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News from the Companies in the Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding

German Transport Minister Wolfgang Tiefensee visits the Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding Stand at the Air Cargo Europe Fair



CEO Markus Kopp (left) in talks with Transport Minister Wolfgang Tiefensee

The Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding companies used a joint stand to present their services at the “Air Cargo Europe” air freight fair, which was part of the “transport logistic” exhibition held in Munich on 12 - 15 May.

German Transport Minister Wolfgang Tiefensee visited the Holding's exhibition stand shortly after the opening

ceremony. He held talks with CEO Markus Kopp on the way that the company group is developing. The Holding's exhibition site was not just a contact point for politicians, but it was also used to welcome business representatives and provide them with information.

The Air Cargo Europe fair provided an exhibition on the air freight sector and a two-day conference on 13 and 14 May where air freight experts from all over the world were able to discuss the economic situation. The long-term prospects of the air freight sector were also a topic under discussion: Dierk Näther, Managing Director of Flughafen Leipzig/Halle GmbH, for

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example, took part in a panel discussion on the future of air freight; this event was organised by Netzwerk Logistik Leipzig-Halle and the Leipzig Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

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From Görlitz via Leipzig/Halle to Delhi: PortGround Loads Underground Railway Carriage

Highly complicated logistics services were needed here: complete underground carriage, which had been manufactured at the Bombardier factory in Görlitz, had to be loaded on to planes at Leipzig/Halle Airport on 26 - 29 May and sent on their way to India. PortGround organised the handling work for this major job at the airport.

The task involved moving one "BOMBARDIER MOVIA" carriage (22.5 metres long and weighing approx. 45 tonnes) into the aircraft per day. The underground trains arrived at the airport as an abnormal load (total length: 46 metres) at about 4 a.m. They were first positioned next to the ramp and the rail system on apron 2. Ten PortGround specialists then loaded each carriage into an AN-124-100 aircraft belonging to Antonov Design Bureau from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. The planes took off for Delhi at about 5.30 p.m. on 26 and 28 May and at about 10.30 p.m. on 27 and 29 May (without a refuelling stop). This is where the underground trains made in Görlitz will be used on the local metro system.

Freight Manager Gunter Schüler was one of those responsible for the smooth operations at Leipzig/Halle Airport: "The great success in handling this major job illustrates how well we at PortGround are prepared for these kinds of major tasks. We were not only required to provide speed and precision, but world-class technical expertise too. I would like to thank all my colleagues who had prepared themselves for this shipment and its challenges in the best possible manner."



The loading of the carriage

First AeroLogic Boeing 777 Freighter Lands at Leipzig/Halle Airport

Leipzig/Halle Airport

At long last, the great day arrived at 3.24 p.m. on 13 May: the first of eight brand new Boeing 777 air freighters landed at Leipzig/Halle Airport. The plane made its way directly from the Boeing factory in Seattle and was “baptized” by the airport’s fire brigade in the traditional way after it had landed. The aircraft with the registration D-AALA is the first Boeing 777 to have been registered in Germany. The second plane in the AeroLogic fleet is due to arrive in July 2009 and numbers three and four are expected in December 2009. The AeroLogic fleet will grow to a total of eight Boeing 777F aircraft by the end of 2010.



The Boeing 777F:
wingspan: 64 metres,
length: 63 metres, height:
18 metres

The B777F has a maximum payload of 103 tonnes and can fly routes that exceed 9,000 km. It is therefore highly suitable for long-haul routes and can operate the intended Europe/Asia routes without the need for any intermediate stop. The Boeing 777F is the newest model in Boeing’s freighter product range.

Now that the plane has arrived at its home base in Germany, the Federal Office of Civil Aviation will now certify and provide the operating license for the aircraft. Following this, tests and training sessions are planned for maintenance and ground operation crews and there will be test flights too, before AeroLogic starts scheduled services on 29 June 2009 as planned.

Leipzig/Halle Airport will be the home base for the new air freight airline AeroLogic, which is in the process of being set up. As the home base for the joint freight airline operated by DHL Express and Lufthansa Cargo, Leipzig/Halle will further reinforce its reputation as the most important logistics base in the Central German region.

Lufthansa Cargo Moves Into World Cargo Center / Next Extension to the WCC Already Being Planned



Lufthansa Cargo officially started operations at its new terminal in the Garbe World Cargo Center (WCC) at Leipzig/Halle Airport on 29 April. The new tenant will use 8,000 of the centre’s 20,200 square metres in future.

The WCC is being further extended

Thanks to the special equipment in the WCC like pallet construction and dismantling stations with hydraulically operated platforms that can be extended and lowered, it is possible to handle between 15 and 18 tonnes of freight at each square metre of space in the building every year. The average at European airports is between eight and ten tonnes.

The crucial factor that persuaded Lufthansa Cargo to opt for this location was the growing significance of Leipzig/Halle Airport, according to details provided by Markus Wolf, Managing Director of Garbe World Cargo Center GmbH. Leipzig/Halle developed into Germany’s third largest freight airport last year by handling 442,000 tonnes of cargo. One of the world’s leading companies for transporting air freight, Lufthansa Cargo, has

now moved into the WCC. The other users includes PortGround; the German customs service also has offices there.

The Garbe WCC can currently handle 300,000 tonnes of freight per annum. Plans exist to extend the facility by a further 23,000 square metres by the end of 2009. Following this extension, which involves investments totalling €35 million, the building could handle up to 750,000 tonnes of freight every year.

Leipzig-Halle Logistics Network: Dierk Näther Appointed to the Board

The “Leipzig/Halle Logistics Network” presented its services at an impressive joint stand at the international “transport logistic” exhibition in Munich (12 - 15 May) and provided a comprehensive programme, which spanned the complete range of activities where the network is involved: from synergies as a result of cooperation arrangements to marketing the high-speed Leipzig/Halle logistics region and even attracting new investors.

The Leipzig/Halle Logistics Network, which has now grown to 50 members, held a members' meeting during the Munich exhibition: because of the increasing breadth of tasks, the board is being increased by a further member – and Dierk Näther was appointed to this responsible position. The Managing Director of Leipzig/Halle Airport commented on his new role: “The Leipzig/Halle Logistics Network is an ideal platform for many companies in order to develop their public image to an even greater degree. If for no other reason, this is why the airport supports its work in an active way. I was highly delighted to see how many companies in the region we have been able to get to know as a result of our commitment to the organisation. This aspect illustrates that a variety of stakeholders are actively involved in the sustainable development of the Leipzig/Halle logistics region – where the airport forms the nucleus.”

The Saxon State Ministry of Economy and Labour is providing support for the network and has therefore financially safeguarded the ongoing development of the network until 2011.

World Transport Forum Meets in Leipzig

The International Transport Forum (ITF) met at the Leipzig Congress Center on 26 - 29 May. In conjunction with leading representatives of governments, industry and science, the Forum provided an opportunity this year to analyse some of the most pressing issues that have arisen on account of the economic situation: How is the current crisis changing the transport sector? What are the suitable political responses? What role does transport



play in an effective economic stimulus package?

Many events during the course of the Forum involved a wide spectrum of topics ranging from airport investments to intermodal traffic and even strategic infrastructure planning. Leipzig/Halle Airport hosted the evening event on the opening day, where Markus Kopp, CEO at Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding, and Jack Short, the General Secretary of the ITF, welcomed international guests and industry experts. Guests were able to enjoy a tour of the airport including the DHL apron after the evening event.

Premiere for New Lufthansa Regional Jet in Dresden

A grand reception for a new jet at Dresden Airport: A brand new Bombardier CRJ900 – the first aircraft of its type in the fleet of the Lufthansa regional partner Eurowings – celebrated its first flight on a Lufthansa scheduled service on 25 May on the Düsseldorf-Dresden route. After landing at the Saxon state capital’s airport, the new aircraft was given a “welcome shower” by the airport’s fire brigade.

The CRJ900 will be a regular visitor in Saxony in the future: Lufthansa or its regional partner operate as many as five flights a day on the route between Dresden and Düsseldorf using aircraft from the Canadair series of the Canadian manufacturer Bombardier. The new jet was given the name “Amberg” and its official registration (D-ACNA) at Nuremberg Airport a week earlier. The CRJ900 “next generation” series is a stretched version of the previous model, the CRJ700, which has room for 70 passengers; the CRJ900 has seating for 16 more passengers.

Lufthansa not only provides flights from Dresden to Düsseldorf, but also seven daily connections from the Saxon state capital to the hubs at Frankfurt and Munich on weekdays. This gives passengers rapid connections to more than 200 destinations in 78 countries, where Lufthansa flies every day.

Dresden’s Largest Holiday Market

The 27 travel agents in the airport terminal are inviting visitors to come to a Family Travel Day on Sunday 14 June from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Visitors will be able to select from many reasonably priced offers just before the summer holidays – the airport provides a larger selection of flights and holidays than anywhere else in Dresden.

There are still free spaces for many popular holiday destinations available from Dresden in the summer and autumn. They

Dresden International



The “welcome shower” for the new jet



There will be a children’s entertainment programme for youngsters at the Family Travel Day

include holidays to Majorca, Ibiza (Spain), Djerba, Monastir (Tunisia), Kos, Heraklion, Corfu, Rhodes, Thessaloniki (Greece), Antalya (Turkey), Paphos (Cyprus), Lamezia Terme (Italy), Faro (Portugal), Hurghada (Egypt) and Varna and Burgas (Bulgaria). Friedrichshafen on Lake Constance is an excellent domestic location – InterSky flies there. The timetable on the Internet at www.dresden-airport.de provides more than 300 direct and connecting flights to and from Dresden.

All the flights and holiday trips can be booked at the travel agents in the terminal immediately. Some travel organisers are offering generous discounts for people's next holiday at the Family Day.

Those who book a holiday with a flight from Dresden will receive a parking voucher worth €30 on this occasion. A discount coupon with savings of up to 20 percent at many shops in the terminal will also attract visitors. Admission and parking (except for short-term parking) are free on the Travel Day.

German-Czech Cooperation Arrangement: Joint Project to Be Presented in Prague

Dresden Airport has been cooperating with the Friedrich-Schiller Grammar School in Pirna for several months in order to promote and strengthen German-Czech relations. The school in Pirna is the first grammar school in Germany with a German-Czech curriculum. The airport, on the other hand, has become increasingly popular in the Czech Republic since the completion of the A17 motorway and it wishes to become even better known in the northern part of the Czech Republic.

Dresden Airport supports the school in many projects, e.g. the production of the book entitled "Fairy Stories for Journeys" (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. This book is now being officially presented at a ceremony at the Czech Centre in Prague on 8 June. The Embassy Counsellor, Hana Klabanová, who manages the Czech Centre in Dresden, will be attending this occasion. A friendly volleyball game on 17 June proves that the cooperation between the airport and the grammar school extends to the sports arena too: teams from the airport and the school will meet each other at the Herder Halle in Pirna.

Dresden International Airport has developed into a viable 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 so that journey times from the north of the Czech Republic to the airport are just 45 minutes. The airport provides information on destinations, travelling to and from the airport and the latest special offers in Czech at the www.letiste-drazdany.cz website.



The jointly produced book of fairy tales

Service Improvements in the Terminal

The airport terminal is becoming even more customer-friendly – notebook users and passengers, who use the Travel Value Shop, will now benefit from new facilities.

Six smoker tables in the departure lounge in the terminal have been converted: their ash trays have been sealed and the tables have been placed very close to existing power points. So they can now be used as charging points or working areas for people with laptops. The popular Travel Value Shop in the departure area is currently being enlarged by approx. 20 square metres and a second entrance is being built. The range of goods in the shop is also being updated and expanded for passengers.



The new laptop tables

From the Region

Yes, He's Coming! Obama to Visit Dresden

Welcome, Mr President! The state capital is preparing for an historic state visit: US President Barack Obama is expected to come to Dresden on 4 and 5 June. The preparations being made by the city council and the security services are going ahead at full speed. Information in German and English related to the planned visit, contact addresses for people and the press, interactive elements like a creative corner and a survey can now be found at the home page officially set up for the occasion: www.obama.dresden.de.



Dresden prepares for the visit of the US President

The Internet site is being updated and expanded all the time and it provides access to all the official information from the city authorities and police relating to the state visit. According to the latest information, Obama and his wife Michelle will arrive in Dresden on 4 June and the two will visit the Church of Our Lady and the inner courtyard of the Zwinger Palace on the following day. Around midday – it is believed – the President might travel on to Weimar and Buchenwald in Thuringia to see the former concentration camp there.

Strong Opportunities for Logistics in Saxony

Saxony wishes to benefit even more from the growth business of logistics. With its central location between Eastern and Western Europe, its excellent infrastructure, specialist personnel and a number of forward-looking business models, the Free State has good opportunities according to the “Situation and Prospects for the Logistics Sector in the Free State of Saxony” survey published by

“For the first time, we have a comprehensive survey of the sector and know where our strengths lie; but we also know the areas where we can and have to improve,” says Economy and Labour Minister, Thomas Jurk (SPD). The experts believe that Saxony is still not viewed as a logistics state to an adequate degree. “We want to change that by using professional marketing,” says Jurk, adding that a start has already been made.

The state’s own Wirtschaftsförderung Sachsen GmbH or WFS (Saxon Business Promotion Company) had advertised Leipzig/Halle Airport as the core of the Leipzig/Halle Logistics Network during a road show in the USA in April. Similar promotion activities are due to follow in Asia and Western and Eastern Europe.

As many as 8 percent of persons paying social security contributions are directly or indirectly employed in logistics work in the Free State of Saxony. According to the survey, Saxony has highly promising business models in third party logistics for the automobile sector, mechanical engineering and network logistics. The survey can be viewed at www.smwa.sachsen.de.

Leipzig Celebrates 18th City Festival

The City Festival in Leipzig is one of the most popular events in Germany and attracts more than 300,000 visitors. Visitors to this year’s event held near Augustus Square on 5 - 7 June will be able to enjoy a live programme with many musical highlights, culinary delights from Leipzig’s top caterers and many other fascinating features.



A programme for every kind of taste will be provided on six large stages for more than 156 hours. The stars that are expected to attend include the English pop group Limahl with Kajagoogoo, SIX, Jennifer Rostock, InToTos, Bobbin’ B and Isabell Varell.

Bernd Hochmuth, who is responsible for organising the event on behalf of Leipzig Tourismus und Marketing (LTM), says: “Municipal funds are scarce at other comparable festivals – and visitors sense that from the cultural programme. The Leipzig City Festival does not receive any grants from the city – on the contrary, it generates funds for the tourist advertising activities of the LTM GmbH.” The climax will be the major final event on the Sunday evening, 7 June, on the stage next to the Nikolaikirchhof. All the events can be found at <http://leipzigerstadtfest.de/>

2009 Biotechnology Report: Saxony-Anhalt in the Fast Lane

The biotechnology and pharmaceutical sector is one of the most promising in Saxony-Anhalt, according to a statement by the state's Economics Minister, Dr. Reiner Haseloff, when the auditing company Ernst&Young presented the national 2009 Biotechnology Report in Magdeburg.

Because of the general economic situation, this year will not be able to keep pace with previous years – as far as growth rates are concerned. And yet: “In comparison with 2003, the number of employees in companies and non-university research institutions has risen by more than one third to almost 6,000,” Haseloff said at the presentation. He added that medical biotechnology and the pharmaceutical industry had particularly grown during this period.

A cluster potential study, which was published in 2008, had already indicated that Saxony-Anhalt was well on the way to becoming a key biotechnology centre. “The outstanding networked research environment and well developed infrastructure are key plus points in this development. We will continue to press ahead with our efforts,” said Haseloff, bearing in mind the planned Chemical-Biotechnological Processing Centre or CBP, which will be built at the traditional chemical town of Leuna for approx. €50 million. The state is funding the construction of this unique research centre to the tune of more than €20 million.

Saxony Treasures at a Click

Saxony's State Minister of Science and Arts, Dr. Eva-Maria Stange, announced the launch of the new www.sachsens-museen-entdecken.de website on 16 May, International Museum Day.

“The Saxon State Office for Museums is providing the 400 non-state museums with an opportunity to advertise their services within the region, but also beyond Saxony,” the Minister explained. “Even the smallest museums can be discovered in the virtual world at this portal. They rank alongside the major well-known museums as part of our cultural education, an important component in cultural tourism and at the heart of Saxon cultural identity,” said the Minister.

The museum guide is the first component in the complex Internet portal and it not only introduces permanent exhibitions, buildings and collections, but also a discovery module with information on exhibitions, events and educational and leisure activities. Individual objects from the collections will be available for viewing in the virtual world in future under the heading “Saxony's Treasures”.



Leuna has a long history as a chemicals base



One example: The Museum of Antiquities at the University of Leipzig

Handel Returns Home

A city honours its best-known son: The Halle Opera House and the Halle Art Association together with the Handel Festival are organising an exhibition in the Opera House entitled “Handel on Halle’s Stages and in Works by Halle Artists” von 16 May until 28 June.

Many of the documents, photographs and preliminary drafts of the Baroque genius are on view for the very first time. There also numerous items on loan, e.g. from the Academy of Arts in Berlin, the Halle City Archives, the Handel House in Halle or the Moritzburg Foundation. The Halle Art Association has issued a catalogue with a list of performances and many photos in conjunction with the exhibition. By the way: 2009 is a Handel festival year with many highlights in Halle: more than 200 events are being held at 50 locations in honour of the 250th anniversary of the composer’s death. More information can be found at <http://www.halle.de/index.asp?MenuID=5010&SubPage=1>



Many of the genius' documents are on display

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Please send any queries, comments or suggestions to:
Felix.Zimmermann@mdf-ag.com, phone: +49 (0) 341-224-10 86

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