



News from the Companies in the Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding

Traffic Continues to Grow / Freight Handled at Leipzig/Halle Tops 440,000 Tonnes for First Time / Highest Figure for Passenger Numbers at Dresden Airport

Good news in tough times: Leipzig/Halle Airport and Dresden Airport were both able to record considerable growth in some areas in 2008. Overall the two airports registered 96,892 take-offs and landings last year (Leipzig/Halle 59,924 and Dresden 36,968). These figures represent growth of 11.2 percent in comparison with the same period in the previous year (Leipzig/Halle 17.6 percent; Dresden 2.3 percent).

Flights operated by DHL and Lufthansa Cargo played a major role in increasing the volume of freight handled at Leipzig/Halle Airport after DHL began full operations at its freight hub during the course of the year. The freight handled rose by a full 336.8 percent to a total figure of 442,406 tonnes. This moved Leipzig/

Contents

01/2009

News from the Companies in the Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding

- 1 Traffic Continues to Grow / Freight Handled at Leipzig/Halle Tops 440,000 Tonnes for First Time / Highest Figure for Passenger Numbers at Dresden Airport
- 2 Record Winter: Winter Services at Airports Operating Around the Clock / PortGround Reports More than 1,000 Aircraft De-Icing Operations

Leipzig/Halle Airport

- 3 "Wed & Win" 2009

Dresden International

- 4 New High-Speed Internet at Dresden Airport
- 5 Putin's Lightning Visit to Dresden
- 6 Travel Market at Dresden Airport

From the Region

- 7 The 150th anniversary of the birth of Hugo Junkers
- 8 600 Years of the University in Leipzig
- 9 Career Opportunities in the Three Nations Region

Halle Airport into third place in the standings for German freight airports – behind Frankfurt and Cologne/Bonn.

But passenger numbers in Central Germany fell to 4,322.620 (-5.6 percent) in 2008. Leipzig/Halle Airport was particularly affected with a drop of 9.6 percent to 2.462.256 passengers. This was largely due to the ban on night passenger flights, which was imposed with effect from March 2008, and the ongoing consolidation in the airline and tourism sector.

But Dresden International Airport recorded a slight increase in passenger numbers in the same period to 1,860,364, an increase of 0.3 percent. This is the highest level in the airport's history.

Page 2



Departure area in Terminal B at Leipzig/Halle Airport

News from the Companies in the Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding

Record Winter: Winter Services at Airports Operating Around the Clock / PortGround Reports More than 1,000 Aircraft De-Icing Operations

Everybody may want to see some snow – but the members of staff providing winter services at Leipzig/Halle and Dresden Airports and the de-icing crews at PortGround have been kept very busy by the record winter temperatures. During the second week of the year, the mercury plunged to minus 29 degrees Celsius and Dresden recorded minus 22 degrees.

180 members of staff from the company and outside partner firms had been specially trained to provide winter services at Leipzig/Halle Airport since September. They have to ensure that the runways, the apron area, the roads and footpaths at the airport are all safe for use.

Wolfgang Wenzel, the manager responsible for automotive engineering and heavy equipment at Leipzig/Halle Airport comments: "We had as much as 16 centimetres of new snow on peak days at the beginning of January. We not only had to use Jet Sweepers, but even front-end loaders against the snow." Jet Sweepers are special vehicles (which travel at 45 km/h) and are able to clear runways quickly. They have a special snow plough at the front, which is 6.10 metres wide. A spinning brush and a huge blower operate beneath the vehicle.

140 colleagues were trained to provide winter services at Dresden Airport. Jörg Zöllner, the manager responsible for winter services at Dresden says: "Everything went perfectly, even when we had 24 centimetres of new snow. The low temperatures below freezing took their toll on the equipment, but we were able to handle everything very well with back-up equipment."



Front-end Loaders on a runway in Leipzig/Halle

The increase in the number of DHL aircraft in comparison with the previous year combined with the bitter cold led to record de-icing figures for PortGround at Leipzig/Halle. Gerold Lindner, De-Icing Manager at PortGround comments: "By way of comparison: we registered 721 de-icing operations on aircraft in 2008. This year we already exceeded the 1,000 mark in the second week of the year. During the whole of the previous year, we needed 249,000 litres of the de-icing agent ADF. We had already used 751,000 litres by the second week of 2009."

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"Wed & Win": The Most Romantic Day of the Year in the Most Exciting City in the World

Spring in the "Big Apple" – this dream will now become reality for the young married couple, Heidi and Kai Berger: they can spend Valentine's Day (14 February) in New York after winning the "Wed & Win" competition held at Leipzig/Halle Airport.

All the couples that married last year and booked their honeymoon at Leipzig/Halle Airport during the period from 1 May until 31 December 2008 had the possibility of spending Valentine's Day in 2009 in the "Big Apple". Heidi and Kai Berger were married on 7 June 2008 and then booked their honeymoon in Makady Bay in Egypt at Lastminutepur.de two days later. They then won the "Wed & Win" competition in the draw held on 17 January and now they will be travelling to New York.

The Bergers will take off on 12 February on flights operated by Lufthansa. A double bedroom with breakfast in the Doubletree Metropolitan Hotel, right at the heart of Manhattan, has been reserved for the two residents of Leipzig. Couples who marry this year and book their honeymoon at one of more than 30 travel agencies based at Leipzig/Halle Airport between 1 February and 31 December 2009 will also have the opportunity of spending Valentine's Day in New York in 2010. We wish you all the best!

Leipzig-Halle Airport



Winner **Heidi Berger** (centre), flanked by **Heiko Rössner** (Lufthansa) and **Evelyn Schuster** (Leipzig/Halle Airport)

News from the Companies in the Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding

Page 4

New High-Speed Internet at Dresden Airport

Dresden International Airport now has a new powerful Internet access system. The new broadband facility operating at 100 megabytes per second means that the capacity available is now approx. 50 times higher than with the previous system. A symbolic high-speed plug was handed over at the official launch of new operations on 16 January in the terminal at Dresden Airport. "We now have excellent transport links and short, rapid links with the information highway too," explained Manfred Kunath, Technical Manager at the airport.

The project was realised under the direction of Dr. Ulrich Kramer, Head of the Information Technology Group at Dresden International Airport, working in close cooperation with the two partners from the state capital of Dresden, DREWAG Stadtwerke Dresden GmbH and Dresden Netz GbR – and the Dresden Internet provider, IBH IT-Service GmbH. IBH extended its so-called backbone network on the right-hand side of the river Elbe to the north of the city.

The new Internet connection is particularly reliable and flexible. The freight forwarding companies, travel agencies, business and service companies based at the airport and firms and facilities in the technology-oriented industrial parks in the north of Dresden will all be able to use the stable broadband connection.

Putin's Lightning Visit to Dresden

The Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin was a guest at the Semper Opera Ball in Dresden on 16 January. He was presented with the "Saxon Medal of Honour" for his services in promoting the exchange of German and Russian culture.

Dresden Airport had to handle plenty of air traffic as a result of this occasion. Six aircraft (including TU-154M, IL76, IL-96 and IL-62M planes) all landed with vehicles, delegations and, of course, the state guest.

In his acceptance speech at the ball, Putin described Dresden as a "centre of European culture". In addition to the Russian Prime Minister, medals were also presented to the entertaining legend Blacky Fuchsberger in the culture category and weightlifter Matthias Steiner in the sports category. The guest list also included German Transport Minister Wolfgang Tiefensee and the Head of the Chancellor's Office, Thomas de Maizière.

Putin left the ball early to give further interviews at the Hotel Taschenbergpalais Kempinski Dresden until two o'clock in the morning. His plane then left Dresden Airport at 9.10 a.m.

Dresden International



Dr. Michael Hupe (right),
Managing Director at
Flughafen Dresden GmbH, and
Dr. Ulrich Kramer, Head of the
Information Technology Group at
Flughafen Dresden GmbH



The Russian Prime Minister
Vladimir Putin with **Thomas Jurk**,
Saxon Economics Minister (right)

Travel Market at Dresden Airport

Dresden International

Dresden Airport International will be presenting its timetable for the summer of 2009 at the 15th Dresden Travel Market (30 January - 2 February). Flights will operate to approx. 40 destinations in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, the Mediterranean area, the Atlantic and the Red Sea. Visitors to the fair will include about 90 representatives from travel agencies in the Czech Republic. They will be on the spot to find out about what German travel operators can offer from Dresden.

Visitors will be able to obtain information about all the destinations served from Dresden at the airport fair stand that covers an area measuring 66 square metres. The airline Germanwings will be presenting its pan-European flights via Cologne/Bonn and Stuttgart. There are several non-stop flights to both hubs from Dresden every day. The 27 travel agencies at Dresden's largest travel market in Dresden Airport terminal are open every day, including Sundays and bank holidays, from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Travel agency staff from Prague, Teplice and Ústí in the Czech Republic will be able to discover more about Dresden International Airport and the upcoming summer timetable on 30 January. After a lecture given in the conference centre and a guided tour, they will visit the Dresden Travel Market fair at the invitation of the airport. Journalists from the north of the Czech Republic visited the airport to get to know it in December 2008. The press response to this event was extremely positive.

From the Region

Happy Birthday, Hugo!

The 150th anniversary of the birth of the flying pioneer Hugo Junkers is being marked on 3 February. For this reason, the Technology Museum in Dessau, which bears his name, will be holding a festival week in honour of the company founder and inventor from 29 January till 7 February.

The programme includes the presentation of the audio book "How I Experienced Professor Junkers" (2 February, 2 p.m., Rathaus Center Dessau), a commemorative event by the city of Dessau in the Marien Church (3 February, 6 p.m.) and the presentation and start of sale of the "Junkers – 2009" medal made of 999.999 silver and tin (4 February, 5 p.m., Technology Museum, Kühnauer Strasse 161a). There will also be lectures, special guided tours and a symposium under the patronage of Dr. Reiner Haseloff, Saxony-Anhalt's Minister of Employment and Economic Affairs. The Aviators' Ball at the museum



Junkers Ju 52 ("Tante Ju"/
"Auntie Ju") in front of Dresden
Airport terminal

(7 February, 7 p.m., tickets from € 25) will form the climax and conclusion of the festive week for the "Ikarus from Dessau".

Page 6

Hugo Junkers (1859 – 1935) was the owner of "Junkers & Co.", which he founded and managed and which was based in Dessau, until 1933. He made ground-breaking discoveries in aircraft construction as a research scientist, engineer and entrepreneur. He set up the Junkers Luftverkehr AG airline, which merged with Deutsche Aero Lloyd to form Luft Hansa in 1926.

From the Region

600 Years of the University in Leipzig

A top academic institution has reached a new milestone: The University of Leipzig celebrates the 600th anniversary of its existence this year with a high-quality programme in conjunction with guests from Germany and all over the world. It is the second-oldest university in Germany where teaching has continued without interruption and it enjoyed and still enjoys an excellent reputation for its scientific work that it has carried out down through the centuries. The climax of the celebrations in February will be the ceremony to mark the founding of the "Ernst-Jäger Institute for Company Modernisation and Insolvency Law" (22 February).

The official opening concert for the anniversary year will take place at the Gewandhaus building on 9 May: the ensembles of Leipzig University music department will put the many guests of honour in the right mood for the anniversary year with a musical trip through time involving six hundred years of university history. Another highlight will be the Prague-Leipzig run (3-7 June, 270 kilometres!) via Kladno, Most, Freiberg and Bad Lausick. The background to this is as follows: German professors and students left the Charles University in Prague six hundred years ago after disputes broke out in order to set up a new intellectual centre – the alma mater Lipsiensis. You can find more information on these and many other events at www.uni-leipzig.de/2009/

Career Opportunities in the Three Nations Region

The Career Network at Dresden University of Technology will hold the job and placement fair *kariera*³ for the border area of Germany, Poland and the Czech Republic for the first time on 30 January 2009 (10 a.m. - 4 p.m.) under the patronage of Saxon Economics Minister, Thomas Jurk. The aim of the fair is to establish an information and contact forum for

German, Polish and Czech students, graduates and companies, institutions and associations on professional prospects in the German/Polish/Czech three nations region.

Page 7

Kathrin Tittel from the Career Network at Dresden University of Technology says: "With "kariera³", we're not just creating a facility for launching strategic careers in Saxony, but beyond its borders too. The largest companies in particular, such as the Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding or its suppliers, will be able to benefit from this focus on the next generation of employees. We are creating the potential for the skilled workers of tomorrow." The Saxon Business Development Office is supporting the fair with the aim of keeping graduates in the region.

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