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News from the Companies in the Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding

Airports in Central Germany Create Jobs despite the Economic Crisis



Employee at the airport

The two airports at Leipzig/Halle and Dresden were once again able to buck the general trend and create more jobs in 2009. The total figure for the airport companies and the firms, businesses, agencies and public authorities based at the two sites

was 7,396 people in employment, a significant increase of 5.3 percent when compared to the figure for the previous year. Of these people, 978 people and 38 trainees were directly employed by companies operated by the Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding.

The 143 companies, which have set up in business at or near Leipzig/Halle Airport, had recorded an increase in employment levels of as much as 8.4 percent by the end of the year: the total number of people in employment there was 4,462. The Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding companies accounted for 627 of these jobs. This represents an increase in employment of 1.6 in comparison with the previous year.

The 131 business companies, which operate at or near Dresden International Airport, employed 2,934 people at the end of the year. This represents a slight increase of 0.8 percent over the figure for the previous year. The Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding

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companies accounted for 351 of these jobs. This represents a slight decline in the employment quota of 0.6 percent, but can be viewed in a positive light against the background of the difficult general economic climate.

“This survey represents impressive growth, which sets an example for the region. We are using concepts that reflect market requirements in order to develop the airports at Dresden and Leipzig/Halle. The logistics base at Leipzig is one of the most dynamic centres of growth in Europe and is therefore a driving force behind economic developments here in Central Germany,” says Markus Kopp, CEO of Mitteldeutsche Flughafen AG, welcoming the figures.

Stanislaw Tillich, State Premier of the Free State of Saxony, added: "This is a real confirmation of our infrastructure policy. Airports are bridges at centres in the global economy. As was the case in earlier centuries, important flows of international trade goods pass through Saxony. With the increasing division of labour around the globe, other companies will set up in business here and create additional jobs.”

Independent Body Service Highlights Service at the Central German Airports

The very latest benchmark study entitled “Service Quality at German Airports” provides black and white evidence: while normal travellers believe that service quality at most German airports is no more than fair, their experience at Leipzig/Halle and Dresden International Airports has been quite different: there the service is consistently good or very good. Both business locations were able to provide quality services according to the report and capture the top positions in the rankings.

1,650 passengers in all were questioned by the independent company called Service Rating GmbH based in Cologne about their personal experience at about 30 German airports. On average the airport operators and their service companies were only awarded 55 out of a possible 100 points on the index. The differences led to ratings varying between 33 and 70 index points and this brought to light interesting conclusions about the issue of service quality within the German airport scene.

The overall winners, Leipzig/Halle Airport and Dresden International, were able to stand out from their rivals primarily as a result of their excellent customer orientation, reliability and fault-free services. The airports at Munich and Nuremberg also achieved ratings well above the average figures. But the airports at Frankfurt, Hamburg and Cologne/Bonn have to admit that the services they offer travellers are no more than mediocre. The shortcomings at the airports with low marks were particularly due to the price/performance ratios of service providers, unfriendly attitudes and a lack of willingness to provide help on the part of service personnel – or a lack of transparency at the locations. The need for passengers to walk



Service expert Dr. Claus Dethloff, Managing Director of Service Rating GmbH

long and often complicated routes within airports is a particularly major shortfall at the large commercial centres. Even rapid and flexible check-in facilities can do little to counteract this.

Claus Dethloff, Managing Director of Service Rating GmbH, stresses the necessity of dealing with passengers in a courteous and personal way: "Many airports have still not managed to really inspire their passengers. Given the fact that passengers can choose where they fly from, airports with poor services have a distinct disadvantage over their rivals. Genuine customer loyalty can be established by providing what are notably positive services. An airport is still at heart a place where passengers take off and land, but it should also become a place associated with special experiences in atmospheric terms."

Traffic Developments Upbeat Mood at Airports in Central Germany

The forecasts have proved correct: Leipzig/Halle Airport once again broke its own freight record last year and registered a new high. At the same time, the attractive network of routes and industrial start-ups with a long-term future provide grounds for optimism at Dresden International Airport.



Central German Airports - portals to a dynamic region

4,144,308 passengers passed through the two commercial airports last year. This may represent a fall of 4.1 percent overall when compared to the figure for the previous year, but the Central German airports are well above the average for the German domestic market according to figures provided by the German Airports Association (ADV).

Leipzig/Halle Airport was able to handle 524,082.7 tonnes of air freight by the end of the year for the first time in its history and this represents a significant increase of 18.5 percent over the previous year. This ongoing growth is enabling the airport to assert its position to a significant degree over its rivals and it was able to emphatically consolidate its ranking as the third most important logistics airport in Germany. Passenger numbers at the airport declined slightly by 1.7 percent to 2,421,382.

Passenger numbers at Dresden International Airport fell by 7.4 percent to 1,722,926 as a result of the difficult general economic conditions, but the airport near the borders with the Czech Republic and Poland still managed to increase the attractiveness of its route network. It added two more direct flights to Moscow Sheremetyevo and Warsaw during the course of the year. The airport is also increasingly benefiting from many new industrial companies setting up in business in the surrounding area, which have been able to successfully sustain their position despite the economic crisis. For example, service companies handled the large-volume "Beluga" A300-600 ST transport aircraft for the umpteenth time at the beginning of January ; it was delivering sections of the Airbus A400M military transport plane. Following final assembly work at IABG, the

plane is subjected to the necessary engineering strength tests. The company built up good experience when operating similar tests on the A380 aircraft.

AeroLogic Continues Upward Trend

Since the delivery of two more B777F freight aircraft in December 2009, the cargo airline, Aerologic, which is based at Leipzig/Halle Airport and currently has four of these planes, now has the world's largest fleet of these efficient and environmentally-friendly large capacity freight aircraft.

The logical consequence of the expansion of the fleet is that the company now flies to additional destinations and can increase its frequencies for direct flights. AeroLogic now flies four weekly non-stop flights from Leipzig/Halle to Hong Kong and also provides direct flights from Frankfurt/Main to Atlanta and Chicago at weekends.

Dr. Thomas Papke, Managing Director of AeroLogic GmbH, underlines the sense of confidence, with which the company with its strong dynamic growth is tackling the new tasks: "In the end, our customers will derive significant benefits from the major expansion of our network of routes. We are expecting four more freight planes to be delivered this year and then we will be able to fully operate our planned network of routes from 2011 onwards. By using the latest technology, we are able to provide the highest levels of reliability in the market place and as a result, we can continue to serve both our customers with outstanding levels of performance ."

Married Couple Celebrate Valentine's day in New York

A romantic dream is about to become reality for the winning married couple in the "Wed & Win" competition, a joint promotion scheme organised by Leipzig/Halle Airport and Deutsche Lufthansa AG. Every newly married couple, which then booked their honeymoon at the airport in the same year, was eligible to take part in the competition in 2009.

The Dolge family from Oranienburg was selected at the raffle ceremony at a typically American brunch at the airport. The lucky winners will fly to New York on a Lufthansa flight on 14 February. Once they land there, they can savour the American dream at the Doubletree Metropolitan Hotel in the centre of Manhattan for one week. LMD Flugreisen GmbH, the travel agency at Leipzig/Halle Airport, was also delighted, as the young couple had booked their honeymoon in Antalya there last year.

Leipzig/Halle Airport



AeroLogic cargo planes at Leipzig/Halle Airport



Operations manager Jürgen Mank with colleague Annett Syrbe, winner Nancy Dolge with son Ben Robin and Evelyn Schuster, Marketing and PR Manager at Flughafen Leipzig/Halle GmbH (from left to right)

Dresden Airport Celebrates 75th Anniversary

Dresden International



Dresden International Airport will officially celebrate its 75th anniversary as part of the 5th major airport festival on 18 and 19 September 2010. Visitors can expect a varied entertainment programme under the heading “Party and reach dizzy heights!”

Visitors will be able to marvel at a colourful mixture of exciting aircraft from various times – ranging from historical small planes to the NATO AWACS surveillance aircraft – or even take off on a pleasure flight on both days between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. It will also be possible to discover the airport site itself from a very different perspective on one of the many circular tours. Visitors will not only be able to enjoy interesting exhibitions on the history of aviation at Dresden and current airport projects, but also gain information and enjoy entertainment at various stands provided by associations and partners of the airport.

The climax of the celebrations will take place on 18 September with the 3rd major airport night under the heading “Dance, Shop and Enjoy”. As soon as the terminal has turned into a party and centre for people to stroll around, the popular group, Boney M. Feat. Liz Mitchell – the Original Lead Singer”, will send the crowds into raptures with well-known hits like “Rivers of Babylon” or “Daddy Cool”.

Dresden International Airport Attends Fairs at Home and Abroad

Dresden International Airport is attending various travel fairs until the middle of March 2010. The major thrust will focus on introducing the new summer timetable. The airport in the Saxon capital will be operating flights to a total of 51 cities and holiday destinations in Central and Eastern Europe and by the Mediterranean, the Atlantic and the Red Sea from 28 March onwards. Visitors will also be able to discover more about the services available at the airport.

After participating in the Dresden Travel Market on 29 - 31 January, Dresden International Airport will first show off its services in its expanded catchment zones in the north of the Czech Republic and south-west Poland. The airport will then move to the Holiday World Fair in Prague on 4 - 7 February together with the Tourismus Marketing Gesellschaft Sachsen mbH (TMGS) and then head for Wroclaw on 4 March. There the airport and ten other partners, including airlines and travel operators, will meet selected representatives of 120 travel agents from the south-western Polish region. This event, which

is being held for the fifth time in succession, will enable Dresden Airport to not only present its network of flights, but also underline its attractiveness for Polish passengers. Back in Germany again, the Saxon airport and its Central German affiliated company, Leipzig/Halle Airport, will finally present their services at the TMGS stand at the International Tourism Convention (ITB) in Berlin between 10 and 14 March.

From the Region

Groundbreaking Ceremony for New LANXESS AG Chemicals Factory in Bitterfeld

The specialty chemicals company LANXESS is investing approx. EUR 30 million in Bitterfeld to construct an extremely modern factory to develop and product an exclusive membrane filtration technology.

Following the groundbreaking ceremony on 21 January, work will progress at top speed on constructing the production facilities and the associated high-tech laboratories, logistics areas and offices at a site measuring 4,000 square metres in all. The facilities are due to be ready for operation for a pilot and development phase by the end of the year. The first products will then probably be ready for the market next year and this will pave the way for the creation of approx. 200 attractive jobs.

LANXESS is opening up significant fields of application for water treatment with this new membrane technology. The sophisticated chemical compound and the well conceived structure of the membrane not only make it possible to filter out pollutants, which contain nitrates, pesticides or herbicides, but also viruses, bacteria and other undesirable particles.

“Usable water is becoming a scarce and increasingly precious resource around the globe. As a result of this groundbreaking investment for LANXESS in Bitterfeld, we are now able to offer additional products for water treatment and further expand what is already a strong market position for us,” says Axel C. Heitmann, Chairman of the Board at LANXESS AG, which has production facilities at 46 international locations.

New York Times Selects Leipzig as a Top Travel Destination for 2010

The New York Times (NYT) published a list of rankings for the world’s most attractive vacation destinations under the heading “The 31 Places to Go in 2010” at the beginning of January. Leipzig not only managed to make it to 10th place in the rankings, but it is also the only German city to have been included in the line-up at all.



Chairman of the board Axel C. Heitmann (middle) and the Economics Minister of the State of Saxony-Anhalt, Reiner Haseloff (2nd from left), at the groundbreaking ceremony

The Saxon city therefore has achieved a remarkable position directly ahead of international hotspots like Los Angeles (11), Shanghai (12) and Mumbai (13). Major factors behind this decision were particularly the reopening of the newly conceived Bach Museum in March scheduled to coincide with the 325th anniversary of the birth of Johann Sebastian Bach and the many celebrations to mark the 200th anniversary of the birth of Robert Schumann. The timing of the publication is particularly favourable as Leipzig is also the host for the 55th Annual Congress of the North American Travel Journalists Association this year. Experts are predicting that the number of participants will now be much higher.

“This position is very pleasing for Leipzig. But this statement is not a flash in the pan, as “Conde Nast Traveller”, the travel magazine with the largest circulation in the USA, published a 14-page article about the city of Leipzig just a few months ago,” says Volker Bremer, Managing Director of Leipzig Tourismus und Marketing (LTM) GmbH. This naturally provides some stimulus for the future and will continue to give the company a boost in reaching many media representatives, opinion formers and news agencies around the globe by using effective press and public relations work.

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