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Central German Airports Group

## ▶ Solid Growth – Rising Passenger Numbers and Greater Volumes of Freight

**The Central German Airports Group is heading for a successful year. Both passenger numbers and the volume of freight handled rose sharply in the first nine months of 2007 in comparison with the same period in 2006.**



An impressive sight: six Antonov AN-124 cargo planes at Leipzig/Halle Airport

3.515 million passengers passed through the two Saxon airports at Leipzig/Halle and Dresden from January to September. This figure is 10.8 percent higher than in the same period last year. The figure for the whole year in 2006 at the two airports was 4.190 million.

2.122 million passengers passed through Leipzig/Halle – the figure for the whole of 2006 was 2.348 million. 1.393 million passengers used Dresden Airport during the first three quarters of this year – while the figure for the whole of 2006 was 1.842

million. The airport was closed on four weekends in June so that concrete could be laid on the new runway. Most flights were diverted to Leipzig/Halle during this time.

The company group registered even stronger growth in the freight sector; here figures for the period up to the end of September rose by 164.6 percent to 48,400 tonnes, when compared to 2006. This development is largely due to the growing commitment to Leipzig/Halle Airport by the Deutsche Post express subsidiary DHL and Lufthansa Cargo.



Leipzig/Halle Airport has recorded almost continuous growth in the air freight business since 1990. At that time, just 358 tonnes of freight were handled. This figure had risen to 29,330 tonnes by 2006. The volume of freight will continue to rise significantly over the next few years once the DHL freight hub is fully operational and the joint freight airline operated by DHL and Lufthansa Cargo begins business.

Central German Airports Group

## ▶ Escaping Winter for the Sunshine – Flying to Business Appointments

**New timetables come into force again at German and international airports at the start of winter time. The winter timetable at Dresden, which continues until 29 March 2008, includes up to 241 take-offs every week. The number of flights every week at Leipzig/Halle is as many as 342 to enable holiday-makers and business people to reach their destinations.**



The winter timetable at Dresden and Leipzig/Halle provides many services

The winter season, which has just begun, includes flights to 43 destinations in 13 countries in Europe, North Africa and the Near East from Dresden Airport. Passengers can reach 19 cities and holiday destinations non-stop. 12 airlines take off and land at the airport in the Saxon state capital.

- ▶ Air Berlin flies from Dresden to Düsseldorf three times a day on weekdays;
- ▶ Air Berlin is providing more comprehensive services to its hub at Palma de Mallorca;
- ▶ Zurich and Friedrichshafen on Lake Constance can be reached more easily;

Lufthansa is the market leader at the Saxon state capital with 110 departures to the German hubs at Frankfurt/Main, Munich and Düsseldorf every week. It is followed by Cirrus Airlines, Air Berlin, Germanwings, Austrian Airlines and British Airways.

At Leipzig/Halle Airport, the winter timetable envisages a maximum figure of 342 connections to 45 airports each week; these flights are operated by 16 airlines.

- ▶ Air Berlin flies to 37 warm holiday destinations;
- ▶ followed by Condor (14) and TUIfly (4);
- ▶ the top holiday destination is Antalya;

Lufthansa flies to the major German hub at Frankfurt/Main 39 times a week and 33 times to Munich and the company operates 28 flights to Düsseldorf. Germanwings flies to Cologne/Bonn 12 times a week, while TUIfly operates flights to Stuttgart eleven times a week.



Passengers can travel to destinations within Europe with Air France, Austrian Airlines, Air Berlin and Germanwings. The non-stop connection to Paris operated by Air France now departs at a new time. Austrian Airlines links Leipzig/Halle to its hub at Vienna. Air Berlin flies to London Stansted. Air Berlin has reintroduced connections for flights to Rome, Milan, Budapest and Paris. Germanwings offers flights to St. Petersburg, Belgrade, Lisbon, Mallorca and Zagreb via Cologne/Bonn.

Leipzig/Halle Airport

## ► Leipzig/Halle Airport Grows as an Important Hub for Freight Traffic

**Leipzig/Halle Airport continues to grow in importance as an international hub for freight traffic. Lufthansa Cargo AG has switched several flights to the Central German airport at the start of the winter timetable.**



21 extra cargo flights are being operated to international destinations at Atlanta, East Midlands, Wilmington/Ohio, Sharjah, Hong Kong, Bahrain, Singapore, Istanbul and Delhi. In the past these destinations were served for DHL Express from Cologne/Bonn. The company uses MD-11 cargo aircraft for these flights.

Lufthansa Cargo is increasing its commitment to Leipzig/Halle Airport at the start of the winter timetable

“A new era is beginning for our Leipzig/Halle operations with the intercontinental freight flights operated by Lufthansa Cargo,” says Markus Kopp,

CEO at the Central German Airports Group. “Central Germany will be a prominent destination on the air freight world map from the 2007/2008 winter timetable onwards.”



Leipzig/Halle Airport

## ► Agreement Signed – Airport Fire Brigade and DHL to Cooperate

**The fire brigade services at Leipzig/Halle Airport will work closely with the staff at DHL's future air freight hub.**



The airport and DHL Hub Leipzig GmbH have signed an agreement to this effect. The future cooperation arrangement is based on decisions made by the Leipzig Regional Administrative Authority, which drew up the guidelines for the future cooperation arrangement between the two companies in its capacity as the licensing authority.

This means that the airport fire brigade is responsible for fire prevention, technical assistance and safeguarding flight operations on the areas used by DHL at Leipzig/Halle Airport. The fire brigade will be supported by at least six DHL Hub Leipzig employees.

Signing the agreement: Thomas Arndt, Michael Reinboth, both from DHL Hub Leipzig GmbH; Eric Malitzke and Christoph Schilling, Flughafen Leipzig/Halle GmbH (from left to right)

A new small fire tender is being especially commissioned for this purpose. A second identical vehicle will be available for the part-time staff at the airport fire brigade in future. The cooperation arrangement also covers the initial and further training of the relevant DHL personnel.

Dresden Airport

## ► Jubilee – 11,111,111th Passenger in the New Terminal

**Dresden Airport has celebrated a special jubilee. The 11,111,111th passenger since the new terminal was opened in March 2001 was welcomed at the airport in the Saxon state capital on 10 October.**



Heinz Schneider from the Lower Saxony village of Emmerthal was en route to Tenerife. He and his wife Alli were flying from Dresden for the first time. The couple also used to trip to get to know the city on the river Elbe before and after their holiday.

The terminal began operations on 25 March 2001 after a three-year building period. It was built by converting the former aviation industry assembly hangar and is considered to be one of the most beautiful of its kind in Germany on account of its industrial architecture.

Petra Siebert, marketing/PR manager at Flughafen Dresden GmbH, (right) surprised the jubilee passenger Heinz Schneider and his wife Alli with a voucher for a package tour to Tunisia from the "Schausland" travel company



More than half as many passengers have checked in and out at the new airport terminal building as at the old one. Some 20 million passengers passed through Dresden from the opening of the airport in 1935 and the start of 2001.

Dresden Airport

## ► Flights and Demolition Work – Removal of the Concrete on the Old Runway

**The new runway was opened two months ago. The final bell is now tolling for the old runway.**



The concrete from the runway, which was 2,500 metres long and 80 metres wide, will have been removed by the end of October/beginning of November. Grass will then be sown over the whole area.

As the demolition site is right next to the new runway, most of the demolition work is taking place when the airport is closed at night – between 11.45 p.m. and 6 a.m. The airport held talks with the responsible licensing authority to minimise the period of noise in the interest of those living near the airport.

Huge progress has been made in breaking up the old runway

The result of this was that the comprehensive ban originally imposed on any demolition work during flight operations was withdrawn for about a third of the area being broken up. This means that demolition work can take place during the day here without any disruption to flight operations.

Some of the taxiways which took aircraft to the old runway are also being broken up and they are being rebuilt to fit in with the new runway. This construction work is due to have been completed by the end of November.



## ► News from the Central German Business World

### ► The Economy is Growing

#### **The economy in Saxony and Saxony-Anhalt continues to grow.**

Gross domestic product in Saxony grew by 3.4 percent in real terms when compared to the first six months of last year – and growth in Saxony-Anhalt was 3.0 percent. So both states exceeded the German average of 2.9 percent.

Gross domestic product in actual prices rose by 5.3 percent in Saxony and Saxony-Anhalt within a year. The average increase across Germany was 4.6 percent.

The figures in the two eastern German states were largely influenced by the manufacturing sector. Gross value added in this sector increased in real terms by 15.9 percent in Saxony and 12.6 percent in Saxony-Anhalt. The two neighbouring states lay far ahead of the average German growth figures of 6.9 percent viewed in this light too.

### ► PV Crystalox Solar Builds a Production Unit for Solar-Grade Silicon

#### **PV Silicon AG, Erfurt, is building a production facility for solar-grade silicon at Bitterfeld. It is due to start production at the beginning of 2009.**



Annual production will be about 900 tonnes during the first year and is due to rise to 1,800 tonnes. The facility is being built at the Bitterfeld-Wolfen Chemical Park, the region with one of the largest chemicals centres in Europe.

Evonik Degussa GmbH, Düsseldorf, will supply PV Silicon with the high purity raw material chlorosilane. Degussa is the world's largest supplier of chlorosilane. PV Silicon and Degussa have signed a ten-year agreement for this substance to be supplied.

The investments for the first 1,800 tonnes are € 80 - 90 million. About 100 new jobs will be created at the site. The silicon, which is being extracted using a modified Siemens process, is only used to generate solar power.

PV Silicon AG is a 100 percent subsidiary of PV Crystalox Solar plc, Oxfordshire. It supplies leading global solar cell manufacturers with multicrystalline silicon ingots and wafers for generating solar power.

[www.pvcristalox.com](http://www.pvcristalox.com)



### ▶ Fourth Model Expands Range of BMW Cars Manufactured in Leipzig

**In future the Leipzig factory will manufacture another model, the 1 series convertible.**

Hot on the heels of the 3 series limousine, the 1 series three-door model and the 1 series coupé, the convertible will be the fourth model to roll off the assembly lines at the factory. Series production is due to start on 1 December 2007. The vehicle is due to be brought on to the market on 22 March 2008. This new derivative of the compact BMW model is being made exclusively in Leipzig for the world market. It will be sold in many countries, including the USA. The number of vehicles manufactured at Leipzig will remain unchanged at about 700 a day.

The range of models is not only being expanded: the factory belonging to the Bavarian automobile manufacturer is due to be enlarged by the end of 2009. A press shop is due to be built to the north east of the existing factory over the next two years. 150 new jobs will probably be created at the new manufacturing facility. Some € 100 million are being invested in this project.

### ▶ “Aerospace” Jobs Fair at Dresden Airport

**The need for specialist staff is growing at aerospace companies.**

For this reason the first jobs fair for aerospace jobs in Germany was held at Dresden Airport. Big names in this sector had stands to present their companies and they informed visitors about the opportunities and professional prospects available.

Those seeking work, school leavers and students were able to speak to specialists directly about professions like aerospace technology engineers, mechanical engineers, air traffic controllers, flight instrument manufacturers or electronics experts for aviation systems. EADS provided information about career opportunities and Dresden University of Technology advertised its aerospace technology course.



### ► WINDROSE AIR Flies Business Managers

**The Leipzig Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Saxon Entrepreneurs' Association and the Saxon Chamber of Engineers organised the 1st Saxon Business Conference in Stavanger in Norway in order to intensify the level of cooperation with important Norwegian partners.**



Three dozen Leipzig business managers met their Norwegian counterparts for discussions.

While some of the participants maintained the tradition of "SachsenSail" and sailed to Stavanger on board the "Thalassa", a jet belonging to the executive jet airline WINDROSE AIR took off for Scandinavia from Leipzig/Halle. "It is essential and useful to advertise the Central German business region on this occasion in conjunction with other companies. The Leipzig-Halle region will increasingly require dialogue like this in an international setting so that investors can appreciate the advantages of the location; as a result, further growth will ensue here," said Mandy Baum, the Leipzig branch manager of WINDROSE AIR, with hindsight.

WINDROSE AIR carried business managers to Norway for discussions – seen here at Stavanger airport

WINDROSE AIR was the first airline to rent space in the newly designed General Aviation Terminal at Leipzig/Halle Airport. The company, which was set up 17 years ago, has a fleet of ten business aircraft of various sizes. The fleet ranges from the Citation jet 1 to the Gulfstream 450.

## ► Miscellaneous

### ► Tourism is a Success – Saxony and Saxony-Anhalt among the Leaders

**Tourism in the eastern German states is a success story.**

It is one of the sectors showing the greatest dynamism and the best prospects for further growth. This is the conclusion reached by a study on "Strategies for Strengthening Tourism in the Eastern German States". This also applies to the two German states, Saxony and Saxony-Anhalt. The number of overnight stays in Saxony grew by 34 percent to 16.37 million from 1996 to 2006 – in Saxony-Anhalt the figure grew 21 percent to 6.41 million. The number of hotel beds in Saxony rose by 12 percent and in Saxony-Anhalt by 18 percent during the same period.

According to the study, cities like Leipzig and Dresden are already magnets for those interested in culture and for international trade fair and business travellers. It also makes clear that any investments in the cultural heritage of smaller towns like Wittenberg, the cradle of the Reformation, will pay for themselves.



Dresden tops the list in terms of cities with a population of up to 500,000 with 2.9 million overnight stays. Leipzig is in eighth position in the category of cities with more than half a million inhabitants.

### ► Dixieland Concert with Blues, Boogie & Swing in the Terminal

**Seven months before the international Dixieland Festival takes place in Dresden, the musical event is already making its presence felt.**

Dresden Airport will once again be one of the sites hosting the festival next year. The airport will provide the backdrop for the 38th edition of the musical festival on 16 May. Five bands are expected to play at the “Blues, Boogie & Swing” event there. Advanced ticket sales have already begun.

Admission costs €28. People can choose where they would like to sit. Tickets can be obtained from the “Ticketcentrale” at the Palace of Culture ([www.ticketcentrale.de](http://www.ticketcentrale.de)), the ticket service of the Sächsische Zeitung newspaper and at concert ticket offices in the Florentinum and the Schillergalerie.

More than 30 bands and soloists from eight countries are expected to attend the 2008 Dixieland Festival in Dresden as a whole. The airport will be hosting the event for the seventh time. The terminal – a former hangar for the Dresden aviation industry – provides the stage for the jazz concert.

[www.dixieland.de](http://www.dixieland.de); [www.dixieland-dresden.de](http://www.dixieland-dresden.de)

### ► Evelyn Schmidt from Saxony is the New German Wine Queen

**The new German wine queen comes from Saxony.**

Evelyn Schmidt from Dresden emerged as winner in the battle against five other finalists in the decisive round held in Neustadt an der Weinstrasse. The 24-year-old will now wear the wine crown for one year and represent the German wine industry.

Evelyn Schmidt works at the Wackerbarth Saxon State Vineyard, where she is responsible for giving visitors guided tours and wine samples. The Saxon wine-growing area provided the wine queen in 1996/97. Antje Ihle from the Saale-Unstrut wine-growing area was also a finalist, who, like the eventual winner, was one of twelve regional wine queens who qualified for the final.



## ► Imprint

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