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Central German Airports Group

▶ Parallel Operations to the World – Leipzig/Halle Sets its Sights on the Top League for Cargo Airports

Leipzig/Halle Airport aims to join the list of top cargo airports.



The crews of a DHL Boeing 757 and a Lufthansa Boeing 747 have been welcomed by the Transport Minister Wolfgang Tiefensee (center), Saxony's Prime Minister Georg Milbradt (4th from right), Markus Kopp, CEO at the Central German Airports Group (l.), and Eric Malitzke, Managing Director of Leipzig/Halle Airport (r)

Now that the central German airport has opened its new southern runway, which is 3,600 metres long and was built in a record time of just 22 months, it has a parallel take-off and landing system, which meets all the requirements for intercontinental air traffic. Any type of aircraft – including the Airbus A380 – can take off or land from either of the runways without any kind of restriction on payload or operations. So the airport's aim is not just pie in the sky!

The CEO at the Central German Airports Group and chairman of the supervisory board at Flughafen Leipzig/Halle GmbH, Markus Kopp, described the airport as one of the winners in globalisation. "In terms of air traffic, Leipzig/Halle is not just the airport for the central German region, but the air freight centre being built here is a hub for the whole of Europe. This infrastructure at the heart of the continent is an important success factor for the region as an aspiring business location."



According to Eric Malitzke, the managing director of the airport company, the completion of the runway in record time shows that major projects can be completed quickly in Germany. "Now that it has a parallel runway system operating, the airport meets all the requirements to make its mark as a long-term, competitive alternative to the current hubs in air freight and logistics within Europe."

The new runway was blessed before operations started

► Comments on the opening

German Transport Minister Wolfgang Tiefensee

"The beginning of operations on the new southern runway is a visible sign of the excellent approach adopted by the airport over the past few years. One of the really big global players in the international transport and logistics market has moved to Leipzig/Halle in the shape of DHL. And Lufthansa Cargo will reinforce its presence here too from the autumn onwards. This proves that this airport and this region are an attractive location for companies operating on a global scale to set up in business here."

Saxon State Premier Georg Milbradt

"The decision to construct two runways was correct. If the division of Germany had never taken place, Leipzig/Halle would be the Frankfurt of the east. But no decision has been made yet on which airport will capture the "Champions League" position in the air freight sector."

Saxony-Anhalt State Premier Wolfgang Böhmer

"Now that operations have started on the southern runway, Leipzig/Halle Airport has the opportunity to develop into one of the world's leading airports for air freight. The airport symbolises the positive changes that have taken place in Central Germany over the past few years. This region is now distinguished by a cosmopolitan outlook and an economic boom."

► Facts

- The shareholders have invested some €290 million in the new construction of the southern runway including the taxiways. Some €60 million were also set aside to fulfil conditions placed on the building work, particularly to provide extensive noise and environmental protection and purchase the land.
- An apron area measuring 53 hectares for cargo planes is also linked to the southern runway. This formed part of the project extension work and will be used by the Deutsche Post World Net express services subsidiary DHL from the autumn of 2007 onwards.



Leipzig/Halle Airport

▶ 80,000 Visitors to the Open Days

Leipzig/Halle Airport is a real centre of attraction.



Open days at Leipzig/Halle Airport

80,000 visitors came to the open days at the airport, which was also celebrating its 80th birthday and the start of operations on the new southern runway. During the two days in July, huge crowds particularly visited Lufthansa's exhibition on the A380 aircraft and the Antonov AN-124-100 – the largest cargo plane ever to go into series production. More than 3,200 visitors alone took part in the 64 airport circular tours. Fairly small and historic planes took off on 94 pleasure flights with 313 passengers. Almost 900 passengers enjoyed the pleasure flights provided by Air Berlin and Condor.

Leipzig/Halle Airport

▶ DHL Starts Test Operations at Leipzig/Halle

The express and logistics company DHL has begun test operations at its new air freight hub at Leipzig/Halle.

During this phase, which is due to last several months, staff will be trained to handle the system procedures and use the modern equipment. This will particularly involve the interplay between humans and machines, for example, when loading and unloading aircraft.

The number of staff involved in the test phase will be increased to more than 1,000. Once the tests have been concluded in the autumn, the amount of traffic will be gradually increased until the air freight hub becomes fully operational in mid-2008. About 1,300 men and women currently work at the Leipzig/Halle hub. DHL plans to create some 3,500 jobs by 2012.

Deutsche Post World Net is setting up its main European hub for its subsidiary DHL at Leipzig/Halle Airport. This will make Leipzig/Halle the world's third most important air freight hub after Wilmington in the USA and Hong Kong in Asia. The company is investing € 300 million at its new base.



Dresden Airport

► Ready for Take-off – the New Runway is Almost Complete

One of the most important investment projects in the history of Dresden Airport has almost been completed.



The final phase of the building work has started

The first regular plane will land on the new, extended runway on 30 August. Six days later a celebration will be held to officially mark the start of operations. The airport will then have a modern runway that meets every requirement. It allows planes to land, even in poor visibility and bad weather. The airlines are not the only ones to benefit from the 2,850 metre long runway – the air freight companies based at the airport are delighted too.

Flight operations in Dresden were brought to a standstill on four weekends in June. During this period the new runway, which has been built parallel to the old runway 70.5 metres away, and the taxiways were given their final concrete coating. During the closures at the airport, some 8,000 passengers were transported between Dresden and Leipzig/Halle on buses.

Following the crucial building phase when the concrete was laid, other important plans have been tackled or completed over the past few days. 1,595 lights have been installed along the runway – 638 of them are what are known as embedded runway lights and 669 protruding lights. The embedded lights, which show aircraft the way on the ground, have been countersunk in the concrete in holes that are 70 centimetres deep and then glued in with resin.

While the German Air Traffic Control was setting up directional antennae for the instrument landing system (ILS), Germany's National Meteorological Service was installing its instruments to determine visibility and weather conditions. Special sensors will warn about ice on the runway in future. Then finally the runway will be given its surface markings and the signs will be erected – just as happens in road construction.

The old runway will be torn up from September to November this year. Then grass will be sown where once huge aircraft landed.



► Facts

- The old runway, which was 2,500 metres long, was built in 1955
- It was given two general overhauls – in 1974 and 1989
- After official approval was given for the plans in October 2005, the ground-breaking ceremony took place for the new building work on the runway on 28 July 2006
- The project is costing €52 million
- Once this project has been completed, some €500 million will have been invested in expanding Dresden Airport since the 1990s

www.dresden-airport.de

Dresden Airport

► Airport Managing Director Dr. Michael Hupe is the First Pilot to Land on the Extended Runway

The first plane landed on the new runway on 14 July, almost two months before its official opening.



The managing director of the airport, Dr. Michael Hupe, was sitting at the controls. Hupe, who has been a keen amateur flyer for years, obtained permission for the test landing from the Saxon Ministry of Economic Affairs and Labour and air traffic control. Before landing on the runway, which was constructed in a record time of 13 months, the airport boss carried out what is known as a low approach, where the aircraft does not actually touch down, but takes off again.

Airport Managing Director Dr. Michael Hupe (l.) and Manfred Kunath, Technical Director at Dresden Airport, landed on the newly built runway



PortGround

► PortGround Moves into New World Cargo Center

The World Cargo Center (WCC) at Leipzig/Halle Airport has been completed after building work lasting just six months.



PortGround GmbH, a subsidiary of the Central German Airports Group, is the main tenant for the time being. The freight department of the ground services handling company now has more than 4,000 square metres of warehouse space and 350 square metres of office space and rooms with social amenities. This roughly trebles the area used by the company in the past.

The warehouse, which is located airside, means that it is quicker and easier to access aircraft. The airport's customs office will also be located in the building. Two electro-mechanical pallet stations sunk into the floor make the work easier, particularly when loading and unloading large freight pallets.

There are many other new features, which will

reduce the amount of traffic in the warehouse and an integrated truck dock will enable full containers to be quickly loaded and unloaded from lorries.

When it has been completed, the World Cargo Center will handle 200,000 tonnes of freight every year

The joint venture by Hamburger Logistic AG and the Dutch company GeoMar B.V. is the first investor at the Cargo Area South. They are investing some € 30 million in the World Cargo Center, which is being built on a plot of land measuring 36,500 square metres and is one of the most modern air freight centres in Germany.

PortGround

► Ice-Free Aircraft

Munich Airport and Leipzig/Halle Airport work together closely.

The company responsible for de-icing and tugging aircraft at Munich Airport is implementing a tailor-made concept for de-icing aircraft at Leipzig/Halle Airport on behalf of PortGround GmbH. PortGround asked the company to supply and install the software to control the de-icing processes at the future air freight hub. After equipping the vehicles and establishing the network infrastructure, this software is the final component in the de-icing concept, which the Munich company has provided for the ground services handling company.



► News from the Central German Economy

► 250,000th BMW from Leipzig

Second Model Range Has Started at the Leipzig Factory

The BMW factory at Leipzig has reached an important milestone: a quarter of a million vehicles have been built here.

A three-door BMW came off the production lines as the 250,000th vehicle. A third model will also expand the range of products manufactured here from September onwards. The new 1 series coupé will be made here alongside the BMW model 3 limousine and the three-door 1 series model. Leipzig will then be exclusively responsible for the production of the compact, sporty coupé and the three-door 1 series BMW for customers around the world. The factory currently manufactures 650-700 vehicles every day.

More than 5,200 people currently work at the BMW factory site north of the A 14 motorway and at suppliers and partners. 2,500 of them work directly at BMW. The Bavarian car manufacturer's new factory began series production at the Leipzig site in March 2005.

www.bmw-werk-leipzig.de

► Logistics Company Sets Up in Business in Saxony-Anhalt

The Central German region becomes a significant logistics location.

The new parcels service company Red Parcel Post (RPP) wants to build the first of four planned logistics centres in Saxony-Anhalt. The future site at Stegelitz near Burg, close to the A 2 Berlin-Hanover motorway, will also be the company's headquarters. RPP wants to penetrate the highly competitive market with a new transport and transshipment concept.

The logistics centre near Burg is due to start operating in the first half of 2008. The investor and sole shareholder is the entrepreneur Walter Hellmich, the CEO of the Hellmich company group. RPP plans to invest some € 130 million in the Burg area and create 260 new jobs. 700 - 800 vehicles will then start their journey to customers from here. If the market entry is successful, other branches will be built near Duisburg, Hamburg and Frankfurt/Main.



▶ 1,000 New Jobs in Germany

The SolarWorld group is building another integrated solar factory (GigaFab) in Freiberg for €600 million, so increasing the capacity for wafer production in Saxony by 500 megawatts to 1,000 megawatts.

1,000 new jobs will be created at the new site measuring 20 hectares from 2008 onwards. The doubling of the current expansion target is a result of the high international demand for silicon wafers from the SolarWorld subsidiary, Deutsche Solar AG.

In addition to previously agreed contracts, the group has concluded more long-term deals with customers from the international solar cell and solar module industry worth €500 million. The goods on order are now worth €5 billion and orders have been placed until 2020. 90 percent of the orders come from abroad, 43 percent of them from Asia alone. 40 percent of the total volume will be supplied to Europe (outside Germany). Ten percent of the orders come from customers in Germany and seven percent from North America.

▶ Miscellaneous

▶ Flying without Taking Off – Dresden in 3D Format

Visitors to Dresden do not necessarily have to take off to obtain an aerial view of the city by the river Elbe.

A three-dimensional display allows people to gain unusual views of the Saxon state capital. Those who are curious can hover over the Frauenkirche („Church of Our Lady“), land on squares or fly over bridges or along roads.

The display of the city is based on the 3D city model produced in conjunction with virtualcitysystems GmbH in Chemnitz and 3D Geo GmbH in Potsdam. Parts of this city model are presented on “Google Earth”, the global geographical information system. The castle, the Semper Opera House and the Zwinger Museum can all be seen.

www.dresden.de

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