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▶ Fast-Moving Region for Rapid Logistics – Regional „Leipzig/Halle Logistics Network in Central Germany“ Founded

The logistics sector in the forward-looking Leipzig/Halle region is pooling its resources. Representatives from companies in this sector and business associations set up a regional logistics network to coincide with the Logistics Day held on 17 April. It should allow greater cooperation to take place in this field.

Under the heading “Fast-Moving Region for Rapid Logistics”, 30 companies, business centres, public authorities and towns so far would like to gear their efforts to promoting this economic core region in Central Germany. One of the goals is to consistently market the logistics region and establish a joint presence in Germany and right round the world.

The initial meeting set about implementing the pioneering EU project entitled CITYREGIO II. The city of Leipzig, the surrounding rural districts of Delitzsch, Leipziger Land, the Muldental district and the Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK) in Leipzig are seeking to strengthen the Leipzig/Halle logistics region.

CITYREGIO II brings together six cities in all, one of which is Leipzig, and their regional partners. The cities are surrounded by areas, which directly depend on the economic success of the urban areas. The project aims to reinforce economic capacity and competitiveness to enable the cities to function as regional motors of growth in the whole region.



The initiators of the "Leipzig/Halle Logistics Network in Central Germany" include Eric Malitzke, Managing Director of Leipzig/Halle Airport, Michael Reinboth, DHL Hub Leipzig GmbH, Achim Lohse, City of Leipzig and Wolfgang Topf and Frank Hahn, both from the IHK in Leipzig.

The cities of Leipzig and Halle have been demonstrating their prowess as an aspiring logistics region for some time and not just since DHL announced that it wanted to establish a new European hub at Leipzig/Halle Airport. (For more details, see Leipzig/Halle Airport). The mail order company Quelle has been supplying its customers from Leipzig for years. The Rossmann drugstore chain has its logistics centre at Landsberg near Halle. The American computer manufacturer Dell has its service and sales centre in Halle. Amazon has established a base in Leipzig.

Logistics is one of the largest business sectors in Germany, following in the footsteps of trade and the automobile industry. The logistics sector recorded turnover of approx. € 210 billion in 2007. Some 2.7 million people work in this field.

▶ AeroLogic and Lufthansa Flight Training Sign Agreement on Simulator Training

Less than twelve months before the new cargo airline AeroLogic takes off, the preparatory work at Leipzig/Halle Airport is moving ahead at full speed. In mid-April the company signed an agreement with Lufthansa Flight Training GmbH to provide simulator training for its pilots. The agreement stipulates that Lufthansa Flight Training will install a Boeing 777 simulator in Berlin in July 2009.



About 200 pilots will be employed to fly the AeroLogic Aircrafts

AeroLogic is planning to operate eleven brand-new Boeing 777-200F aircraft by 2012. The airline will receive the first four of these in 2009, another four in 2010, two more in 2011 and a final aircraft in 2012. About 200 pilots will be employed to fly these aircraft. Some of the future AeroLogic pilots do not yet have a license to operate this kind of aircraft, so they will first have to complete what is known as type rating for this type of plane. AeroLogic will initially use the simulator for a period of five years. The type ratings mean that pilots obtain the necessary license for a particular type of aircraft – in this case, the Boeing 777-200F.



AeroLogic is a joint alliance operated by DHL Express and Lufthansa Cargo AG. Both companies have a fifty percent holding in the new company. The company, which has its headquarters at Leipzig/Halle Airport and was launched in 2007, is the product of a joint venture signed by the two partners in 2004. The company currently employs 25 members of staff and plans to have 250 when it is fully operating.

DHL Express and Lufthansa Cargo will both use the freight capacity provided by AeroLogic. The cargo aircraft will mainly supplement the DHL Express network to Asian destinations on weekdays and provide extra space for Lufthansa Cargo services at weekends.

www.aerologic.aero

EasternAirCargo GmbH

► Freight Broker Extends Portfolio

EasternAirCargo is spreading its wings. The Central German Airports Group subsidiary has operated as a specialist for Russia and the CIS countries in the past. After managing to successfully market Sao Paulo Viracopos Airport last year as a first step, the company has now attracted other South American destinations in the shape of Lima, Caracas and Bogota. And the company has another first in its portfolio: EasternAirCargo now has an airline flying to Equatorial Guinea in Africa, Ceiba Cargo. But the freight broker will continue to focus mainly on its Russian operations.

EasternAirCargo (EAC) has been arranging freight services on regular flights and on so-called split and full charter services since 2001. EAC has its headquarters at Leipzig/Halle Airport, but also has an office at Frankfurt/Main. EAC is a virtual freight airline and channels flows of goods from west to east via the freight centre at Leipzig/Halle Airport. It uses a network of freight reception points across Europe and transports the consignments onwards to Central and Eastern Europe and even Central Asia.

www.easternaircargo.com

Leipzig/Halle Airport

► Time to Take Stock – Air France Has Been Flying Nonstop from Leipzig/Halle to Paris for Two Years

Air France and its aircraft have been part of the scene at Leipzig/Halle Airport for two years now. The airline initiated a non-stop flight from Leipzig/Halle to Paris at the start of the 2006 summer timetable. But this is not just a link between two cities. The 95-minute flight to the French capital also opens up the world for passengers travelling from Central Germany. After all, Air France-KLM flies to 185 destinations around the globe from Paris. They include connecting flights to Johannesburg in South Africa, Los Angeles and New York in the USA, Hong Kong and Shanghai in China or Dubai on the Arabian Peninsula.



The managing director of Leipzig/Halle Airport, Eric Malitzke, says: "The Air France scheduled flights provide an important connection to one of the most important European cities and the Air France-KLM global network of routes for our region. The flights that are available are attractive to both business travellers and tourists. We are happy to report that demand over the past two years has matched the expectations, which Air France was aiming for when it established the route."

An Air France EMB 145 with apron bus

www.airfrance.com

Leipzig/Halle Airport

► Landed – Deutsche Post Subsidiary DHL Moves its European Air Freight Hub

The subsidiary of Deutsche Post World Net, DHL, has landed at Leipzig/Halle. The airline now flies to 16 new destinations, including New York and Moscow, in connection with the new summer timetable. 57 aircraft now take off and land at the Central German airport every day. Approx. 1,500 tonnes of freight are handled on weekdays.



The DHL air freight hub will be officially launched with a celebration on 26 May. The guests are expected to include German Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier and Deutsche Post World Net CEO, Frank Appel.

The Group has invested some € 300 million in the hub, which now replaces the company's former European centre in Brussels. Analysts expect 3,500 direct jobs to have been created by 2012. DHL currently employs about 2,000 people. Experts are predicting that about 7,000 other jobs will be created around the new hub over the next few years. The move to Leipzig/Halle means that the Central German airport joins Hong Kong in Asia and Wilmington in the USA as one of three major global hubs operated by the Deutsche Post subsidiary, DHL.

DHL aircrafts at Leipzig/Halle



Dresden Airport

► Growth – Airlines Expand Services from Dresden

There is positive news for business travellers and tourists, who wish to start their journey from Dresden Airport or land there: several airlines have expanded their services this summer. Each week during the summer season 307 aircraft will take off from Dresden. The total number roughly matches the level of the previous year.

Air Berlin is operating eleven extra flights from July. One new destination is Djerba in Tunisia. Lufthansa is expanding its flights to Düsseldorf by six flights a week from May onwards.

Air Berlin is operating an additional Boeing 737-700 with 144 seats from Dresden. The holiday airline flies to Palma de Majorca three times a week. This increases the total number of weekly flights by three to 15. This extra plane also flies to Greece, Tunisia, Turkey, the Balearic Islands and the Canaries once a week.

Lufthansa has introduced its sixth daily flight between Dresden and Düsseldorf. The additional plane, a CRJ 200, lands in Dresden each evening, except on Saturdays, and takes off again for Düsseldorf on the following morning. This means that the number of weekly flights to Düsseldorf has increased by six to 52. Düsseldorf is the new top destination from Dresden and has now overtaken Frankfurt/Main for the very first time.

In figures: The current summer timetable at Dresden Airport

- 307 take-offs each week
- 204 take-offs to domestic destinations
- 103 take-offs to destinations abroad

- 47 destinations
- 8 of them in Germany
- 39 destinations abroad
- 33 destinations with non-stop flights

www.dresden-airport.de



Dresden Airport

▶ “Aerospace Industry Saxony” Combined Initiative Launched

Dresden – The combined initiative of the Saxon Aerospace Industry is being launched. The idea behind the “Aerospace Initiative Saxony” (ASIS) is to promote innovative projects, coordinate them and so reduce obstacles to market entry. Most of the companies in this sector are small or medium-sized enterprises and they are being given the opportunity to gain access to the supply and service chains of the few major aircraft manufacturers around the globe as competent and competitive partners.

27 companies, research institutes and service companies were operating in the aerospace sector in Saxony in 2007. The employees involved (4,660) generated annual turnover of approx. € 540 million. The development of the regional aerospace industry is largely determined by the performance of one core company, EADS Elbe Flugzeugwerke GmbH Dresden. The 1,143 employees there alone generated turnover of € 225.2 million in 2007. The company has become a major centre for converting passenger aircraft into freight planes.

The Saxon aerospace companies mainly operate in the fields of manufacturing and engineering, developing and testing aerospace technology, research and development and providing technical/scientific services, air traffic, air traffic engineering and looking after air traffic technology.

The “Aerospace Industry Saxony” combined initiative will work closely with the other combined initiatives already in existence in the state: the Saxon Automobile Supplier Network (AMZ), the Saxon Mechanical Engineering Network (VEMAS), the Saxon Railway Technology Network (BTS), “Technical Textiles” and the “Industrial Network for Renewable Energies”.

www.aerospace-saxony.de

▶ News from the Central German Business World

▶ Halloren Schokoladenfabrik AG Reports Positive Operating Figures for 2007

Halle – Die Halloren Schokoladenfabrik AG, Germany’s oldest chocolate factory, can look back on a successful business year. The overall performance of the Halloren Group rose to € 31.9 million in 2007. This represents an increase of 16 percent over the previous year. Turnover improved from € 25.86 million to € 30.1 million. The main investments last year focussed on the new construction of the works and the new production facilities for Halloren Confiserie. € 4 million alone were invested in order to expand production. Investments as a whole totalled € 5.2 million.



The Halloren chocolate factory is Germany's oldest and has a history going back more than 200 years. The company group currently employs about 330 members of staff in its three business areas, "Halloren Marke", "Chocolaterie" and "Confiserie". The range of products includes more than 100 different chocolate items – from confectionery articles to the original Halloren balls. Halloren Schokoladenfabrik has been a listed company at the Frankfurt stock exchange since May 2007.

► Chip Industry in Dresden Reports Considerable Growth

Dresden – The chip industry in and around Dresden has developed into an important economic factor. The number of companies operating in the microelectronics field has almost tripled since 2002 and the figure is now 1,195. The number of employees has grown considerably over the same period. It has risen from 24,500 to 44,000.

According to city council forecasts, about 50,000 men and women could be working in about 1,500 companies in the microelectronics and IT sector in the Saxon capital by the year 2012.

More than € 12 billion have been invested in the microelectronics sector in Dresden since the 1990s. A network for the semi-conductor, electronics and micro system industry was not set up until the end of 2000. The "Silicon Saxony" Association links manufacturers, suppliers, service providers, universities, research institutes and public institutions. The association now has 260 members. These companies alone employ about 25,000 members of staff, who account for turnover of € 3.5 billion per annum.

► Auto Mobil International in Leipzig Sets New Visitor Record

Leipzig – The Central European Auto Mobil International Fair in Leipzig closed with a new visitor record. 293,000 people came to the Auto Mobil International (AMI) Fair this year. This represented an increase of 8.5 percent over the 2007 figures.

The main focus of the visitors' interest was on the more than 100 premieres provided by German and international manufacturers – some of which were firsts in the world, Europe or Germany – and the many opportunities for people to actively participate in events and be involved in tests. 498 exhibitors from 17 countries provided an overview of new features and trends in the vehicle sector at the AMI until 13 April.

The Auto Mobil International has significantly expanded its regional and national catchment area. The number of foreign visitors, particularly from the neighbouring countries of Poland and the Czech Republic, increased from 6,000 to 30,000 within the space of one year.

The AMI will invite trade specialists and other visitors to the motor show from 28 March until 5 April next year.



▶ A Museum of Time – Watch Museum in Glashütte Will Be Opened

Glashütte – The key date is 22 May: The Glashütte German Watch Museum in the Weisseritz District will be opened with a special ceremony to punctually mark the 130th anniversary of the formation of the German Watchmaking School. The museum will open its doors to visitors on the following day. The exhibition covers two floors with 1,000 square metres of space and shows more than 400 unique exhibits, which can be experienced in multi-media form: Glashütte pocket watches, wrist watches and pendulum clocks from various periods, marine chronometers and models of escapements, historical documents and patents, tools and work benches, astronomical models and metronomes are all on display.

Thematically the exhibition consists of a series of “historical rooms” and “time rooms”, which are framed by a prologue and epilogue.

The “historical rooms” provide the historical context for the watch town and introduce famous personalities and the founding fathers like Ferdinand Adolph Lange, Julius Assmann, Adolf Schneider and Moritz Grossmann at the outset; they made Glashütte into a major German centre of precision watchmaking and a training site. The “time rooms” interrupt the chronological sequence of watchmaking history at Glashütte and transport people into the microcosm of a mechanical watch.

www.uhrenmuseum-glashuette.com

▶ Miscellaneous

▶ Following in the Reformer’s Footsteps – the Luther Path Is Opened

Eisleben – People can now follow in the footsteps of the reformer Martin Luther in Saxony-Anhalt. The Luther Path, initiated by the Lutheran churches, tourism associations, the Hill and Hiking Association in Saxony-Anhalt and the farmer Wolf von Bila, is a contribution towards the “Luther 2017 – 500 Years of the Reformation” jubilee. It takes hikers to Luther sites, but also to other places that were important in the Reformation and historically significant locations.

The path covers 410 kilometres between the Luther cities of Wittenberg and Eisleben. There are Lutheran churches to visit on the way where people can stop for a time of quiet. Both the large city churches and the small village churches provide space for reflection and prayer in a contemplative and quiet atmosphere. The notion of pilgrimage is also very central to the idea of the Luther Path – and people can also discover new things about the countryside and people and the historical sites. The path draws attention to the effect that Luther had in the churches and other sites along the way. Spiritual services are also available for people. A stylised “L” logo points the way for hikers and cyclists.



The Luther Path takes people from Lutherstadt Wittenberg through Wörlitz, Dessau-Rosslau, Zerbst, Köthen and Bernburg to Lutherstadt Eisleben and Mansfeld Lutherstadt and on through Halle, Brehna and Kemberg back to Wittenberg.

www.lutherweg.de

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