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Central German Airports Group (Mitteldeutsche Flughafen AG)

▶ Signed and sealed – agreement between Leipzig/Halle airport and DHL

The way has been cleared for a European air freight hub to be established at Leipzig/Halle airport by DHL, the express goods subsidiary of Deutsche Post World Net.



After two years of exploratory talks and negotiations, the two sides signed the deal on Sept. 21. Following a declaration of intent made Nov. 4, 2004, the agreement to transfer the DHL hub from Brussels to eastern Germany has thus been ratified. Signatories included Michael Reinboth and Joachim Schlüsener, Managing Directors of DHL-Hub Leipzig GmbH, Volkmar Stein, CEO of the Central German Airports Group, and Eric Malitzke, Managing Director of Leipzig/Halle airport

The agreement paves the way for long-term cooperation between the two sides and will make

Kick off for the DHL hub in Leipzig: Volkmar Stein, CEO of the Central German Airports Group, Eric Malitzke, Managing Director of Leipzig/Halle airport, Michael Reinboth and Joachim Schlüsener, Managing Directors of DHL-Hub Leipzig GmbH

Leipzig/Halle a leading freight handling center in Europe. From 2008 onwards, 50 DHL flights per day are expected and up to 2,000 tonnes of cargo will be handled and sent to destinations worldwide every night. DHL alone will create 3,500 new jobs, with another 7,000 added by related businesses on and around the airport. Together with Hong Kong and Wilmington/Ohio, Leipzig/Halle will then be among DHL's three largest air freight hubs in the world.



When signing the document, Michael Reinboth described the agreement as “a major step in DHL’s move to Leipzig/Halle” which would bring the logistics company “closer to the region”. DHL will begin with overall investments worth € 300m at the beginning of next year. The money is earmarked for a handling facility, sorting center and an aircraft hangar.

As seen by Volkmar Stein, the airport will develop into a leading freight handling center. The confidence of DHL, and Deutsche Post as the world’s largest logistics company, was won as the result of a steadfast effort, with support also from the shareholders of Central German Airports Group and the airport. Eric Malitzke added that the agreement was of key importance. It would make the region a leader in logistics, have a major effect on the development of Leipzig/Halle airport, and was an investment on which other projects could be built.

Dresden airport

▶ Airport celebrates 70th anniversary

From mid-September onwards, about 50,000 locals and visitors marked 70 years of aviation at Dresden airport with a series of events in Dresden-Klotsche.



These recalled the opening and later stages in the development of the airport. As a center of aircraft manufacture, Dresden was proud to produce the “152”, Germany’s first jet plane, in the late 1950s. The tests of the Airbus A380 proceeding here at present have again filled the local aircraft industry with pride.

One of the main exhibits during a two-day airport festival was the restored fuselage of a “152”. Other attractions included short circular flights with the “Ju 52”, the legendary plane built by Hugo Junkers at Dessau, and with a DC-3 nicknamed “raisin bomber”

A two day festival was held at Dresden airport

by Germans during the Berlin Blockade. Sunday was the last day of an exhibition entitled “50 years of Lufthansa – the A380 is the future”. The show included a model of the European-built plane and a life-size fuselage segment which measured over 7 m in length and just under 6 m in height.

The festivities also helped fund a social project, with donations worth over € 2,200 from raffles and auctions going into a playground at Dresden-Weixdorf. The airport rounded up the amount to € 3,000.



▶ Germanwings to link two cities on the Elbe river

The business community and tourists alike will appreciate an important new link between the sister cities of Dresden and Hamburg. Starting on Nov. 27, Germanwings (in its own words a bargain airline) will fly twice daily between the two destinations in northern Germany and Saxony.

Flights are scheduled for mornings and evenings and expected to attract both commercial travelers who can do business within a day, and day trippers. According to Germanwings, tickets will start at € 19 including taxes and fees and are available at www.germanwings.com or from the Germanwings call center (01805-95 58 55).

Takeoff at Hamburg is at 7 a.m., touchdown at Dresden one hour later. Flights will leave Dresden at 8.30 and reach Hamburg at 9.30 a.m. In the afternoon, departures from Hamburg are at 4.15 p.m. and from Dresden at 5.40 p.m.

www.germanwings.com

▶ Airport finds space for logistics company

Schenker Deutschland AG, a logistics company, may now use excellent facilities at Dresden.



The airport recently handed over a new building to Schenker which is situated within the airport perimeter, has a floor space of 1,900 m² and is designed for the storage of spares and complete production equipment for the semiconductor industry. Schenker's customers include such high-tech manufacturers as Infineon, AMD and ZMD. Erected in only three months by Dresden airport, the building cost € 1.1m.

With the new high-tech center for semiconductor components, the logistics company can deliver sufficient quantities to microelectronics firms and their suppliers

Schenker's new high-tech center at Dresden airport

for uninterrupted maintenance and repair. The building is the third erected for Schenker's logistics center at Dresden airport. The first was completed in 1999, the second four years later.



Leipzig/Halle airport

▶ Two parallel runways – south runway to open in two years

By building a new south runway, Leipzig/Halle is improving its infrastructure and paving the way for the European air freight hub planned by DHL, the express goods subsidiary of Deutsche Post World Net.



Beginning in 2008, the global player will handle freight in this part of eastern Germany. The green light for work on the south runway was given when the first turf was ceremonially dug in late August. The project ushers in a new stage in the airport's development and will again turn it into a large construction site for several years.

In only 25 months, the existing south runway which is over 40 years old will be replaced by a concrete strip that is 1,100 m longer, and a new and larger apron added. As work proceeds, the strip will be aligned with the north runway which has been in operation since

Kick off for the south runway: Eric Malitzke, Managing Director of Leipzig/Halle airport, Volkmar Stein, CEO of the Central German Airports Group, Prof. Dr. Georg Milbradt, Premier of the Free State of Saxony and Dr. Karl-Heinz Daehre, Minister of transport of the Land of Saxony Anhalt

March 2000. The two parallel runways will eventually be 2,120 m apart so that aircraft may take off or land on them at the same time without any load restrictions.

Some € 290m approximately is to be invested into the new runway and the apron which will handle goods from about 50 DHL planes per day. Another € 60m has been earmarked for noise protection and the purchase of real estate. Executing the multi-million project will be 900 – 1,000 construction workers from about 80 different companies.

▶ The south runway at a glance

- ▶ Planning work starts in June 2003
- ▶ Zoning approval request is submitted in Nov. 2003
- ▶ After processing the request for exactly one year and a day, zoning approval for expansion is given by Regierungspräsidium Leipzig on Nov. 4, 2004
- ▶ Concrete placement begins in Oct. 2005, after the foundation stone was laid on Aug. 31
- ▶ The new runway is to go into operation in 2007
- ▶ After completion, the runway will be 3,600 m long and 60 m wide
- ▶ Operating permission has been given for 24 h
- ▶ Of a total of 140 hectares of operational area, 87 hectares is taken up by runways and taxiways, and 53 hectares by aprons
- ▶ The new apron can accommodate 56 planes at a time



▶ Nonstop to East Africa – another long-distance service from Leipzig/Halle

Between Nov. 14 and April 17 next year, tourists may go long distance to Mombasa/Kenya from Leipzig/Halle.



Every two weeks, an LTU Airbus A330-200 which seats 323 will depart at 9.30 p.m. on Monday and arrive in Kenya at 8 a.m. (local time) on Tuesday. The return flight is scheduled for 10 a.m. (local time) on Tuesday and expected to reach Leipzig/Halle at 4.55 p.m.

The new service from Leipzig/Halle is the fourth of its kind in the winter schedule effective from Oct. 30 until March 25, 2006. All of the long-distance links are operated by LTU which has its registered office in Düsseldorf. Apart from Mombasa in Kenya, destinations include Puerto Plata and Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic, and Varadero on the Caribbean island of Cuba.

www.ltu.de

New Long-distance flights with LTU

▶ Panoramic visitor platform is a magnet

The visitor terrace which opened on the roof of the old tower last year has so far attracted over 24,000 people.

From a height of more than 30 m, it provides a good view of Leipzig/Halle airport, apron operations, takeoffs and landings on the north runway, and construction work on the new south runway. You can also watch planes roll over bridges spanning the motorway. With a total of 6,534 visitors, August has been the most successful month to date.

The terrace opened on Sept. 15, 2004 and is accessible by elevator or by climbing 140 stairs. Admission is € 2.00.

Central German Airports Group (Mitteldeutsche Flughafen AG)

▶ Logistics Association congress in Central Germany

With the settlement of DHL, the express goods subsidiary of Deutsche Post World Net, the region of Central Germany has a good chance to become a logistics location.

This attractiveness even has an effect on the Deutscher Speditions- und Logistikverband (DSL). At the end of September the DSLV met in Leipzig to celebrate its 125th anniversary in the course of its regular meeting. During an outdoor programme the members had the opportunity to get informed about the plans of extension of the Leipzig/Halle airport as well as about potential business connections through DHL's settlement.



Manfred F. Boes, president of the DSLV, considers national and international active marketing measures for the German logistics market necessary. "In the future logistics has to play a major role in winning investors", Boes postulated at the meeting. Germany disposes of a good infrastructure and of strong companies in this branch. From his point of view the branch can also benefit from the good and central location in the European economic geography. However, the infrastructure in Germany still needs to be improved, said Boes.

More than 125 years ago 78 German forwarders met and founded the Verein Deutscher Spediteure. In the meantime this association became the Bundesverband Spedition und Logistik (BSL). About 3.000 members are organized in 16 regional groups. The DSLV was founded on April 11, 2003 in Bonn. It combines the two most important lobbies of the branch – the Bundesverband Spedition und Logistik (BSL) and the Vereinigung Deutscher Kraftwagenspediteure (VKS). The DSLV with its 4.000 members represents about 90 percent of the total revenue of the branch, which is about 55 billion Euros. The association acts as a stakeholder of the companies as well as a consultant and service provider.

www.spediteure.de

▶ Regional economy news

▶ Dell locates to Halle

Halle Dell, the world's largest computer manufacturer with headquarters in Austin/Texas, is expanding operations in Halle, the city on the Saale river.

Now that 200 employees have taken up work at a new service and distribution center located in Halle-Bruckdorf in early September, another 120 positions will be filled during the next six months. Dell plans to boost the workforce at its second German branch to a total of 700–1,000 over the next 3–5 years.

At the beginning of May, the company which was founded by Michael Dell in 1984 had opted for Halle as the site of a service and distribution center. It supplies computer systems to medium-sized companies and the public sector in Germany, and provides maintenance and technical support.

Barbara Wittmann, Director of Dell Halle GmbH, pointed to the company's strategic location. The Dell site is served by two motorways (A9, A14) and is linked to Leipzig/Halle airport, all of which gives it excellent traffic connections.

www.dell-in-halle.de

**▶ Q-Cells goes public**

Thalheim Q-Cells, a manufacturer of solar cells from Thalheim/Germany, is the second enterprise from the state of Saxony-Anhalt to go public.

The move of the company which was established in 1999 is going to be in October. Q-Cells which describes itself as the largest manufacturer of solar cells outside the big companies, reported a 145 % mid-year boost in sales to € 116.7m. This means that the company, which is an industry leader when it comes to high technology and innovation, has already reached 91 % of last year's total sales which amounted to € 128m. An even bigger mid-year increase of 219 % was reported for annual net profits which rose to € 15.3m.

Q-Cells had opened its first plant at Thalheim in 2001. In April 2005, the first solar cells were produced on the new no. 4 manufacturing line. The total workforce now stands at 731.

www.q-cells.com

▶ New cells from a reactor could replace degenerated organs

Cell Tech Bioreaktor is a unique network of German companies wishing to design and manufacture bio-reactors for growing human cells.

Whole cell cultures could thus be cultivated and take the place of morbid organs in the human body. Compared with transplants, the new tissue from a reactor could be customized for individual patients.

The network which was proposed by Technologie- und Gründerzentrum GmbH Halle includes nine small and medium-sized enterprises, and seven research establishments from the German states of Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt and Thuringia.

www.tgz-halle.de

▶ AMD to open second chip factory in Dresden

Dresden Two years after the foundation stone was laid, the U.S. semiconductor manufacturer AMD (Advanced Micro Devices) will officially open its second chip factory in Dresden on Oct. 14.

The plant which cost € 2.5bn to build will make processors on 300 mm wafers and is expected to create 1,000 new jobs over the next two years.

Named Fab 36 by AMD, this is one of the largest investment projects in eastern Germany and stands in the immediate vicinity of Fab 30 which was built between 1997 and 1999 at a cost of approx. € 2.4bn. AMD says it has created some 2,400 jobs in Dresden so far.

www.amd.de



► Research center for Dresden

Dresden Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) is to establish a Regenerative Therapies research center at Dresden's Technical University.

The aim is to create a prestigious facility for basic research and the development of regenerative therapies for a variety of diseases. Grants worth some € 20m have been made available for the first four years.

In the hope of finding new therapeutic approaches in the long term, the center will carry out extensive basic research into cellular and development biology. Stem cell therapy is considered particularly promising for the treatment of a number of diseases because it makes controlled regeneration of tissue possible. In the long run, strategies will be sought for treating metabolic, cancerous and immunological diseases. Stem cells may also help in the treatment of diabetes, brain and spinal cord injuries, the replacement of bones and cartilage, and the treatment of myocardial and blood vessel diseases.

Contributing to the work of the DFG research center will be not only Dresden's Technical University but also the Max Planck Institute for molecular cell biology and genetics, the Fraunhofer-Institute for ceramic technology and sintered materials, the Leibniz Institute for polymer research, and the Rossendorf research establishment.

www.dfg.de

► Miscellaneous

► Dresden attracts more visitors

Dresden More tourists than ever before are coming to Saxony's capital.

Mid-year statistics published by Dresden-Werbung und Tourismus GmbH showed an increase of 13.1% in the number of overnight stays booked by foreign tourists. First place goes to the U.S. with just under 27,500 visitors who stayed in the city's hotels one or more times. This is an increase of one fifth over the same period last year. During the first six months, the Japanese and Swiss each booked approximately 19,000 overnight stays, giving their countries place 2 and 3, respectively.

For the first half of 2005, Dresden-Werbung und Tourismus GmbH reports just under 1.25 million nights spent in hotels etc., an increase of 11.5% on the first six months of 2004. The state of Saxony as a whole registered 0.5% more overnight stays. From January through June, Dresden was visited by 3.6 million people.

www.dresden-tourist.de

**► Frauenkirche to be ordained at the end of October**

Work to rebuild the Frauenkirche started 1996

Dresden The Frauenkirche in Dresden which has been rebuilt will be consecrated with a ceremonial service on Oct. 30.

The event, long awaited by thousands of locals, will be seen on large screens and telecast live by stations in the public TV network.

The service on the last weekend of October will be followed on the same day by a thanksgiving festival to be held on Neumarkt square. The first organ recitals to be performed on Oct. 30 and 31, and Nov. 1 in the church which was destroyed by air raids in the night of Feb. 14, 1945 are already sold out. Ceremonial services will be held on Oct. 31 to mark Reformation Day, and on All Saints' Day (Nov. 1).

www.frauenkirche-dresden.org

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