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THE
STAT

TRADE **TIMES**

SAFE SECURE

CARGO ON THE GO

08 | **SPECIAL REPORT**

Humanitarian logistics is about delivering aid at the right place at right time

20 | **FOCUS**

Bengaluru International Airport is gearing to become South India's cargo hub

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COVER STORY //

Safe & secure cargo on the go

Non-compliance with standards and over stepping prescribed safety measures by a small segment of shippers are posing challenges to air cargo security. Implementing stricter compliance rules and creating more awareness about the impending danger is the only way to plug the holes.

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SAFE & SECURE CARGO ON THE GO

Non-compliance with standards and overstepping the prescribed safety measures by a small segment of shippers are posing challenges to air cargo security. This practice, if continued, will lead to disasters that will adversely affect the air cargo value chain. Imposing stricter compliance rules and creating more awareness about the impending danger is the only way to plug the holes.

— **Renjini Liza Varghese**



Freight movement plays a crucial role in the trade of any country. Air cargo has gained a significant position in terms of the preferred mover of high value cargo. According to the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the airlines transported 52 million metric tonnes of goods, representing more than 35 percent of the global trade by value in 2016. However, if considered in volume terms, it constitutes barely one percent of the total cargo moved worldwide.

The pattern and components of goods carried by air has changed in the recent past with the onset of e-commerce platforms. Interestingly, of late, there is a sizeable increase in the volume of electronic goods shipped as air cargo. Experts name air cargo as the backbone of the thriving e-commerce industry as it offers the time advantage over other modes of transportation.

In the new era of technology, ensuring safety and security in the air cargo appears to be easy than earlier. However, the surge in electronic goods cargo bring along impediments that are not dealt with earlier. On one hand, when the freight forwarders and airlines are banking on technology to assure 100 percent safety during transit, they are also becoming more vulnerable to newer threats.

The key concern that is marring the industry currently is the possible danger from the packed lithium batteries. As these items reach various carriers in the packed form, airlines and airports are left with very little option, but to accept them believing what is recorded on the packets.

IATA dangerous goods regulation says that lithium batteries are forbidden for transport as cargo on the passenger aircraft unless shipped under exemption issued by all states concerned. And batteries must be shipped at a state of charge (SoC) not exceeding 30 percent of their rated design capacity. Cells and/or batteries at a SoC of greater than 30 percent may only be shipped with the approval of the state of origin, and the state of the operator under the written conditions established by those authorities. While there are regulations drawn separately for every item carried by air, dangerous goods have the highest specification of standards.

Worldwide, individual countries with the help of industry bodies like the IATA and the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) has been prompt in implementing regulations for safer transfer of goods by the air. The regulators adapt amendments to these from time to time.

The rules are established by ICAO and are readily available to shippers who are obliged to comply. The rules cover what commodities can be carried on passenger aircraft vs freighters, and in what quantities. The mandate also describes the »

Criminal penalties would be appropriate action against individuals and companies who deliberately fail to comply with safety regulations, which are designed to protect consumers, supply chain professionals and the air transport industry in general

Glyn Hughes, IATA



percentage the batteries can be charged while being transported. The measure is aimed to lessen the likelihood of an untoward incident.

IATA recently urged all countries for the swift implementation of the first Global Aviation Security Plan (GASeP), which was established by the Council of the ICAO.

"Flying is secure, but it is also clear that aviation faces security challenges. GASeP has the potential to strengthen security globally by providing governments with a global plan to which they can align their national efforts. The critical factor is implementation. It must be quick, comprehensive and global," said Alexandre de Juniac, director general and CEO, IATA.

The safety of the consignment contents are an issue the air cargo industry is grappling with currently. The nature of goods transported through air cargo is versatile. The security screening of consignments is important. It requires large investments. Though the industry is making investments in technology in terms of sophis-

ticated screens equipment, it may not be sufficient enough.

Industry stakeholders admit that there are loopholes that require urgent plugging. Majority of shippers fully comply with regulations, however, a small number who may not be aware of the applicable regulations as they are new to the industry, and a few others who may be aware, but deliberately fail to comply.

Glyn Hughes, global head of cargo, IATA, pointed out that the increase in e-commerce, which has brought a large number of new shippers into the international air cargo sector who aren't familiar with international regulations related to the safe transport of certain goods is one of the major challenges in the industry.

The other challenges are, he continued, "Non-compliant lithium battery shipments. By non-compliant we mean either not manufactured in accordance with accepted safe processes, or not declared according to regulations when entering the supply chain or not packaged and

labeled as per required practices."

The electronics industry accounts for around 40 percent of the value of the entire international air cargo industry. Airliners and safety experts continue to raise concerns pertaining to the transport of electronic goods via air cargo.

"There are regulations put in by individual countries in association with industry bodies regarding the transportation of lithium battery by air. The challenge in this is physically verifying the presence of such material during the transportation," said Ahmad Luqman Mohd Azmi, chief executive officer, MASKargo

Flight Safety Foundation, an international research firm has urged the air cargo industry to study threats from storing more electronics in cargo, which may overheat and cause explosions or leakages if unintentionally left turned on. However, given the surge of exports and imports of electronics pan globe, it is difficult to completely ban carriage of all electronic items.

Vineet Malhotra, director, Kale Logistics Solutions said, "Though they may be reported safe under standard conditions, in course of air cargo transportation, goods such as electronics are likely to explode or leak causing potential threat to the carrying flight. In case of many smaller operators, sensitive goods like batteries, phones etc., may not be tested under severe air cabin pressure conditions. Security compromise leading to such potential hazards can cause significant loss of capital and life to the air cargo value chain participants."

How safe is your cargo

Safety remains a national regulatory accountability. Implementation is critical in securing safety standards in air transport. Industry bodies however raise the point



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that countries put in regulation without consulting them.

IATA representative commented that the industry body responds to government safety and security amendments as and when they materialise. "All share the same objective which is safe and secure air transport, however many regulators still impose regulations without industry engagement. The industry consultation would ensure measures are workable and don't add unnecessary complexity or restrictions."

Malhotra further opined, "Worldwide trade controllers lack standard security and operation processes. It is a major lag. As global trade is fostering, air cargo industry players must come together to form a charter to encourage and support standardisation of common security norms and safety practices across the air cargo segment. Very preliminary guidelines pertaining to commodity classifications into admissible or non-admissible commodities, regulations on what constitutes as safe or unsafe packages and; what can or cannot be air ported or how contents will be checked and verified under different conditions need to be established."

Hughes continued, "We represent the industry in working with regulators to try and ensure effective measures are in place.

We also engage in education programmes to reach out to e-commerce platforms to ensure they are aware of international regulations. We are also working with the UPU (Universal Postal Union) to ensure their customers are aware of regulations."

"Criminal penalties would be the appropriate action against individuals and companies who deliberately fail to comply with the safety regulations, which are designed to protect consumers, supply chain professionals and the air transport industry in general. This would serve as the best deterrent against others considering deliberate noncompliance."

"Empowering the staff with right skill set to handle security is very important," says Luqman. "For this, every organisation has to put in extra efforts to train the staff to handle and ensure the content of the cargo is the same as it is labelled. It is a combination of human and technology, which secures the safety of air cargo."

The industry experts also pointed out the need for norms pertaining to the usage of automated digital systems with high data safeguarding features to streamline and make air cargo transactions secure.

Role of technology

The role of technology in safeguarding

security lines is as important as the human interferences. The standardisation of documents and technologies used are also imperative to improve the secured line in air cargo.

Malhotra was vocal about adapting technology. He said, "Certainly, in my opinion utilising standardised and quality information procedures is key to enhancing security, expediting clearances, optimising resources and facilitating global trade. Adopting cutting-edge enterprise and community platforms designed specially to cater to a gamut of air cargo operations can drive much needed standardisation and cohesion. Such adoption has the potential to amplify the security and safety standards across the domain."

The best example of such standardisation is IATA's Cargo-XML messaging standard, which is integrated in the World Customs Organisation's (WCO) Cargo Targeting System (WCO CTS), a risk assessment tool, which is available to WCO member countries worldwide. This integration has enabled electronic communication between airlines and customs using the IATA Cargo-XML standards format. Not only has this facilitated easier communication, but has also enabled more accurate risk assessments by capturing advance electronic cargo manifest information.

Malhotra further added, "In addition to technology, trade controllers like customs and government authorities must become more assertive in their expectations of suitable cyber hygiene across businesses and national/international infrastructures. EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), with its data protection provisions, and the EU Security of Network and Information Systems (NIS) Directive are other examples. Though Cyber threats cannot be completely eradicated, they can certainly be managed by establishing stronger collaboration between governments and key industry stakeholders, and by adopting a strong information security framework."

Tough way forward

Recently, the Brussels Airport started using Z Backscatter van to scan aircraft. The van is fully equipped with built-in Z Backscatter x-ray imaging technology that can scan planes from the outside to check

various forms of contraband which could otherwise not be detected. The General Administration of Customs and Excise Duties (GAC&E) expanded the usage of this scanner to the airport. They had already bought a similar device in 2014 that is used mainly to inspect containers and vehicles in the port of Antwerp.

Companies like Kale Logistics has developed a community and enterprise platform - GALAXY that offer secure, safe and automated flow of operations. GALAXY helps air cargo value chain participants to carry out transactions in conformity with e-freight, e-AWB and e-CSD initiatives.

"Airlines is a well regulated segment and measures are well in place in this segment to safeguard the safety of the cargo. However, there should be a single code that can be followed by all countries. This would make the process easier for the operators," commented Luqman.

Hughes signed off by saying, "It's all about working with regulators to achieve



Air cargo industry players must come together to form a charter to encourage and support standardisation of common security norms and safety practices

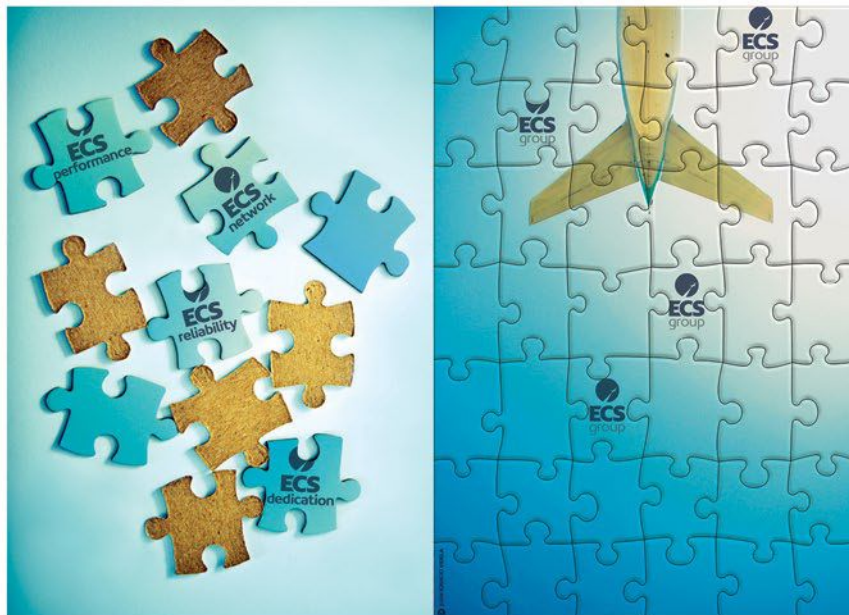
Vineet Malhotra
Kale Logistics

reasonable, and workable regulations that enhance safety without restricting trade. In parallel, we should look at educating all those involved in the supply chain regarding the applicable regulations, and finally working with law enforcement and other regulatory agencies about compliance oversight."

While a cross section of the industry feels that, GAsEP, if comprehensively implemented, would address four key elements to improve security. They are i) Closer government-to-government cooperation to eliminate long-term challenges of extraterritorial measures; ii) The universal application of global standards; iii) Better information-sharing among governments and industry; and iv) The efficient implementation of new and existing technology capabilities.

It is clearer now that risks attached to safety and security in air cargo may intensify going forward as cyber security also comes into play. ■

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DELIVERING AID AT RIGHT PLACE RIGHT TIME

The air freight industry as part of numerous relief efforts has proved its worth time and again. For carrying out relief operations, the response and communication between parties must not only be prompt and concise, they must also be accurate. It is crucial for humanitarian organisations and air cargo industry to work in tandem to ensure aid reaches survivors at right place in right time.

— Shreya Bhattacharya



The 2017 Atlantic hurricane season will be remembered as one of the worst in the hurricane seasons list in the history. Just as Harvey took a moment after wreaking havoc in Houston, Irma, a record Category 5 storm, set off on a collision course with Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Hurricane Maria soon after left a broken Caribbean, upending the lives of millions. No wonder, the ferocity of the epic trio dominated the news in the second half of 2017 highlighting the vulnerability of humans to natural and manmade disasters.

When such kind of massive calamity strikes, the best of mankind's traits come to the fore as people from all corners come out to help and contribute with massive aid and relief supplies for the survivors. One of the most challenging roles here is played by the logistics industry, which takes the daunting task of delivering these relief materials to the calamity struck regions at the earliest. Humanitarian logistics is all about the management of



Fortunately for Airlink, our NGO partners, and the disaster survivors they serve, we had several airlines rise to the challenge. The assistance they provided came in many different forms

Steven J Smith
Airlink

essential commodities like food, water, fuel, which is all consumed rapidly in the affected area just before and after a major event. While it is important to have a logistics and emergency plan already in place for such crisis, one cannot really predict the nature of damages that can occur and therefore actions are taken impromptu and can be challenging.

American Airlines Cargo, which actively got involved in relief operations in Houston, shared its experience. "The biggest challenges came from the sheer size of the disasters, as well as the enormous number of people needing help. Once donations started pouring in, our task became identifying the best ways to transport and distribute relief supplies," said David Vance, vice president Cargo Operations, American Airlines Cargo.

"We sent a rescue flight loaded with more than 10,000 pounds of relief equipment, including food, water, generators, blankets and diapers. Then we learned that a joint reserve base in Houston was



American Airlines taking relief materials for hurricane survivors



PHOTO: MASKARGO

For relief missions, we are doing a lot within stricken areas or tsunami hit areas. Our push has always been, as long as the cost that we have spent for a trip, we just want that portion of the cost

Ahmad Luqman Mohd Azmi
MAB Kargo

flooded, so we worked with fire departments in New York to send clothes to the children of the First Battalion, 23rd Marines, who had lost everything. The same was true in Puerto Rico. After Hurricane Irma, we set up a command center in San Juan (SJU) to oversee all relief efforts to St. Thomas and St. Maarten. We wound up sending 26,000 pounds of humanitarian relief, including food, water and generators to team and partner employees throughout the Caribbean. In addition to all the residents who need help there, we also have more than 400 American Airlines team members living in San Juan. That's why we were proud to be the first airline to arrive in SJU after Hurricane Maria struck the island. Since then we've provided more than 150 flights and 2.5 million pounds of relief into and out of SJU," Vance added.

Many of the air cargo players also contributed in relief operations in partnership with Airlink, a disaster relief charity that facilitates a partnership between commercial aviation and nonprofit community.



"Fortunately for Airlink, our NGO partners, and the disaster survivors they serve, we had several airlines rise to the challenge. The assistance they provided came in many different forms," explained Steven J Smith, executive director, Airlink.

"United sent a ferry flight to Puerto Rico to bring back passengers, they contacted Airlink and offered the belly of the plane and the passenger seats to our relief partners; Spirit Airlines offered available capacity and carried food and medical aid to St Martin for our partners; British Airways offered passenger flights to a British Airlink partner specializing in debris removal."

Talking about the kind of challenges encountered during the relief operations, Mike Oslansky, director, US Cargo Opera-

tions, United Airlines shares, "The particular challenges we encountered during the recent storms centered around local logistics: including congestion at airports and the conditions of roads to and from the airports. There were also issues with the availability of trucks to transport relief supplies from the airports, along with the limited availability of fuel to power these trucks. Specifically in Puerto Rico, our first challenge was to determine whether we could safely operate an aircraft into the San Juan and Aguadilla (BQN) airports. Once that was certain, we needed to ensure our United personnel were in place and they had everything they needed to support the relief operation." United Cargo has shipped more than 2 million pounds

MAB Kargo preparing for relief mission to Bangladesh for Rohingya refugees



of relief supplies to Texas, South Florida, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands.

Be it a hurricane in the US, Africa's Ebola virus, a typhoon in the Philippines or an earthquake in Nepal, each humanitarian crisis is unique and so are the challenges. Industry players opine that there is often uncertainty over the state of the local infrastructure so it requires a high level experience to clarify and understand the potential risks. This is followed by identifying and providing a fast response solution as well as a contingency plan to the relief agencies or NGOs working to help victims in the affected region.

Dmitry Grishin, CEO of CargoLogicAir elaborates the sequence of events in case of a natural calamity. "Usually, the first

flights to arrive in a disaster-stricken area are military or civil cargo aircraft capable of carrying outsize equipment and rescue teams. Aircraft transporting large pieces of equipment – possibly helicopters or earth moving equipment - must be self-handling and equipped to operate roll-on/roll off loading and unloading. After a few days, traditional wide-body freighters will then start arriving, bringing the necessary relief supplies such as food rations and water as well as other necessary equipment needed to provide assistance to the population of the region. The next phase involves creating a reliable and resilient supply chain off-airport than can provide a targeted delivery distribution system to cities and villages that have been impacted."

Recently, MAB Kargo flew its third relief mission to Bangladesh for Rohingya refugees, with almost 50 tonnes of goods to set up the Malaysian Field Hospital. More than 6 lakh Rohingya refugees, who fled from Myanmar to Bangladesh since August to survive from an outbreak of violence in Rakhine State, have been staying in the refugee camps with insufficient food, water, housing or healthcare facilities. The flight carried medical equipment including supplies for emergencies and resuscitation, surgery, anaesthetics and intensive care unit treatment, orthopaedic procedures, labour room, basic neonatal care, paediatrics and preventive medication, as well as medical supplies for three months. Previously, the airline also carried goods of basic daily necessities like biscuits, sanitary pads, towels, toothbrushes, disposable diapers, blankets, tents and other necessities.

On asking how does the airline ensures minimum dwell time at the airport, MAB Kargo chief executive officer, Ahmad Luqman Mohd Azmi said, "Chittagong is a very small airport. The three flights that we operated had different experiences. But we are seeing a lot of dedication from the partners there. In an operation like this, you definitely need to engage the airport, the military, the infrastructure and the government to manage the mission in Bangladesh. So this kind of co-operation is key to ensure the minimum dwell time of the aircraft."

Talking about other challenges, Ethiopian Cargo & Logistics Services MD Fitsum Abadi points out, "From their very nature relief goods are urgent and unplanned, which demands quick schedule/operation planning to allocate capacity; secure overflying and operating permits in a very short and off times. Availability of the right equipment, manpower, and other facilities at the airport of destination, may at times become a challenge. The standard of the logistics services from the source of the relief goods also plays an important role for the operation success."

Earlier in the year, Ethiopian Airlines joined hands with Boeing and three non-profit organisations to deliver 6.5 tonnes of humanitarian aids including medical equipment and supplies for St. Paul's Hospital and Bihar Dar University College of Medicine & Health Sciences.

Also, in case of a natural calamity, the local infrastructure might not be in a shape to support freighters landing in the region, giving rise to a requirement for self sufficient aircrafts. When asked about the kind of freighters best suited for carrying out relief operations, Colon Miller, global director of humanitarian, government & defence programmes, Volga-Dnepr Airlines said, "We have a unique range of solutions that can be quickly implemented to provide support when and where it is needed. This includes our fleets of unique, self-supporting, ramp loaded cargo aircraft that are capable of loading and unloading cargoes without the need for additional loading or handling equipment. This is especially vital when operating to the more remote parts of the world. Aircraft such as our An-124-100 and IL-76TD-90VD ramp freighters are well-equipped, self-sustaining aircraft that offer a drive-on/drive-off capability for emergency vehicles, helicopters, automobiles, etc. This includes an onboard overhead crane system built into the aircraft that allows for self-loading from trucks bringing cargo to the aircraft, placing it on the ramp under the tail sections for ease of loading by the internal crane systems."

While time sensitivity is crucial part of relief operations, ensuring pharma and food safety in the aftermath of natural disasters is also vital, as contaminated or

The biggest challenges came from the sheer size of the disasters, as well as the enormous number of people needing help. Once donations started pouring in, our task became identifying the best ways to transport and distribute relief supplies.

David Vance, American Airlines Cargo



stale goods can start a vicious circle of diseases in the affected areas. It is of utmost importance to keep a check on temperature excursion, while carrying temperature sensitive relief material.

Commenting on the precautions, Abadi explains, "Currently we are operating with ultra-modern passenger and cargo aircraft fitted with modern cooling system that enable us to carry different relief goods like pharmaceutical products at required temperature and as we all know air cargo services is the right choice for time sensitive shipments such as relief goods."

There is no denying the fact that when disaster strikes, the air cargo industry joins the relief effort unhesitatingly. However, there have been conflicting notions regarding the charges demanded for the services. While some players provide completely free of cost services, few extract minimal cost of operations. Air cargo players say it is important to understand that for the air cargo industry humanitarian relief business is involved with other corporate disciplines and services. It is crucial for them to maintain a balance between carrying out rescue and relief operations and its own survival in a competitive market with cut throat competition.

Commenting on the same Luqman says, "Besides this Rohingya movement, which is a cry for help to which the mission government responded and so being part of the government linked company, we are going our way in providing free transportation, into Bangladesh. That's part of our commitment to the government, but for other relief missions, we are doing a lot within other stricken areas or tsunami hit areas. Our push has always been, as long as the cost that we have spent for a trip is recovered, we can manage. We just want that portion of the cost."



CargoLogicAir carrying relief material to Caribbean for hurricane survivors



It is therefore apparent that air freight industry does take due cognizance of its duties towards the society and is investing much of its time and focus on managing the countless details that accompany these efforts. They are assigning unique teams to concentrate on the relief campaigns and it is incredible to see them collaborating with aid partners like Airlink. However, the coordination between the different parties is more crucial. For carrying out relief operations, the response and communication between them must not only be prompt and concise, but they must also be accurate. While the air partners should provide real-time tracking information, the aid agencies should ensure enough warehouse space for everything they are bringing in. It is the time when strong supply chain partnerships and relationships can give the best results to millions in need of help. ■

DANGEROUS GOODS REGULATIONS

Stop. Think. Check.

Dangerous goods come in all shapes, sizes and packages. Make sure your business is operating in accordance with the latest regulations.



The air cargo supply chain has attained a high degree of safety in the transportation of dangerous goods by adhering to defined standards for classification, packaging, marking, labeling, documentation, handling and training. Following these standards not only advances safety, but facilitates fast and efficient transport of dangerous goods by air.

Dangerous goods have been in the news over the last year. Hundreds of thousands of tonnes of dangerous goods are shipped by air globally and authorities take non-compliance very seriously, dispensing heavy fines to companies who endanger the safety of the public and the supply chain through a failure to comply with regulations. Whether you're a shipper, manufacturer, freight forwarder, cargo handler or airline IATA's Dangerous Goods Regulations (DGR) manual is your primary source of information for shipping dangerous goods by air. Recognized by the global airline industry, it serves to help you and your team avoid the risk of making mistakes, being fined or even causing incidents.

Numerous people come into contact with a single dangerous goods shipment in its journey from shipper to consignee and failure to comply with regulations potentially puts them at risk. Avoidable incidents involving dangerous goods occur each year, with the potential of causing injury to people and damaging property or the environment. The cost for non-compliance for companies is high. Not just in penalties, but also delayed shipments, re-work and possibly lost business or opportunities. A respectable company's reputation can also easily be put at risk.

The constant evolution of new products, substances and articles creates the potential for additional danger for air transport. IATA develops and promotes the use of the IATA DGR in close collaboration with governments, the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), and our member airlines to ensure they are effective, efficient and globally aligned. IATA's DGR team continually receives updated information from these key industry stakeholders, which they use to optimize and simplify the regulations. Many member airlines implement changes prior to regulatory changes taking effect in order to ensure aviation safety. The 59th edition of the IATA DGR incorporates all amendments made by the IATA Dangerous Goods Board and includes addenda issued by ICAO to the 2017-2018 edition of the Technical Instructions. The latest updates includes new provisions for lithium batteries, as well as updated state and operator variations. You need to fully understand these changes as soon as they arise, to avoid penalties, delays and additional operations costs.

The IATA DGR is available in several smart formats which allow for ease-of-use and a straightforward path to compliance. Whether in the warehouse, on the apron or on the go, accessing your DGR content has never been easier. All of these can be further explored on our website at www.iata.org/elibrary. Choose the format that best suits your needs and be compliant today.

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Hazard Labels



Handling Labels and Markings



BALANCING RISK AND COST

Regulating transport of dangerous goods by air is about striking a balance between risk and cost. IATA has been at the forefront of setting standards and providing training to the industry with the aim of reducing risk.

■ Reji John

Hoverboards, or the self-balancing scooters, were the most wanted Christmas and New Year gift item during the festive seasons in 2015. They became one of the hottest news stories of the holiday season then not just because of their popularity but also because many of them caught fire while in use.

Airlines across the world decided not to take any chances. They banned hoverboards on passenger flights, and the US Postal Service stopped shipping hoverboards by air as well. Online retail shops either temporarily suspended sales or stopped selling hoverboards at all.

It was found that there was no single reason why these hoverboards were exploding, and there was no sure-fire way to avoid potential catastrophe. When someone looked at the brands of hoverboards available in the market place then, there was no specific brand to choose from that guarantees a product won't explode. A majority of them came from factories in China.

One of the biggest threats to air cargo security is coming from the proliferation of e-commerce that allows shippers to

ship goods from anywhere in the world. Unlike the traditional air cargo supply chain, where the shipper is much more known and has an established relationship with the rest of the stakeholders in the logistics value chain, in the e-commerce era, the shipper could largely remain hidden and unidentified. This is causing a huge security threat to the airline industry which regularly transports huge quantities of personal electronic devices (PED) manufactured around the world, particularly China, which does not follow stringent standards.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has been at the forefront of setting the highest standards when it comes to transportation of dangerous goods. The IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations (DGR) is the trusted source to help you prepare and document dangerous shipments. Recognized by the world's airlines for almost 60 years, the DGR is the most complete, up-to-date, and user-friendly reference in the industry. The airline industry organisation has also been taking the leadership role to ensure that amendments are made to the DGR periodically to keep pace with customer and industry demands. IATA also





We are preaching to the converted. The people who we want to speak to are not in the room. In a perfect world, we would have a room full of shippers. They are our target audience.

Dave Brennan, IATA



provides training to every link in the air cargo logistics value chain across the world.

The 59th edition of the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations incorporates all amendments made by the IATA Dangerous Goods Board and includes addenda issued by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to the 2017–2018 edition of the Technical Instructions. The amendments are intended to assist the user to identify the main changes introduced in the latest edition and IATA warns that they must not be considered an exhaustive listing. The changes have been prefaced by the section or subsection in which the change occurs.

As part of letting industry know about the changes and train them on the importance of the DGR, IATA organised several training sessions across Asia recently. The training workshops were led by Dave Brennan, IATA assistant director for Cargo, Safety and Standards and James Wyatt, assistant director, for Dangerous Goods Publications at IATA. Day-long workshops were held at Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur, Manila, Hanoi, Dhaka and Colombo in November. The key highlights of the interaction were an overview of the current regulatory framework and what changes will come in 2018; how these regulations align to the ICAO Technical Instructions; and regulatory compliance of the different entities in the supply chain and what steps can be learnt to keep the supply chain safe.

"We have been doing this in Asia and this is our third such training workshop spread across six cities," Brennan told *The STAT Trade Times* on the sidelines of the workshop held in Kuala Lumpur recently. IATA did similar workshops in China in the last three years. Brennan said that there has been tremendous interest in

Jakarta and they are expecting IATA to do similar training workshop in other cities of Indonesia.

On the question of participation from different stakeholders of the air cargo logistics value chain, Brennan said that the biggest challenge has been to get shippers participate at these workshops.

"We are preaching to the converted. The people who we want to speak to are not in the room. In a perfect world, we would have a room full of shippers. They are our target audience," Brennan said. "Getting shippers, that is our challenge, we don't have a direct relationship with shippers," he added.

Measures have been introduced in the latest IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations (DGR) to reduce the risk caused by carrying lithium batteries. If the batteries overheat, they carry a fire risk. Coming into force on January 1, 2018, changes to the regulations will restrict passengers and crew from travelling with more than 15 PEDs, and to a maximum of 20 spare batteries. Currently, there are no limits on how many PEDs and batteries passengers can carry, where the lithium batteries do not exceed the standard limits of 2g for lithium metal batteries or 100 Watt-hours for lithium ion batteries.

For IATA, the main challenge is in ensuring the regulations are adopted across the industry. "We are very consistent in terms of the volumes of DGR publications sold in certain areas of the world – both in print and online," said Wyatt. According to Wyatt, IATA plans to run some awareness workshops in Africa early next year, also in the Middle East, and possibly in India.

"It's about safety at the end of the day. Adoption of DGR standards equals safety. Doing the right thing is good for business," said Brennan. ■



(L-R) Wico Santbutle, Bernard Oosterom, Peter Musola, William Peter Ojonyo, Susan Akwesi



(L-R) Eric Gysen, Conan D'Souza, Elizabeth Kimani, Chris McLean, Sarah Wangui, Milton Nyakundi

STANDARDISE AND COLLABORATE

The second edition of Flower Logistics Africa and the maiden edition of Perishable Logistics Africa, held recently at the Kenyan capital city, brought Africa's key exporters to discuss the role of logistics in finding the right market and price for one of Africa's key exports. The deliberations at the two events called for stricter standardisation across the logistics value chain and greater collaboration within the industry.

Renjini Liza Varghese

Kenya is one of the key exporters of flower and perishables in the world. While the country exports over 200,000 tonnes of flowers per annum to 60 international destinations, perishables also command a similar market share. For the last two years flower and perishable export growth has been hit owing to different factors.

The flower segment, according to Kenya Flower Council (KFC), however is growing at 2 percent, which KFC thinks will improve soon.

While Europe continues to be the key market, Kenyan growers are looking

beyond Europe as the demand started surging from the East. So it is a 'look East' policy adopted by the Kenyan growers especially with increasing demand from China. The changing paradigms like the entry of e-commerce players are expected to drive the flower and perishable markets in the coming years.

The flower and perishable segments face challenges that include, lack of standardisation in packaging, the high cost of transportation, non-collaboration among the stake holders and how to maintain the right temperature etc.

Jane Ngige, chief executive officer of

KFC pointed out, "Farmers are no longer farmers; they have grown to become global business people. So they got to face global business challenges, which will include logistics, investments and so on and so forth. They no longer can sit back and grow flowers or perishables and deliver it to the airports."

The second edition of **Flower Logistics Africa 2017** which revolved around the core theme of "Enhancing Africa's flower power through better logistics," and the first edition of **Perishable Logistics Africa 2017**, with the main topic, 'Creating Africa's future logistics





⌘ (L-R) Gladys Maina, David Onyango, Lucy Njeri, Joseph Kinga Muiruri, Milton Nyakundi



⌘ (L-R) Reji John, Wouter Boeke, Jane Ngige, Sanjeev Gadhia, Conrad Archer, Dr. Issac Macharia

grid for perishables' has facilitated the perfect platform for deliberation on the above-said points. The two conferences organised by the **Logistics Africa Update** magazine by **STAT Media Group** discussed in detail the roadblocks and challenges of Kenya's flower and perishable trade segments.

Packaging plays a crucial role in retaining the freshness and quality of flowers and perishables in transit. There are 300 different types of packaging boxes available in Kenya alone. This, the industry players feel, is of no help and is creating more confusion. Delegates at the conference were in agreement when there was a call for standardisation of packing boxes and industry collaboration. Standardisation also means bringing in consistency.

A cross-section of the shippers highlighted that the higher number of players in packaging segment has resulted in decline in the quality of the product. "More players have spoilt the quality of packaging boxes in Kenya and making the packaging process a challenge," commented Eliud Njenga, director, Credible Blooms and Pigeon Blooms.

While quality stands as the first priority, consistency is another issue which is being

pointed out by shippers. "As a sector, we all need to speak the same language for inconsistency. As stakeholders, it is our responsibility to ensure standards are maintained," said Eddy Verbeek, general manager, Florensis, a Netherlands based breeder and plant supplier.

Parit Shah, director, Silpack Industries, elaborated on what is being implemented by saying, "We are raising standards by avoiding previous mistakes in all matters regarding packaging. This is to provide consistency from suppliers to ensure delivery is of standard."

More than the industry imposing rules on standardisation, Shah stressed upon self-regulation. He added, "There is need for suppliers to have self regulated internal standards to ensure ownership within the industry."

Jeroen van der Hulst, director, FlowerWatch, draws the attention of the stakeholders towards the importance of adapting successful innovations that are being used by the global peers. He said, "Standards means investing more on coaching the workers at the farms and the processing process. We need to borrow from our partners by incorporating innovation in our processes."

Like the right packaging, maintaining the appropriate temperature is also crucial while transporting cargo across the continent.

The shipper is the best judge of his cargo and the condition of its transportation. He can judge what temperature to be maintained, the size of the box etc. However, there seems to be a gap in communication.

"There is a disconnect between the shipper and the carriers, and there is a need for a conversation to solve it," said Conrad Archer, managing director, Panalpina Africa.

Delegates at the conference were of the unanimous opinion that there is urgent need for industry collaboration. However, the question remains, who will take the lead?

The government, participants thought, should take the lead as policy formation is key to the growth of any segment. However, the industry feels that the associations of the value chain seem to be the perfect fit for the job. So going forward, if the associations are successful in joining hands, majority of the challenges will have an answer within the industry itself. ■



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- Government estimates air cargo segment to grow at 9%
- Indian government to ensure paperless air cargo processing with digital signature for transmissions
- Boost to e-commerce and exports with the 'Make in India' initiative
- Regional Connectivity Scheme - UDAN by the Indian government to offer huge opportunity for inbound and outbound cargo movements

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BIAL GEARING TO BECOME SOUTH INDIA'S CARGO HUB

As the world's second-largest start-up ecosystem, driven primarily by IT and ITES sectors, and to a certain extent, the manufacturing industry, Bengaluru has witnessed rapid growth. It is one of the major contributors to India's spectacular economic progress. And Kempegowda International Airport plays a crucial role in driving growth for the region.

■ **Surya Kannoth**



The cargo business at Bengaluru International Airport (BIAL), which operates Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) contributes 11 percent of Karnataka's GDP (approximately Rs 12,50,000 crore), substantially higher than the global average of 2-3 percent. To sustain this growth in the long term, BIAL has embarked on a journey to enhance and build on its infrastructure, standards and best practices ensuring that they consistently raise the bar in easing the movement of goods and products to and from South India.

Next on the cards, is the creation of a free trade area (FTA) or a special economic zone (SEZ) on the campus in an effort to make the airport a cargo hub for the region.

"At this point, we are exploring multiple options. We know that we have to start thinking of what next when the current cargo facility reaches its capacity (5.7 lakh tonne annually) - whether we want to



With the free trade zone, we can develop the airport as the single gateway for cargo traffic.

Reinout Puissant
Brussels Airlines

expand by scaling up the current facility or setting up a multi-model logistic hub or a free trade zone is currently under consideration," revealed Raj Andrade, vice-president (business development, marketing & strategy), BIAL during a recent interaction with media.

According to Andrade, close to 100 acres of land has been earmarked in the masterplan for the FTA or SEZ. The feasibility study for the same is currently underway. The airport's expansion plan also involves the Terminal 2 and a second runway.

"To enhance the passenger experience, we are already developing Terminal 2 and the second runway, which will be operational in the next few years. With the free trade zone, we can develop the airport as the single gateway for cargo traffic," he added.

According to statistics provided by the airport, cargo operations have grown by 142 percent from May 2008 when the airport

started operations. In the current financial year, cargo handling at the airport is set to scale 3.5 lakh tonnes, up from 3.2 lakh tonnes in 2016. Cargo business is growing at over 8 percent, a release from BIAL stated.

"We are expecting to reach the capacity over the next five years, and we need to consider ways of expanding cargo handling business," said another official representing BIAL's cargo operations. He further added that the final feasibility report is likely to be out in the next couple of months.

In another first, BIAL introduced the Knitwork Connect and LOGI Connect this year with an aim to connect Tirupur and Coimbatore in the neighbouring state of Tamil Nadu to the world via the road feeder service. Exporters are guaranteed that their consignments will be transported via road in an efficient, safe and highly process driven manner. BIAL, in collaboration with its cargo partners, Menzies Aviation Bobba Bangalore (MABB) and Air India SATS Airport Services (AISATS) initiated this dedicated bonded trucking service operations to synergise cargo movements of the two important cargo hubs.

"We started our connectivity to Tirupur this year and we are currently handling about 100 tonnes a month. Our shipments from Coimbatore, at this point of time, stands at 30 tonnes a month," said the official from BIAL.

Speaking on how BIAL compares against its competitors – Delhi, Mumbai and Chennai Airport, the official said, "In terms of customs clearance, Bengaluru has the lowest dwell time in the country. What works in our favour is the high level of safety and security - pilferage is low in terms of perishable cargo; it is secure and damage is minimal. The confidence that the importer or exporter has is the handling experience, safety and security." The airport has one of the highest customs revenues in the country with Rs 7,700 crore of revenue generated per annum as of March 2017.

With the growth of e-commerce, a dedicated counter for couriers is on the anvil at Kempegowda International Airport. According to BIAL officials, currently about 1,000 tonnes is being handled on a monthly basis, and the regional distribution hub, which is coming up on nine acres of land, is expected to handle about 60,000 to 70,000 tonnes per annum.



Pomegranate exports from Bengaluru alone has peaked one tonne per day

Venkata Reddy
Menzies Aviation Bobba
(Bangalore)

Perishables exports from Bengaluru peak

Perishables that are exported from the airport include mixed vegetables, fruits, cambodge extract etc. and the top export countries are Qatar, Singapore and UAE. The total export cargo value is pegged at Rs 59,742 crore and the total import cargo value at Rs 81,849 crore.

The highest exports of roses and mangoes from the region takes place from the airport as 303 tonnes of roses were exported in February and 562 tonnes

of mangoes were exported in April and May this year.

Exports of pomegranates have been another driver of growth for BIAL. Peeled pomegranates from Bengaluru have high demand in markets of West Asia and South East Asia.

"Pomegranates procured from nearby areas are brought to the cargo village in KIA where they are peeled and packed in small containers before being put in cold storage," said the official from BIAL.

"During our interaction with exporters and importers, we were informed about the increasing demand due to the fruit's perceived health benefits. In fact, pomegranate exports from Bengaluru alone has peaked one tonne per day," said Venkata Reddy, chief executive officer, Menzies Aviation Bobba (Bangalore), which is among the two cargo handlers at Kempegowda International Airport.

With seven dedicated freighter aircraft bays and facilities to handle a wide range of goods - including life-saving drugs and temperature-controlled products – BIAL has indeed made its mark for efficiency, speed and the introduction of new initiatives. The present design capacity of the combined cargo terminals is at 350,000 tonnes, catering to both the international and domestic air cargo traffic with the option to scale up infrastructure and support systems as required. ■

DIGITAL BLUE PRINT TO YOUR HIGH-TECH SUPPLY CHAIN



From L-R: Dev Arora, Moser Baer; Nishith Rastogi, Locus.sh; Raghavendra Swaroop, Cisco Systems; Ashish Gagan, Kuehne+Nagel



Full house of delegates at the summit

HIGH TECH INDUSTRY URGES FOR AN AGILE SUPPLY CHAIN WITH FASTER CLEARANCES

India has jumped up 30 notches into the top 100 rankings on the World Bank's 'ease of doing business' index. While this is being celebrated, our country still has a long way to go to match up with its global peers in terms of faster processing time for customs clearance for imports/exports. This was the common voice among high-tech shippers present at the High Tech Logistics Summit held on November 16 in Bengaluru.

The summit, organized by Indian Transport & Logistics News witnessed over 80 delegates comprising mostly high-tech shippers, apart from logistics service providers. The participants and speakers deliberate over the issues plaguing high tech logistics and the enablers for a digital supply chain.

The summit began with a keynote address by Dr Suresh DN, Chief Operat-

ing Officer, Supply Chain Management Centre, Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore who highlighted the key trends and challenges in high tech supply chains.

In his opening remarks, P Anjani Kumar, Commissioner of Customs, Airport & Air cargo informed that Bengaluru Airport has the country's lowest lead time with just three days for customs clearance. Keeping an open door policy, Kumar extended his support to the shippers by offering them to reach out to him directly for any issues and welcomed any suggestion or feedback from their end.

Wide-ranging topics from implementation of GST and its impact on the sector, readiness of export infrastructure and logistics and infrastructure at gateway sea and air ports were discussed at length. Digital supply chains and how blockchain

and other innovative technologies could revolutionise the supply chain framework were also important points of discussion.

The last panel discussion on 'The future of logistics and supply chain for the high-tech industry' had speakers agree on a common point - with unpredictable markets and short product life-cycles, the logistics industry serving the high tech industry needs to continuously innovate to keep pace with the increasing supply chain complexities.

Saudia Cargo, the cargo arm of Saudia Airlines, and Kempegowda Bengaluru International Airport (BIAL) were the key sponsors for the summit. Industry associations namely Indian Electronics & Semiconductor Association (IESA) and Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) also extended their support to the event. ■



Dr Sandeep Garg, IESA talks on digital supply chains



Rajeev Mukherjee, Incubate Hub comments on blockchain



Anoop Aravindakshan, Dell raises a query



Pramod Sant, Siemens makes an important point

BUILDING ROBUST GLOBAL CARGO PARTNERSHIP

With Air France-KLM India's popular carrier Jet Airways signs a robust global cargo partnership to shape and further strengthen their existing cargo cooperation and work on new possibilities.

■ Reji John

As part of the larger "enhanced cooperation agreement" signed in Mumbai recently between Air France-KLM and Jet Airways, the cargo divisions of the airlines signed a separate Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the objective to shape and further strengthen their existing cargo cooperation.

The MoU proposes to deepen the cooperation between the partners, both parties will endeavour to link and leverage their respective route networks in order to enable them to create and offer expanded high-value cargo services, as well as new and innovative products tailored towards the needs of specific industries such as pharmaceuticals, express and e-commerce.

"We share the ambition to jointly explore and exploit the vast opportunities in the air cargo market via mutual synergies in the areas comprising our routes and networks, as well as warehousing amongst others. We also intend to work closely to co-create new and industry-leading products and services for our clients," said Pradeep Kumar, Senior Vice President, Jet Airways Cargo, elaborating the details of the partnership.

The MoU will enable the partners to offer a comprehensive set of higher value services that are complementary including those on high frequency routes as well as bringing in new and unique destinations into the servicing framework via their respective hubs and gateways.



✦ Marcel de Nooijer, EVP, Air France KLM Cargo and Pradeep Kumar, SVP, Jet Airways Cargo

In an earlier interview to *The STAT Trade Times*, Kumar elaborated a series of steps that the cargo division of the carrier is implementing to increase revenue, optimise capacity and improve yields. According to him, with the introduction of wide-body aircraft in the domestic network connecting key metros, Jet Airways has significantly increased the available cargo capacity.

"Till about a year ago, our strength was on the seamless domestic connectivity but things began to change with the induction of wide-body aircraft to international locations starting with Dubai in August last year followed by other Gulf destinations and Amsterdam. Supplementing this was the introduction of wide-body aircraft in the domestic sector connecting Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai and Bangalore. This was truly a game changer in the domestic aviation sector and cargo had a significant gain on account of this," said Kumar.

From the cargo point of view, such a move allowed capacity to grow by 10 percent and most importantly FTK (Freight Tonne Kilometre) by 15 percent compared to the previous year.

"Our growth was rapid from a strong domestic distribution point to point to a network selling capability connecting domestic network with global cargo hubs," said Kumar.

For the financial year 2017, according to the numbers made public, the cargo divi-

sion contributed Rs 1337.68 crore, which is 6.31 percent of the total sales. Jet made a consolidated profit of Rs 438 crore in the financial year.

With the aim of eventually creating an integrated commercial and operational cargo cooperation model between India and Europe, the partners will work through several steps that will comprise synergising their respective cargo networks, bringing in efficiencies in warehousing, exchanging capacities and making blocked space arrangements.

Jet Airways Cargo and Air France KLM Cargo will also collaborate to optimise and expand volumes from emerging Indian markets such as Bengaluru and Chennai where intercontinental connectivity by direct services has recently been enabled.

"With the dynamic developments in India, we are excited to offer new opportunities to our customers and strengthen our global network towards the Indian freight market," said Marcel de Nooijer, EVP Air France KLM Cargo.

On the question of starting freighter operations out of India, Pieter Elbers, CEO of KLM, said that he does not rule out the possibility as India offers huge opportunities for freight transport. "We will evaluate it as we go along and certainly it is a possibility," Elbers told *The STAT Trade Times* on the sidelines of a recent press conference in Mumbai. ■

Cargolux signs cooperation agreement with Nippon Cargo Airlines//



Cargolux has announced codeshare agreement with Nippon Cargo Airlines (NCA). The cooperation agreement allows both partners access to each other's capacity. According to a press release from Cargolux, the all-cargo operator currently has access to NCA's flights from Frankfurt Hahn to Tokyo (Narita) while NCA has access to Cargolux's flights from Luxembourg to Narita. This is a significant milestone in Cargolux's operations to Japan, which, traditionally, has been an important market for Cargolux.

As per the new agreement, Cargolux plans to operate a weekly flight from Luxembourg to Tokyo Narita. Cargolux Italia will stop its operations to Narita but will maintain its services to Osaka (Kansai). The codeshare operation is planned to start with the summer season 2018. Both airlines consider the agreement as a first step towards a potentially deeper cooperation.

Swissport Cargo Services Frankfurt gets CEIV Pharma//



Swissport Cargo Services Frankfurt has received IATA's CEIV Pharma certification at the German airport after it made substantial investments into infrastructure, equipment and training.

As part of the Frankfurt Cargo community efforts, the ground handler developed a dedicated product line for the handling of life science and healthcare shipments.

"Regarding pharma shipments, we fully realise that there are always humans involved who need a constant flow of safely delivered medical products. Hence, it is of utmost importance to have a solid process, training and a state-of-the-art facility in place. Getting there was a tough job, but the IATA CEIV Pharma certification is a great reward for our efforts and makes the whole team very proud," said Philip Roodenburg, station manager at Swissport Cargo Services Frankfurt.

ATSG to lease two Boeing 767-300 freighters to Air Incheon//



ATSG West Leasing Limited, an Ireland-based leading aircraft leasing company, has agreed to lease two Boeing 767-300 converted freighters to the South Korean cargo airline Air Incheon on a multi-year term.

ATGS recently signed a multi-year agreement with Air Incheon to lease two Boeing 767-300 converted freighters by 2018, along with delivery of three dry-leased B767-300 freighters by November this year.

Rich Corrado, CEO of ATSG said: "We have a strong business relation with Air Incheon, which amply validates with the signing of a long-term agreement to lease Boeing 767 freighter. With Air Incheon's growing Boeing 737 freighter fleet strength, Boeing 767-300 will help boost its service and meet the requirement of its ever expanding customer base spread across Asia and other developing markets."

As per the new agreement, Cargolux plans to operate a weekly flight from Luxembourg to Tokyo Narita. Cargolux Italia will stop its operations to Narita but will maintain its services to Osaka (Kansai). The codeshare operation is planned to start with the summer season 2018. Both airlines consider the agreement as a first step towards a potentially deeper cooperation.

Changi Airport records nearly 10% rise in airfreight throughput YoY //



Singapore Changi Airport registered 4.93 million passenger movements in September 2017, a 7.5 percent year-on-year increase. There was a 9.8 percent increase in airfreight throughput to 183,560 tonnes,

while aircraft movements rose 4 percent to 30,490 landings and takeoffs.

Passenger traffic for September was boosted by growth across all regions, with traffic to and from South Asia rising 13 per-

cent, the sixth month of consecutive double-digit growth. All of Changi's top five country markets – Australia, China, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand – registered growth of at least 5 percent. China, Germany, India and the United States were among countries that registered double digit growth. Among Changi's top 10 routes, Melbourne and Bangkok were the fastest growing, both rising 11 percent.

For the first three quarters of 2017, passenger traffic rose 5.9 per cent to 46.0 million, supported by growth across all regions. Among Changi's top 10 country markets for the period, India (+18 percent) and China (+11 percent) were the fastest growing. Aircraft movements were 3.4 percent higher at 277,370 landings and takeoffs, while 1.56 million tonnes of airfreight throughput was shipped through Changi during the nine months, rising 8.1 percent year-on-year. Among Changi's top 10 cargo markets, Germany (+27 percent) was the fastest growing airfreight market, which has seen strong year-on-year growth across all cargo flows.

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SAS Cargo launches new pharma product//



SAS Cargo has recently launched its new pharmaceutical freight wing to cater to the need of various temperature-sensitive healthcare products.

According to sources, SAS Cargo has proven expertise in safe on-time transportation of temperature-sensitive pharmaceutical products across the globe.

In a bid to reinforce its transportation services to meet the growing needs of the pharma market, SAS Pharma Cargo was added to its product offerings.

In addition to using the latest equipment, processes and operating procedures, SAS Cargo would use active GPS trackers to monitor the shipment, assuring accurate temperature is kept throughout the entire transport chain.

"The pharmaceutical industry expects high standards and performance from airlines while transporting temperature sensitive goods. We intend to make transportation of pharma products easier and more reliable. SAS Pharma Cargo will add real value to the needs and expectations of the pharmaceutical industry," said Leif Rasmussen, president & CEO, SAS Cargo.

EVA to add Asia-North America air cargo routes//



EVA Air, the Taiwan based airlines is all set to put its new Boeing 777 freighter in service on routes between Asia and North America by the month end.

EVA Air took delivery of its first Boeing 777 freighter recently and flew it from Paine Field to Taiwan's Taoyuan International Airport (TPE).

EVA plans to put its new Boeing 777 freighter in service on routes between Asia and North America in late November. Its freighter destinations in Asia include Shanghai Pudong, Shenzhen, Chongqing, Hong Kong, Osaka, Singapore, Bangkok, Penang and Hanoi.

On the other hand, its air cargo gateways in North America are Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, Dallas/Fort Worth and Atlanta.

EVA currently offers airfreight services across 62 routes, including five dedicated cargo gateways, with 35 weekly freighter flights.

Boeing 777 freighter is the world's largest twin-engine air cargo carrier. It was designed to replace the B747-400 and MD11 freighters. Based on the Boeing 777-200LR, the B777 freighter has the range to fly 5,000 nautical miles fully loaded with a maximum capacity of 103 tonnes.

Etihad Airways starts weekly all-cargo flight at MIA//



Etihad Cargo - the cargo division of UAE-based Etihad Airways recently kicked off its weekly freight services to the Miami International Airport (MIA).

According to the company, the weekly freighter served by Boeing 777-200F aircraft would stop in Columbus, Ohio before heading towards Miami, Amsterdam and Abu Dhabi.

Miami is the airline's third US cargo route and fourth in the Western Hemisphere, joining Columbus, Tucson and Bogota. Its entry into the Miami market has added two all-cargo routes in the surging Middle East region.

Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez said, "We proudly welcome Etihad Cargo to Miami. Its addition to the local cargo industry brings new revenue and job creation to our community, which is already the home to the busiest international freight airport in America."

Etihad Airways is the fourth carrier to launch all-cargo service at MIA during this year. In February, Qatar Airways launched two weekly cargo flights between Doha and Miami, with stops in South America and Europe.

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airline is adding Tel Aviv to
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FEDEX EXPRESS
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Corp has inked a
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AirBridgeCargo Airlines (ABC) and Sky Fresh have signed a Service Level Agreement on digital procedures for the transportation of time and temperature sensitive shipments, most notably pharmaceuticals, to keep pace with the latest industry technologies and guarantee 24/7 traceability for customers worldwide. The main point of the cooperation is related to cargo acceptance checklists, which were traditionally paper-based and filled in manually. Sky Fresh provides an online web platform to centralise data from all acceptance checklists, with the possibility of monitoring freight movements for time and temperature sensitive shipments at each step of the transportation and the sending of automated notifications. Users will be able to complete the checklists via a mobile application on their smartphone or tablet. All corresponding real-time data is visible on the Sky Fresh Web platform, accessible in any browser.

CargoLogicAir, the British all-cargo airline is adding Tel Aviv to its growing network of scheduled freighter operations. The London Stansted-based airline will operate a weekly service to Tel Aviv via Frankfurt using a B 747-400F. The flight will depart Frankfurt for Tel Aviv on Friday evening before returning to Frankfurt on Saturday morning. In December, the outbound service ex Europe will switch from Frankfurt to Hahn Airport.

Cathay Pacific has become the first airline in Hong Kong to be awarded IATA CEIV Pharma Certification, a globally-recognised pharmaceutical product han-

dling accreditation. The certification underlines the carrier's capabilities in the treatment and transportation of high-value, time-sensitive and temperature-controlled pharmaceutical products with speed, consistency and efficiency.

Delta Cargo has extended its service extension of DASH Critical & Medical—a fully GPS-enabled air cargo transportation across 15 US locations. It comprises time-sensitive small packages of medical commodities, legal documents, essential machinery parts and on-the-ground components of aircraft. According to reports, DASH Critical & Medical is an IoT solution to effectively track and monitor transportation of medical freight. Besides, it offers the option to ship commodity up to 45 minutes before the scheduled flight departure.

EuroAirport Basel Mulhouse Freiburg recently received the IATA CEIV pharma certification valid for three years. Located at the intersection of Switzerland, Germany and France, it is the first airport authority to receive IATA CEIV Pharma certification for showcasing its commitment towards the regional life science industry, and for strengthening the airport's position as a dependable partner for efficient storage and transportation of temperature-sensitive pharma products across the globe.

FedEx Express a subsidiary of FedEx Corp has inked a purchase agreement with Textron Aviation Inc to augment its fleet of feeder aircrafts with 50 Cessna SkyCourier 408 aircrafts in its operation. According to the agreement, the delivery of the first Cessna SkyCourier 408 aircraft is expected in mid-2020, and the rest is anticipated to be delivered as per the schedule of one aircraft every per month, spread over a period of four years.



Hong Kong-based HACTL registered a three-fold jump in the freight handled during the first week of November. Setting a hat trick record in the first week of the month, HACTL's giant SuperTerminal-1 handled 31,280 tonnes of exports, surpassing its previous weekly record of 30,593 tonnes in November 2016.

Menzies Aviation, leading airport services specialist has recently acquired FARNAIR Handling, which is a part of ASL Aviation Holdings DAC. Hugh Flynn, chief executive of ASL Aviation Holdings DAC said that the acquisition of Farnair is a perfect fit with the existing passenger business of Menzies in Budapest. It also mirrors Farnair's sound business base and the potential for the future of Menzies.

Panalpina France, the Swiss intercontinental air and ocean freight provider has recently received the CEIV Pharma IATA certification. With the pharmaceutical product handling certification, Panalpina can offer its customers additional guarantee of investment in the Pharma field. It would also strengthen Panalpina France's position as a major player in the transport of pharmaceuticals, and guarantee the safety and quality of transported pharmaceutical products and devices.



Qatar Airways Cargo has started a weekly dedicated freighter service to Yangon, Myanmar. The airline is flying

the Airbus A330 freighter on the Doha-Yangon-Doha route, providing more than 60 tonnes of cargo capacity each way. Qatar Airways' acting chief officer, Cargo, Guillaume Halleux, said, "Since the country's liberalisation, Myanmar has had the fastest-growing economy in the ASEAN region, and foreign investment in local trade has seen tremendous growth. We are extremely proud to be the first international airline to serve this emerging market with scheduled freighter service as we aspire to become the premier air cargo service provider in the region."

Unilode Aviation Solutions, the leading global provider of outsourced ULD management and repair solutions, has moved its ULD and galley cart repair centre in Singapore into a larger facility nearby Changi Airfreight Centre. The repair station with 800 m² warehouse, 250 m² office space and an extensive outside storage area holds the certification of the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS), which allows carrying out ULD repairs for airlines based in Singapore, Australia, Hong Kong and the USA, and also received the certification of the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA).

Worldwide Flight Services (WFS) recently grabbed five major cargo handling contracts from various leading passenger and freighter airline operators in France. According to reports, out of the five cargo handling contracts, four major ones encompass Paris CDG and other 11 cargo stations across France. Interestingly, Vietnam Airlines—the flag carrier of Vietnam extended its cargo handling contract with WFS. Besides, CAL Cargo Airlines has also signed up with WFS to provide receiving points for the cargo to be subsequently trucked to Belgium, and connect with Boeing 747 freighter services ex Liege.

Qatar Airways buys 9.6% of Cathay Pacific//



Qatar Airways announced that it has entered into an agreement to purchase a total number of 378,188,000 shares of Cathay Pacific Airways, approximately 9.61 percent of the total issued share capital.

Both Cathay Pacific and Qatar Airways collaborate together as members of the Oneworld alliance. Air China Limited and Swire Pacific Limited together continue to hold 74.99 percent shares of the airline.

Qatar Airways Group chief executive, Akbar Al Baker, said, "Qatar Airways is very pleased to complete its financial investment in Cathay Pacific. Cathay Pacific is a fellow Oneworld member and is one of the strongest airlines in the world, respected throughout the industry and with massive potential for the future."

This investment further supports Qatar Airways investment strategy which already includes 20 percent investment in International Airlines Group, 10 percent investment in LATAM Airlines Group and 49 percent investment in Meridiana.

Air France to introduce Paris-Nairobi service//



Air France is launching a thrice weekly service between Paris-Charles de Gaulle and Nairobi from March 25, 2018, complementing sister airline KLM's existing service from Amsterdam.

The airline will be flying its latest-generation Boeing 787. These flights will be operated on a code-share basis with partner Kenya Airways. Customers will thus benefit from 10 weekly non-stop frequencies between Paris and Nairobi, with 3 flights operated by Air France and 7 flights operated by Kenya Airways.

Moreover, as a continuation of Nairobi, Air France customers will be able to fly to 23 regional destinations operated under a code-share with its partner.

This new Air France service is in addition to that of KLM, which operates a daily service between Amsterdam-Schiphol and Nairobi by Boeing 787.

Emirates unveils flight training academy in Dubai//



Emirates Flight Training Academy having state-of-the-art facility for training ab initio pilots was recently

launched by Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai.

According to sources, the academy is equipped with a modern fleet of 27 training aircraft-22 Cirrus SR22 G6 single-engine piston aircraft and five Embraer Phenom 100EV light jet aircrafts.

Sheikh Ahmed, chairman and CEO of Emirates Airline said, "The academy is designed to be one of the most advanced flight training facilities not just in the Middle East region, but across the globe. The academy will set new benchmark

for next-generation pilot training relying on innovation and partnering with industry training organisations, thereby strengthening Dubai's position as a global hub for aviation."

Located in Dubai South, Emirates has invested over \$39 million to build the academy with an aim to qualify UAE nationals and international students. The investment in the facility underscores Emirates' commitment, as a global leader in aviation to put in place modern infrastructure to help develop career-ready pilots for Emirates and the broader aviation industry.



Boeing gung-ho about Middle East//

Boeing seems to be upbeat about the traffic growth in the Middle East, and has projected that the region would need 3,350 new airplanes over next two decades with an estimated investment of \$730 billion.

"Traffic growth in the Middle East is expected to grow at 5.6 percent annually during the next 20 years," said Randy Tinseth, vice president of Marketing, Boeing Commercial Airplanes.

"The fact that 85 percent of the world's population lives within an eight-hour flight of the Arabian Gulf, coupled with robust business models and investment in infrastructure, allows carriers in the Middle East to channel traffic through their hubs and offer one-stop service between many cities," he adds.

Further, twin-aisle airplanes are expected to make up nearly 50 percent of the new airplanes in the Middle East, which is over 70 percent of the value at \$520 billion. Both percentages are significantly higher than the global average. The strong long-term demand for wide body airplanes was reinforced at the recently concluded Dubai Airshow by Emirates Airline which announced a commitment to purchase 40 Boeing 787-10 Dreamliners in a deal valued at \$15.1 billion.



FedEx Express helps Orbis take eye hospital to the skies in Dubai//

FedEx Express, showcasing its three decade-old relationship with non-profit non-governmental organisation Orbis, has hosted a tour of the MD-10 flying eye hospital at the recently held Dubai Airshow.

Since 1982 FedEx has extended its support to Orbis to achieve its humanitarian vision of a world of saving sight in the developing world.

The tour was led by Taarek Hinedi, vice president of FedEx Express Middle East and Africa Operations, and Bruce Johnson, Director, Aircraft Operations, Orbis.

Till date, Orbis Flying Eye Hospital, which is an airborne ophthalmic care masterpiece trotted about 92 countries, and conducted 287 training and service programs across 160 cities.

FedEx Express provides financial, operational and logistical support to Orbis, besides access to developed countries through its global network, including volunteer pilots, maintenance and ground support, thereby serving as a translator to transport medical supplies.

India to cooperate with Poland to promote civil aviation sector//



The union cabinet has sanctioned its approval for signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Poland for the Promotion of Civil Aviation Cooperation for a term of five years.

The objective of the MoU is to recognise the mutual benefit of cooperation in the field of civil aviation having particular significance in establishing and improving regional air connectivity in India.

Besides, both countries would recognise mutual benefits of environmental testing or approvals, such as flight simulators monitoring, aircraft maintenance facilities, maintenance personnel, and aircrew members.

The key areas of the MoU are to promote and support the civil aviation market by reviewing legal and procedural issues, which may adversely affect cooperation between India and Poland.

Further, the MoU is said to foster collaboration in research and studies on aviation safety, conduct training programmes on aviation safety, safety oversight, airworthiness, flight operations, licensing, legislation and enforcement.



AMERICAN AIRLINES will add a second round-trip flight from Sioux City to its hub at Dallas-Fort...



EMIRATES took the delivery of its 100th Airbus A380 aircraft at a special ceremony...



Air France-KLM and Jet Airways signed a 'Enhanced Cooperation Agreement' for the development of their operations between Europe and India. This agreement strengthens the partnership built between the three airlines since 2014. The cooperation was expanded in 2016 with an extensive codeshare agreement for connections between Europe and North America and Jet Airways' hubs at Mumbai and Delhi in India via Air France-KLM' hubs at Paris-Charles de Gaulle and Amsterdam-Schiphol. The enhanced cooperation agreement will see Jet Airways, Air France and KLM working together to develop their commercial and product offering. Customers will thus benefit from multiple travel options and seamless service throughout the three partners' networks spanning 44 cities in India and 106 destinations across Europe.

Association of Asia Pacific Airlines (AAPA) in its preliminary report showed solid expansion in the international air passenger demand and healthy growth in international air cargo markets. Global business and consumer confidence levels remained positive, and supporting growth in travel demand for the region's carriers on long haul routes, particularly between Europe and Asia, as well as within the region. Overall, Asia Pacific airlines registered a firm 8.3 percent increase in the number of international air passengers carried to a combined total of 26.4 million in October, whilst demand in revenue passenger kilometres (RPK) grew by 9.7 percent. After accounting for an 8.1 percent increase in

available seat capacity, the average international passenger load factor climbed 1.1 percentage points higher to 78.0 percent for the month.

American Airlines will add a second round-trip flight from Sioux City to its hub at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport from February 15 and March 3, 2018. It is the third time in the past three months that American, the only carrier at Sioux Gateway, has announced additional seasonal flights to Dallas-Fort Worth.



Cathay Pacific has introduced the Boeing 777-300ER aircraft on the Mumbai-Hong Kong route, with effect from October 30, 2017. This change also brings with it the reintroduction of the Premium Economy cabin. The Boeing 777-300ER aircraft will operate on the daily CX 660 service from Mumbai to Hong Kong and CX 663 flight from Hong Kong to Mumbai. This change will mark a 21 percent increase in passenger capacity and 67 percent increase in cargo capacity out of Mumbai on Cathay Pacific flights.

Emirates took the delivery of its 100th Airbus A380 aircraft at a special ceremony with Airbus held at the manufacturer's delivery centre in Hamburg. Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al-Maktoum, Emirates' chairman and chief executive officiated the ceremony. He was joined at by Sir Tim Clark, president Emirates Airline; Tom Ender, Airbus chief executive officer; Dominic Horwood, Rolls-Royce, director - Customer and Services; Ali Al Ahmed, UAE Ambassador to Germany and Frank Horch, senator for Economy, Transport and Innovation of the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg.

LATAM Airlines Group S.A. and its subsidiaries, the leading airline group in Latin America reported its preliminary monthly traffic statistics for October 2017 compared to October 2016. System passenger traffic increased by 4.2 percent, while capacity rose 2.7 percent. As a result, the company's load factor for the month increased 1.3 points to 86.9 percent. International passenger traffic accounted for approximately 57 percent of the month's total passenger traffic

SPRIANT announced it has extended their partnership with Alaska Airlines and will continue managing many of the airline's services, including inflight equipment, design and development, for another three years. The contract, which will double the duration of their business relationship to six years total, is part of a larger deal with the LSG Group, covering 40 airports in the United States and Mexico.

Southwest Airlines has inked a multi-year partnership with Mexican fashion designer Carla Fernandez to use recycled leather from discarded Southwest airplane seats to create a new line of accessories and clothing ranging from shoes and bags to ponchos and key chains. The new items will be marketed and sold under the "LUV Seat: Mexico" banner.

time:matters, the expert in worldwide Special Speed Logistics is expanding internationally. The company has further extended its network for same-day transports by opening the first Sameday Air station outside Europe in Tel Aviv. Prior to this, the extensive route network of time:matters GmbH for time-critical shipments needed at their destination that very same day had consisted of more than 100 destinations within Europe. The direct integration of a non-European location into the inter-

national Sameday Air station network is an important milestone towards the further internationalization of the existing route network

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) announced that the Passenger Agency Conference (PACConf), comprised of IATA's member airlines, adopted Resolutions for the full implementation of the New Generation of IATA Settlement Systems (NewGen ISS) initiative. NewGen ISS represents the most extensive and ambitious modernisation of the IATA Billing and Settlement Plan (BSP) since it was created in 1971 to facilitate the global distribution and settlement of funds between travel agents and airlines. Last year, the BSP processed \$219 billion in airline funds with 100 percent on-time settlement.



United Airlines is marking 10 years of its daily nonstop service between Mumbai Airport and its New York/Newark hub, Newark Liberty International Airport. Since it was launched in October 2007, the service has carried over 1.6 million customers on over 7,000 flights. Celebrating this milestone, VIP guests, United employees and customers from across the travel industry joined Marcel Fuchs - United Vice president Atlantic and Pacific Sales, Thorsten Lettner - United Managing Director Continental Europe and India, Sales, Harvinder Singh - United Country Manager India and the Commercial Consul for the U.S. Embassy in India - Gregory Taevs at the Taj Mahal Hotel, Chamber Lawns for a gala dinner and evening of musical entertainment.



APM TERMINALS INLAND SERVICES AFRICA has signed a MoU with the government of Ghana, and...



CMA CGM has reported a growth of 11.6 percent in the volumes carried in the third quarter...

APM Terminals Inland Services Africa has signed a MoU with the government of Ghana, and the non-profit road safety organisation Amend to ensure port accessed roads and highways that will handle the inland transportation are safe and able to handle increased traffic flow. The collaboration aims to improve road safety as part of government policy and safety culture in nearby communities as new port takes shape. The MoU signing ceremony was held in the presence of Queen Margrethe II of Denmark who was on an official state visit to Ghana and the Ghana Vice President, Dr Mahamudu Bawumia.



APM Terminals Inland Services inaugurated its new state-of-the-art inland container depot and supply chain solutions facility designed to serve one of India's fastest-growing hubs for industrial development and manufacturing in Pune. The new facility, which is over 12 acres in area, can handle more than 60,000 containers annually. Services include customs clearance, bonded and non-bonded warehousing, empty container acceptance, transportation solutions and container repairs which are typically offered near ports. The facility is located 150 kilometres inland from Mumbai. Regional industries and manufacturing will now benefit from these local services

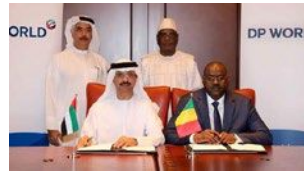
CMA CGM, French container shipping major, recently announced that it will power its nine future ultra large vessels with liquefied natural gas (LNG) engines by 2020. The announcement was made by CMA CGM during the UN Climate Change

Conference (COP23) held in Bonn, Germany. "We have made the bold decision to equip our future 22,000 TEUs vessels with a technology firmly focused on the protection of the environment. By choosing LNG, CMA CGM confirms its ambition to be a leading force in the industry in environmental protection by being a pioneer in innovative and eco-responsible technologies," said Rodolphe Saadé, CEO, CMA CGM Group.

CMA CGM has reported a growth of 11.6 percent in the volumes carried in the third quarter as compared to the same period in 2016. During the period, CMA CGM carried close to 5 million containers, a record figure. The increase can be explained by the strong growth in volumes carried through OCEAN Alliance, on the Asia-USA and Asia-Europe routes, as well as on most of the North-South and Intraregional routes, said the France-based shipping company. The company also announced that its Board of Directors has appointed Rodolphe Saadé as chairman in addition to his chief executive role. Jacques Saadé, who established the firm in 1978, will have the honorary title of founder-chairman.

DP World has launched an internship programme for Emiratis studying abroad at the Annual UAE Student Forum in Washington DC. The Emirati Abroad Programme offers UAE Nationals studying in countries where the company operates the opportunity to gain experience in diverse cultures and learn about global trade. Internships will last between two and three months, and will be offered across DP World's global portfolio of 78 marine and inland terminals in 40 countries across six continents. The experience will entail an industry orientation, followed by an opportunity to work on live business projects and attend net-

working events, while also getting involved in DP World's sustainability initiatives to give back to the community.



Government of Mali and DP World have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on the sidelines of the Global Investment Forum in Dubai. The agreement was signed by Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, President of Mali, and DP World Group chairman and CEO Ahmed Bin Sulayem. Under the MoU, the global trade enabler, in partnership with the Government of Mali, will develop a master plan to enhance trade and logistics and unlock the resource-rich country's economic potential. As per the press release from DP World, the plan includes a transportation and logistics strategy with electronic customs processes, replicating DP World's successful model with Dubai Trade at its flagship Jebel Ali Port and Freezone in Dubai. The partners will continue discussions and carry out due diligence studies on the infrastructure projects that fit with the government's development goals.



Hutchison Ports has announced the official commencement of its terminal operation at Saqr Port in the emirate of Ras Al Khaimah (RAK), located in the northern United Arab Emirates (UAE). Under the new concession agreement, concluded under the patronage of Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi, Member of the Supreme Council and Ruler

of Ras Al Khaimah, Hutchison Ports will operate the facility for a period of 25 years. The terminal will operate under the name Hutchison Ports RAK. Hutchison Ports RAK is a four-berth, 350,000-TEU facility featuring an 800-metre-long quay with a depth alongside 12 metres, in addition to a 20-hectare yard. It is located in a highly favourable location, just 25 kilometres from the RAK city centre, in close proximity to the RAK Maritime City Free Zone and the industrial zones of Al Hamra and Al Ghail.

Port of Long Beach recorded highest cargo volume moving 15 percent more containers in October compared to the same month a year ago. According to industry sources, trade has been growing rapidly in 2017. October set the record at 669,218 twenty-foot-equivalent units (TEUs), which is one of the port's strongest all-time results.

Port of Hamburg is implementing a time slot-booking system for handling container delivery and collections by truck in its efforts to mitigate the impact of increasing mega-ship calls. Hamburg is the first port in Germany to implement such a system to optimize truck handling. Up to now, ports in the USA especially, and also a few terminals in Europe, Far East and Australia, offer a slot-booking system. With the introduction of this system in Hamburg, and with immediate effect all haulage contractors for container deliveries and collections at HHLA Container Terminals Burchardkai, Altenwerder and Tollerort as well as Eurogate Container Terminal Hamburg, must agree a time window. The trucking planners notify the requested transport time via an EDI interface or slot-booking website to the relevant terminal. If there is enough capacity at the time given - the slot can be booked for the truck.



DHL FREIGHT has planned for a multi-million investment to construct a state-of-the-...



LPP AND ARVATO recently set up a new distribution centre in Stryków.

British International Freight Association is calling on the Chancellor to do more for the UK's freight and logistics sector. Robert Keen, BIFA's director general says, "The economic outlook in the run up to Brexit remains challenging and there is massive uncertainty about the UK's future trading relations with Europe. Whilst the Brexit negotiations rumble on, our members need Phillip Hammond to take some immediate steps to improve the operating environment for a sector that is the lifeblood of the UK's international trade." In his autumn statement this time last year, Hammond announced plans that financial support for UK exporters would double through UK Export Finance (UKEF). That's the sort of initiative that can fuel international trade and our members would welcome an announcement of further support in today's Budget.



Bluedistrib delivered Microsoft's XBOX ONE X to Cdiscount customers who are Greater Paris residents one minute past midnight on November 7. Although this console was on sale that same day in stores, impatient gamers who pre-ordered their consoles on the Cdiscount website before November 2 were able to pick them up from one of the 52 Bluedistrib relays. These outlets are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This is a world first and a real innovation in event logistics. The goods were routed to Bluedistrib, which then made available to its various relays. At One Minute Past Midnight, customers will receive an SMS with a security code allowing them to pick up their consoles and be the first to start playing, even before the stores open.



Bollore Logistics UK secures Cyber Essential certification a government-backed scheme which provides independent assurance that businesses have the correct systems in place to prevent cyber-attacks. This is an important step to ensure safety in the system. In the recent past cyber attacks had brought the operations of the companies to stand still. It can impact with lengthy periods of disruption costing in thousands and can damage long-term reputations. Bollore Logistics UK was assessed as meeting the Cyber Essentials implementation profile [BIS/14/696], therefore at the time of testing, our organisation's ICT defences were assessed as satisfactory against commodity based cyber-attacks. This new certificate proves that Bollore Logistics UK protects its IT systems against common cyber threats, proves to customers its data security ethics, and enables Bollore Logistics UK to bid for future government contracts.

DHL, Deutsche Post AG's logistics arm has been appointed as Ford's global provider of freight management, driving standardisation and efficiencies across the business. Under the contract, DHL is mandated to manage the movement of prototype parts from suppliers to Ford's R&D locations across the world. The new contract is seen as a strategic move to build on a long-standing relationship between Ford and DHL, where the LLP model was implemented for the inbound supply to manufacturing of its production cars across Europe and Asia.

DHL Freight has planned for a multi-million investment to con-

struct a state-of-the-art freight hub at the Hanover airport business park in Langenhagen, Germany. DHL would deploy around 260 employees to take care of the day-to-day scheduling and consolidation for its European freight network from the new site. The facility has been designed in accordance with the latest environmental standards, which will help in contributing to the further increasing DHL Freight's service quality for LTL (less than truckload) and FTL (full truck load) transport. The Langenhagen site near Hanover Airport was preferred for its good transport connections for both long-haul and short-haul transport on the 63,000 sqm site.

Imperial Holdings could split its vehicle import division from its logistics business, but will not make a decision before July next year, its chief executive said. Imperial Logistics has operations in Africa and Europe while Imperial's Motus division imports auto brands such as Mitsubishi and Kia. "Preliminary work indicates that Imperial Logistics and Motus can achieve appropriate gearing and self-sustaining balance sheets by June 2018," CEO Mark Lamberti said in a statement after the company's annual general meeting. The company is preparing to devolve functions performed by Imperial Holdings' small head office to the two divisions. The company would base such a transaction on its audited accounts for the year to end-June 2018 and a decision on whether or not a separation will take place will not be made or announced until early next July, he said. Standard Bank has been appointed as corporate finance and debt advisers, Lamberti said.

LPP and Arvato recently set up a new distribution centre in Stryków. The move is said to significantly accelerate the order processing in the area of LPP's on-

line sales. The new dedicated distribution centre is housed in an area admeasuring 30,000 square metres in the SEGRO Logistics Park. According to the company, the investment is consistent with the strategy of further dynamic development both of LPP and Arvato in the e-commerce segment in the upcoming years. Reports suggest that the launch will allow 500 new workplaces to be created in the first year of its operation. Shipments will be made from the warehouse to the area of Poland and abroad—Germany, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania, Hungary, the Baltic countries as well as to the UK markets.



UPS has announced plans to open a new package sorting and delivery facility in Eindhoven, the Netherlands. The €130 million facility is due to open in the fourth quarter of 2018. It will replace two smaller facilities and is expected to create 200 jobs. Eindhoven is a strategic location in a region which is home to a number of industries including high tech and healthcare. The facility is a transit hub for goods traveling through the region and helps ensure the fast and reliable flow of goods to Belgium, the Netherlands and Germany. Once completed, the Eindhoven facility will have an operating area of more than 27,000 square meters and be equipped with advanced technology that can sort up to 29,000 packages per hour, with room to expand to more than 50,000. The new building will have more than 100 loading and unloading bays, nearly 100 parking positions for UPS delivery trucks and be equipped with UPS's automated package sorting technology.



BRITISH AIRWAYS has launched a new Summer 2018 Heathrow route to Kefalonia in Greece.



UNWTO organised Under the theme "Jobs and Inclusive Growth - Partnerships for..."

AVIAREPS, the global leader and expert in developing and shaping outbound tourism, aviation and hospitality demand and spend, has expanded its China market presence by opening an office in Wuhan, Central China. With this office opening AVIAREPS' presence in Greater China is now extended to 8 offices, and provides AVIAREPS' clientele with a permanent base in Central China from which to implement specialised destination and hospitality marketing, public relations and sales (GSA) representation, to target the region's massive population of 220 million consumers. With the addition of Wuhan, the total AVIAREPS international office network now numbers 65, across 47 countries and 6 continents.



Abu Dhabi International Airport has started a new visa counter to ease the visa application process and grant both transit and arriving passengers visas within 15 to 30 minutes. The new service is part of the 'Life in Abu Dhabi' initiative, in support of the Enriching Tourist Experience. Located at the Terminal 3 transit area at Abu Dhabi International Airport, the facility provides issuance of the new four-day, or 96-hour, transit visa to visitors of all nationalities travelling through the airport. Travellers can obtain several types of mission and tourist visas from the new counter within 30 minutes. In addition, the visa counter is now issuing the new 96-hour transit visa, which is a key part of Abu Dhabi's ongoing efforts to stimulate tourism in the capital.

British Airways has launched a new Summer 2018 Heathrow

route to Kefalonia in Greece. Travellers would be able to fly from Terminal 5 to the island, which is home to some of Greece's best beaches and the idyllic setting to Louis de Bernieres' novel-turned-film Captain Corelli's Mandolin. Flights will depart on Tuesday and Saturdays, with return fares starting from £118 in Euro Traveller and £398 in Club Europe. The island of Kefalonia is renowned for its picturesque beaches, traditional fishing villages and stunning scenery and Myrtos beach is one of the world's most photographed stretches of sand. It is the first time the airline has operated to the Greek island. British Airways, which has been stepping up its summer services for next year, has also announced new routes to Figari in Corsica and Almeria in Spain. Next summer, Ibiza will go from four per week to a daily service, Mykonos will be served six times a week from four, while an additional weekly flight will be added on to the airline's schedules to Olbia and Split.

Ctrip has inked a strategic cooperation deal with Hungarian Tourism Agency in the presence of Chinese Premier Li Ke Qiang and Hungarian Prime Minister Orban Viktor. This agreement between the Chinese online travel agency and the Hungarian Tourism Agency is expected to boost the development of tourism and trade between the two countries and the long-term cooperation between China and the Central and Eastern European countries (CEEC). The Chinese Premier visited Hungary to attend the 6th China-CEEC Summit and to celebrate the 5th Anniversary of the 16+1 cooperation.

Jet Airways' JetEscapes has introduced exciting all-inclusive holidays for guests traveling to the world renowned Dubai Shopping Festival, for travel effective December 26, 2017 to January 28, 2018. The month-long, world fa-

mous shopping and bargain bonanza is scheduled from December 26, 2017 to January 27, 2018. An annual pilgrimage for shoppers, the Dubai Shopping Festival is replete with fashion shows, fireworks, and mega sales, and completely transforms the entire city. This year, JetEscapes has announced its four nights/five days twin holiday options - 'Magic' and 'Mania', that have been especially created in response to the needs of travellers keen to experience this global extravaganza.



Kenya Airways and KLM have partnered with TUI- one of the largest charter airline operator in Europe in order to stimulate tourism in Kenya. The partnership aims tourists taking package trips to Kenya's various top destinations including the coastal towns of Mombasa and Diani as well as the Maasai Mara National Reserve. Under the partnership, TUI will book its Kenya-bound customers on Kenya Airways and KLM flights. Customers will be connected to their tourist destination through Kenya Airways hub, Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA), in Nairobi.



Malaysia Tourism Promotion Board, AirAsia and travel agents have come together to announce special offers for this season for tourists travelling from India's Andhra Pradesh. Tourists travelling from Vizag to Kuala Lumpur can get a package of Rs 7,999 for a to and fro air trip. The offer will be valid from November

30 to December 15 for a travel period till April 2018. AirAsia will be increasing its flight operation services at Visakhapatnam from three to four in a week. The Indian travel agents said that visa to Malaysia is being given at Rs 1,650. Apart from this, they have a shopping package for Rs 7,000. This partnership in the state is aimed at easing the entry for Indian tourists into Malaysia.

STB is presenting 'Passion Made Possible' a brand that can tell a fuller Singapore story beyond just tourism. This brand articulates what we stand for as a country and supports the telling of many stories about this destination and its people. It will allow us to build a deeper and more personal connection between Singapore and our fans and friends, even when they are not actively thinking about travel.

UNWTO organised Under the theme "Jobs and Inclusive Growth - Partnerships for Sustainable Tourism", the event was opened by the Prime Minister of Jamaica, Andrew Michael Holness and included special addresses from President Danilo Medina of the Dominican Republic and Prime Minister Allen Chastanet of Saint Lucia.

World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) Conference in Lusaka on Promoting Sustainable Tourism, a tool for Inclusive Growth and Community Engagement in Africa addressed the potential of tourism in poverty alleviation and to induce transformative change. The Conference, a flagship event of the Africa region for the celebration of the International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development, took place last 16-18 November and was coordinated by the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) in cooperation with the Government of Zambia.



Des Vertannes



Jonathan Clark



Fundi Sithebe



Dr Roland Bosch



Brendan Lodge



Eric K. Fanning



Thies Moeller

E-CARGOWARE

Des Vertannes will lead e-Cargoware as its non-executive chairman of the board. Vertannes started his career with British Airways in 1970, holding several management positions including CEO at Air Menzies international, MD at Menzies world cargo, head of cargo at Gulf Air and then Etihad Airways before joining IATA as head of Cargo. Recently Des was inducted to TIACA hall of fame that honours air cargo professionals who have played a role in the progress of aviation and have helped to shape and grow the Air Cargo Industry.

AIR MENZIES INTERNATIONAL

Jonathan Clark will be the new CEO of Air Menzies International (AMI) which is a subsidiary of Menzies Aviation. Clark is slated to join AMI in January 2018. Clark has spent over three decades in the airfreight sector, holding key positions with MSAS Cargo international (now part of DHL), Lufthansa, Qatar Airways, DB Schenker, and most recently, Cargolux Airlines, where he served as Africa director since 2016.

AIRPORTS COMPANY SOUTH AFRICA

Fundi Sithebe took over as the chief operating officer of Airports Company South Africa (ACSA) effective December 1, 2017. The 38-year-old Sithebe is currently the chief of staff reporting to ACSA CEO, Bongani Maseko. Sithebe holds a Bachelor of Business Administration from Midrand University, and a Post Graduate Diploma in Management from Wits Business School.

AIR INDIA

Pradeep Singh Kharola has been appointed as the chairman and managing director of Air India. Kharola is replacing Rajiv Bansal, who had been serving as the interim CMD for a little over three months for the soon to be privatised Air India. Previously, Kharola has served as the managing director of Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation.

DP WORLD

Rizwan Soomar has been roped in as the new CEO and MD by DP World for its Indian Subcontinent region with effect from January 1, 2018. Soomar has spent over two decades in the maritime and logistics industry with senior leadership roles at AP Moller Maersk Group including tenures as managing director of the Group's logistics arm in Egypt, MD for Maersk Line – India & Sri Lanka and VP and Global COO of Svitzer.

DB NETZ AG

Dr Roland Bosch has been appointed as the CEO of DB Netz AG, a subsidiary of Deutsche Bahn AG, Germany. He succeeds Dr Jürgen Wilder who quit the company in October. Currently a member of the DB Netz AG board, Dr Bosch is expected to assume his new position on December 1. Armed with a degree in physics from Oxford, and PhD from the University of Tübingen, Germany, Bosch commenced his career in 1997 with the Boston Consulting Group. Subsequently, he joined DaimlerChrysler, Stuttgart in 2002 as the head of strategy, before getting transferred to Beijing in 2005 as CFO for the entire Northeast Asia. In October 2010, he was appointed as CFO of DB Netz. Since 2013, Bosch was a Board Member for Production at DB Netz AG where he was responsible to safely run 40,000 trains every day in Germany. He was also responsible to implement the largest modernisation programme of Deutsche Bahn.

JET SUPPORT SERVICES

Brendan Lodge will join Jet Support Services, Inc. (JSSI) as aircraft acquisitions specialist. Lodge, an experienced aircraft sales broker and financier will provide support to JSSI's growing Advisory Services and JSSI Parts divisions. Lodge will also identify and review strategic aircraft acquisitions for JSSI Parts. He brings over 25 years in banking and asset financing to JSSI, including 8 years focused on business aviation finance.

AEROSPACE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION

Eric K. Fanning has been named as the president and chief executive officer of The Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) effective January 1, 2018. Most recently, Fanning served as the 22nd Secretary of the Army where he provided leadership and oversight of the nation's largest military service, the United States Army. Fanning previously served as Chief of Staff of the Secretary of Defense, Acting Secretary of the Air Force and Under Secretary of the Air Force, and Deputy Under Secretary and Deputy Chief Management Officer of the Navy. He is the only person to have held senior appointments in all three military departments and the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

AIR PARTNER

Robert Jubb appointed as freight trading manager of Air Partner. Robert will be based at Air Partner's UK headquarters at Gatwick and reports directly to Mike Hill, director of Freight. Robert has over 13 years of experience in the charter brokerage, airline and time-critical logistics industries. He was previously Commercial Director at AirX Charter and also spent eight years at another competitor from 2008 to 2016 in a number of roles, including Commercial Manager.

SPAIRLINERS

Thies Moeller succeeds Sven-Uve Hueschler as new MD and CEO at Spairliners. He heads the business alongside Benoit Crombois, managing director and CFO of the company. Moeller has been employed by Lufthansa Technik since 2005. His previous experience within the corporate group includes leading positions in Key Account Management, Central Services and Processes as well as Central Controlling and Risk Management. Before joining Lufthansa Technik, he served for more than five years as General Manager and Sales Director in the automotive business.

AVIATION		
DATE	EVENT	VENUE
2018		
JAN 18 - 19	Aerospace & Defence MRO South Asia Summit	New Delhi, India
FEB 26 - 28	Abu Dhabi Air Expo 2018	Abu Dhabi, UAE
APRIL 17 - 19	Asian Business Aviation Conference & Exhibition (ABACE2018)	Shanghai, China
MAY 6 - 8	CNS Partnership Conference	California, USA
MAY 29 - 31	European Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (EBACE2018)	Geneva, Switzerland
JUNE 3 - 5	74th IATA Annual General Meeting (AGM) and World Air Transport Summit	Sydney, Australia

SHIPPING		
DATE	EVENT	VENUE
2018		
JAN 24 - 25	12th Indian Ocean Ports and Logistics 2018	Mauritius
FEB 6 - 7	BreakBulk Middle East	Abu Dhabi, UAE
MAR 19 - 21	4th Coastal & Maritime Surveillance	Accra, Ghana
MAR 26 - 28	BreakBulk China	Shanghai, China
MAR 28 - 29	19th Intermodal Africa 2018	Beira, Mozambique
MAY 29 - 31	Break Bulk Europe	Bremen, Germany
JULY 4 - 5	ASEAN Ports & Shipping	Yangon, Myanmar
SEPT 26 - 29	FIATA World Congress 2018	New Delhi, India
OCT 24 - 25	Trans Middle East 2018	Aqabah, Jordan
NOV 27 - 29	20th Intermodal Africa 2018	Accra, Ghana

TOURISM		
DATE	EVENT	VENUE
DEC 19	International Year of Sustainable Tourism for Development 2017	Geneva, Switzerland
2018		
JAN 11 - 14	International Tourism Trade Fair for Holidays, Travel and Leisure	Vienna, Austria
JAN 30 - 31	Hospitality Indonesia Conference	Jakarta, Indonesia
FEB 21 - 22	Travel Technology Europe	London, UK
FEB - MAR 28 - 3	23rd International Trade Fair for Food & Beverage, Hotel & Restaurant Equipment	Split, Croatia
MAR 13 - 14	Resorts and Attractions Asia	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
MAR 21 - 23	10th World Congress on Snow and Mountain Tourism	Engordany, Andorra

AIR CARGO		
DATE	EVENT	VENUE
DEC 3 - 5	2nd CCA Pharma & Perishables Conference	Grapevine, TX, USA
DEC 5 - 7	WOP Dubai 2017	Dubai, UAE
DEC 5 - 7	IPM DUBAI 2017	Dubai, UAE
2018		
JAN 29 - 31	Asia Air Cargo Summit 2018	Bangkok, Thailand
FEB 20 - 22	Air Cargo India 2018	Mumbai, India
MAR 2 - 5	The 20th WCA First Annual Conference	Singapore
MAR 5 - 6	FlyPharma Conference Asia	Hong Kong
MAR 13 - 15	12th World Cargo Symposium	Dallas, Texas
MAR 14 - 15	East African Pharmaceutical Exhibition	Nairobi, Kenya
MAR 14 - 16	HortiFlora Expo 2018	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
MAR 20 - 21	Pharma Security World 2018	London, UK
MAR 21 - 23	World Floral Expo 2018	Chicago, USA
MAR 21 - 23	Flower Expo China	Guangzhou, China
APR 21 - 23	Iran Green Trade Fair 2018	Theran, Iran
MAY 16 - 18	Air Cargo China 2018	Shanghai, China
JUNE 5 - 6	FlyPharma Conference Europe	Brussels, Belgium
JUNE 6 - 8	International Floriculture Trade Expo (IFTEX) 2018	Nairobi, Kenya
SEPT 11 - 12	FlyPharma Conference US	Miami, FL, USA
OCT 3 - 5	Agriflor 2018	Quito, Ecuador
OCT 16 - 18	Air Cargo Forum 2018	Toronto, Canada
NOV 8 - 10	International Floriculture and Horticulture Trade Fair (IFTF) 2018	Vijfhuizen, Holland

SUPPLY CHAIN & TRANSPORT		
DATE	EVENT	VENUE
DEC 5 - 6	Auto SCM Summit 2017	Pune, India
2018		
JAN 16 - 18	4th Uganda Trade Expo 2018	Sharjah, UAE
JAN 23 - 24	CTL - Cargo Transport Logistic in co-operation with transport logistic	Mumbai, India
JAN 23 - 25	Multimodal West Africa 2018	Lagos, Nigeria
JAN - FEB 29 - 1	Temperature Controlled Logistics	London, UK
MAR 13 - 15	NME Expo 2017	Lagos, Nigeria
MAR 13 - 16	Bauma Conexpo Africa	Johannesburg, SA
APR 23 - 27	CeMAT Intralogistics & Supply Chain Management	Hannover, Germany
MAY 16 - 18	Transport Logistics China 2018	Shanghai, China
JUNE 12 - 13	Africa Rail 2018	Johannesburg, SA
SEPT 26 - 29	FIATA World Congress 2018	New Delhi, India

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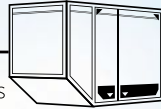
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