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Central German Airports Group

▶ More Passengers and Freight – Ever More People Are Taking to the Skies

The signs are looking good. Deutsche Flugsicherung, the company in charge of air traffic control in Germany, expects 2007 to be a record year. The German Airports Association reports that the amount of personal and business travel done through the air is increasing steadily.

These facts are also reflected in the statistics for the Leipzig/Halle Airport. The first seven months of this year saw 1.49 million passengers pass through the airport, 24 percent more than one year ago. Dresden Airport welcomed more than 820,000 travellers, just slightly fewer than in the first six months of 2006 (this due to the closure of the airport on the four weekends in June).

German airports counted five percent more air travellers during the first six month of this year compared to last. The half-year figure of 86.2 million passengers nearly equalled the total passenger count for the entire year of 1992. For the current year as a whole, the German Airports Association expects 185 million passengers to pass through all of Germany's airports.

In the air freight sector, Germany-wide growth has been much weaker than last year. All in all, 1.6 million tonnes of cargo were moved, 4.1 percent more than in the first half of the year. Growth at Leipzig/Halle Airport topped the national average by a long shot: Air freight volume here jumped by around 183 percent within one year to 34,500 tonnes.



Central German Airports Group

▶ Markus Kopp: Don't use public funds to keep airports afloat

Markus Kopp, CEO of Central German Airports Group, believes that in Germany, too much taxpayers' money is wasted on subsidizing unnecessary airports.



Markus Kopp

This practice must be stopped, Markus Kopp says. In both eastern and western Germany, money from the public purse is used to keep military airfields and tiny airports artificially afloat. No real demand exists for these airfields, according to CEO Kopp. He cited the example of the Altenburg-Nobitz airfield in Thuringia, just 50 kilometres from Leipzig/Halle. It is a delusion to think that such airports will someday generate enough purchasing power to justify the investments made, Kopp believes. Air connections that rely on subsidies to be profitable make no sense. According to Kopp, either the airport or the local community will lose in the end.

"Germany's situation in the globalised world of air transport is tough enough as it is." Night flight bans serve to weaken Germany's competitive position, says Markus Kopp. He is concerned that airlines and logistics companies will move their business abroad. "Not a pretty prospect for Germany as the world's leading export nation."

Central German Airports Group

▶ Group Mourns Loss of Former Supervisory Board Vice Chair

The managing board, the directors and the employees of the Central German Airports Group are mourning the loss of Professor Dr. Karl Josef Schommer, former vice chairman of the Supervisory Board. The retired Saxony State Minister passed away on 8 July 2007 in Cologne at the age of 67.

He had provided dedicated assistance and support during the founding and start-up phase of the holding company. Karl Josef Schommer served for many years as the Supervisory Board Chairman for Flughafen Leipzig/Halle GmbH and Vice Supervisory Board Chairman of Flughafen Dresden GmbH. His expertise and vision were instrumental in shaping Central Germany's modern airport infrastructure between 1991 and 2001.

His name will always be associated with the success in turning both airports into effective service companies. He pointed the way to a bright future for the companies of the Central German Airports Group.



Dresden Airport

► All Clear for First Landing! – New Runway to Open

The job is done. Following one year of construction, the new runway will officially be taken into service on 6 September.



Marking work on the new runway

This will mark the completion of one of the most ambitious projects ever in the history of Dresden Airport. The new take-off and landing runway replaces the old one built back in the 1950s and extends available runway length to 2,850 metres. The old runway will be dismantled and removed by November. The site will then be planted over.

The airport companies and their shareholders have invested 52 million euros into the project. Ground breaking took place on 28 July 2006. The new runway was “shifted” 70.5 metres to the northwest of the old runway and required moving 800,000

cubic metres of earth. During the building phase, 150 to 300 construction workers, assemblers and service contractors found work on the site.

On four weekends in June, concrete was poured onto the new runway and the navigation lighting was installed. Then the new runway got a “shower”. The runway was jetted with high pressure water to produce a clean, homogenous and antiskid surface. The concrete is designed to last about 30 years.

Dresden Airport

► More Nonstop Flights Between Dresden and Zurich – Fly Daily to Palma de Mallorca in Just Two Hours

Connections from Dresden are getting better. Starting 4 September, Cirrus Airlines will offer more flights to Zurich Airport.

The 11 am service from Dresden and 1.30 pm service from Zurich will be offered daily Monday thru Friday. This means that travellers can choose from three nonstop flights in both directions every day from Monday to Friday plus the one nonstop flight on Sunday. Air Berlin will be serving Palma de Mallorca daily until the end of October.

With the two additional connections per week, there are now 16 flights every week to Zurich, making it the most popular foreign destination served by Dresden. Flight time to Switzerland's largest city is 80 minutes. Cirrus Airlines operates Dornier 328 aircraft on this route.



Air Berlin will continue daily service to Palma de Mallorca through to the end of October when it switches to its winter schedule. Except on Saturdays, passengers can transfer in Palma de Mallorca to flights to 16 further destinations in Spain and Portugal. In the summer of 2006, this was only possible on four days a week.

Flights can be booked at any travel agent or through the airport's online travel office at www.dresden-airport.de.

Dresden Airport

► Fast Track to Final Destination

A new electronic room reservation system known as AirportCallHotel has been taken into service at Dresden Airport.



The ultramodern looking system made by HIBS Europa AG offers airport guest comprehensive information on the Dresden region. A map of the city and its environs helps visitors find their bearings, while two showcases advertise accommodations located in Dresden and the surrounding region and which can be booked directly through the system.

The ultimate goal is to incorporate this booking system into a European airport network. Such a system would allow travellers to use the booking system at, for example, Zagreb Airport to find out about accommodation options in Dresden and reserve a room directly from Zagreb.

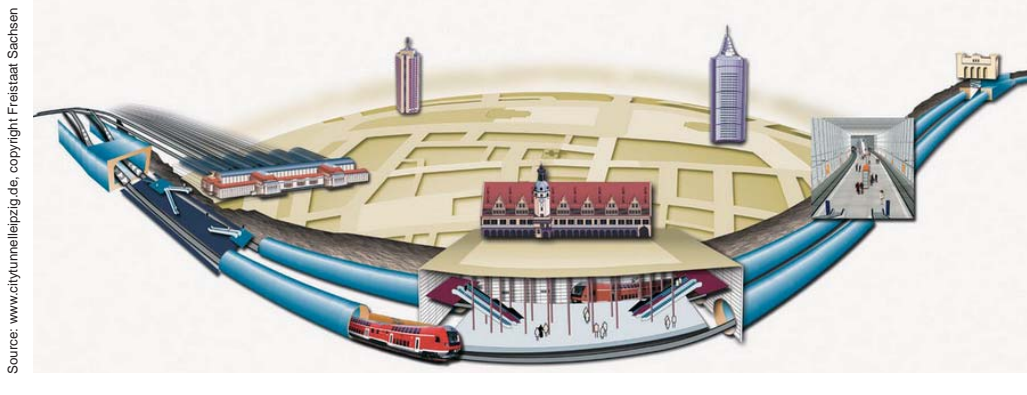
Passengers get their bearings at the new AirportCallHotel

Leipzig/Halle Airport

► Short Cut – City Tunnel Under Leipzig Will Improve Public Transport

One of Germany's most important urban infrastructure projects is taking shape.

The Leipzig City Tunnel will in future link the two terminal railway stations in Leipzig – Central Station and Bavaria Station. A giant tunnel driller, nicknamed "Leonie" by Leipzigers, has since January been digging the tubes under this city of half a million people.



Multidimensional view of City Tunnel course

This tunnel will provide a new and direct link to the region's largest city and most important business centre. It will be used by local service trains running along the north-south axis, connecting the city to the greater Leipzig area, Saxony-Anhalt and southwest Saxony. When the five kilometres of new track and 3.4 kilometres of tunnel below Leipzig come into service, the entire local and regional rail network for central Germany's most important transport hub will be reorganized. Thirteen trains an hour will be able to pass through the tunnel in both directions.

The Leipzig City Tunnel construction site opens its doors for the curious. From 31 August until 2 September, visitors can peek into the underworld between 10 am and 8 pm.

► The Leipzig City Tunnel

- The overall project runs the length of 5279 meters;
- Each single-track tube is nine meters in diameter;
- Each tube is 1438 meters long;
- The internal tunnel tube diameter is 7.9 meters;
- The top edge of tunnel runs between 8 and 16 m below ground;
- Four underground stations will be built - Leipzig Hauptbahnhof, Markt, Wilhelm-Leuschner-Platz and Bayerischer Bahnhof
- The platforms will be between 17 and 22 meters deep;
- Trains will travel at a speed of 80 km/h through the tubes

www.citytunnelleipzig.de



Leipzig/Halle Airport

► Magnetic – Airbus A380 Exhibit Attracts Thousands

The exhibit staged by Deutsche Lufthansa was truly magnetic, attracting thousands of visitors to Leipzig/Halle Airport to get a glimpse of the Airbus A380, the world's largest passenger aircraft.



Came to see the exhibition at Leipzig/Halle Airport: Airport Managing Director Eric Malitzke, Antje Kirchhoff, Lufthansa flight attendant, Lufthansa captain Dieter Hensel and Carsten Bömelburg, Director Sales for Central Germany, Lufthansa (from left to right)

UIn the airport's central terminal, a 150 square metre exhibit with the title "Boarding the Future" presented a 1:20 scale model of the double-decker passenger plane as well as a walk-in section of fuselage that was open to visitors. Inside, Lufthansa aired a five-minute film highlighting the flight of the A380 from Frankfurt to Hong Kong.

The proportions of this aircraft are simply gigantic, with room for up to 555 passengers in the Lufthansa version. A striking on-screen simulation drove home this message. The Airbus is big enough to fill the plaza in front of the opera in Leipzig.

Leipzig/Halle Airport

► DHL Employees Will Use Bus and Rail Services

The future DHL air cargo hub at Leipzig/Halle Airport is promoting mass transit to bring employees to and from work.

The logistics company has signed an agreement with MDV, the central German transport association, on providing additional bus and rail commuter service for its employees. DHL employees will be able to purchase "Job Tickets" at a reduced price.

Five new bus routes will connect the air cargo hub to the Leipzig/Halle metropolitan area and to towns in the Delitzsch and Saale districts. Additional nighttime commuter rail service will also be introduced between the main railway stations in Leipzig and Halle. The public transport link-up has been timed to coincide with the start of the DHL hub test phase in order to test the scheduling and reliability of the bus and rail connections.

DHL, the express mail subsidiary of Deutsche Post, will create around 3,500 new jobs in the Leipzig/Halle area. The company is investing a total of 300 million euros in its new main hub.



Leipzig/Halle Airport

► New Noise Prevention Hangar Taking Shape

Construction work continues at the Leipzig/Halle Airport. Near the airport's fuel farm, erection work continues on the new noise prevention hangar, which will also be able to serve Antonov 124 aircraft.



Aircraft engines will be thoroughly inspected here after they have put in around 600 hours of operation. These tests involve simulating the starting procedure

The contours of the 14 million euro project are already visible. The first support beams are now in place. Starting in 2008, engines will be tested in this hangar, which will measure 76 metres in length, 90 metres across and 22 metres in height.

In January, Ruslan Salis GmbH, a cooperative venture between the Volga-Dnepr-Group and the Antonov Design Bureau, opened Europe's only maintenance centre for Antonov 124-100 aircraft in Leipzig/Halle. This means that their planes no longer have to fly to their home airports in Ulyanovsk or Kiev for routine testing and maintenance, but can receive full maintenance support at Leipzig/Halle.

Leipzig/Halle Airport

► More Capacity – Airport Fuel Farm Expanded

The Leipzig/Halle Airport now has a larger fuel farm.

In mid August, the fuel facility was released to the airport following expansion to a capacity of 1.6 million litres. This expansion work involved the construction of two cylindrical, double-walled and explosion-proof tanks. At the same time, an additional filling station for aircraft refuellers was constructed.

In late 2006, the partners of Turbo Fuel Services Sachsen (TFSS) decided to expand the existing airport fuel farm that supplies jet fuel to the airlines at Leipzig/Halle Airport. The primary reason behind this decision was the rapid growth in air traffic at Leipzig/Halle. The first expansion phase was completed in the summer of 2004 and brought capacity up to over one million litres.



Aviation Fuel Services GmbH (AFS), the company in charge of the fuel farm, was founded in 1986 in Hamburg. Its core business is to provide fuelling services for aircraft. But the company also designs, builds and manages operating facilities, airport fuel farms and aircraft refuelling trucks. 400 employees at twelve international commercial airports in Germany and Austria work to store aircraft fuel and get the fuel into the aircraft.

www.afs.aero

EasternAirCargo GmbH

▶ **Private Russian Air Carrier Links Up With EasternAirCargo**

EasternAirCargo (EAC), a subsidiary of the Central German Airports Group, has taken over responsibility as the Cargo Sales Agent in Germany for KD Avia, private Russian air carrier.

The agreement signed by the two companies commissions freight broker EAC to market the cargo capacities of the Russian carrier.

KD Avia is based at the Chrabrovo airport in Kaliningrad (formerly Königsberg) and links the city with Berlin, Hamburg, Hanover, Düsseldorf and Munich. Further connections from the Russian enclave on the Baltic coast include the economic centres of Astana in Kazakhstan and Kiev in Ukraine. KD Avia's fleet consists of nineteen Boeing 737-300s, which fly both domestic and international routes.

"The new hub being established in Russia's most westerly territory (formerly part of Eastern Prussia) complements our present portfolio to an ideal extent. The destinations served by the airline provide our customers with advantages in terms of time and price," says Stephan Blank Managing Director of EasternAirCargo GmbH.

EasternAirCargo (EAC) has been acting as a freight broker on scheduled routes and for split and full charter services since 2001. EAC has its headquarters at Leipzig/Halle Airport but also has offices at the Frankfurt/Main Airport and in Luxembourg.

EasternAirCargo acts as a virtual cargo airline feeding flows of goods from west to east from its Europe-wide network of freight pick-up stations via the air freight centre at Leipzig/Halle Airport and on to Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

www.easternaircargo.com and www.kdavia.de



► News From the Central German Business World

► German Biomass Research Coming to Leipzig

The city has chalked up a major success in attracting employers: The German Biomass Research Centre (Deutsche Biomasse-Forschungszentrum, DBFZ) is coming to Leipzig.

Following the last national election, the political parties in Germany's grand coalition formally agreed to establish a research centre for biomass and declared that it should be based in eastern Germany. Saxony-Anhalt placed its bets on the "Weinberg Campus" located near the Martin Luther University in Halle.

The DBFZ is to be established as a non-profit limited company in Leipzig on 1 January 2008. Four million euros have been earmarked for the founding phase. As many as 80 people will find employment at the DFBZ.

The centre's mission is to perform research and development, with a focus on experimental work, on extracting energy from agricultural and forest biomass. It will cooperate with renowned scientific institutions and form the centre for a network of applied research.

► Elbe Flugzeugwerke Converts 100th Plane

EADS Elbe Flugzeugwerke in Dresden is celebrating a milestone event.

Workers there are currently doing conversion work on the 100th aircraft entrusted to their care since 1996. The plane, a 19-year old A310-300, was used by Turkish Airlines to carry passengers between Istanbul and European destinations such as Amsterdam, London, Düsseldorf, Paris and Frankfurt. Converting a passenger aircraft into a cargo plane takes about four months. When the work is done, the plane can begin its second life as a member of Turkish Airlines' cargo fleet.

Turkish Airlines was founded as a state airline in 1933 and will celebrate its 75th year of operation next year. The aircraft is the first of three Airbus A310s that will be converted for Turkish Airlines. The other two planes will arrive in Dresden at the end of this year and in mid 2008.

EFW is the EADS centre of competence for the conversion of Airbus passenger planes into cargo aircraft. Elbe Flugzeugwerke employs over 1,200 people in Dresden.



► Miscellaneous

► Lufthansa Welcomes “Radebeul” to Fleet

A regional aircraft will serve as a “flying ambassador” bearing the name of the city of Radebeul across Europe.

The “Radebeul” is the fourth regional jet of Lufthansa City Line to be christened after a city in Saxony. Lufthansa CityLine, the regional service subsidiary of Lufthansa, will deploy the plane within its European service fleet stationed at the international Munich hub.

The CRJ900 was transferred to Lufthansa CityLine in Cologne from the Bombardier plant in Montreal in 2006 and has been in service across Europe since October 2006, albeit nameless until now.

The “Radebeul” raises to eleven the number of modern jets in Lufthansa’s “Saxony fleet”. The name “Saxony” itself is borne by a Boeing 747-400, one of the flagships of the Lufthansa fleet, while another jumbo jet hails to the name of Dresden. The cities of Leipzig and Görlitz are each represented in the skies above Europe by an Airbus 340. And Chemnitz, Zwickau, Plauen, Meissen, Torgau and Schkeuditz are the patron cities for various makes of short and medium-haul jets.

www.lufthansa.de

► Leipzig Was Mecca for Computer Game Lovers

The Games Convention (GC) again attracted tens of thousands of computer game freaks to the city of Leipzig.

Some 185,000 people attended the convention, setting a new visitor record. Europe’s leading trade fair for interactive entertainment, infotainment, edutainment and hardware also attracted 503 exhibitors from 31 countries. Compared to 2006, the number of exhibitors rose by nearly 130 and the exhibition area also increased by 28 percent to 115,000 square metres.

The most important and biggest developer conference in Europe, the GC Developers Conference (GCDC) brought together internationally leading experts from the publishing and development industry.

The next Games Convention will be held in Leipzig in August 2008.



► View of the Tarmac

An airport is always an interesting place. Some travellers are going on holiday, others are starting off on business trips.

And still others just get lost in the magic of the place and watch as airplanes take off and land. Dresden Airport offers an open view to what's going on outside, and this not only from the observation platform. Its website at www.dresden-airport.de, which allows visitors to take a virtual tour of the airport, now also lets them look out onto the apron from their home computer.

The new webcam is perfect for watching the comings and goings at the airport. Viewers can observe four terminal positions and see what is happening on the runway. Modern technology is used so that all aviation fans and plane spotters can get high-quality live pictures with good resolution.

www.dresden-airport.de/en/reisende_und_besucher/willkommen/besucherterrasse/webcam.html

► The Airport Set – Backdrop for Vets and Detectives

The Leipzig/Halle Airport was once again used as a stage for a television production.

In July, Germany's public TV station ARD returned to the airport a second time to film scenes for its popular veterinarian series "Tierärztin Dr. Mertens". And plans have already been announced for the next TV movie. The airport has been used often in the past as a film set. The Central German Broadcasting group (MDR) shot several scenes here for channel 1 crime series "Polizeiruf 110".

The airport was also a set for "Flightplan", a Hollywood production starring Oscar winner Jodie Foster.

► Imprint

Published by: Central German Airports Group

Edited by: Felix Zimmermann (chief editor)

Evelyn Schuster, Petra Siebert, Dierk Näther, Uwe Schuhart, Christian Adler, Nadia Zitouni, Juliane Kramp

Photos: Archives at Leipzig/Halle and Dresden Airports, www.citytunnelleipzig.de

Design and Production: Contur

Please send any queries, comments or suggestions to:

Felix.Zimmermann@mdf-ag.com, Telephone: +49 (0) 341 224 1086