



News from the Companies in the Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding

Employment Record: More than 7,000 People now work at Leipzig/Halle and Dresden Airports

The airports are proving to be job generators even in the financial crisis: a new employment record was achieved at both Mitteldeutsche Flughafen AG airports in 2008. In all, 7,026 people were working at Leipzig/Halle and Dresden Airports – this figure not only includes airport employees, but also those working at companies, businesses, administrative offices and public authorities based at the airports.

The number of people working at Leipzig/Halle Airport at the end of 2008 was 4,116 – this represents a rise of 11.5 percent over the previous year. The increase in those in full-time employment is particularly encouraging: this figure rose 26.6 percent at Leipzig/Halle to 3,170 (2,504 in 2007). The number of those employed at the Mitteldeutsche Flughafen AG companies at Leipzig/Halle also rose to 617 (+ 4.9 percent). The figure for companies based at the airport remained the same as in the previous year (144).

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Employment levels at Dresden International Airport were also maintained. There were 2,910 people employed at the airport in the Saxon state capital at the end of 2008 – this represents a slight increase of 0.1 percent over the previous year. While the number of those in full-time employment remained almost constant at 2,557 (- 0.9 percent), there was an increase of 8 percent in the figures for part-time and temporary staff. The number of companies based at the airport rose slightly to 126 (124 in 2007). Overall the companies in the Mitteldeutsche Flughafen AG at the Dresden site employed 353 people (343 in 2007).

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The number of people working at Leipzig/Halle and Dresden Airports has risen

News from the Companies in the Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding

Positive Image Survey: Passengers Like Flying to and from Leipzig/Halle and Dresden

An extensive passenger and visitor survey at Leipzig/Halle and Dresden International Airports provides evidence of a high degree of customer satisfaction. In particular, user-friendly facilities and the pleasant atmosphere at the airports were praised in the representative survey carried out by the Leipzig Institute for Market Research.

93 percent of all those interviewed had a positive impression of Leipzig/Halle Airport – it was awarded an average grade of 1.8 (1 = the best grade). Both passengers and visitors were asked about issues like cleanliness and tidiness, services and the friendliness of staff members, finding your way around the airport, parking facilities and getting to the airport by car or public transport.

Those interviewed awarded particularly high marks for ease of access and transport links, the pleasant, modern atmosphere, cleanliness, the clear instructions for finding your way around the airport and the signposts and road system at Leipzig/Halle Airport.

It also emerged from an analysis of the survey that proximity and ease of access played a decisive role when people chose to fly from Leipzig/Halle Airport. As a result, passengers from the Leipzig, Halle, Chemnitz, Magdeburg, Gera, Zwickau and Erfurt regions in particular use Leipzig/Halle Airport. During the course of collecting the data, passengers and visitors were also asked whether they would recommend Leipzig/Halle Airport to other people or would use it as their departure airport again. 94 percent of people responded positively to the first question and 98 percent to the second.

Dresden International Airport also achieved outstanding levels of approval. 98 percent of people said that they were happy with the overall impression created



Passengers provided Leipzig/Halle and Dresden International with a very good report

by the airport in the Saxon state capital. Most people gave the top marks (1 or 2) for the cleanliness and appearance of the terminal and the friendliness, availability and competence of members of staff. As a result, the airport achieved an average grade of 1.5, the same result as two years ago.

Proximity to people's homes or place of work, ease of access, positive experiences during their previous journey or their last stay and a good range of flights were the reasons most often mentioned by people for using Dresden International Airport. 81 percent of those questioned came from Dresden and the surrounding area, while the remainder hailed from the Chemnitz-Zwickau area, Eastern Saxony or abroad. 94 percent of passengers want to use Dresden International Airport again or will recommend it to other people.

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Olé! 4,000 Visitors to the Spain-Portugal Day at Leipzig/Halle Airport

Where should people go when the winter weather is so dull? To sunny regions, of course. Visitors to Leipzig/Halle Airport obtained information and were treated to a colourful entertainment programme linked to the holiday destinations on the Iberian Peninsula on 22 February at the "Spain-Portugal Day".

The two major attractions for many of the 4,000 visitors on this occasion were the slide shows and presentations given by Jörg Hertel on "The Azores – the Atlantic End of Europe" and "A City Stroll through Lisbon". The Spanish Tourist Office stands were bombarded with visitors and people from Leipzig were particularly keen to receive information on the Canary and Balearic Islands.

And there was plenty of entertainment available on the stage in the central check-in area too. Uli Singer and band, the Mariachi show "El Dorado" and Anna Armenini provided a real sense of holiday flair in the central terminal with their southern European music, flamenco dancing and Spanish folklore. There was a play and creative area for young children with a treasure hunt too. And one lady from Leipzig was delighted to win the main prize in the raffle, a travel voucher for € 800, at the end of this highly successful day.

More than 20 Spanish and four Portuguese destinations will be served every week by flights from Leipzig/Halle operated by AirBerlin, Condor, TUIfly, Hamburg International and Spanair when the summer timetable starts on 29 March.

Leipzig-Halle Airport



Children were able to enjoy a **great programme** at the Spain-Portugal Day

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Leipzig/Halle and EasternAirCargo Showcase their Services at the World Cargo Event in Bangkok

Many important decision makers in the air freight sector were at the World Air Cargo Event (WACE) in Bangkok (Thailand) from 18 till 22 February. More than 50 logistics companies presented their range of services. It goes without saying that Leipzig/Halle Airport and EasternAirportCargo (EAC) were also there to inform visitors about the advantages of their business location.

The WACE is a renowned annual meeting place for the air freight sector and the fair was held in the Thai capital for the first time. Thousands of international visitors from the logistics sector made their way to Bangkok Convention Centre, examined what the exhibitors were offering and discussed various ways to get out of the global economic crisis.

Many visitors came to the Leipzig/Halle Airport and EAC joint trade fair stand. Mark Stelse, Sales Director at Leipzig/Halle Airport, commented: "We were able to position our services at the Leipzig/Halle location in an excellent manner and emphasize our infrastructure advantages. It goes without saying that the interest in Leipzig/Halle as an international freight hub is as strong as ever, even in difficult times." Stephan Blank, Managing Director of EasternAirCargo, said: „Of course, the global economic crisis and its effects on the air freight sector were the central subject of conversation. But even in times of crisis, the WACE provides an excellent opportunity to look for comprehensive solutions and also make contact with prospective international partners."

Step Right In! Major Airport Night in the Terminal

Things really take off right into the early hours: Dancing fans will get their money's worth at the 2nd Major Airport Night on 7 March. The star guest of the evening at Dresden Airport terminal is the pop duo, Bad Boys Blue. The band Stamping Feet will provide some pounding rhythm. And Carte Blanche, Dresden's first travesty drama group, will provide the glamour for the evening. Football players from SG Dynamo Dresden will be on hand to sign autographs. The terminal doors open at 7 p.m. punctually and the music programme on the main stage (conference level) takes to the airwaves at 8 p.m.

Leipzig-Halle Airport



Mark Stelse, Director Sales &
Customer Relations at Leipzig/
Halle Airport

Dresden International



Thousands of guests are expected
to attend this year's **Airport Night**
too

Bad Boys Blue have been storming the charts with pop and "Eurodance" music for the past 25 years. "You're a woman" is the hit that definitely will be played during the Airport Night. The Berlin group Stamping Feet has turned buckets, barrels or even power saws into instruments in the past. And the occasion will also feature the group Casablanca with a mixture of well-known hits ranging from salsa to swing and even blues, rock and pop numbers. DJ Wolf will also serve up classic hits. And party-goers with plenty of energy will be able to continue dancing into the early hours at the after show party.

In addition to the travesty performance and the autograph session with the Dynamo players, there will also be a huge cinema with short films about holiday destinations, snack bars, bars and a smoking lounge behind the Café Vanilla. Shops and many travel agents will be open too. And there will be a raffle to win airline tickets for Germanwings, AirBerlin and Austrian Airlines flights.

The airport has 3,000 parking spaces, half of which are in multi-storey buildings. The local transport authority (VVO) combined ticket is valid for four hours before the start of the event until 4 a.m. on the following morning. It allows users to travel on any local transport services – except special ones – in the Dresden tariff zone. The VVO is putting on an extra urban railway train (S-Bahn) from the airport to Dresden Central Station at 1.15 a.m. The tickets for the Airport Night cost € 10, which includes the VVO combined ticket plus the advance purchase fee. Tickets cost € 12 on the evening. Parking costs € 3.

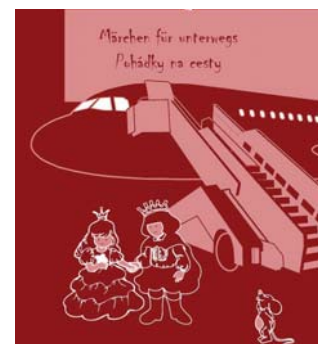
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German-Czech Relations: Airport Cooperates with School

A partnership now exists between Dresden International Airport and the Friedrich-Schiller Grammar School in Pirna. The aim is to promote and deepen German-Czech relations. The airport has registered growing popularity in the Czech Republic since the completion of the A17 motorway and it wants to further increase its level of familiarity in Northern Bohemia. The grammar school in Pirna is the first in Germany to offer both German and Czech curricula.

Dresden Airport will support the school on current projects – as is already happening with the publication of the book entitled "Fairy Tales for Journeys" ("Märchen für unterwegs" / Pohádky na cesty). The pupils wrote and retold German and Czech fairy tales, translated them into each other's language and provided the illustrations for them too. The airport also organises guided tours as part of school excursions and provides information on job descriptions. The

Dresden International



The cover of the fairy tale book where Dresden Airport is supporting the school

Schiller Grammar School will involve the airport in projects in the Saxony/ North Bohemia border region and it has a stand at the annual Neighbours Day at the airport.

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Dresden International Airport has developed into a real alternative for Czech travellers over the past few years. The A17 motorway has been open between Dresden and Ústí nad Labem since the end of 2006. The journey time from North Bohemia to the airport is just 45 minutes. The airport provides information in Czech on flight destinations, travel to and from the airport and current offers at the www.letiste-drazdany.cz website and in the "Take off" newsletter. About 70 travel agent staff and journalists from Northern Bohemia recently visited Dresden Airport to find out more about the 2009 summer timetable.

From the Region

No More Obstacles on the A14 Motorway

One of the major bottlenecks in the Central German road network will disappear by the summer. The multi-lane upgrading work on the A14 motorway between Halle-Peissen and the Schkeuditzer Kreuz junction will be complete by then. The section, which is approx. eleven kilometres long, is due to be opened at the end of June.

The federal government and the state of Saxony-Anhalt are investing € 56 million in upgrading the A14 between the junction with the B100 main road and the Schkeuditzer Kreuz junction. This section of the road was first built in the 1930s and parts of it were desperately in need of repair work. The concreting work on the motorway on this section in the Dresden direction was carried out last October – initially from Halle-Peissen to the Halle-Ost junction and then from the Schkeuditzer Kreuz junction to Halle-Ost.

Jointing work and road markings and crash barriers will all be complete by the time that the road is opened in the summer and three noise protection walls will also be erected. You can find more information at www.a14.sachsen-anhalt.de

From the Region

Which Logo for the Metropolitan Region?

What have Chemnitz, Dessau-Rosslau, Dresden, Erfurt, Gera, Halle, Jena, Leipzig, Magdeburg, Weimar and Zwickau in common? They all belong to the "Saxon Triangle Metropolitan Region". The eleven cities from Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt and Thuringia are now looking for a new name and a suitable logo for their network, which has been growing continually over the past few years.

The business initiative is proposing two suggestions. "The metropolitan region, which was formerly concentrated on Saxony, has included other cities from Thuringia and Saxony-Anhalt over the past few years. So we are now logically suggesting that the name should be changed to "Central German Metropolitan Region", explains Klaus Wurpts, managing director of the business initiative, where the member cities and companies also come from all three federal states. According to Wurpts, the two logo designs will illustrate the interstate character of the structure and highlight the cities involved at the same time.

"The close cooperation between the states and the cities is crucial for the sustainability of the Central German region," Wurpts explains. "The business initiative is seeking a close degree of cooperation and a clear distribution of tasks for the "Metropolitan Region", he adds.

"If the Metropolitan Region declared its commitment to Central Germany, this could provide a significant boost for local marketing projects and also help avoid duplicating activities," says Wurpts with conviction. The two logo designs and name suggestions are now available for all the cities committed to the "Metropolitan Region" to study.

Leipzig Book Fair Defies the Crisis

It is that time of the year again: more than 1,900 events with approx. 1,500 authors are involved in the programme at this year's Leipzig Book Fair on 12 – 15 March (10 a.m. – 6 p.m.) at the Congress Center Leipzig.

"This year's programme provides huge variety," explains Book Fair Director, Oliver Zille. "The book sector is confronting the crisis with optimism and creativity," Zille continues. The 2009 spring event offers the eagerly awaited new

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The two logo designs for the "Central German Metropolitan Region"

novels written by German and international stars, interesting debuts in the world of fiction and many specialist books. Stars attending the Leipzig Fair will include Julia Franck, Wilhelm Genazino, Günter Grass, Alexa Hennig von Lange, Wladimir Kaminer, Daniel Kehlmann, Mirjam Pressler, Benjamin Lebert and Juli Zeh.

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Visitors to the fair can also look forward to seeing Rainer Calmund, Marietta Slomka, Peter Sodann, Georg Stefan Troller and Wolfgang Leonhard. Many public figures like Frank Bsirske, Wolfgang Clement, Roman Herzog, Reinhard Höppner, Franz Müntefering, Gesine Schwan, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, Peter Struck, Wolfgang Tiefensee, Stanislaw Tillich, Brigitte Zypries and Wolfgang Thierse will all be appearing at the Book Fair.

The major focuses of the Leipzig Book Fair – audio books, literature from Central and Eastern Europe, children's/young people's education and recent German literature – have been expanded even further this year. You can obtain more information from www.leipziger-buchmesse.de

From the Region

Direct Dresden – Wrocław Rail Link

The restoration of a direct rail link between the Saxon and Lower Silesian capitals – sought by many people – will become reality on 1 March. The regional express line 100 will then link Dresden and Wrocław every day with three trains operating on the route.

Now that the track on the Polish side has been upgraded, the journey time will be two hours shorter than the previous service where passengers had to change in Görlitz. Trains will leave Dresden Central station at 7.27 a.m., 1.27 p.m. and 5.27 p.m. and arrive in Wrocław exactly 3 hours and 33 minutes later – i.e. at 11 a.m., 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. Trains in the opposite direction will leave Wrocław-Główny at 7.05 a.m., 1.05 p.m. and 6.05 p.m. and will arrive in Dresden Central at 10.32 a.m., 4.32 p.m. and 9.32 p.m. This new route means that Polish passengers can then reach Dresden International Airport easily and quickly by train too.

Decision in Brussels Confirms German Legal Framework for Setting Airport Fees

The EU Transport Ministers finally approved the new rules for setting airport fees at their meeting on 19 February.

The new airport fee directive does not question the tried and tested procedure for authorising fees in Germany – the level of transparency demanded by the EU in matters related to fees is already common practice in Germany. “The decision taken in Brussels has provided an important signal for the future efficiency of the German airport system. Unrealistic requests – unrelated to normal market practices – proposed by the airlines for the establishment of a regulation authority were rejected,” explains Ralph Beisel, Managing Director of the German Airports Association, and adds: “It is now the task of the German authorities to safeguard the ability of the German airport system to make investments in the long term.”

Urgently needed investments totalling € 20 billion are required at German commercial airports over the next few years and they can only be realised if appropriate airport fees are in place. In contrast to rail and road facilities, the federal budget does not include any funds for airports. “Without the possibility of adjusting fees, growth and jobs at airports would be in jeopardy,” Ralph Beisel warns.

According to estimates made by the German Airports Association, the annual shortfall in funds in the fee area at all German airports adds up to approx. € 300 million.

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