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Central German Airports Group

▶ Two airports in Saxony attract more passengers

Dresden/Leipzig Leipzig/Halle and Dresden airports have reported more passengers for the first nine months of 2005 than for the same period last year.



Leipzig/Halle handled a total of 1.636m travelers from January through September, an increase of 3.2%. The upward trend continued in October with an increase of 6% in the first half of the month.

Scheduled flights showed particular growth in the first nine months, with a 12.3% rise over 2004, to 467,870 passengers. In September alone, the increase was 12.9%.

Air freight was a considerable growth factor for Leipzig/Halle which is close to the state of Saxony-Anhalt. Here the volume grew to more than 8,000 tonnes, a

Vacation time in Leipzig/Halle means peak period on the apron

rise of 37.8% between January and September.

Dresden airport counted 1.349m passengers until September, an increase of 10.6% on the first three quarters of 2004. Scheduled flights again reported even better growth at 17.5% until the end of September, to 824,496 passengers. Tourist volumes grew slightly by 0.8%, to 510,348 passengers.



Dresden airport

► Signed, sealed and delivered – runway can be extended

Dresden Excavation may start at Dresden airport for extending the runway to 2,850 m. The Regional Council (Regierungspräsidium) has established the right to build, thus giving the green light for runway rehabilitation.

It took the authority about 10 months to complete the project approval procedure, and Managing Director Dr. Michael Hupe was on hand on Oct. 26 to accept the 95-page document.



Kick off for the extension: Dr. Henry Hasenpflug (r.) handed over the resolution to Dr. Michael Hupe

Next year will be devoted to preparations, followed by the bulk of the work in 2007. In the second half of that year, the first planes will land and take off on a runway which has been shifted by 70 m to the north. The old concrete strip which was last overhauled in 1988/89 is to be demolished in 2007.

The new runway will be 350 m longer giving an overall length of 2,850 m which is the international standard for medium-sized airports. Airlines will no longer have to reduce take-off weights in certain weather conditions. The aircraft industry with manufacturing sites near the airport (EADS Elbe Flugzeugwerke, IMA Material-

forschung und Anwendungstechnik) will benefit from the longer runway in that larger planes can now land. These are converted or have other work performed on them. The Managing Director can see not only a transport problem solved but also welcomes the decision as an act of industrial policy which aims to safeguard and create jobs. After all, Dresden now has some 35,000 take-offs and landings per year.

The airport had applied for a building permit with the authorities on Dec. 15, 2004. Approval is conditional to a number of requirements which must be met, and particularly noise abatement measures to protect people living in the area. In addition, owners of plots who suffer particular hardships from construction may have their properties taken over by the airport operators at market value.

A ban on night flights was not imposed. With only 12 such flights forecast at most for the year 2020, the Regional Council saw no need to revoke the license for 24-hour aircraft operation. Landscaping on a larger scale is another requirement.



► Logistics experts at Leipzig/Halle airport

Leipzig 50 participants of the 22nd German Logistics Congress which was held in Berlin made a trip to Leipzig/Halle to hear about the airport's multi-million investment and future plans.



The group went on a guided tour of the airport and the building site for the new south runway which is to be extended to 3,600 m and where the first sod was officially turned two months ago. Eric Malitzke, Managing Director of Flughafen Leipzig/Halle GmbH, and Michael Reinboth, Managing Director of DHL Hub Leipzig GmbH, described the advantages and potentials of the site and outlined planning for the future air freight hub to be operated by DHL, a subsidiary of Deutsche Post-Express. Beginning in 2008, DHL will use Leipzig/Halle airport as its new European air cargo center with 50 flights per day.

An outdoor program took congress participants to Leipzig/Halle airport

Eric Malitzke said DHL's site selection was a success for the region as a whole and opened up long-term prospects of developing the area around Leipzig-Halle into a European logistics hub. The airport could act as a major driving force and nucleus for further logistics investment. Companies should locate not only to the airport but the logistics and transport infrastructure of the wider region should be strengthened.

► Getting to know DHL's East Midlands hub

Leipzig/Nottingham Future staff of DHL's air freight hub at Leipzig/Halle will be trained in Britain.



Between 200 and 300 trainees are to be prepared for their jobs at DHL's freight handling center at East Midlands Airport near Nottingham.

DHL has twelve strategically located hubs in Europe and opened East Midlands in early 2000 after investing £ 35m (€ 51m). The sorting building has a floor space of 30,000 m² (as large as three soccer fields), and 45.000 consignments can be handled there per hour. On one side, up to 18 aircraft may be parked, and on the other 35 trucks can be loaded or unloaded. On this particular site, DHL employs 600 staff. At

Sorting center at DHL's East Midlands hub near Nottingham

Leipzig/Halle, its new European hub, the company expects to create some 3,500 jobs by the year 2012, after investments of € 300m. Operations are to start there in 2008.

www.dhl.com



Leipzig/Halle airport

▶ Winter schedule with more tourist and scheduled services

Leipzig The Leipzig/Halle airport is adding new destinations to its winter schedule which took effect on Oct. 30 and is valid until March 26, 2006.

These include Mombasa (Kenya), Santiago de Compostela (Spain), Cagliari (Sardinia), Marrakech (Morocco), Taba (Egypt), and Tel Aviv (Israel). Also new on the list are Paris and Milan.

Tourists can use one of 245 weekly flights to 53 destinations served by 17 airlines. Compared with the last winter season, there are now 27 more flights per week to eight more destinations. Leader for direct flights is Antalya in Turkey with up to 19 connections per week, followed by Palma de Mallorca with up to ten flights to the Balearic Island. There are six flights per week to Hurghada on the Red Sea in Egypt, and five to Las Palmas in the Canary Islands.

The German airline LTU is expanding its long-distance services and will go to Mombasa (Kenya) every other week beginning Nov. 14. On a Monday, an Airbus A330 will leave Leipzig/Halle on the nonstop journey. Other nonstop connections will take tourists to Punta Cana and Puerto Plata in the Dominican Republic every week and/or every two weeks. LTU's third destination in the Caribbean will be Varadero in Cuba.

In the way of scheduled services, eight airlines will have 171 direct flights per week to 11 destinations. Austrian Airlines has gone from 12 to 18 flights to Vienna which has favorable connections to eastern Europe and Asia.

Germany's Lufthansa flies to Frankfurt and Munich 39 and 33 times per week, respectively. This ensures stable links between Leipzig-Halle airport and the big international hubs.

▶ Going to Mallorca – Air Berlin's shuttle with 96% utilization

Leipzig Mallorca, the Spanish island in the Mediterranean, continues to be a favorite destination for Germans as observed by Leipzig/Halle airport and Air Berlin.

Shuttle flights started by the airline a year ago have proven extremely successful for both sides. The average utilization of planes flying to Palma is over 96%.

In the first nine months of the year, the airline carried some 355,000 passengers from Leipzig/Halle, 75,000 more than over the same period last year. As a result, the airport has moved up to 10th place in Air Berlin's ranking. The number of flights to Mallorca is to rise from eight per week now to twelve beginning in the summer of 2006.



From Mallorca, there are connecting flights to Alicante, Barcelona, Bilbao, Jerez de la Frontera, Madrid, Malaga, Murcia, Sevilla and Valencia in Spain, and Lisbon and Porto in Portugal. A new destination on the Spanish mainland is Santiago de Compostela. Via the Nuremberg hub, there are connections to Rome, Vienna and Budapest three times a week. New destinations are Milan/Bergamo and Paris (Charles de Gaulle), from Leipzig via Nuremberg.

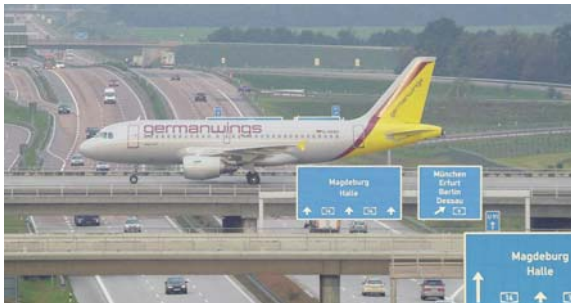
Of the 38 destinations Air Berlin serves from Leipzig/Halle, eight are reached nonstop. On the whole,

Palma de Mallorca: Air Berlin passengers can choose from 145 weekly connections during the winter season, 19 more than last winter. Germany's second largest airline expects to carry over 13.8m passengers this year, which would give it sales of € 1.275bn.

A Mediterranean location which is becoming ever more popular with east German tourists

▶ Germanwings – convenient link between Leipzig/Halle and Cologne/Bonn

Leipzig/Cologne For over a month now, Germanwings has operated a daily link between Leipzig/Halle and Cologne/Bonn.



Tickets cost from € 19 including all taxes and charges. To book on the Internet go to www.germanwings.com, or call 01805/95 58 55.

The plane is a 142-seater Airbus A319 which leaves twice daily for Leipzig and Cologne, respectively. The new low-cost link makes it possible for east Germans to use the extensive European services Germanwings operates from Cologne/Bonn.

Germanwings has added two domestic flights from Leipzig/Halle to its schedule

Dresden airport

▶ Going metropolitan with flights to Paris and Milan

Dresden The 2005/2006 winter schedule of Germanwings offers two new links from Dresden to Hamburg per day, while Austrian Airlines operates more flights to and from Vienna. Air Berlin goes to Paris and Milan/Bergamo. Two new tourist destinations include Taba in Egypt and Cagliari in Sardinia.

Germanwings who already operate flights to Cologne/Bonn and Stuttgart, have added Hamburg to their list. Starting Nov. 27, two daily flights will connect the sister cities of Dresden and Hamburg, ticket prices are from € 19 including all taxes and charges. For bookings go to www.germanwings.com or the Germanwings call center at 01805/95 58 55.



Air Berlin, too, will have more flights and go to Paris via Nuremberg on Monday – Wednesday, and to Milan/Bergamo in Italy. Austrian Airlines is adding a third connection to Vienna. Every morning (except on Sundays) there is now an extra flight to Vienna, and one to Dresden every evening (except on Saturdays). Daily travelers as well as business travellers who want to use connection flights from Vienna profit most from the additional services which for example go to Mumbai (former Bombay), Sydney, Moscow and Tel Aviv.

During the winter season, there will be 237 departures per week from Dresden to 14 destinations at home and abroad on scheduled services. Leading the domestic rankings is Munich with 59 connections, followed by Frankfurt (42 flights), Hamburg and Stuttgart (30), Düsseldorf (24), Köln-Bonn (14), and Dortmund (10). Nuremberg, as one of Air Berlins hubs, is following. Foreign destinations are Vienna with 18 weekly connections, and Zurich, the Swiss financial center, with 10 flights. In addition, Milan/Bergamo, Budapest, Paris (Charles de Gaulle), Rome (Fiumicino) and Vienna can be reached via Nuremberg.

Tourists may use 23 connections every week and leave direct, or via hubs such as Palma de Mallorca, Nuremberg, Munich and Frankfurt for further destinations. This winter you can go from Dresden to 36 tourist destinations, 16 of them in Spain alone - nine on the mainland, six in the Canary Islands and one in the Balearic Islands (Palma de Mallorca). Other popular countries are Egypt, Italy and Portugal. Frontrunners among the most frequented airports are Tenerife South and Tenerife North in the Canary Islands with nine connections per week. Nonstop flights can be booked to nine tourist destinations. This will make Dresden airport even more important as a regional center providing links with major economic and vacation areas in Europe and North Africa.

Frankfurt, Munich, Vienna and Zurich are four major hubs in worldwide air travel which are linked to Dresden. Anyone wishing to reach a European metropolitan city, a destination overseas, Africa or the Far East from the Saxon capital can do so with a stopover at one of these airports.

► Hangar handover



During the airport festival, a Beech Staggerwing and a Boeing Stearman were parked in the new hangar for small planes

Dresden After a construction time of five weeks, a new hangar for small aircraft has been handed over at Dresden airport.

With a floor space of 532 m² it can accommodate six planes. The lightweight building stands on the apron in front of former Terminal 1 and is available for private and business people wishing to rent parking space for their planes.

It was in response to this demand that the airport provided the new building. Of about 3,000 planes which took off from Dresden last year, 1,773 weighed up to 2 tonnes and 1,225 up to 5.7 tonnes.



▶ Economic news from the region

▶ Dresden – a high-tech capital

Dresden Dresden is becoming Europe's center for microelectronics.

Advanced Micro Devices (AMD), maker of semiconductors from the U.S., has commissioned its second chip factory in the Saxon capital, creating 1,000 new jobs. This brings the total workforce AMD employs in Dresden to about 3,000. The world's second largest chip manufacturer invested some € 2.1 bn in the new plant for 300 mm wafers known as Fab 36, making it one of the biggest investors in eastern Germany.

AMD may even build a third factory in Dresden, but no decision has been made yet. The world market for computer chips is currently growing by up to 15% per year, and AMD says it wants to increase its share from now 10% to 30%. Overall, the region around Dresden has so far attracted 760 companies active in microelectronics and communications.

▶ Fraunhofer Institute builds lab in Dresden

Dresden A new clean room laboratory costing about € 36 m is to be built by Fraunhofer Institute for Fiber Optics Microsystems in Dresden.

The four-story building with 1,500 m² of clean room floor space is scheduled for completion in the fall of 2006. It will be used by the Institute's staff of 180 to develop, among other things, LEDs and sensors. The clean room may also be used by partner institutes and other clients of the Fraunhofer Society. The research body has announced more local investment which could almost double its workforce in Dresden.

▶ Halle is center of biotechnology

Halle A survey of the industry in Germany has shown that Halle is a center of bioengineering in the state of Saxony-Anhalt.

Of the 40 companies surveyed, slightly less than half had headquarters in the state's biggest city. At the end of 2004, a total of 566 researchers and employees worked in bioengineering in Saxony-Anhalt, 200 more than found in a survey in 2002. Two thirds were employed in research and development.

**► Sunny prospects for solar power**

Freiberg Deutsche Solar AG from Freiberg in Saxony is extending operations with a second factory for solar wafers for which the foundation stone was laid recently.

With an investment of € 80m, 160 jobs will be created and production capacity increased from 160 to 220 MW by the end of 2006. In May, the company had opened a plant at Freiberg which makes the crystallized silicon blocks from which wafers are made. Of the 680 staff currently employed by the Solarworld Group with headquarters in Bonn, over 500 work in Freiberg.

► Logistics company invests near Leipzig

Großlehna The Leipzig region has attracted more logistics investment, this time by Kühne + Nagel who extended their freight center at Großlehna, southwest of Leipzig, for € 9 m.

The cargo handling and storage area there has grown to 15,000 m². The Kühne + Nagel network in eastern Germany consists of similar centers in Berlin, Chemnitz, Dresden and Erfurt which have a combined floor space of 45,000 m² for storage. The company has a workforce of about 430 in eastern Germany and is training 60 apprentices.

► First tenants move into Mitteldeutsches Multimediazentrum

Halle MMZ (Mitteldeutsches Multimediazentrum) is coming to life, with 26 media firms moving into the modern building in Halle's inner city over the next few months.

The 4,000 m² of rented space were booked up even before the official opening. Tenants include, among others, Neue Film Produktion, Germany's second oldest filmmaking company and the largest under family control, and Motion Works from Halle, a creative outfit who were responsible for such successful animated films as "Der kleine Eisbär" and "Globi und der Schattenräuber". Center operators consider it a particular success to have rented space to IOSONO, the sound company of MP3 inventor Prof. Karlheinz Brandenburg who has now developed an acoustic system for movie theaters which uses 300 loudspeakers to produce natural sound.

► Faster trains

Dresden Magdeburg and Dresden, two cities located on the Elbe river, are moving closer together.

When Deutsche Bahn changes to its winter schedule on Dec. 11, there will be a new InterCityExpress link connecting the capital of Saxony-Anhalt to that of Saxony. ICE trains leave Magdeburg at 6.11 a.m. from Monday through Friday and reach Dresden Central Station at 8.47 a.m. They stop at Leipzig/Halle airport at 7.14 a.m.



In the opposite direction, a fast train gets the green light at 7.08 p.m. on Sundays, and Mondays through Thursdays in Dresden, stops at the airport at 8.54 p.m and reaches Magdeburg by 9.56 p.m.

Deutsche Bahn operates 12 long-distance lines to and from the states of Saxony-Anhalt, Saxony and Thuringia, among them five ICE links and the EuroCity line Hamburg-Berlin-Dresden-Prague. Every day there are 164 ICE, IC and IR trains.

www.bahn.de

► Saxony leads other German states

Dresden According to a study undertaken by INSM, an initiative launched by employers, and the periodical "Wirtschaftswoche", Saxony is the most dynamic German state when it comes to economic development.

Factors assessed were changes in infrastructure, the labor market and wealth between 2002 and 2004. In compiling the study, IW Consult of Cologne compared 30 economic and local indicators from GDP to crime rates.

► Miscellaneous

► 100,000 at consecration of Dresden's Frauenkirche

Dresden 60 years after the destruction of the Frauenkirche, Dresden celebrated the restoration of the historic landmark.



Work to rebuild the Frauenkirche started 1996

At the end of October, the church in the inner city was consecrated again in a ceremony which was part of a three-day festival that attracted about 100,000 people. Those who were unable to get into the church watched the ceremony on a number of large screens outside.

Construction of the monumental baroque church began in 1725 under master builder George Bähr. Finished in 1743, it was a feature of Dresden's skyline for over 200 years. On the night of Feb. 13, 1945 the 91 m high building fell victim to British and American air raids. Two days after the raids, the burned-out dome collapsed. Until the early 1990s the heap of rubble remained in the city as a memorial and a reminder of the suffering of thousands of local people.

Reconstruction of the church which once had 12,000 parishioners began in 1994. Two thirds of the building costs, over € 100m, was raised in donations, for example in the form of donors' letters. On June 22, 2004 a "cross of reconciliation" was placed on the dome as a symbol of friendship between Britain and Germany, a ceremony attended by 60,000 people. This restored Dresden's old skyline after more than 59 years.

Prior to the consecration ceremony, Germany's Ministry of Finance issued a special postage stamp showing the church with a value of 55 eurocents, designed by graphic artist Andrea Voß-Acker from Wuppertal.



► Soccer fans and officials look to Leipzig– Lufthansa expects rush

Schkeuditz Leipzig/Halle airport is preparing for a major sports event.



On Dec. 9 lots will be drawn in the halls of Leipzig's Exhibition Center to set up the groups that will play in the Soccer World Cup in Germany in 2006. Apart from the opener in Munich and the final match in Berlin, the lot-drawing ceremony is one of the highlights before the national teams meet.

International attention, and attendance, will cause a rush to the airport, and Lufthansa expects 1,500 international and 400 German visitors, as well as 1,200 journalists and some 300 VIPs to arrive over the period from Dec. 7 – 12.

(from left to right)
Oliver Schneider,
branch manager
Lufthansa Airport
Services Leipzig
GmbH, Eric
Malitzke, Managing
Director Flughafen
Leipzig/Halle
GmbH and Jürgen
Buhla, director of
all Lufthansa
stations in Germany

To bring all these passengers to Leipzig-Halle, Lufthansa will use its hubs at Frankfurt and Munich. A doubling of passenger numbers is generally expected. At the same time, the lot-drawing event will be the dress rehearsal for next year when four group matches, and one in the round before the quarter-finals, will be played in Leipzig.

► Imprint

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