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Take Off for a Successful Year in 2008



4,578,126 passengers passed through Dresden and Leipzig/Halle Airports last year



The volume of freight handled at the two Central German airports rose to 101,701.6 tonnes in 2007



There were 87,123 take-offs and landings on the runways at Dresden and Leipzig/Halle



Central German Airports Group

▶ Saxony-Anhalt Endorses the State's Holding in the Central German Airports Group

The state of Saxony-Anhalt is keeping its holding in the Central German Airports Group. Among other things, the Central German Airports Group operates Leipzig/Halle and Dresden Airports as a joint project involving the states of Saxony and Saxony-Anhalt and the cities of Dresden, Leipzig and Halle.

Justifying his reasons, Finance Minister Jens Bullerjahn said that the state's air traffic, structural, employment policy and regional business interests were closely linked to the further development of the Central German Airports Group, particularly Leipzig/Halle Airport. The level of cooperation in the company group, he added, could be described as an outstandingly successful example of growing teamwork in a sector that is marked by competition and high infrastructure costs, particularly in the light of politicians' interest in having more joint projects in the Central German region.

The minister, who is also a member of the Central German Airports Group supervisory board, said that the dynamic developments in expanding freight traffic at Leipzig/Halle Airport would have a positive long-term effect on further economic developments in the region. This clear message, the minister added, would provide great potential for further economic and employment market initiatives and a huge demand for land where companies can set up in business near the airport. The state of Saxony-Anhalt, he said, would continue to provide funds for essential investments in infrastructure in future in order to support these developments.

This will probably also affect the contribution made by the city of Halle. The state and city are seeking to enable the state to take over the city's shares in the airport in order to provide improved conditions for other companies that wish to set up in business at Leipzig/Halle Airport.

Leipzig/Halle Airport

▶ DHL Lands in Leipzig/Halle – Major Project About to Be Officially Launched

One of the largest business projects in Germany is continuing to take shape. The new DHL air freight hub will start full operations at Leipzig/Halle Airport in the middle of the year.



About 35 cargo flights are already being handled every night – after the successful conclusion of test operations and the relocation of the gateways to the site of the future air freight hub and after flights were moved from Cologne/Bonn to Leipzig/Halle. Employees are already loading and unloading or sorting more than 500 tonnes of freight. The daily figure is set to rise to 2,000 tonnes by 2012.

By that time, Deutsche Post World Net hopes to have created approx. 3,500 jobs at the air freight hub. 1,700 people are already working there, says project manager, Michael Reinboth. Half of them were previously unemployed. About 55 percent of the staff members come from Saxony and 38 percent from Saxony-Anhalt.

500 men and women are working as operations agents, sorting packages in the distribution building, and 300 people are working as ramp agents on the apron. Then there are 175 aircraft mechanics and 725 people who are employed as technical staff, in administration, management and other sectors. 30 young people have been receiving their vocational training at the DHL hub since September 2007.

It has been possible to create several thousand jobs at Leipzig/Halle Airport as a result of DHL's decision to set up its air freight hub here

► Project Data

Total investments: €300 million
Share for the sorting unit: €70 million

- The distribution centre is 413 metres long, 97 metres wide and 16 metres high
- The hangar is 232 metres long, 98 metres wide and 30 metres high – so there is space to accommodate two Airbus A380 cargo planes
- The apron is 1,400 metres long and 400 metres wide and provides space for 55–60 aircraft

Leipzig/Halle Airport

► Magnet – Airport Registers Growth in Visitor Figures

It is not only passenger numbers and the volume of freight that are on the rise at Leipzig/Halle Airport. The airport is also proving to be a magnet for visitors. A total of 88,242 took part in a guided tour provided by visitor services last year or took a closer look at the flight movements or building work from the viewing terrace.



About 138,400 guests have visited the viewing terrace since it was opened in September 2004

Almost 40,000 aviation enthusiasts alone joined one of the many airport tours and had an opportunity to see what goes on behind the scenes at the airport. This represents an increase of 7,100 visitors over the figure for 2006. Airport tours provided by the visitor services can now be booked online using the airport's new Internet site www.leipzig-halle-airport.de.

The viewing terrace on the roof of the old tower has become a real magnet for visitors. 48,313 visitors came to enjoy the view over the apron, the runways and the taxiway bridges from the 30 metre high tower last year.

Leipzig/Halle Airport

► New Presentation on the Global Network

The airport site has a new look on the World Wide Web.

The graphics of the Internet presentation at www.leipzig-halle-airport.de in German and English have been redesigned, the navigation has been revised and an online travel centre and a virtual tour have been included in the home page.

Users can now easily put together their travel package from home using the new online travel centre. Users of the online travel centre will find a variety of special offers that are continually being updated. It is possible to book flights, holidays and all the other special offers via one of the airport's cooperation partners, which is running the online travel centre.

The new Internet presentation allows people to take a virtual tour through the terminal and airport facilities under the menu title "Getting around the airport". This means that passengers and visitors can obtain a detailed view of the airport from their computer at home. Among other things, the tour shows the airport railway station, the central terminal and check-in area, the travel agencies in the mall, Terminal B and the visitors' terrace.



Leipzig/Halle Airport

▶ **Thinking of Summer in Winter – More than 60 Destinations in the New Timetable**

Winter is not yet over. But airline planners are far ahead of their time and have already completed a great deal of work.

A glance at the summer timetable, which comes into force on 30 March, shows that flights from Leipzig/Halle Airport will take off for more than 60 destinations. Airlines will fly to 17 different countries from the Central German airport.

There will again be non-stop flights to the Mediterranean island of Malta during the summer season. Air Malta will fly to its home base in southern Europe every Wednesday and Sunday from 4 May.

Leipzig/Halle Airport

▶ **Trade Fair Diary**

Leipzig/Halle Airport is continuing its series of trade fair presentations in the new year.

The company was in Magdeburg for the “Tourisma” fair at the start of January and in Chemnitz and Zwickau for the “Travel and Leisure Fair”. The Central German airport will be presenting its facilities at the “Travel, Leisure, Caravan Fair” in Halle on 1–3 February and will seek to make contact with visitors to the fair.

Leipzig/Halle Airport

▶ **Dates for Your Diary**

• **13 February 2008 – Book reading session: “Mayday over Zaragoza”**

The former Interflug pilot, Heinz-Dieter Kallbach, will be presenting his biography “Mayday over Zaragoza”. The reading session about his exciting life as a pilot is taking place at Leipzig/Halle Airport with the support of the Salier Publishing House in Leipzig. The book can be purchased during the event. Visitors will also have the opportunity of having a copy signed by the author



Dresden Airport

► Ahead of the Times: A Preview of the Summer

The summer timetable comes into effect in just about two months' time. Travellers will then be able to fly to Corfu non-stop more often. Samos is also back in the timetable. Direct flights will also operate to London and the Mediterranean island of Majorca. Football fans will also be able to fly to the EURO 2008 tournament direct.



Germanwings is expanding its services with the summer timetable that starts on 30 March. It is introducing regular non-stop flights to Corfu starting on 10 May. Air Berlin, which also flies to Corfu, will be flying to the Greek holiday island of Samos again via Nuremberg. This destination was not included in the timetable last year because of the building work on the runway in Dresden.

Increase in services: more non-stop flights from Dresden when the 2008 summer timetable starts

There are daily non-stop flights to Palma de Majorca – a total of twelve per week. There are also direct flights to the Canary Islands, the Turkish Riviera, Ibiza, the Black Sea in Bulgaria, Greece, the Algarve in Portugal and Egypt, Italy, Tunisia, Cyprus, Hungary (Sarmellek and Debrecen) and Croatia. British Airways will fly to London non-stop every day. Passengers flying with Air Berlin can fly to Barcelona, Seville and the pilgrimage town of Santiago de Compostela via the airline's hub at Palma de Majorca.

Lufthansa is boosting its domestic departures to Düsseldorf and Munich by one flight each. This means that there are up to eight flights a day to the state capital of North Rhine-Westphalia if Air Berlin's departures are included. Lufthansa flies to Bavaria as many as seven times a day. Germanwings is introducing a third daily connection to Cologne/Bonn.

During the EURO 2008 Soccer Tournament in Austria and Switzerland, fans will be able to reach the venues of games easily from Dresden. Austrian Airlines fly to Vienna several times a day and Air Berlin does so four times a week via Nuremberg. Cirrus Airlines flies to Zurich 16 times a week and Intersky flies to Friedrichshafen five times a week – the town on Lake Constance is only about 90 kilometres away from Zurich. Lufthansa is making Munich its football hub and will fly to all eight venues from there.



Dresden Airport

► Trade Fair Diary

Dresden Airport joined forces with Leipzig/Halle Airport at the start of the year for the “Travel & Leisure Fair” in Zwickau.



Colleagues from Dresden and Leipzig/Halle Airports on their joint stand in Zwickau

The airport will continue to attend fairs during the course of the year – the next date is already lined up for the end of January: visitors to the Dresden Travel Market will be able to find out more about the airport in the Saxon capital on 25–27 January.

Dresden Airport

► Dates for Your Diary

- **8 March 2008 – 1st Major Airport Night**

The airport will be holding its first major airport night on this date. Visitors will not only be able to dance and hear live music – they will also be able to go shopping and enjoy some culinary delights.

- **16 May 2008 – “Blues, Boogie & Swing” Dixieland Festival**

The airport is once again one of the event sites for the 2008 International Dixieland Festival. Five bands will be playing during the 38th edition of the musical highlight. The following groups are expected to attend: “Jazzpolizei”, “Lizzy Melon & Die Damenkapelle”, “Jörg Hegemann’s Boogie-Woogie-Express” (all from Germany), the “Mardi Gras Jazzband” and “Martijn Schok Boogie & Blues Band” (both from Holland). Tickets (€ 28) are available at the normal advance booking offices or the ticket centre.



► News from the Central German Business World

► “Roll-on – Roll-off” at Albert Port in Dresden-Friedrichstadt

Saxony’s first ro-ro facility has been opened at the Albert Port in Dresden-Friedrichstadt after building work that lasted eleven months.

In the past heavy goods weighing up to 90 tonnes were handled by the port’s own cranes or mobile cranes. The new ro-ro facility enables heavy loads to be moved without the need for cranes. The trucks loaded with heavy goods can drive on and off the boats (roll-on, roll-off). The managing director of Sächsische Binnenhäfen Oberelbe GmbH, Captain Detlef Bütow, believes that the new facility is a “crucial step towards turning the port of Dresden into an important traffic hub”.



A turbine from the Siemens turbine works in Görlitz was the first item of heavy freight to be loaded using the ro-ro facility

The Free State, which has owned Sächsische Binnenhäfen Oberelbe GmbH since it was founded in 1991, has invested a total of € 67 million in the expansion of the three Saxon ports of Dresden, Riesa and Torgau since 1995. € 42 million alone has been spent at the Albert Port in Dresden.

Sächsische Binnenhäfen GmbH operates the three commercial ports at Dresden, Riesa and Torgau. It also has a subsidiary Česko-saské přístavy s.r.o., which operates the ports at Děčín und Lovosice in the Czech Republic, and a shareholding in Industriebahnhof Roßlau GmbH in Saxony-Anhalt. The group of companies employing a total of 130 workers had turnover of approx. € 10.4 million in 2006.

► Redeveloped Building Opened at the Port of Science

The building for the think tank has been opened at Magdeburg’s Port of Science.

The think tank provides an impressive setting for forward-looking companies. The idea is to encourage the establishment of spin-offs or new companies from the university and institutes or provide facilities for innovative companies, which wish to benefit from the creative atmosphere of the Port of Science. The think tank will also provide offices for small companies and individual scientists, who are working on projects at the institutes or the university.

The think tank is housed in the former storehouse and an old grain silo. The storehouse has been completely redeveloped and converted and the silo almost completely rebuilt. € 9.5 million has been invested in the think tank.



► Miscellaneous

► Handel House in Halle Transferred to the Private Sector

The Handel House in Halle has been a private sector foundation since the start of the year.

The house, where the Baroque composer, George Frideric Handel, was born, is one of the most important cultural centres in the state. It combines a museum with a collection of about 700 historical instruments, Handel festivals, research, a library and archives under one roof. It also has a large event area. The city of Halle has been trying to privatise the Handel House since the mid-1990s to provide it with better opportunities to develop. Admission to the exhibitions is free.

www.haendelhaus.de

► Dates for Your Diary in 2008:

The trade fair city of Leipzig will once again attract visitors to major specialist fairs and cultural highlights. The following are a selection of the events taking place at the new fair centre or the city centre:

- **1–3 February – Leipzig Motorcycle Fair**
- **9–17 February – House Garden Leisure**
- **13–16 March – Leipzig Book Fair and Leipzig Reads**
- **5–13 April – AMI Auto Mobil International**
- **13–22 June – Leipzig Bach Festival**
- **9–19 July – XVI International Johann Sebastian Bach Competition**
- **19–23 November – Tourism & Caravanning International Leipzig**



Dresden has developed into an important trade fair centre over the past few years. The Ostragehege site has been home to trade fairs and specialist congresses since 1999 and will once again host interesting specialist exhibitions and events this year. Here is a selection:

- **28 February–2 March – “House 2008” – the largest regional building fair in Germany**
- **7–9 March – “auto mobil 2008”**
- **22–23 August – German Skat Championships**
- **7–9 October – “EuNavTec” – International Trade Fair for Satellite Navigation and GIS Services**

► Imprint

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