for ULDs?**

ULDs are an elementary part of aviation. Whether for baggage or cargo, they are needed for every containerized aircraft flight. We are prepared for further growth and are closely monitoring the market. Thus, we can react flexibly to the needs of our existing and upcoming new customers at all times. Thanks to our pool of historical data and our sophisticated forecasting tool, we are able to plan ahead and anticipate.

### **What kind of innovations can we expect in ULDs?**

The aim is to lighten the ULD without compromising its robustness. We are always interested in new developments and continuously exchange with manufacturers. In addition to fire-resistant containers, for example, we also provide nets for pallets made from sustainable bio-based materials, from our long-standing partner AmSafe Bridport. Around 60 percent lighter than conventional polyester options, they reduce fuel consumption, cutting costs and greenhouse gas emissions in international air transport.

Class-D fire-resistant containers for the transport of lithium batteries are another topic. IATA is working on the development of a standard for this, and we are monitoring the situation very closely to ensure that we can offer our customers optimum solutions.

In addition to the units themselves, we are also striving to make the ULDs journey even more transparent. There are still gaps that we want to fill in order to achieve further improvements and achieve an even higher level of efficiency for our customers, especially where units leave the airports. Digital solutions and better data transfer between all parties involved are key factors.

ONE Record data sharing standard offers completely new possibilities to do this. This is why we are preparing to adopt the IATA ONE Record standard for all areas of ULD management. By adding additional data from the handling process or the truck operators, we will enrich our knowledge base with more information. In doing so, it will allow us to provide our customers with additional valuable information.

Ultimately, ONERecord, JettWare and our digital twins will be the home of all ULD related data. Innovation will come from connecting new innovative sources, such as tracking devices, automatic loading systems, e.g., robots loading and unloading baggage, airport baggage handling systems, and many more. Based on the data gained from these sources, new AI modelling and prediction algorithms can be applied to furthermore reduce life-cycle cost and improve utilization of ULDs.

### **Sustainability is key in the aviation sector, take us through the sustainability efforts in ULDs?**

Sustainability is a driver for change and innovation in the industry. The efficiency of our ULD management service, for example, which ensures that airlines can operate with fewer ULDs and that these are managed in an efficient way to avoid empty positioning flights.

Increasing utilization and efficiency of ULDs allows us to use considerably less material and equipment. This also reduces emissions, as aluminum production requires large amounts of energy.

Of course, the units used also have a major impact. Together with our customer Lufthansa, we played a key role in the development of the first lightweight containers, which were launched already in 2009. We are using modern lightweight materials, not only for the ULDs but also for straps and nets, to save both weight and CO2.

For example, we use the environmentally friendly Pallet Net Zero pallet nets from our long-standing partner AmSafe Bridport. These specially developed nets made from sustainable bio-based materials are the lightest on the market. They are around 60 percent lighter than conventional polyester versions and reduce fuel consumption, costs and greenhouse gas emissions.

For airlines that are not our customers, we offer skypooling, a free online portal for balancing excess or short stocks of ULDs.



## Reports indicate that mishandled ULDs are the biggest cause of aircraft ground damage, costing the industry \$300 million annually in repairs, can you explain this 'avoidable' factor?

ULDs are an important and valuable resource. There should be more awareness in the industry that ULDs are aircraft equipment providing safety cargo restraint in flight. The issue of damage on ULDs is very serious and causes high costs for the industry every year. Furthermore, ULD damage is also relevant to flight safety and workplace safety. We therefore work closely with manufacturers, MROs, and regulators to design ULDs in such a way that the risk of damage is minimized.

To decide whether a ULD is still serviceable in the case of a small damage, we provide our customers with special measuring cards that can be used to determine whether a ULD can still be used or needs to be repaired.

And above all, we never tire of raising awareness of the correct handling of ULDs. With special courses, we train several thousand ground handling employees worldwide in correct storage as well as proper handling of the units. Incorrect handling of ULDs, such as placing and loading them directly on the warehouse floor, is unfortunately a common but avoidable practice among airlines and freight forwarders, which we are addressing.

And we are also actively engaged in ULD Care, the trade association for ULD owners, operators and associated activities, and support all activities that promote the appropriate handling of ULDs.

## Cargo shifting during flights is said to be 'quite common' event, is there something wrong with regard to ULDs, per se, needing further improvements or is it to do with cargo handling/loading, etc.?

The ULDs are designed to be restrained by the aircraft's cargo loading system. During flight, the devices become part of the aircraft structure and are therefore, like any other aircraft component, subject to regulations to ensure flight safety. This is why it is so important to inspect the ULDs for serviceability before each deployment.

However, improper handling of ULDs after the check, for example during loading, can in the worst-case lead to bending of the fixing rails of the ULD and, in extreme cases, prevent the locks from being properly engaged in the aircraft. Responsible handling of ULDs is therefore essential for flight safety at all times.

## Are there ULDs which are 'fail-proof' and what kind of training goes into handling ULDs, particularly for dangerous goods?

IATA has developed and maintained regulations, standards and procedures for the handling of dangerous goods.

As a partner of the IATA ULD Board and ULD CARE Board member, we contribute our expertise to the development of these standards, and we are also in contact with customers and ULD manufacturers to ensure that dangerous goods can also be handled efficiently and safely. However, it is essential that the people involved are properly trained to ensure adherence to all requirements.

## With digitalization/AI, among many other smart technologies, making significant forays in air cargo movement, could you tell us how this can be factored in ULDs?

Managing a fleet of more than 100,000 ULDs efficiently around the globe requires high-quality data as well as the ability to analyze it professionally. To achieve this, we rely on highly developed digital solutions.

Our in-house developed IT solution JettWare offers transparent and real-time station inventory, ULD history and movement tracking as well as a variety of reporting options. Our advanced version, JettWare NG, already features initial artificial intelligence

functions and will be continuously updated to provide even better workflow support.

In collaboration with university partners, Jettainer has also developed a sophisticated decision support system for ULD management that utilizes big data and machine learning. This enables us to better understand ULD journeys and predict ULD imbalances, allowing us to act rather than react.

To further increase transparency and gain valuable insights into optimizing ULD usage time, Jettainer has created digital twins for each ULD in its fleet.

Digital Twins are the home of all existing data of a ULD. They help to increase usage, drive down maintenance costs, and deliver easy access to the huge amount of data that is or will be generated through digital tracking with IoT solutions, ONERecord integration, and legacy integration with CargoIMP to all important cargo handling systems.

## Do you have any product which aims at better transparency and improves ULD handling and flight safety?

Providing our customers with the best ULD management service is our core business, and transparency along the entire ULD journey is the key to efficiency and effectiveness. Our mission is therefore to use digital solutions to link all relevant data for us and our customers and thus generate added value.

The handling of ULDs is not up to us, but we offer training courses on the correct treatment of ULDs, raise awareness of the topic and never tire of emphasizing that ULDs are a valuable resource and an important part of aviation safety.

## Could you run us through the special purposes' aircraft ULDs such as temperature-controlled containers; ULD for animals; dangerous goods, etc.? How are they secured, particularly when there is turbulence?

Jettainer offers ULDs to securely load and move horses, cars, e-commerce shipments including lithium batteries, jet engines, big pets travelling with passengers, fresh fish, fruit, flowers, etc. including the service to lease these cool ULDs from providers such as cSafe, DoKaSch, or Envirotainer.

All of them are securely connected to the loading system of the aircraft and together with the aircraft handling manual and the ground operations manual, airlines and handling agents are able to avoid shifting cargo during turbulence.





Jettainer also supports customers with ULD serviceability and awareness training.

**What are the challenges for an ULD team and how do you think this needs to be addressed?**

For airlines, ULDs are essential in order to fulfil their core business: transporting passengers and cargo. Managing ULDs, in a most efficient way, is our DNA.

We relieve airlines from these tasks of ensuring that the right number of ULDs are always available in the right place. And we manage dedicated ULD fleets with only 80 percent of the units previously required. As a result, this ULD potential saving of 20 percent can either be used for growth or contributes to simply save cost.

**Has the demand of airlines to ULD designers to create collapsible containers been met – such that airlines can load with cargo in one direction and then return as a flat pack?**

We already provide our customers with collapsible horse stalls and collapsible LD3 baggage containers. This clever solution reduces costs for repositioning empty ULDs and helps us and our customers to maximize fleet utilization.

**We are told that automated tracking system for ULDs has not gained momentum, if so, why?**

Tracking the path that our ULDs take in global networks is essential – not just for our customers, but also for our management process we need precise data.

This can be achieved in various ways. We equip our customers' fleets with IoT technology, if we gain useful advantages.

However, current trackers are often dependent on the associated reader infrastructure, which sometimes reaches its limits outside the warehouse or at least the airport.

In the end, it's all about data. And this is our main focus at the moment - to use data that is already being generated in large quantities during freight and baggage transport, linking and processing it in a meaningful way. We are already using this approach, and thanks to our in-house IT solution JettWare, we know very reliably and precisely where our ULDs are located at airport level – so our customers can rely on ULD availability.

This brings us also closer to our goal of making the journey of ULDs outside the airport more transparent. We are therefore currently developing and expanding APIs with customers and partners. These APIs are a smart way of handling data in order to improve operational efficiency and service quality. And we are also preparing to adopt the IATA ONE Record Standard for all areas of ULD management.

**Tell us about your operations, growth and the opportunities you see in ULD?**

Although I have only been CEO of Jettainer since June this year, I have known the business from the customer perspective for a very long time. I can definitely say that our team is excellently positioned.

Our experts live and breathe ULD management, and we have the suitable digital solutions to meet even highest customer requirements with our services at all times and offer significant added value. We want to growth further on the path we have embarked on in the long term and, with an openness to innovation, continue to convince with leading services in the future.

**CPHI**  
Middle East

10–12 December 2024

Riyadh Front Exhibitions & Conferences Center

# Global Pharma Innovations, Now In Saudi Arabia

The region's most comprehensive pharmaceutical event

SCAN TO EXHIBIT



SCAN TO VISIT



Free entry for healthcare and pharma industry professionals

Organised by:

**tahajuf**  
an informacompany

 **informa markets**

Under the patronage of

وزارة الصحة  
Ministry of Health





# Hyundai Motor and Kia team up with Hyundai Steel and EcoPro BM to enhance EV Battery Technology

By Gemma Q. Cases



Hyundai Motor Company and Kia Corporation to launch a project to develop lithium iron phosphate (LFP) battery cathode material manufacturing technology in Korea. The project is part of the companies' efforts to advance their EV batteries, focusing on safety enhancement, performance improvement and cost reduction.





**SEOUL, South Korea:** Hyundai Motor Company and Kia Corporation are ramping up their efforts to enhance competitiveness in future electric vehicle (EV) batteries.

On September 25, Hyundai Motor and Kia launched a project to develop lithium iron phosphate (LFP) battery cathode material. In collaboration with Hyundai Steel and EcoPro BM, a leader in the cathode material market, this venture aims to synthesize materials directly without creating a precursor for LFP battery cathode material production. The Korean Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy supports this four-year project as part of the 'LFP Battery Technology Development' initiative.

"To meet future demand in the EV market, rapid technological development and effective battery supply chain establishment are essential," said Soonjoon Jung, Vice President and Head of the Electrification and Driving Materials Development Group at Hyundai Motor and Kia. "Through this project, we aim to reduce import reliance and enhance the technological competitiveness of the country and Hyundai Motor Group by internalizing necessary technologies."

Traditionally, LFP battery cathode materials are produced by adding lithium to precursor materials like phosphate and iron sulfate. The direct synthesis process simultaneously adds

This collaboration carries significance as it connects the steel, battery and automotive sectors. By integrating technology in the LFP battery material field, Hyundai Motor and Kia aim to spearhead advancements in the EV market.

Earlier this year, Hyundai Motor and Kia both announced their active pursuit of enhancing the battery capabilities, performance, safety and cost competitiveness of EVs as part of their long-term strategies.

## Hyundai Motor Company and IVECO Charge Ahead with Revolutionary Electric Commercial Vehicle at IAA Transportation 2024



phosphate, iron (Fe) powder and lithium without creating a separate precursor. This eliminates the precursor production step, reducing hazardous substance emissions during manufacturing and lowering production costs.

The direct synthesis process is environmentally friendly and cost-competitive compared to conventional processes. However, to increase production efficiency, ensuring impurity-free and uniformly sized raw materials is crucial.

In collaboration with Hyundai Steel, Hyundai Motor and Kia will develop high-purity fine iron powder processing technology using domestically recycled iron. EcoPro BM will then use this technology to develop directly synthesized LFP battery cathode material using iron powder raw materials.

The aim is to develop LFP cathode material that enables fast charging technology and exhibits high-level charging and discharging performance at low temperatures.

Hyundai Motor Company debuts the first vehicle from its global eLCV platform for European markets in partnership with IVECO Group. The revolutionary electric vehicle will be marketed in Europe, under the IVECO-badged named 'eMoovy'.

The unveiling took place at the 'IAA Transportation 2024' event, held from September 17 to 22 in Hannover, Germany.

The eMoovy combines Hyundai's EV chassis-cab-based platform with IVECO's cargo compartment. It is equipped with Hyundai's proven power electric system, carried over from Hyundai Motor Group's largest electric SUV. The new vehicle also boasts an 800V system for ultra-fast charging, with a maximum range of up to 320 km in WLTP cycle per charge. The charging experience is ultra-fast, taking just 10 minutes to provide additional 100 km of range.

Safety is a key attribute. It includes a smart battery management



system (BMS) with large-capacity batteries compared to electric light commercial vehicles in the same class (76.1 kWh). Sensors detect battery information to prevent malfunctions and maintain a safe condition. This BMS is also utilized in Hyundai's acclaimed IONIQ EV lineup and premium Genesis brand.

The eMoovy also offers vehicle-to-load (V2L) functions specialized for multi-purpose vehicles (MPV), providing electric power both inside and outside the vehicle for enhanced convenience.

The low-profile design is ideal for logistics and delivery operators, with low ground clearance to maximize cargo bin capacity and improve operator mobility. It represents a future-proof business platform that provides innovative solutions to customers as part of an industrial ecosystem.

The interior design of the eMoovy is based on Hyundai's flagship MPV model, STARIA, and is equipped with driver convenience features and a spacious driving information display. The vehicle also includes various advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS), such as Forward Collision-Avoidance Assist, Lane Departure Prevention Assist and Parking Distance Warning.

"This innovative vehicle showcases Hyundai and IVECO's shared commitment towards a carbon-neutral future," said Ken Ramírez, Executive Vice President and Head of Global Commercial Vehicle & Hydrogen Business at Hyundai Motor Company. "By leveraging Hyundai's pioneering global eLCV platform, we aim to advance EV mobility technology with IVECO's European expertise to position eMoovy as the leading transport platform that can transform the market."

"The eMoovy is the first completely new vehicle born from our partnership with Hyundai, a testament to our shared commitment

to zero-emission mobility. With the eMoovy, we further expand our electric propulsion offerings, entering a new segment to provide our customers with a broader choice of effective solutions to support their energy transition and enhance their business operations. This launch represents a further step forward in our partnership, as we continue to leverage our respective know-how and advanced technologies to drive progress towards our shared objective of accelerating the transition to net zero carbon," commented Luca Sra, President Truck Business Unit, Iveco Group.

Hyundai and IVECO affirmed their commitment to accelerating the eco-friendly CV transition and building competitiveness by creating innovative solutions in the rapidly changing commercial vehicle market.

Since their partnership's inception in 2022, Hyundai and IVECO have made significant strides. They unveiled the first IVECO eDaily fuel cell electric vehicle at IAA Transportation 2022, followed by the IVECO BUS E-WAY H2 at Busworld 2023.

In 2024, they announced a supply agreement for an IVECO-badged eLCV for Europe, based on Hyundai's eLCV platform, and signed a Letter of Intent (LOI) to explore electric heavy-duty truck solutions for European markets. (Source: [www.hyundai.com](http://www.hyundai.com))

As part of the International Automobile Exhibition (Internationale Automobil-Ausstellung) framework, IAA Transportation focuses on logistics, CVs and the transportation sector, and it takes place in Hannover, Germany, in even-numbered years. Hyundai has participated in IAA events since 2021, introducing a variety of battery-electric and fuel-cell electric vehicles and technologies.







AIR EXPO  
ABU DHABI

AVIATION - AEROSPACE EXHIBITION & CONFERENCE

19-20-21 NOVEMBER 2024

ABU DHABI, THE CAPITAL - UAE





# FAMCO Qatar

## to supply 25 Volvo Heavy-Duty FMX460 4x2 Trucks to Al Nasr Holding

**Doha, Qatar:** Al-Futtaim Auto and Machinery Company (FAMCO) Qatar has successfully sold a large fleet of VOLVO FMX460 4x2 Heavy-Duty Tractor Head trucks to Al Nasr Holding (Venture Gulf Engineering), a leading business conglomerate in Qatar.

The 25 new VOLVO FMX460 4x2 trucks will join Al Nasr Holding's existing fleet of 36 Volvo trucks, significantly enhancing their logistics capabilities.

The FMX460 model is renowned for its robust design and advanced safety features. These include a driver side airbag, roll-over protection, side collision avoidance support, forward collision warning, and a factory-fitted rear camera. Furthermore, the trucks are equipped with Volvo Connect for improved fuel efficiency, productivity, and environmental impact, along with an FM sleeper cab for driver comfort.

Venture Gulf Engineering, a subsidiary of Al Nasr Holding, is set to utilize these new trucks as part of their strategic expansion with new projects in Doha, Qatar. The expansion involves upgrading their logistics fleet to over 650 heavy vehicles to meet the growing demands and provide quicker service to clients in the city. The new location at Ras Laffan Support Service Area will bolster their service capabilities and support the company's growth trajectory.







## Innovations in Sensor Integration, SaaS, and AI Facilitate Cold Chain Telematics Market Growth to Exceed US\$2.5 Billion by 2032

**New York:** Adoption of cold chain telematics solutions for refrigerated trucks and containers is set to grow extensively over the coming years across various verticals. This growth in adoption stems from technological innovations, leading to more advanced use cases that cater to efficient Cold Chain Management.

According to global technology intelligence firm ABI Research, global cold chain telematics revenues are expected to surpass US\$2.5 billion in 2032. These revenues will consist of hardware sales as well as recurring monthly Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) revenues. Software services, combined with hardware, can enable real-time monitoring of metrics such as ambient temperature and humidity monitoring of refrigerated trucks and/or containers during travel and transit.

“Innovations in cold chain telematics have revolutionized the supply chain landscape by providing real-time monitoring and enhanced data analytics. This has led to increased adoptions in the food and beverage, chemical, and pharmaceutical industries as supply chains look to ensure product integrity and adhere to regulatory compliance. The capability to track temperature, humidity, and location throughout the supply chain reduces spoilage and boosts customer confidence in product quality,” explains Adhish Luitel, Supply Chain Management & Logistics Principal Analyst at ABI Research.

Integrating sensors within refrigerated transport units such as trucks and containers has also been a major enabler in increased adoption. The enhanced monitoring capabilities have improved supply chain visibility across various verticals where cold chain monitoring is crucial. Some key telematics vendors in this space include Samsara, Sensitech, Geotab, Verizon Connect, Powerfleet, Motive, Orbcomm, and Cooltrax.

“The future outlook of the adoption of cold chain telematics solutions looks very promising, with continuous advancements expected to further precision and efficiency, enabling more use cases. As technology improves, we can anticipate a much wider integration of AI and IoT applications. This can build smarter and more proactive cold chain systems that could preemptively address potential issues,” concludes Luitel.

These findings are from ABI Research’s Cold Chain Monitoring market data report. This report is part of the company’s Supply Chain Management & Logistics research service, which includes research, data, and analyst insights. Based on extensive primary interviews, Market Data reports present an in-depth analysis of key market trends and factors for a specific technology.



## Qatar Airways expands network in Saudi Arabia with flight resumption to Abha and flight increase to NEOM

**Doha, Qatar:** Qatar Airways is expanding its operations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia with the resumption of services to Abha, operating two weekly flights to Abha International Airport, effective 2 January 2025, the airline announced.

In addition, the national carrier of the State of Qatar says it will also increase its flights to NEOM from two to four weekly flights during the winter season, providing passengers with greater travel choices and seamless access to Qatar Airways' extensive network of over 170 global destinations through Doha's Hamad International Airport, recently voted the World's Best Airport by Skytrax 2024.

Abha, renowned for its breathtaking landscapes and rich cultural heritage, marks Qatar Airways' 11th destination in Saudi Arabia. This addition complements the airline's existing service to cities of AlUla, Dammam, Jeddah, Medina, NEOM, Qassim, Riyadh, Tabuk, Taif, and Yanbu. With more than 140 weekly flights to the Kingdom, Qatar Airways reaffirms its commitment to enhancing connectivity within the region.

Moreover, passengers travelling to NEOM will embark on a unique living experience in the 'land of dreams' as they will live and work in harmony with nature. Qatar Airways currently operates two weekly flights, which will be increased to four weekly flights starting this winter.

Qatar Airways Group Chief Executive Officer, Engr. Badr Mohammed Al-Meer, said: "We are proud to resume flights to Abha and increase frequencies to NEOM, further strengthening our presence in Saudi Arabia. This resumption is a testament to our unwavering commitment to connecting our passengers to the Kingdom's highly coveted destinations. We look forward to welcoming both business and leisure travelers to experience the unparalleled service and connectivity that Qatar Airways offers through our Doha hub, Hamad International Airport."

Saudi Air Connectivity Program CEO Majid Khan, said: "We are thrilled that the World's Best Airline, as voted by Skytrax, will resume direct scheduled flights to Saudi Arabia's beautiful Aseer region and the city of Abha, as well as increase frequencies to



NEOM, a futuristic city unlike any other in the Red Sea coast of northwest. Through Qatar Airways' large network, tourists from 170 destinations globally will fly to Abha and NEOM from the airline's Doha hub. The resumption of this route supports our tourism strategy to bring Saudi Arabia's untouched tourism potential closer to the world."

Cluster 2 Airports Company CEO, Engr. Ali Masrahi, said: "Cluster 2 Airports Company, managing 22 airports including NEOM and Abha, is proud to partner with Qatar Airways, ranked as the World's Best Airline by Skytrax. The launch of direct flights to Aseer and Abha, as well as NEOM, aligns with our goals under the National Aviation Strategy and the Air Connectivity Program. This move strengthens our global network and highlights our dedication to elevating our airports' status. With 19 accreditations from Airports Council International, we are committed to delivering top-tier aviation services."

Aseer Development Authority Acting CEO, Engr. Hashim Al-Dabbagh, expressed the Authority's excitement over the resumption of the route which will connect Abha International Airport with Qatar Airways. He commented: "This development is expected to enhance connectivity and promote tourism in the region."

Passengers travelling from Abha will soon be able to seamlessly connect to the key destinations of Dubai, Manila, and Sharjah, and explore new global horizons.

## Delta to pause flights between New York-JFK and Tel Aviv through Oct. 31



**Atlanta, Georgia:** Delta flights between New York-JFK and Tel Aviv will be paused through Oct. 31, due to ongoing conflict in the region, the airline announced.

Customers impacted by the schedule change will receive notifications via the Fly Delta app and contact information listed in their reservation as these cancellations are processed in Delta's system.

Seats on Delta partner airlines Air France and EL AL Israel Airlines remain bookable on delta.com and through Delta Reservations when available.

Delta says it is continuously monitoring the evolving security environment and assessing our operations based on security guidance and intelligence reports and will communicate any updates as needed.

"As always, the safety of customers and crew remains paramount. Customers should be prepared for possible adjustments to Delta's TLV flight schedule, including additional cancellations on a rolling basis.

A travel waiver has been issued for all customers who booked travel to/from TLV before Oct. 31, 2024," Delta said on a statement on its website.



## Renaissance Polat Istanbul Hotel

Join us for the Ground Handling and Cargo Leadership Event, uniting the supply chain!



**Reserve your seat today!**

For Sponsorship & Exhibition opportunities please contact:

Mo Banks  
+44 (0) 208 253 4017  
mo@evaint.com

Humza Raja  
+44 (0) 208 253 4005  
humza@evaint.com

Ben Chapman  
+44 (0) 208 253 4011  
ben@evaint.com

For Speaker & Delegate information please contact:

Parveen Raja  
+44 (0) 208 253 4001  
parveen@evaint.com

Gemma Keen  
+44 (0) 208 253 4002  
gemma@evaint.com

Grace Garcia  
+44 (0) 208 253 4014  
grace@evaint.com



## Ethiopian Airlines expands African reach with a new Port Sudan service



**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia:** Ethiopian Airlines is launching a daily flight service to Port Sudan in Sudan, from October 15, 2024, a strategic expansion to enhance connectivity across the African continent and beyond to foster regional socio-economic growth and facilitate trade and tourism.

The airline said the new route will provide seamless travel options for passengers traveling between Ethiopia and Sudan, as well as connecting travelers from across the vast Ethiopian Airlines network to this significant Red Sea port city.

Ethiopian says this underscores its dedication to serving the evolving needs of the African market and contributing to the continent's economic development. By connecting Port Sudan to its extensive global network, Ethiopian Airlines aims to unlock new opportunities for businesses, travelers, and communities,

promoting cross-border collaboration and cultural exchange.

The inaugural flight, ET350, will depart from Addis Ababa at 11 am and arrive in Port Sudan at 12:15 pm. The return flight, ET 351, will leave Port Sudan at 14:15 pm, arriving back in Addis Ababa at 17:30 pm. Both flights will be operated by the state-of-the-art Boeing 737 Max aircraft, ensuring a comfortable and reliable journey.

"We are pleased to connect our Sudanese brothers and sisters from Port Sudan to Addis Ababa, and to the rest of the world using our extensive global network," said Mesfin Tasew, Group CEO of Ethiopian Airlines. "By introducing daily flights to Port Sudan, we are bridging cultures and economies. This expansion is a testament to our unwavering dedication to serve our continent and its people, driving progress and prosperity through the skies."

With the inclusion of Port Sudan, Ethiopian Airlines expands its network to 66 destinations within Africa. The inauguration of this new route emphasizes Ethiopian Airlines' dedication to broadening its presence throughout Africa, while simultaneously enhancing connectivity for both business and leisure travelers. Port Sudan, a city strategically situated along the Red Sea, acts as an essential center for commerce and economics in the region.

## flydubai and SriLankan Airlines announce new interline agreement



**Dubai, United Arab Emirates:** flydubai, the Dubai-based carrier, and SriLankan Airlines have agreed on an interline agreement commencing from 09 September 2024, introducing more travel opportunities between the UAE, Sri Lanka and beyond on select routes on the carriers' networks.

This interline agreement will offer flydubai passengers access to 16 destinations on SriLankan's robust network spanning Southern and East Asia, the Middle East and Australia – including Melbourne, Seoul, Singapore and Tokyo.

In addition, it will enable passengers travelling with SriLankan Airlines to seamlessly connect via Dubai's aviation hub to more than 30 destinations that flydubai operates to in Africa, Central Asia, Central and Southeast Europe as well as the Middle East. This includes unique holiday destinations such as Bucharest, Krakow, Mombasa, Naples, Tashkent and Zanzibar.

Commenting on the interline agreement, Ghaith Al Ghaith, Chief Executive Officer at flydubai, said: "We're excited about our new interline agreement with SriLankan Airlines that will further strengthen trade and tourism relations between the UAE and Sri Lanka. Since the start of operations to Sri Lanka in

2010, we have seen consistent demand for travel between our two countries over the years. Dubai remains an important thriving aviation hub and through these interline agreements, this will open up new horizons for our passengers, giving them more options to explore the world with ease."

SriLankan Airlines and flydubai reiterated their commitment to delivering convenient and reliable travel options for their valued customers.

"We are excited to partner with flydubai to provide our passengers seamless connections and greater convenience. This partnership reinforces our strategy to broaden our network and global reach, presenting customers with more travel choices and flexibility. We look forward to collaborating with flydubai and welcoming their passengers aboard our flights to experience an authentic SriLankan journey," said Richard Nuttall, Chief Executive Officer of SriLankan Airlines.

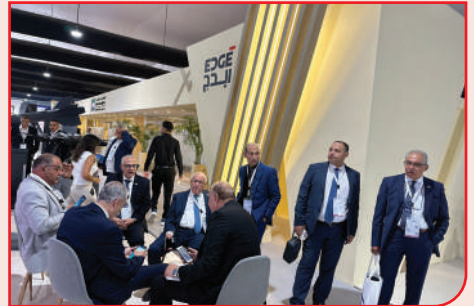
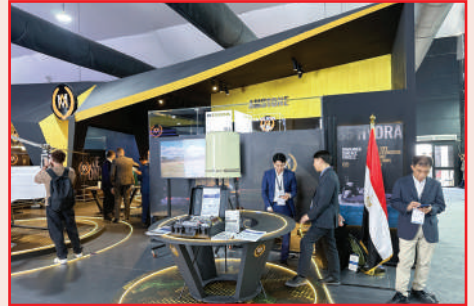
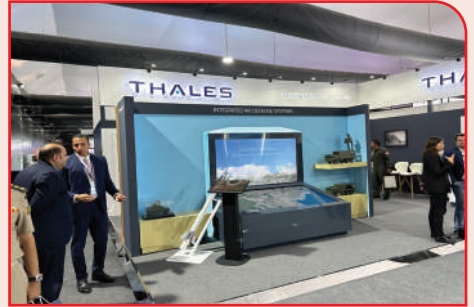
Passengers travelling with flydubai can look forward to a more personalized experience in Business Class featuring internationally-inspired menus, hours of immersive entertainment and comfortable seats while passengers in Economy Class can enjoy optimized space and comfort.

flydubai flies to more than 125 destinations in 55 countries across Africa, Central Asia, the Caucasus, Central and Southeast Europe, the GCC and the Middle East, the Indian Subcontinent as well as Southeast Asia. The carrier has opened more than 90 new routes that did not previously have direct air links to Dubai and is served by a young and efficient fleet of 88 Boeing 737 aircraft.





# EGYPT INTERNATIONAL AIRSHOW







## Airports for Innovation launches an open call for startups from around the world

**UAE, Dubai:** The Airports for Innovation (A4I), a network of 10 leading international airport operators, including Dubai International (DXB), has launched a joint open innovation program to foster collaboration with startups across the world.

In May 2021, Aena and Aeroporti di Roma signed a Memorandum of Understanding to create the Airports for Innovation network to share technological initiatives and digital solutions that improve the guest experience as they pass through airports.

Athens International Airport, Nice Côte d'Azur Airport, Dallas Fort Worth Airport, Vancouver International Airport, Flughafen München, Dubai International (DXB), Oman Airports, and Narita Airport have subsequently joined the network on different dates. A4I has thus become a truly global network, bringing together 10 of the world's leading airport groups.

A4I pursues three main objectives: to design innovative solutions to redefine and improve the passenger experience, to foster the adoption of technologies and joint solutions that make life easier for travelers as they pass through any airport in the network, and to propose and test effective models that could be standardized and adopted in the long term by the whole aviation community.

A4I now presents its first initiative: an open innovation programme to attract new innovative solutions. An open call was launched in September to receive applications with high technological or innovative value from the startup ecosystem.

The call is open to startups from anywhere in the world, as long as they were founded between January 1st, 2014 and December 31st, 2022 and have technologies and solutions that can add value to the network in any of the four challenges proposed:

**Seamless Travel Experience:** The A4I network within the scope of "Seamless Travel Experience" challenge is looking for innovative solutions to enhance the overall journey for passengers by leveraging digital technologies and cutting-edge services. It involves creating a travel experience that is frictionless, efficient, and highly customer-centric, from booking a flight to arriving at the final destination.

**Sustainable Aviation:** The "Sustainable Aviation" challenge focuses on finding solutions

that make airports more sustainable and lessen their impact on the environment. With this challenge, A4I seeks to promote solutions to make airports ready for the transition to Net Zero aviation.

**Smart Luggage Revolution:** The "Smart Luggage Revolution" challenge focuses on the reimagining and innovation of luggage integration into the travel journey. This challenge involves the development of luggage solutions that go beyond technological advancements, aiming to improve convenience, security, and sustainability for travelers.

**AI-Powered Airports:** The "AI-Powered Airports" challenge aims to find Artificial Intelligence applications to enhance operational efficiency, passenger experience, and overall aviation management.

The selected startups will have the opportunity to develop a pilot test of their solution in a real airport environment and increase their international dimension: they will have to validate their solution with at least two of the network's airport operators.

Interested startups should submit their proposals through the official A4I website: [www.airportsforinnovation.com](http://www.airportsforinnovation.com)



## LATAM Cargo triples number of flights at Brussels Airport



**Brussels, Belgium:** From 27 October, Latin American airline LATAM Cargo will triple the number of flights to Brussels Airport, from four to 12 per week, making it the airline's main European transport hub, officials announced.

The flights will be operated by a Boeing 767F which has a 60-ton capacity. The aircraft will mainly ship flowers from Ecuador to Europe, returning to Latin America with pharmaceuticals.

Since March 2023, LATAM Cargo, the largest cargo airline group in Latin America, has been operating at Brussels Airport again with four flights a week and will bring that to 12 weekly flights from next month.

The inbound flights will mainly ship perishable goods, such as flowers, from Ecuador to Europe. The aircraft then return towards Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Chile carrying pharmaceuticals, as well as other time critical cargo and automotive parts. The flights will also use Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF).

LATAM's choice for Brussels Airport confirms Brussels Airport position and expertise as a preferred pharma hub and indispensable link between local pharmaceutical research and production facilities, and hospitals and patients worldwide.

For many years, the airport has been specializing in transporting time-and-temperature critical goods with the largest area of temperature-controlled warehouses in Europe and by using refrigerated containers for transport on the tarmac, ensuring the cold chain of products is not interrupted.



## FAI scores with German record champion - FC Bayern München



**Nuremberg, Germany:** FAI Aviation Group, one of the world’s leading global providers of mission-critical aviation services, has announced an exclusive partnership with the world-famous sports club FC Bayern München (FCB) effective immediately.

As ‘Exclusive Partner, Business Aviation’, FAI will be responsible for providing business jet transport to FCB throughout the 2024-2025 soccer season. The partnership unites two successful and established brands and follows FAI’s support during the Covid pandemic when it provided air ambulance services to the Club.

“FAI is immensely proud to become an exclusive partner of FC Bayern München, one of the most successful and iconic soccer teams in the world. Business aviation is a regular go to for international professional

soccer teams, delivering efficiency, time saving, discrete air travel from private air terminals at hub airports or dedicated business airports. We wish them every success this soccer season and look forward to serving the club as their official exclusive business aviation partner in what we hope will be a successful collaboration,” said Siegfried Axtmann, Group Chairman and Founder, FAI Aviation Group.

Michael Diederich, FC Bayern München deputy CEO, commented: “We are very happy to have concluded a cooperation agreement with FAI Aviation Group. This partner stands for absolute professionalism, efficiency and enormous quality in terms of services. We look forward to working closely together.”

FAI and McLaren renew partnership now in its fifth year. In related news, FAI has confirmed its renewal of its successful partnership with another world-famous brand – McLaren Formula 1 Team. Now in its fifth year, as ‘official partner’ of McLaren Formula 1 Team, FAI will continue to provide executive aviation services to the team. As part of the agreement, FAI Aviation Group is proud to be prominently represented on Lando Norris’ helmet and more recently has been represented on Oscar Piastri’s.

The partnership between the two companies, which commenced in early 2020, aligns two internationally recognized and established brands, leaders in their fields, both committed to excellence.

Over this time, it has enabled FAI to raise its profile within the Formula 1 community and grow its brand. It has been a very positive partnership, especially with McLaren regularly featuring on the winners’ podium.

## Commercial UAV Expo 2024 convenes thousands for historic 10th Edition

**Portland, Maine, USA:** More than 3,000 commercial drone professionals from all 50 US states and 66 countries gathered for the 10th edition of Commercial UAV Expo, held September 3-5, 2024, at Caesars Forum in Las Vegas.

The event hosted 225 exhibiting companies and organizations from 22 countries, continuing its firm establishment as the leading international trade show and conference dedicated to the integration and operation of commercial UAS, the organizer said.

“The commercial drone industry is advancing rapidly past its nascent stage, and the success of this year’s tenth edition of Commercial UAV Expo is a testament to its vital role in driving that growth,” said Lee Corkhill, Group Event Director at Diversified Communications, organizer of Commercial UAV Expo. “For a decade, Commercial UAV Expo has proven to be the must-attend event for anyone who needs to keep up with commercial UAS technology, trends, workforce development, and networking with industry professionals.”

The event kicked off on September 3, with extensive pre-conference programming, workshops, and live Outdoor Flying Demonstrations, hosted in cooperation with Sundance Media Group, and sponsored by Frontier Precision Unmanned.

The expanded exhibit hall floor – the largest in the event’s history – opened, buzzing with commercial drone professionals exploring solutions from among the 225 exhibitors showcasing new technology, hardware, and software to help solve the unique challenges facing the UAS industry.

The opening keynotes on September 4, celebrated the tenth edition of Commercial UAV Expo, and began with a discussion presented by the Commercial Drone Alliance titled The State of the Drone Industry: Will Better Collaboration Unlock the Full Potential of Drones? The opening keynote segment was followed by Outlining

the Future of the Airspace with the FAA, a discussion focused on the need to safely integrate drones into the national airspace which called for a shared communications system.

The third segment of the keynote, Accelerating Commercial Viability and Market Demand, focused on commercial opportunities and business strategies in the drone space with speakers from Ondas Autonomous Systems, uAvionix Corporation, Mitsubishi Electric, and NUAIR. Panelists gave their assessment of the current drone market and offered advice to industry professionals on how to move their business forward and achieve success and stability. The most popular and pressing topics in UAV global regulations and ROI were discussed on the last day.



**3500+**  
Unique  
Visitors

**C-Level &  
VP Level**  
Attendees

**220+**  
Exhibiting  
Companies

**Networking**  
Functions

**Leading**  
Industry  
Speakers



# AIR CARGO FORUM

Miami, FL | November 11-14, 2024

Learn more and register today: [tiaca.org](https://tiaca.org)



# SKYMOVE MENA - RIYADH

10 - 11 September 2024







In partnership with



# INTERNATIONAL GENERAL AVIATION EXHIBITION

## 5-6-7 JUNE 2025

### LYON BRON AIRPORT - LFLY FRANCE

> [www.franceairexpo.com](http://www.franceairexpo.com)



France Air Expo is a must-attend event for general aviation in Europe! Explore the latest industrial innovations, meet industry leaders and share your passion for aviation!



AIRCRAFT • HELICOPTERS • ULTRALIGHT • LIGHT SPORT AIRCRAFT (LSA) • SUSTAINABLE AVIATION • AVIONICS • EQUIPMENT • ACCESSORIES • FLIGHT SCHOOLS • AERONAUTICAL TRAINING SCHOOLS • DRONES • INSURANCE • SERVICES • FINANCING • MRO

FRANCE AIR EXPO brought to you by





## Turkish Airlines Introduces the World's 'Oldest Bread' to Select Business Class Flights



**Istanbul, Türkiye:** Turkish Airlines, the airline flying to more countries than any other, has introduced 'The Oldest Bread' to its in-flight service menu, made of Einkorn and Emmer Wheats which are considered the oldest of their kind in Anatolia, the cradle of the most ancient civilizations.

New to the airline's in-flight service, but well-established in Turkish history, the menu item reflects how Turkish Airlines continues to find ways to share its culture with its guests through cuisine and connecting honored traditions with modern innovations.

The menu item was officially introduced on flight TK3 flying from Istanbul to New York on September 22, 2024. During the inaugural flight of the new Turkish Airlines offering, flag carrier airline premiered a film which was shot in the Göbeklitepe, Karahantepe, and Euphrates

River regions with the support of Türkiye's Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

Served heated and in a special bag with butter and olive oil before meal service, the bread will be available for Intercontinental Business Class passengers. Prepared fresh by the airline's Istanbul-based catering company, Turkish DO&CO, The Oldest Bread received additional consultancy of award-winning Turkish culinary historians Ömür Akkor, and academic Çetin Şenkul.

On the recent inflight dining addition, Turkish Airlines Chairman of the Board and the Executive Committee Prof. Ahmet Bolat stated: "As the flag carrier that offers the world's finest flavors to its guests and receiving numerous accolades for it from world renowned organizations, we are pleased to introduce our business class travelers to the world's oldest bread grown from the reproduction of ancient wheat discovered in excavations in the Anatolia region. With this bread, traditional to Turkish cuisine and significant to global culinary history, we aim to blend past and present together on our inflight guest experiences. We hope that our new menu item will be appreciated by our guests as we continue our award-winning leadership in the field of inflight dining."

The Oldest Bread is a Turkish Airlines project that reflects the history of Anatolian agriculture that began approximately 12,000 years ago in the Taş Tepeler region. Considered one of the centers of the Neolithic Revolution, Taş Tepeler was the first time in history that human communities transitioned from a hunter-gatherer lifestyle to a settled, agricultural society, and wheat was domesticated in this area, as a result, nutritional habits and social structures were reshaped.

## Boeing launches 'Pick Up Your Wings and Fly' platform to inspire women in the Middle East to explore opportunities in aerospace

**Dubai, United Arab Emirates:** Boeing has launched 'Pick Up Your Wings and Fly', an Instagram community designed to inspire young women in the Middle East to explore opportunities in aerospace.

The platform features female role models from the region's aerospace industry sharing their personal and professional journeys. Their stories will help raise awareness of the many career paths the industry has to offer and will provide practical advice for young female graduates to make informed career choices.

'Pick Up Your Wings and Fly' was unveiled during the 'STEM Major Exploration Fair' organized by Amideast and Boeing in Dubai, which brought together about 150 students from the UAE.

Kuljit Ghata-Aura, President of Boeing Middle East, Türkiye, Africa, and Central Asia, said: "We are incredibly proud to launch this dynamic community aimed at inspiring the next generation of female leaders in the Middle East to choose aerospace. At Boeing, we are deeply committed to driving female participation in STEM and advancing gender diversity, especially in aerospace. By following the UAE's example of empowering women and championing their growth, we hope to help shape a future where women lead and innovate in this exciting industry."

Women are significantly underrepresented in the aerospace industry, and in the Middle East they represent just 5% of aviation professionals, according to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

Supported by government efforts, diversity and inclusion initiatives, and youth employability programs, the Middle East is seeing encouraging strides towards greater female representation in aerospace.

Governments in the Middle East are implementing initiatives to ensure equal opportunities for women in various economic sectors, including aerospace.



In the UAE, 15 companies, including Boeing, signed the UAE Gender Pledge, aiming to achieve a 30% representation of women in leadership roles by 2025. Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 promotes women's leadership and economic empowerment. Similarly, Egypt is enhancing access to aerospace training in line with the National Strategy for the Empowerment of Egyptian Women 2030. In addition, Qatar is spearheading educational initiatives to boost female participation in STEM fields.



## Burak Omeroglu is new Chief Business Development Officer of ABDA Group

**Dubai, UAE:** ABDA Group, a leading global GSSA company which traces its roots in Malaysia, has appointed veteran cargo executive Burak Omeroglu as their new Chief Business Development Officer.

Burak began his career at Turkish Airlines in 2009 and moved to Turkish Cargo as logistics manager. He was appointed Regional Director for Eastern Europe and Russia in 2011. In 2016, he moved to Dubai as the company's Regional Director for the Middle East. In 2018, he was named the carrier's Vice President for Sales, the Middle East and South Asia.

Burak has an industrial engineering degree from Istanbul University and a Master's degree in Operations Research from Marmara University. In 2018, he took up his Executive MBA from London School of Economics.

## Airbus names Gabriel Semelas to lead Airbus in Africa and the Middle East

**Toulouse, France:** Airbus has named Gabriel Semelas as President of Airbus in Africa and the Middle East, effective from 1st January 2025. He succeeds Mikail Houari, who has played a crucial role in expanding Airbus' footprint in the region over the past years.

Semelas brings more than 24 years of experience in the aeronautical industry, having held key senior executive roles. He returns to Airbus from his current position as Chief Commercial and Financial Officer at Eurofighter Jagdflugzeug GmbH in Germany. Prior to that, he led the contracts team for Airbus' Commercial Aircraft business in Africa and the Middle East.

In his new role, Semelas will be responsible for overseeing Airbus' operations across all the company's divisions in the Africa and Middle East region, a key area for Airbus strategic development.

Wouter Van Wersch, Executive Vice President International at Airbus, said: "Gabriel's extensive background in the aeronautical industry, coupled with his proven leadership skills, makes him the ideal candidate to lead Airbus' operations in Africa and the Middle East. We are confident that under his leadership, we will continue to strengthen our presence and partnerships in this strategically important region."

Semelas said he takes pride in taking his new role saying, "I am honored to take on this responsibility at such a pivotal time for Airbus in Africa and the Middle East. I look forward to working with our talented teams and partners to drive growth and innovation in this dynamic market," said Gabriel Semelas.



With a significant presence throughout the Middle East and Africa, Airbus employs more than 3,300 people and remains committed to delivering industry leading products and services to customers across the region.

## World Shipping Council Appoints Tamekia Flack as Director of US Government Relations



**Washington, United States:** The World Shipping Council (WSC) has appointed Tamekia Flack as its new Director of US Government Relations, effective immediately, leading the group's efforts to advance key safety, security, and environmental priorities in the United States.

Tamekia brings a wealth of experience from her distinguished career in maritime transportation law and policy. Most recently she served as the Deputy Administrator of the US Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration (MARAD).

Prior, she was MARAD's Chief Counsel, overseeing all legal services for MARAD including legislation and regulations, government acquisitions and grants, maritime programs, litigation, and environmental law. She also served as civilian attorney for the US Coast Guard.





## Kale Logistics Solutions appoints Chief Technology Officer Tribhuwan Negi



**Mumbai, India:** Kale Logistics Solutions (Kale) has named Tribhuwan Negi as the company's new Chief Technology Officer (CTO).

With nearly 25 years of experience in building large-scale SaaS platforms and leading global R&D organizations, Negi brings a wealth of expertise to Kale at a time of significant growth and innovation.

Negi's arrival comes as Kale unveil further advancements to their UN recognized Airport Cargo Community System and Port Community System. One of his first key initiatives will be overseeing the development of intelligent AI-driven applications that further enhance Kale's solutions in the logistics and supply chain sectors.

"Logistics and supply chain technology is seeing rapid technological advancement and Kale stands at the forefront of this transformation opportunity by leveraging cutting-edge solutions to enable global trade and commerce," said Negi, CTO, Kale Logistics Solutions.

Kale continues to strengthen its leadership team to ensure its continued success globally.

"We believe that at Kale, we are driving the digital transformation of the logistics industry," said Rajesh Panicker, Co-Founder and COO of Kale Logistics Solutions. "With Tribhuwan's deep expertise, we are confident that he will accelerate our growth and further enhance our ability to deliver innovative technological solutions that revolutionize the global supply chain."

## Dietmar Focke becomes Managing Director at Lufthansa Industry Solutions and Oliver von Götz is new Head of Global Fulfillment Management

**Frankfurt, Germany:** Dietmar Focke, Chief Operations Officer at Lufthansa Cargo, will leave the Executive Board of Lufthansa Cargo AG on October 31, 2024 and become Managing Director at Lufthansa Industry Solutions, the service company for IT consulting and system integration within the Lufthansa Group.

The 51-year-old engineering graduate has headed the Operations division since March 1, 2022, responsible for Global Handling Management, Flight Operations, Security and most of Lufthansa Cargo's equity investments.

"With his extensive experience in aviation and logistics as well as the management of large business units, Dietmar Focke has continued to lead Lufthansa Cargo into the future as part of the Executive Board team and has made a significant contribution to the further development and modernization of Lufthansa Cargo," said Dr. Michael Niggemann, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of Lufthansa Cargo AG and Chief Human Resources Officer of the Lufthansa Group.

Dietmar Focke began his career in 2001 as a product engineer at Lufthansa Technik. His major milestones in recent years have included the continuation of the comprehensive LCC Evolution infrastructure program, which includes the further development and renewal of the logistics center at the home hub in Frankfurt. He was also responsible for the successful expansion of the A321 freighter fleet to four A321 freighters.

In the last 12 months, he has been instrumental in the successful development of an e-commerce product for Lufthansa Cargo. Finally, he will set the course for improved quality at Lufthansa Cargo during his remaining term of office.



## Oliver von Götz has been appointed Head of Global Fulfillment Management of Lufthansa Cargo in Frankfurt since 01 September 2024

He is responsible for global warehouse handling, the further development and management of the production system as well as customer service at the cargo airline and is the contact person for the responsible authorities.

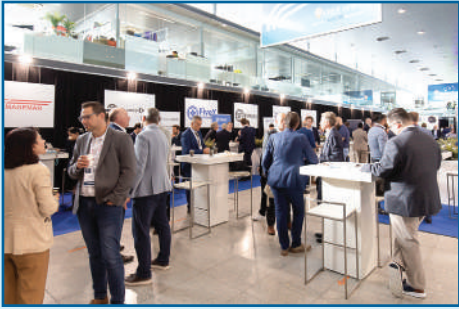
With 13 years of experience in the aviation industry in the areas of network management, strategy and sales, Oliver von Götz can draw on a wealth of experience. Before joining Lufthansa Cargo, he was Head of Corporate Airline Strategy and Business Development Lufthansa Airlines within the Lufthansa Group.



# EU Crossborder E-commerce Forum 2024











## Helishow DUBAI 2024



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## MEBAA™ SHOW



### World Safety and Operations Conference (WSOC) October 1-3, 2024

The IATA World Safety and Operations Conference (WSOC) tackles all aspects of safety, including flight operations, cabin operations, maintenance, and crisis management (emergency response planning and aircraft recovery). It is an opportunity to meet, network and develop partnerships with aviation professionals and decision-makers, gathered over 3 days under one roof.

The conference will feature over 45 hours of expert sessions over 4 tracks (Safety, Cabin, Flight Ops, and Crisis Management), will provide 15+ hours of exclusive networking opportunities, and will showcase the latest innovative solutions from sponsors and exhibitors.

**Marrakech, Morocco**

### Dubai Helishow 22-24 October 2024

Dubai Helishow is the only dedicated event in the Middle East for the Helicopter and Manned-Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Technology & Operations industry. Launched in 2004 under the Patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Ruler of Dubai, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, this is a perfect platform for the international VTOL community to meet and interact with prospective customers including State delegates and trade visitors from the MENA and Indian Subcontinent region.

**SkyDive Dubai, UAE**

### WFS & WPS 2024 30-31 October 2024

The joint IATA World Financial Symposium and IATA World Passenger Symposium event is where airline retailing, finance and passenger experience unite to create a dynamic platform for strategic exploration, actionable insights, and transformative innovation. The next edition of WFS & WPS will be held in Bangkok, Thailand. THAI Airways will host this year's event.

**Bangkok, Thailand**

### Air Cargo Forum 2024 11-14 November 2024

The nonprofit group The International Air Cargo Association (TIACA) will once again host the Air Cargo Forum which brings together industry leaders to tackle issues and trends affecting the sector.

People from a wide range of services and solutions from the entire industry are expected to participate at this event: Airlines & Airports; Road, Rail, Sea and Air Logistics Services; Freight Forwarders; Logistics Providers; Cargo Handling Companies; Supply Chain Management Companies; IT Solution Providers

Equipment, and; Control and Security Systems and Solutions. Connect with your industry, and unlock new opportunities for growth.

**Miami Beach Convention Center**

### The MEBAA Show 2024 10-12 December 2024

MEBAA Show is the region's leading business aviation event and your gateway to endless opportunities in the Middle East and beyond. 93% of the event's exhibitors rate the MEBAA Show as important for their business.

MEBAA Show 2024 introduces unique set of new and exciting features, designed to facilitate premium networking opportunities and cultivate valuable connections, unlike anything seen before.

Engage in three days of cutting-edge content, featuring a stellar line-up of global and regional industry experts. Dive into the latest aviation trends, sustainability breakthroughs, and emerging markets.

**DWC, Dubai Airshow Site**



# MATEEN

*express & logistics*



## Connecting IRAQ to the World

Air, Ocean & Land

Customs clearance at all entry points. Door delivery & pick up.  
E- Commerce logistics with COD. Cargo insurance all over Iraq.

[mateenexpress.com](http://mateenexpress.com)  
+971 4 2140 100

Whatever you see in the world is

# FROM İSTANBUL

Nairobi ✈ İstanbul ✈ Tokyo

More than 2 million tons of cargo is transported to the world from SMARTIST annually with Turkish Cargo, the air cargo brand that flies to the most destinations in the world.



**THE AIR  
LOGISTICS  
CENTER  
OF THE WORLD**



**TURKISH CARGO  
SMARTIST**