



Contents

News from the Companies in the Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding

Decline in Passenger Numbers at the Central German Airports / Freight Volumes at Leipzig/Halle Rise – Airport Now Seeking Second Position



Freight volumes at LEJ rose significantly

Leipzig/Halle and Dresden International Airports handled fewer passengers in the first nine months of this year than in the comparative period last year. But freight volumes at Leipzig/Halle rose significantly. The airport is planning to develop and so become Germany's second largest air freight hub in the medium term.

Leipzig/Halle und Dresden International handled 3,134,530 commercial passengers until the end of September 2009. This represents a decline of 5.5 percent over the same period in the previous year. While Dresden International Airport recorded a fall of 8.6 percent in the first nine months on account of the economic climate, passenger numbers at Leipzig/Halle Airport fell by only 3.2 percent to 1,841,881. Traffic at the two Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding sites fell 3 percent to 71,518 flights during the past nine months.

Freight volumes at Leipzig/Halle Airport rose to 369,166.2 tonnes by the end of September 2009 because of operations at the DHL air freight hub and the arrival of AeroLogic, the first intercontinental airline based at Leipzig/Halle. This represents

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1. Decline in Passenger Numbers at the Central German Airports / Freight Volumes at Leipzig/Halle Rise – Airport Now Seeking Second Position
 2. Moscow Flights: Success Story for Central German Airports
- ### Leipzig/Halle Airport
3. Larger Number of Destinations in the Winter Timetable
 4. Lufthansa Cargo and Hermes Cooperate
 5. A380 Training at Leipzig/Halle
 6. Airport to Host Sector Meeting
 7. Lufthansa: Millionth Mobile Boarding Card for Leipzig Passenger

Dresden International

8. Winter Timetable: More Flights to Cyprus
 9. New from May Onwards: Croatia Airlines to Fly to Split
 10. First Winter Services in Action in Mid-October
- ### From the Region
11. Saxon Business Delegation Visits Moscow

an increase of 16.7 percent over the same period in the previous year – and reinforces the airport's position as Germany's third largest air freight hub. The Central German airport is even aiming to take over second position behind Frankfurt – Dierk Näther, the Managing Director of Flughafen Leipzig/Halle GmbH, announced this on the sidelines of the German Logistics Association Congress in Berlin. He added that everything was ready for further growth despite the current crisis.

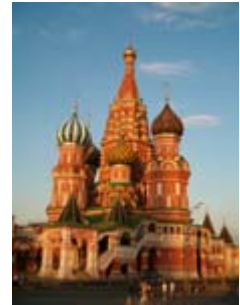
12. Upgrading of the A 13 Motorway Continues
13. Town Twinning Arrangement with China

Moscow Flights: Success Story for Central German Airports

There have been four weekly flights between Central Germany and Moscow since the summer of 2009. In addition to Aeroflot's flights to and from Dresden International, Blue Wings has been connecting the associated airport at Leipzig/Halle with the Russian capital. So it is time to use this opportunity to take stock of the situation for the first time.

Aeroflot is continuing to link Dresden and Moscow on Mondays and Fridays during the winter season, but has changed the flight times in order to improve links with connecting flights departing from Sheremetyevo Airport. The A319 now takes off in Moscow at 12:45 p.m. local time and lands in Dresden at 1:25 p.m. The return flight takes off from the Saxon state capital at 2:15 p.m. and reaches the Russian capital at 6:50 p.m. local time. Ingo Schönbrunn, Aviation Sales Manager at Dresden International Airport, says: "We are very happy with the load factors ever since the start of these flight operations. We not only have better flight times during the winter season, but also improved connecting times. We are registering increased demand from tour organisers to include Moscow in package deals as a weekend trip. In return, we shall also intensify our advertising with travel organisers in Moscow. By the way, the balance of passengers is good. In addition to Russians travelling home to visit their families, it is mainly business travellers, who are using the Dresden-Sheremetyevo route when they want to fly on to other destinations from Moscow."

The authorities at Leipzig/Halle are also happy with the load factors. Blue Wings takes off from Leipzig/Halle for Moscow every Thursday and Sunday. It is possible to reach St. Petersburg, Barnaul, Chelyabinsk, Irkutsk, Krasnodar, Nizhnevartovsk, Omsk, Novosibirsk, Perm, Rostov, Surgut, Yekaterinburg, Tyumen, Ufa, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk and Volgograd from Sheremetyevo on these days of the week. On Sundays there are also connecting flights to Samara, Murmansk, Chabarovsk, Kaliningrad, Krasnoyarsk, Magadan and Petropavlovsk; there is an additional connecting flight to Norilsk on Thursdays. Mark Stelse, Sales and Customer Relations Manager, says: "The load factors on the Leipzig/Halle-Moscow route are continuing to rise. The flights are well received by both Russian citizens and business travellers from Russia and Germany – we are delighted at this development. Many



The direct flights between Central Germany and Moscow are being used by more and more passengers

passengers are using the many well timed connecting flights to the CIS like those flying in from Dresden.”

Larger Number of Destinations in the Winter Timetable

The 2009/2010 winter timetable at Leipzig/Halle Airport offers up to 335 weekly flights to 51 destination airports in 13 countries; these flights are operated by 14 airlines. As a result, the airlines and tour operators are offering flights to a greater number of destinations than at the same time in the previous year; the 2008/2009 winter timetable involved flights to 45 destinations.

Air Berlin, for example, is flying to 41 destinations from Leipzig/Halle during the winter season, followed by Condor, which is flying to nine destinations. The top destinations for tourist flights are Antalya and Majorca, which have as many as ten or eight flights a week respectively.

Lufthansa flies to the two major German hubs at Frankfurt and Munich 33 times a week. There are 22 flights to Düsseldorf each week. Lufthansa provides many connecting flights to more than 250 destinations around the globe through these hubs. The winter timetable remains in force until 27 March 2010. Airport Managing Director Dierk Nätzer is optimistic: “The growth in the number of destinations compared to the previous year’s season shows the ongoing commitment by airlines and tour operators to the Leipzig/Halle site. We are confident that this variety of destinations will be well received by passengers despite the tough demand situation throughout the sector.”

Lufthansa Cargo and Hermes Cooperate

Lufthansa Cargo and Hermes Transport Logistics, a subsidiary of the Otto mail order company, have agreed to work together closely. The Lufthansa Cargo subsidiary AeroLogic will transport import freight directly to Leipzig/Halle in future and PortGround will provide the physical handling manpower.

The cooperation agreement covers all the import operations and forwarding goods and loading trucks bound for Hermes bases at Haldensleben near Magdeburg and Altenkunstadt in Upper Franconia. Hermes Transport Logistics currently imports more than 14,000 tonnes of air freight to Germany, most of it from the Far East. Textiles account for the lion’s share of the shipments.

A380 Training at Leipzig/Halle

Leipzig/Halle Airport



The no. 1 tourist destination: Antalya



AeroLogic will transport Hermes' import freight in future

Lufthansa will carry out training flights at Leipzig/Halle with its Airbus A380 in 2010. The airline announced that the touch-and-go flights will take place on three days in the second quarter of next year. Leipzig/Halle Airport is due to host at least one of these training days.



Leipzig/Halle is one of the test airports for the A380

Each of the 30 specially trained A380 pilots should complete four take-offs and landings in all. The 120 test take-offs and landings by the Airbus will be shared out among three airports according to the airline. No decision has yet been made on the other two test airports.

Lufthansa is planning to start regular flights with its A380 next summer. The aircraft recently completed its maiden flight and was transferred to Hamburg, where it is being painted and equipped with interior fittings.

Airport to Host Sector Meeting

Leipzig/Halle Airport is to host the management summit, the annual general meeting and the annual conference of the international air freight association known as TIACA (The International Air Cargo Association) on 16 – 18 May 2010.

TIACA brings together top decision-makers from the global logistics and air freight sector. Its members are representatives of all the departments in the air freight industry and logistics, such as airlines, airports, freight forwarding companies, ground handling service providers, cargo airlines, courier and express service providers, general sales agents, brokers and shipping agents.

Discussions during the three-day meeting in Leipzig will focus on topics like security regulations for air freight checks in Europe and the USA, supply chain management, world trade issues as a result of the economic crisis and even the cost-effectiveness of alternative fuels.

Lufthansa: Millionth Mobile Boarding Card for Leipzig Passenger

Prof. Hans Wiesmeth got a surprise at Leipzig/Halle Airport: The rector of Leipzig Graduate School of Management was the millionth user of a mobile boarding card at Leipzig on 20 October: Lufthansa has been offering this service since the spring of 2008.

This was reason enough for Uwe Stange, Deputy Lufthansa Station Manager at Leipzig/Halle Airport, together with the manager of the mobile boarding card project at Lufthansa's



From left to right: Carsten Bömelburg (Lufthansa Sales Manager for Central Germany), Ulf Lengemann (Manager of the Mobile Boarding Cards Project), Prof. Hans Wiesmeth and Uwe

headquarters in Frankfurt, Ulf Lengemann, to congratulate the passenger who marked this milestone with a bunch of flowers and a Europa ticket for two people before he departed for Düsseldorf. About 30,000 Lufthansa customers use the mobile boarding cards every week at the moment and they are available for almost all every flight starting in Germany (except for those to China and Tel Aviv).

Stange, Deputy Lufthansa
Station Manager at
Leipzig/Halle Airport

Winter Timetable: More Flights to Cyprus

The number of flights was maintained as Dresden International Airport launched the winter season on 25 October. There are 241 departures to 50 destinations in 13 countries in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East every week. Moscow and Warsaw will be among the winter destinations for the first time. There are also new flights to Larnaca on Cyprus, Ciudad Real in Spain and Antalya in Turkey. Many feeder flights within Germany and to the hubs at Zurich, Vienna, Moscow and Palma de Majorca enable passengers to reach connecting flights to destinations all over the world from Dresden.

The domestic flights schedule has remained stable when compared to the summer timetable. There are 50 departures to Düsseldorf again, 28 operated by Lufthansa and 22 by Air Berlin. Other destinations include Munich and Frankfurt (40 each with Lufthansa), Cologne/Bonn (17 with Germanwings), Hamburg (16 with Cirrus), Stuttgart (13 with Germanwings), Nuremberg (4 with Air Berlin) and Friedrichshafen (2 with Intersky). Passengers can reach connecting flights to every continent at Frankfurt, Munich, Düsseldorf, Cologne/Bonn and Stuttgart by flying with Lufthansa, Air Berlin and Germanwings.

New features in the timetable include direct flights to Larnaca (Cyprus) on Thursdays and Air Berlin is providing a service to this destination too (through its Nuremberg hub). The top holiday destination is Antalya with six departures each week operated by Sky Airlines and Sun Express – two more than in the previous winter. Lufthansa provides the greatest number of departures each week (108), followed by Air Berlin (37), Cirrus Airlines (32) and Germanwings (30).

New from May Onwards: Croatia Airlines to Fly to Split

One highlight of the 2010 summer timetable has already been decided: there will be direct flights from Dresden to Croatia from 1 May onwards – Croatia Airlines will then link the Saxon state capital with Split non-stop every week.

There will be flights to the southern Croatian city, which has

Dresden International



Warsaw is one of the
winter timetable
destinations for the first
time

long been a popular destination with holiday-makers along the Adriatic, every Saturday; the aircraft will be a Dash 8 Q 400 (with 76 seats). The plane will take off from Split at 12:05 p.m. and land in Dresden at 2:05 p.m. Croatia Airlines will then take off from Dresden at 2:40 p.m. for the two-hour return flight.

First Winter Services in Action in Mid-October

Long before the official start of the winter weather services season on 1 November, the snow clearing vehicles at Dresden International Airport had to be called into action for the first time on 15 October. They cleared the aircraft stands (245,000 square metres), the runway (171,000 square metres), the taxiways (90,600 square metres) and the peripheral road (36,500 square metres) from snow and ice. As many as seven snow ploughs with blowing equipment, one solo snow plough, three snow blowers, a gritter and a surface friction tester were in action.

By the way: Dresden Airport is entering the winter season equipped with new snow clearing and de-icing equipment. Six snow ploughs with blowing equipment (each with 850 hp), a snow cutter/blower ("Supra 5001" model) and an aircraft de-icing unit have all been purchased. The winter services will save time by being able to use the more powerful machines and passenger will benefit from this. 140 employees from the traffic and engineering departments and the ground services company PortGround have been trained to provide winter services. They keep an area measuring 543,100 square metres free of snow and ice – that is the same as 76 football pitches. The winter services season officially ends on 31 March 2010.

From the Region

Saxon Business Delegation Visits Moscow

Foreign trade in Saxony has been growing by double digit rates over the past few years – the Russian Federation was in eleventh position on the list of the most important foreign trading partners for the Free State. In terms of imports, Russia is the second most important trading partner behind the Czech Republic. The Federation will remain a boom market for Central German companies, even after the financial crisis fades away. Some leading business representatives of the Free State travelled to Moscow for a three-day visit on 8 October in order to explore current developments and support Saxon companies in Russia.



The delegation before leaving LEJ

The delegation included Wolfgang Topf, the President of the

Leipzig Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and the President of the Saxon Chamber of Skilled Crafts Conference, Joachim Dirschka, and Markus Kopp, the CEO of the Mitteldeutsche Airport Holding.

“When the recovery comes, the export business will benefit from this to an extraordinary degree. So it is important for German companies to persevere and not withdraw from markets in too much of a hurry,” Wolfgang Topf explained on the sidelines of the Moscow talks. The programme not only included bilateral meetings, but also an exchange of experiences with the German/Russian Chamber of Foreign Trade.

Upgrading of the A 13 Motorway Continues

Further upgrading work on the A13 motorway started on 18 October. The motorway will completely renewed and widened between the Dresden North junction and the border with the state of Brandenburg in two construction phases. While planning work is still continuing on the section between Radeberg and Dresden North, building work has started on the section between Thiendorf and the state border, a stretch that is about seven kilometres long. The tree clearing work will start this autumn. The construction of the road will take place in 2010.

“So far only the section between Thiendorf and Radeburg has been upgraded. The rest of the A 13 motorway in Saxony was given a new road surface after the fall of the Berlin Wall. But as there is not a hard shoulder along the whole route, there is still a speed limit of 130 km/h,” Saxony’s Transport Minister Sven Morlok (FDP) explained. “Even if the building work will cause delays for motorists in the short term, traffic bound for the German capital will be able to flow more safely and faster in future.” The building work is costing about EUR 30 million and will take about three years to complete.



The Saxon Transport Minister Sven Morlok (FDP)

Town Twinning Arrangement with China

The Mayor of Dresden, Helma Orosz (CDU), signed a town twinning agreement between the Saxon state capital and the southern Chinese city of Hangzhou on 16 October.

The city of Hangzhou (approx. 190 km south-west of Shanghai with 6.8 million inhabitants) is the capital of the Chinese province of Zhejiang and is regarded as a tourist destination. So Dresden now has an Asian town twinning partner in addition to its twelve other twin towns in Europe, Africa and America.

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