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## ▶ A 380: 47,500 Flights in 26 Months – Airbus Industries is Testing the Largest Passenger Aircraft in the World in Dresden



**Dresden – Saxony had a crucial role to play in developing and testing the largest passenger aircraft in the world. The Airbus A 380 will be put through its paces in a total-cell fatigue test in a testing hall on the outskirts of the Dresden Airport starting in September.**

This will be the largest complex test of this type for simulating 47,500 flights within 26 months. This test replicates and reproduces the gruelling stress an aircraft could be exposed to during a quarter-century of service life. IAGB got the order from Airbus industries

Experimental set up for the Airbus A 380 fatigue tests near Dresden

in 2002 and realises the project in co-operation with IMA GmbH.

Industrieanlagen Betriebsgesellschaft mbH (IABG) was set up in 1961 at the initiative of the federal government as the central analysis and testing institute for the aviation industry and defence ministry. Today, this company is at the forefront of the European engineering service enterprises. It employs more than 1,000 persons at 12 German and European locations and last year it earned a turnover of 140 million euros.



The preparations for the tests starting in September are running at full steam, as a speaker of the company said in Ottobrunn near Munich. Essential intermediate results from the fatigue tests carried out in one of the largest test halls of the European aviation and space industry are expected in April of next year. In the hall, which is 32 meters high, they will be testing the fuselage and wing sections of the aircraft that can transport as many as 800 passengers. The segments came to Dresden by water in autumn of last year.

A hydraulic system consisting of 182 tension and pressure cylinders will simulate the loads exerted on the aircraft during flight. The wings will have to withstand movements approximating 4.2 meters upwards and 1.3 meters downwards since that's the kind of twisting that develops with gusts of wind.

## ▶ Leipzig/Halle Airport – For Parallel Flight Operations – Expansion Work on the South Runway can Begin

**There's nothing more standing in the way of building the redundant runway system at the Leipzig/Halle Airport. After the ruling of the Federal Administrative Court, the airport can now reliably plan the start of the extensive construction work.**



This will add 1,100 meters to the south runway built at the end of the 50's for a total of 3,600 meters. It will also align it to the north runway that has existed since March of 2000. That will mean parallel operation on both runways in future as the express subsidiary of the Deutsche Post World Net, called for with its future European air freight handling hub.

The first earth will be moved soon after extensive archaeological studies took place in past months on the future grounds of the south runway, the apron and taxiways. The first companies from the Central German region have already been contracted for earthwork. One million cubic meters of earth is slated for removal on the airport grounds by the end of this year and amongst other things taxiways will be built on new

Archaeologists have studied an area of 300 hectares

areas. At the beginning of 2006, the site will be handed over to DHL, who will set up logistics facilities there by the beginning of 2008.

It will also be necessary to pour a total of 1.7 million square meters of concrete area for the south runway and the aprons. The construction crew and assembly engineers will be laying 40 kilometres of ducts, 10 kilometres of water lines and 900 kilometres of cables. The expenditures for expanding the south runway amount to 290 million euros while the airport company and its shareholders will be spending another 60 million euros for land purchase and noise and environmental protection. The new long south runway is planned to go into operation at the end of 2007.



## ► News from the Central German Private Economy

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### AMD's Third Facility Planned in Dresden

**Dresden – The Saxon capital Dresden has excellent chances for the American chip manufacturer Advanced Micro Devices (AMD) to invest billions more.**

While the group is now building its second facility on the Elbe River, they are already talking about building a third production plant. An investment of 2.5 billion euros could bring another 1,000 jobs in a new semiconductor plant. They are anticipated to take their decision on the facility in one year.

### Leipzig/Halle – Industry Showing Stable Growth

**Halle/Leipzig – The industry in Central Germany is showing stable growth.**

The Halle-Dessau and Leipzig Chambers of Industry and Commerce and the region's crafts chambers arrived at this conclusion in their most recent poll among member companies. It stated that turnover rose 11.6 percent from 2003 to 2004 to reach 23.08 billion euros. In the same period of time, the number of persons employed rose 1.6 percent for a total of 99,600. The foreign turnover of the industry in Central Germany (i. e. the Leipzig/Halle-Dessau regions) continued to grow rising by a hefty one-fifth to almost 4.7 billion euros last year as compared with 2003. Exports were 20.3 percent.

## ► The Tower of the German Air Traffic Control in Dresden is a New Landmark

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**Dresden – The Dresden Airport is getting a new landmark in the form of the tower of the German Air Traffic Control.**

It took just under two years to build the 25 meter-high control tower that will be put into operation in July of this year. German Air Traffic Control invests seven million euros in the tower that was built according to the design of the Husemann – Dr. Wiechmann architectural office. When the tower is put into service, air traffic controllers will be able to give aircraft permission to take off or land at the Dresden Airport from 21 meters high under excellent visibility and supervise air traffic in the air space above the Saxon capital. The German Air Traffic Control opted for building a new tower at the end of 2001 because the present location and the height of the cockpit of the present tower did not allow optimal visibility. As before, thirteen air traffic controllers will be working at the control tower in future.

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## ► On the International Stage – The Companies of the Central German Airports Group will be Showcasing Their Services in Shanghai in 2006

The companies of the Central German Airports Group (Mitteldeutsche Flughafen AG) will be showcasing their services in Shanghai in the coming year at the largest logistics fair in the world. This is how the holding company is continuing its topical series of fairs in this sector.



Volkmar Stein, CEO and President of Central German Airports Group, Michael Reinboth, Project Manager for European hub and Eric Malitzke, Managing Director Leipzig/Halle Airport at the "transport logistic" fair in Munich (from left to right)

The MFAG enterprises got their message of "24/7 Logistics Solutions for Europe" across to national and international representatives offering their entire range of services at this year's "transport logistic" fair in Munich from May 31 to June 3. The Leipzig/Halle and Dresden Airports along with PortGround GmbH and EasternAirCargo GmbH demonstrated their capacity as a 24/7/365 provider of high-profile services at their stand for a burgeoning economic region right in the centre of an enlarged European Union.

At their stand, they were visited by customers looking for advice focusing on Japan, Russia and China. The

fair features extensive background information where representatives of the Central German Airports Group generated awareness on the new logistics location in Central Germany. 100,000 new regional jobs will probably be created in this growth sector in the next ten years. For the first time, details were revealed in the Bavarian state capital on the joint future of the Leipzig/Halle Airport and the Express subsidiary of the Deutsche Post World Net. The DHL Group operates all over the world and in 2008 it is planning on operating its European air hub at the Central German airport. This sector has a much more upbeat view of the future: 62 percent of the people visiting it felt the present situation in the sector is „excellent to good“, even though that figure was only 45 percent two years ago. That was recorded by the results of a poll carried out by the independent TNS Infratest market research institute.

There were 40,000 trade visitors at "transport logistic" this year, spelling out an 18 percent rise for the organisers in the proportion of international trade visitors from 103 countries. What's more, 1,333 companies from 51 countries (including 536 international exhibitors) threw a spotlight on the latest developments and trends in logistics in Munich. The proportion of foreign exhibitors was higher than ever before (40 percent), adding up to more than a 23 percent rise since 2003. Air Cargo Europe also had growth of almost 40 percent to 161 exhibitors from 33 countries while 350 experts from this sector attended the two-day congress concomitant to the fair. That's where current issues such as security and the predominating political conditions for the booming air freight business were discussed.



Shanghai, China will be hosting "transport logistic" from September 19 to 22, 2006 as the place where the logistics, telematics and transport sectors get together. Incidentally, that's at the same time as the World Congress of the global freight-forwarding association FIATA. The next transport logistic in Munich is slated for May 22 to 25, 2007 and the Central German Airports Group will also be attending.

## ► Imprint

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