

Middle East's leading cargo monthly

December 2023

CARGO talk

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CARGO
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Maiden Arabian Cargo



The ribbon cutting ceremony to throw open the first Arabian Cargo Awards 2023 to a rousing welcome by the gathered professionals of the air cargo and logistics industry

The Arabian Cargo Awards acknowledged the hard work and dedication of air cargo and logistics experts. Leading logistics and supply chain firms were able to find themselves on common platform at the awards ceremony.

 Abigail Mathias

The maiden Arabian Cargo Awards 2023 in the metropolis of Dubai was etched as a grand success. Held to celebrate the outstanding achievements of the air cargo and logistics industry, the event was attended by stalwarts from the fraternity. The event was held on 24 October 2023 in Sofitel Downtown Dubai.

With the support of various partners, including prominent members of dnata, National Association of Freight and Logistics (NAFL), international ground handling legends to name a few, the event was pulled off with distinction.

Leading logistics and supply chain companies from

across the spectrum of the Middle East were able to find themselves on common ground, despite their various areas of expertise, through the umbrella of these distinct



awards. The cargo awards also provided a unique platform to acknowledge those who stood out for their remarkable contributions and those who are shaping the future of the logistics and air cargo industry. It was a remarkable opportunity to honour the 'heroes' of the air

cargo industry who carried out the last-mile delivery no matter the distance or the inclement weather.

As a key player in the air cargo and logistics sector, industry members were invited to be a part of this prestigious occasion by nominating individuals, companies, or projects who have demonstrated exceptional dedication and innovation within the field from across the spectrum of the Middle East. The Arabian Cargo Awards have been conceived to honour and recognize the exceptional efforts of those individuals and organizations that continue to play a pivotal role in the dynamic world of air cargo and logistics.

In his welcome address, Sanjeet, Mentor, Arabian Car-

Awards triumph in the ME



look around the room—you are looking at the leaders, stalwarts, and innovators of the industry.”

The awards are divided into 4 categories:

❖ **Personal awards:** For the legends and leaders of today and tomorrow. These are stalwarts of the industry and even youngsters who are aiming to change the industry in the future.

❖ **Business awards:** These awards are for the organizations who have set a bench-

mark in their respective fields and have consistently exceeded their own expectations.

❖ **Trending awards:** Decided by critics, these are for individuals who have done some extraordinary work in this field.

❖ **Partner awards:** These are for our partners who have contributed to make this event a grand success.

The process starts with an online nomination. The form itself is thought provoking and encourages participants to think about what

The awards aim to shine a spotlight on tireless work behind the scenes, which ensure goods move smoothly, contributing to economic growth and prosperity

go Awards, said, “As we gather here to celebrate, let us also remember the crucial role that air cargo and logistics play in the global supply chain and the way it affects our daily lives. The Arabian Cargo Awards aims to shine a spotlight on the tireless work behind the scenes, which ensures that goods move seamlessly across borders, contributing to economic growth and prosperity. Voting is carefully monitored to avoid duplication and ensure transparency. I am proud to say that over 23,000 votes have been cast for this edition of the awards.”

He said, “The awards are not just an event; it is a celebration of the spirit of innovation, perseverance, and commitment that defines the air cargo and logistics industry. It is a platform to acknowledge remarkable achievements, applaud tireless endeavour and inspire all those involved in this industry to continue reaching for new heights. I would like to stop here and want you to take a second and



Sanjeet, Mentor, Arabian Cargo Awards, delivering the welcome address at the Arabian Cargo Awards 2023



Sanjeet, Mentor, Arabian Cargo Awards, Chief Guest Shahab Al Jassmi, Senior Vice President Port and Terminals Commercial GCC for DP World UAE and Sumeera Bahl, Director, DDP Group releasing the Arabian Cargo Awards' Cargo Coffee Table Book 2023

sets them apart. Online voting commenced shortly thereafter and then a jury decided the winners.

On the awards night, guests were invited to an exclusive evening of entertainment. On their arrival, the esteemed guests were invited to network and mingle with others from the logistics industry. The grand event then began in style with a unique ribbon cutting ceremony. This

was followed by the launch of the first Collector's Edition of the Arabian Cargo Awards—a tailor-made coffee table book, which includes anecdotes and illustrious history of the stalwarts from the Middle East's logistics industry.

CELEBRATION OF INDUSTRY STALWARTS

The Arabian Cargo Awards, a gala event like no other in the region, then celebrated the very individuals who have

moulded the industry into what it stands as today—an indomitable force to be reckoned with. Considered to be akin to the 'Oscars' of the industry, the winners were presented with the 'Maya' statuette and a special certificate acknowledging their win. The 'Maya,' is a statue that is made of fiber glass and is designed, especially for these awards. It depicts the grandeur of the event and is admired by all worthy recipients.

THE CEREMONY

Anchored in a distinctive blend of jury judgment and voting, these awards embody a beacon of fairness and impartiality. This journey culminated in a grand Black-Tie ceremony that exuded sophistication and grace, attracting eminent figures from the air cargo and logistics sector.

With an exclusive guest list, the Arabian Cargo Awards lived up to its reputation of delivering with excellence. The event was graced by Chief Guest, Shahab Al Jassmi, Senior Vice President Port and Terminals Commercial GCC for DP World UAE, who expressed his enthusiasm for being part of this momentous occasion.

"I think the most important aspect of this event is the meeting and exchange between key people in the industry. This event is the right platform for us to meet, exchange ideas and of course understand what is next for all of us. Congratulations to all of you for being part of such a growing, innovative, and successful industry. The Arabian Cargo Awards have been convened to rec-





Sanjeet, Mentor, Arabian Cargo Awards, escorting Chief Guest Shahab Al Jassmi, Senior Vice President, Port and Terminals Commercial GCC for DP World UAE inside the venue of the Arabian Cargo Awards 2023

ognize this excellence, hard work, and success, thereby making logistics synonymous with progress, development, and opportunity.”

Sanjeet said, “The Arabian Cargo Awards are our way to say thank you to the air cargo and logistics industry and motivate you all to grow further.”

Guests were invited to an evening of entertainment. It was a great platform to network and mingle with others from the air cargo and logistics industry

The Arabian Cargo Awards particularly acknowledge the exceptional efforts and initiatives undertaken in a period marked by dramatic challenges, from lockdowns and staff shortages to changes in cargo handling operations and softening demand. These awards celebrate global initiatives and highlight the resilience of the industry. The event was supported by esteemed media partners such as CargoTV, News, CargoTalk Middle East, and Cargo Breaking News.





Amadou Diallo

GALLERY OF LEGENDS

“Felicited with the Gallery of Legends at the ACA 2023 and winning the Global Forwarder of The Year means a lot to us. The award celebrates the hard work of our staff in delivering joy, especially by our associate drivers, cross dock workers, facility caretakers, and our blue workers. On their behalf, I profusely thank DDP Group and CargoTalk for the recognition.” Diallo is recognized for playing a pivotal role in shaping the DHL Logistics Division during the monumental Exel integration.

Amadou Diallo, CEO, DHL Global Forwarding wins Gallery of Legends. He is flanked by Chief Guest Shahab Al Jassmi, SVP, Ports and Terminals Commercial GCC, DP World UAE, (Left) Sanjeet, Mentor, Arabian Cargo Awards, and (Right) Sumeera Bahl, Director, DDP Group

Nadia Abdul Aziz

DDP GAMECHANGER

“I am honoured and grateful to have won this award. I thank the organizers for recognizing our work. I am overwhelmed at this moment. I would also like to acknowledge and thank our leadership and my parents for their support and guidance. I would like to thank the organisers, DDP Group, and wish them all the best and success in the Middle East. This award brings more responsibility on my shoulder. I am dedicating this award to my youngest brother who passed away lately.”

Nadia Abdul Aziz, President, NAFL, received the DDP Gamechanger award from Chief Guest Shahab Al Jassmi, Senior VP, Ports and Terminals Commercial GCC, DP World UAE. (Left) Sanjeet, Mentor, Arabian Cargo Awards, and (Right) Sumeera Bahl, Director, DDP Group



Nasir Jamal Khan

DDP TRAILBLAZER

“I am truly humbled and honoured to receive the award. I want to thank and express my heartfelt gratitude to all my colleagues and partners for their unwavering support and trust in us. I am deeply appreciative of the first Arabian Cargo Awards 2023 for recognizing my efforts and achievements in the logistics and air cargo industry. This award also serves as a driving force, inspiring me to persistently work hard and strive for excellence, innovation, and sustainability in every project.”

Nasir Jamal Khan, CEO, Al Naboodah Travel and Tourism Agencies, received the DDP Trailblazer award from Chief Guest Al Jassmi, Senior VP, Ports and Terminals Commercial GCC, DP World UAE. Sanjeet, Mentor, Arabian Cargo Awards, is on the extreme left and Sumeera Bahl, Director, DDP Group is on the extreme right

Abhishek Ajay Shah

FACE OF THE FUTURE

“A big thank you to the ACA for presenting me with this award. I was fortunate at an early stage in my career to have mentors and leaders around me, who allowed me to commit mistakes and learn from them. The supply chain industry is valuable in keeping the country’s economy going. We must work harder to keep attracting and nurturing talent to make our industry for vibrant and future proof.”

Abhishek Ajay Shah, CEO and Co-founder, RSA Global won Face of the Future Award. He received it from Chief Guest Al Jassmi, Senior VP, Ports and Terminals Commercial GCC, DP World UAE. Sanjeet, Mentor, Arabian Cargo Awards, is on the extreme left and Sumeera Bahl, Director, DDP Group is on the extreme right





Dubai Airports

BEST INTERNATIONAL AIR CARGO TERMINAL

Propelled by strong growth throughout the first three quarters of the year and anticipation of a surge in guest numbers in the final quarter, Dubai Airports is forecasting growth for its next quarter. It believes cargo has continued to gain momentum in Q3 recording a surge of 12.3% YOY to reach 446,400 tonnes. The strong performance this year has helped level out a double-digit contraction in cargo recorded at last year-end. The hub recorded 1.3 million tonnes in the first nine months of the year.

The award was given to Dubai Airports

Etihad Cargo

BEST CARGO AIRLINE

“Etihad Cargo is very proud to have been named as the Best Cargo Airline in the region. This award goes to demonstrate our continuous commitment to our customers and partners. Our expert team will continue to innovate and enhance Etihad Cargo’s network and products to remain your air cargo partner of choice. We would also like to congratulate the DDP Group and the CargoTalk on the first edition of the Arabian Cargo Awards in the Middle East region.”

Leonard Rodrigues, Head, Revenue Management & Network Planning, Etihad Cargo receiving the award



DSV Air & Sea

BEST GLOBAL LOGISTICS COMPANY

As an international freight forwarder, our company provides and manages supply chain solutions for thousands of companies every day. Whether you are a small family-run businesses or large international corporation, we focus on keeping your supply chains flowing through operational excellence and sustainable growth. This is at the very core of our purpose, vision and mission.

Rasmus Clausen, Managing Director, Dubai & Senior Director, Ocean Products, Middle East and North Africa receiving the award

Orient Cargo Agency

BEST AIR FREIGHT FORWARDING COMPANY

“I am overwhelmed with a sense of pride and gratitude. This award is not only a personal accomplishment but a collective effort of the cargo fraternity and our team. It is a testament to our commitment to excel in logistics industry. It is a recognition of the hard work, and pursuit of perfection. This award goes on to inspire and motivate us to achieve results when pushed to the limits. It is indeed a new beginning.”

Prashanth Balakrishnan, General Manager, Orient Cargo, receiving the award





dnata

BEST INTERNATIONAL AIR CARGO TERMINAL OPERATOR

“There is a huge level of confidence and credibility as well. Credentials are strong here in Dubai. The customers and supply chain rely most on Dubai’s infrastructure, its expertise and leadership and it is proving that it is working fine.” dnata is playing a vital role in the United Arab Emirates aviation industry. Having mirrored Dubai’s growth, dnata offers quality and safe ground handling, cargo, travel, catering and retail services in 38 countries across six continents.

Guillaume Crozier, SVP, UAE Cargo & Global Cargo Strategy, dnata receiving the coveted award

Shipsy

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY SERVICE PROVIDER - SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

“We are very pleased on being presented with the award to fuel our commitment to cater to evolving logistics industry through technological innovation. I thank my team of experts, clients, and customers for their support. All thanks to my outstanding team. This achievement inspires us to bring a positive change in the industry.”

Harsh Kumar, Chief Strategy Officer, Shipsy, is receiving the ACA award



Abu Dhabi Airport

MOST SUSTAINABLE CARGO AIRPORT

Abu Dhabi Airports is a wholly owned ADQ company that operates five commercial airports in the emirate, including Abu Dhabi International Airport, Al Ain International Airport, Al Bateen Executive Airport and the island airports in Sir Bani Yas and Delma. It focuses on managing, developing and providing aviation facilities and services to passengers and airlines, connecting communities and bringing people closer together. Our mandate is to develop and position Abu Dhabi as a leading international aviation hub.

Adel Al Tahiri, Vice President, Freezone Sales and Services, Abu Dhabi Airport Free Zone receiving the award

Airglow Aviation Services

BEST CARGO GSA

“Winning the Best Cargo GSA Award is a profound honour for me and my team. This recognition acknowledges our dedication to the logistics industry and highlights our pursuit of excellence. It symbolizes the efforts of our team, motivating us to push the boundaries, set higher industry standards, and provide outstanding services to our clients.”

Rohit Thakwani, CEO, Airglow Aviation receiving the award





Turkish Cargo

FASTEST GROWING CARGO AIRLINE

“It is a privilege to be here being an important player in the cargo sector. After the pandemic, we were expecting that the air cargo markets all around the world would go through a normalisation process. In the last one year, this came quicker than expected. However, the market is recovering and from next year we will see a more stronger cargo industry. This is our hope and expectation.”

S. Burak Omeroglu, Vice President, Middle East and South Asia, Turkish Cargo, receiving the award

Azimi Cargo & Logistics

MOST PROMISING 3PL COMPANY

“I am truly humbled and thankful to receive this award. It is a testament to the hard and excellent work and dedication of our team. The recognition also motivates us to expand our offerings internationally. The ACA award validates the strategic investments we have made to transform into a fully integrated logistics provider. We share this achievement with our partners, clients, customers, and the fraternity community. This award indeed marks a significant milestone; we are excited about the future.”

Azimi A.S. Managing Director, Azimi Cargo & Logistics receiving the award



MILAHA

MOST ADMIRER CARGO COMPANY OF THE REGION

“Winning the award is indeed an achievement for us. It is testament to our commitment in service, innovation, and sustainability. The award recognizes in delivering top-tier cargo services. The award recognises the fact that our investment in new technologies, infrastructure, and talent has paid off. The award is an achievement reaffirming our commitment to excel and raise the bar for logistics, inspiring it to reach new heights.”

Amer Al Khatib, VP, UAE and Commercial Freight Logistics, Milaha, receiving the award

ALSI For Marine Services

BEST CUSTOMS CLEARANCE COMPANY

“It is an honour to win the award. I am humbled by the recognition. I am related by this gesture, which could not have been possible without the relentless efforts of our team, and the unwavering trust and loyalty placed by our most valued customers. We promise to stand to make our business to always give clients and customers and always give them the best-in-class support and service. This award means a lot to us.”

Dihan Dole, Country Manager UAE, ALSI For Marine Services receiving the award





CEVA Logistics

BEST ROAD TRANSPORT COMPANY

“Receiving the award in this category at the ACA 2023 is recognition of our hard work to manage cargo in the most challenging environment, such as East Africa, where sensitive and abnormal size cargo is delivered to remote project sites. The core product of the company in the Middle East and Africa region is providing outstanding ground and rail solutions. It is our team of solutions engineers who have managed to give success to the company and this day possible.”

Lejla Omerbasic Dukic, Head, Corporate Communications, UAE and Middle East and Africa receiving the award

Fresa Technologies

BEST CARGO TECHNOLOGY COMPANY

“I am very pleased that our company won the award in this category. The hard work put in by the team has been recognized by the renowned DDP Group at ACA 2023. Fresa Technologies began its contribution to freight forwarding and logistics sectors in 2012 by implementing creative concepts to help small and medium-sized businesses with the latest facilities. The award inspired our entire team and gave us a mission to create solutions for the future and contribute to a sustainable world.”

P. Amudhan, Vice President, Fresa Technologies receiving the award



Ethiopian Cargo

BEST CARGO AIRLINE - AFRICA

“We are delighted to win the award at the Arabian cargo Awards 2023 and proud of our contribution to the cargo and logistics industry, more so, for the recognition of our efforts. I would like to express my appreciation to all stakeholders involved. We will soon inaugurate a modern e-commerce facility equipped with elevating transfer vehicles and sorting machines. The modern warehouse will be dedicated to mail, courier and e-commerce products and handle 150,000 tonnes per annum.”

Yamrot Nigussie, Cargo Manager, Gulf Countries, Ethiopian Airlines, receiving the award

Daimler Commercial Vehicles MENA

BEST SUSTAINABLE COMMERCIAL VEHICLE PROVIDER

“The award goes to our team for developing eActros—the all-electric truck manufactured by Mercedes-Benz—equipped with eAxle technology and electric motors to ensure a greener planet and safer and comfortable ride.”

Olaf Petersen, GM, Daimler Truck Sales, Daimler Commercial Vehicles, MENA, receiving the award





GSA Global Cargo

FASTEST GROWING CARGO GSA

GSA Global Cargo is based in Dubai, U.A.E, and started its business in July 2017. The company is managed and owned by individuals who have aviation and logistics experience for over 30 years. The company offers to analyze route, payload and offer innovative solutions for its customer's airfreight needs. Its team of dynamic and professional staff with vast experience, highest standard of expertise and proven track record in the air cargo industry ensures, reliable and cost-effective method for delivering cargo.

Kamnan Nachiappan, CEO, GSA Global Cargo receiving the award

Transport Overseas Shipping

BEST SEA FREIGHT FORWARDING COMPANY – AUTOMOTIVES

“We are thrilled to win the award. We will continue to raise the bar, pushing boundaries to deliver success for our customers and clients. It validates our dedication to excellence and showcases our expertise in shipping.”

Christian Weber, MD, Transport Overseas Shipping, along with Richard Hall, Director, receiving the award



Wingsway Training Institute

BEST TRAINING INSTITUTE - CARGO & LOGISTICS

“I dedicate the award to our expert faculty, counsellors, and the international certifying organizations that we represent as their authorized training center. It fuels our passion to empower every learner's career path.”

Shakir Kantawala, Co-founder & Managing Partner, WingsWay Training Institute LLC receiving the award

Hellmann Worldwide Logistics

BEST LOGISTICS SERVICE PROVIDER

“This award is testament to our pursuit of customer satisfaction, and our team. At Hellmann UAE, we are committed to deliver excellence and push the boundaries of logistics. It fuels our passion and encourages us to strive for more achievements. A big thank you to the DDP Group.”

Francois Coron, Managing Director, Hellman Worldwide Logistics receiving the award





Expo Lanka Freight

FASTEST GROWING FREIGHT FORWARDER - AIR

“It is an experience to win the award. Thank you for the honour and for inspiring us to continue striving towards excellence. This achievement would not have been possible without the unwavering support of our colleague, customers, airlines, and well-wishers. I take this opportunity to thanking the team. The award has motivated us to continue having the highest level of dedication in our work in the years ahead. I wish the winners all the best.”

Sathish Babu, Country Manager, UAE, receiving the award

Salt Tech International

FASTEST GROWING CARGO TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

“This achievement holds significance for me personally and the organization. The award is testament to our dedication, expertise, innovation, and commitment in logistics. This win is a culmination of hard work, dedication and marks the collaborative spirit defining the logistics community. It reaffirms my belief in the strength of our startup and penchant to overcome challenges in the logistics fraternity.”

Shankar Subramoniam Chief Executive Officer, Salt Technologies, receiving the award



Al-Futtaim Logistics

EMERGING AEROSPACE LOGISTICS PROVIDER

“Thank you very much to the DDP Group for organising these awards. I think it all starts with a vision. We have seen a great potential in the aerospace division a few years ago. A big thanks to the team for making it so far. A big thanks to the customers who have trusted us all along and a big thanks to our management which has been a big support to us.”

Srinivasa Chakravarthy Varada, Head, Air Freight and Aerospace Logistics, Al-Futtaim Logistics receiving the award

DB Schenker

BEST SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT COMPANY

“Winning the award is a moment of immense pride for DB Schenker Middle East and Africa. This recognition is a testament to the dedication, innovation, and tireless efforts of our team. Winning this award showcases our ability to optimize complex supply chains and propels us to raise the bar in delivering logistics solutions. We are honoured and look forward to elevating the standards of supply chain management in the region.”

Aman Arora, Marketing & Communications Manager, GCC & RHO Middle East and Africa, DB Schenker receiving the award





Elite Aviation

EMERGING CARGO CHARTER BROKER

Elite Aviation is a Global Charter Solution Provider located in the UAE. Its headquarters is positioned in the Middle Eastern metamorphosis of Dubai. However, its global organization has assets in other areas of the Middle East, Asia, Europe, and around the world. At Elite Aviation, the focus is on our customers by providing the highest quality service in the aviation industry. To ensure that each customer receives the ultimate level of attention and service, a dedicated account manager is assigned to provide customized care.

Abdulla Omer Aljouhi, Chief Executive Officer, Elite Aviation receiving the award

Aramex

BEST EXPRESS CARGO SERVICE PROVIDER

“We are delighted to have won the award in this category. Recognitions like the ACA award reflect decades of dedication to customer service and inspire and motivate us to improve continuously. With our huge database of active customers spread in 70 countries. Each award motivates us to uphold our mission of connecting people and businesses reliably and responsibly, as well as fuels our passion to strive for excellence in the logistics industry.”

Nizar Zouhairi, Senior Global Director, Freight, Aramex International LLC receiving the award



SriLankan Cargo

EMERGING CARGO AIRLINE

“We are happy to witness that our efforts as an air cargo carrier in the Middle East have been validated with this award. I am most happy to have won the award, which goes to show we have arrived in the region. With the Gulf region establishing itself as a major trading hub, SriLankan Cargo, with its history of four decades of service, is only eager to continue supporting the trade routes between the region and South Asia and beyond with an expansive network, connections, and superior service.”

Chaminda Perera, General Manager, Cargo, SriLankan Airlines receiving the award

DHL Global Forwarding Middle East & Africa

BEST GLOBAL FORWARDING COMPANY

“Winning the award means a lot to us. The recognition celebrates the hard work of our staff in delivering joy, especially by our associate drivers, cross dock workers, facility caretakers, and our blue workers. On their behalf, I profusely thank DDP Group.” Diallo is recognized for playing a pivotal role in shaping the DHL Logistics Division.

Amadou Diallo, CEO, DHL Global Forwarding receiving the award





M&C Aviation

BEST GSA - CUSTOMER SERVICE

M&C Aviation is a worldwide organization providing General Sales and Services to Airlines worldwide. We play a role in promoting the services of our airline principals vis-a-vis their customers to move product through to the consignee efficiently on a timely basis. We offer a flexible and innovative approach to maximizing cargo sales and capacity utilization. As cost efficiency is of increased importance in the aviation business today, outsourcing of cargo sales and service offers attractive solutions.

Salinda Abeykoon, General Manager, M&C Aviation receiving the award

Admiral Mobility

BEST E-CARGO TRUCKING COMPANY

“The experienced Admiral Mobility team picked up ‘Best E-Cargo Truck’ award for our Farizon Auto 6 feet and 8 feet fully electric vehicles. We are absolutely delighted and it goes on to sing plaudits that the hard work and dedication of the industry leaders has finally been recognized by the prestigious Arabian Cargo Awards,” Shailen Shukla, Chief Logistics Officer, speaking on behalf of Admiral Mobility, said.

Shailen Shukla, Chief Logistics Officer on behalf of Admiral Mobility receiving the award



Link Global Logistics

MOST PROMISING GSA

“This recognition is not just an achievement for our organization but a testament to the collective efforts of the logistics fraternity. Having won the award, big responsibility has fallen on our shoulders to deliver exceptional services by pushing boundaries. I extend my gratitude to the Arabian Cargo Awards for acknowledging our contribution. This win is a celebration of the teamwork and dedication to each team member. Together, we will continue to raise the bar and shape the future of our industry.”

Shahajad Alam, Manager, Cargo Sales, GSSA, UAE and Oman Air Cargo, GSA, Link Global Logistics receiving the award





Shahab Al Jassmi

CHIEF GUEST

“The Arabian Cargo Awards 2023 is a common ground for us to meet, exchange ideas and of course understand what is next for all of us. Congratulations to all of you for being part of a growing, innovative, and successful industry. The celebrity event has been convened to recognize excellence, hard work, and success, thereby making logistics synonymous with progress, development, and opportunity.”

Chief Guest Shahab Al Jassmi, Senior Vice President Port and Terminals Commercial GCC for DP World UAE after receiving the ACA award.

dnata

GOLD SPONSOR

Since its foundation in 1959, dnata has been playing an important role in the UAE's aviation industry. Having mirrored Dubai's growth, the dnata Group presently employs over 23,000 staff in the country, delivering world-class services to over 190 passenger and cargo airlines across the UAE. Globally, dnata offers quality and safe ground handling, cargo, travel, catering and retail services in 38 countries across six continents. In the financial year 2022-23, dnata's customer-oriented teams handled over 710,000 aircraft turns, moved over 2.7 million tonnes of cargo, uplifted 111.4 million meals, and recorded a total transaction value of travel services worth US\$ 1.9 billion.

Guillaume Crozier, SVP, UAE Cargo & Global Cargo Strategy, dnata receiving the award



Sofitel Dubai Downtown

HOSPITALITY PARTNER

“It is a great honour to be the hotel partner for the inaugural and successful edition of Arabian Cargo Awards. Hats off to the DDP Group for their flawless organization.” Located in the heart of Downtown Dubai, this hotel is connected to The Dubai Mall and 10 minutes away from City Walk. It has always been known for its fine blend of sophistication and good service.

Representatives of Sofitel Dubai Downtown, the venue of Arabian Cargo Awards 2023, receiving the coveted award

Milestone moment: Arabian Cargo Awards 2023

The air cargo and logistics industry leaders were recognized for their hard work and dedication at the Arabian Cargo Awards 2023. It was a satisfying moment for many industry stalwarts. They met and interacted as to how to take the logistics and air cargo industry in Middle East to greater heights.









Sustainable logistics redefining the future

The air cargo operators worldwide are adopting ways and means to ensure a clean energy future be it through the development of alternate fuels from renewables and technology solutions by driving transformation. In fact, a partnership was announced in October 2023 with the Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company (Masdar) and Boeing joining hands to develop the SAF sector in the UAE and internationally.



 Abigail Mathias

The Middle East plays a crucial role in the future of aviation and its impact on the environment nowhere was this more apparent than at the recent Dubai Airshow. In fact, a partnership was announced in October 2023 with the Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company (Masdar) and Boeing joining hands to develop the sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) sector in the UAE and globally, said Kulji

Ghata Aura, President, Boeing, Middle East, Turkey and Africa. This is in keeping with the net zero by 2050 goal.

The air cargo operators worldwide are adopting ways and means to ensure a clean energy future be it through the development of alternate fuels from renewables and technology solutions by driving transformation. A commitment not just on paper but adopting of strategies for the future is the only way forward.

ADOPTING CLEAN TECHNOLOGY

Gulftainer adopts a holistic approach to integrate sustainability into its daily operations at container terminals and logistics centres. This approach encompasses a variety of initiatives aimed at enhancing energy efficiency, decreasing emissions, managing waste, and preserving water resources, among others.

Our strategy for CO₂ emission reduction involves optimizing transportation, maintaining equipment to minimize emissions and adopting cleaner technologies. Waste management and recycling programmes are in place, and measures for conserving water resources are employed to ensure compliance with environmental regulations. Gulftainer actively allocates resources to embrace energy-efficient technologies such as LED lighting and renewable energy sources, contributing to a reduction in its carbon footprint.

Gulftainer is certified under the ISO 14001:2015 management system, affirming its commitment to sustainability. It places importance on sustainable logistics and transportation practices, eco-friendly infra development and employee education. Looking ahead, the company will explore making further investments in renewable energy, digital platforms for collaborative logistics and supply chain management, aiming to reduce emissions through fuel switching and energy efficiency improvements.



Aparna Jayadevan
Head, QHSE and Sustainability,
Gulftainer

“Gulftainer allocates resources to embrace renewable energy sources for reduction of CO₂ footprint.”

INDUSTRY-WIDE COLLABORATION

Sustainability in logistics means achieving environmental responsibility, resource efficiency, and economic viability. Its true sustainability hinges on reducing carbon footprint, optimizing resource use, and ensuring economic profitability. Long-term sustainability necessitates unwavering commitment, innovation, and industry-wide collaboration to create



Jessica Panigari
Founder and Owner
Goods to Load

“**Logistics firms can enhance sustainability through route optimization, eco-friendly vehicles etc.”**

lasting positive impacts for the future generations.

Logistics companies can enhance sustainability through route optimization, eco-friendly vehicles, and green packaging. Cargo consolidation, intermodal transport, and efficient warehousing reduce waste and emissions. Solar panels and reverse logistics save energy and minimize waste. Collaborating with sustainable suppliers, real-time monitoring, and employee training contribute to green supply chains. Data analysis drives continuous improvement for cost savings and competitiveness in an eco-conscious market.

VITAL TO ADDRESS ECO CONCERNS

Sustainability is at the core of our vision and mission. To build a truly sustainable business, we leverage our core competencies to make a positive impact as responsible members of the communities we serve. Through partnerships with local and international organizations, we strive to expand our reach and ben-



Othman Aljeda
Chief Executive Officer
Aramex

“**SBTi propels us to speed up our objective for CO₂ neutrality by 2030 and be emission-free by 2050.”**

fit more individuals through targeted programmes and initiatives. To address environmental concerns and combat climate change, we have committed to the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi), renowned globally. This commitment propels us to accelerate our climate action goals, aiming for carbon neutrality by 2030 and net zero emissions by 2050.

PROMOTING ECO-AWARENESS

We are dedicated to actionable sustainability in every operation facet, leading the charge toward a greener aviation industry. Our strategy hinges on energy efficiency, with facility and equipment upgrades to minimize our carbon footprint. Our waste management practices emphasize reduction, reclamation, and recycling, supporting a circular economy. We set clear goals, track progress, and ensure team accountability, making sustainability a collective endeavor. We also foster a culture of eco-awareness among employees, driving innovation and continuous improvement.





Purimprat Musika
Corporate Communications Manager,
Pattaya Aviation

“We see sustainability as a long-term investment, optimizing resources, and operational efficiency.”

Despite rising costs, we see sustainability as a wise long-term investment, optimizing resources, and operational efficiency, proving that economic and environmental health can coexist for a sustainable future in aviation.

INVESTING IN LOW-EMISSION VEHICLES

Logistics companies can adopt sustainable measures in their daily operations to reduce their environmental impact and contribute to a more sustainable future, while improving their bottom line at the same time.

Efficient route planning: reducing mileage of your daily distribution requirements reduces fuel consumption and consequently emissions, route optimization software has a significant impact, expecting a 10 per cent reduction in one's total monthly travelled kilometers is not a far-fetched target after implementation.

Fuel & eco-friendly vehicles: invest in fuel-efficient and low-emission vehicles such as electric and hybrid



Mazen Kloub
Supply Chain Manager

“Invest in fuel-efficient and low-emission vehicles and switch to alternative fuels.”

trucks as well as plan your transition to alternative fuels such as biodiesel, natural gas or hydrogen to reduce the carbon footprint of the fleet.

Reverse logistics: implement an efficient system for returning, recycling, and the reuse of your packaging material.


Green warehousing: Optimize warehouse operations by using energy-efficient lighting, heating, solar panels, and cooling systems. Implement eco-friendly packaging practices and recycling programmes within your warehouse.

Other stringent measures such as leveraging data and technology to monitor and reduce energy consumption. Introduce sustainability key performance indicators (KPIs) into the targets and objectives of your teams as well as engaging in carbon offsetting projects in order to compensate for the carbon emissions that are inherited within your operational setup. 🌱



Oman Air Cargo gets delivery of one 737-800 BCF

Fuel-efficient Boeing Converted Freighter boasts up to 20% lower fuel use and carbon emissions per tonne compared to the previous generation of standard-body freighters and enables the aircraft to transport 23.9 tonnes of air freight, says **Kate Schaefer, Vice President, Boeing Commercial Modifications.**

 CT Bureau

Oman Air Cargo recently received the delivery of its first dedicated cargo aircraft—a 737-800 Boeing Converted Freighter (BCF). The fuel-efficient aircraft boasts of up to 20 per cent lower fuel use and CO₂ emissions per tonne compared to the previous generation of standard-body freighters, and will support the airline's growing customer base with the ability to carry up to 23.9 tonnes of freight at a range of 3,750 km.

“The 737-800BCF brings the right payload and range to complement Oman Air’s fleet with dedicated cargo capacity. We are honoured to partner with Oman Air Cargo to support their operation with a proven and reliable



Kate Schaefer
Vice President
Boeing Commercial Modifications

freighter,” said Kate Schaefer, Vice President, Boeing Commercial Modifications.

The delivery marks a significant milestone for Oman Air

as it continues to pursue its ambitious cargo growth strategy and support the development of the Sultanate’s air cargo logistics sector. At the

“The 737-800BCF brings right payload and range for Oman Air’s fleet with dedicated cargo capacity.”

end of the first half of 2023, the airline reported a 42 per cent increase in cargo volumes, compared to the same period in the previous year, driven by

capacity expansion across its passenger airplane fleet.

With its latest addition, Oman Air is positioned to capitalize on Muscat’s location connecting East and West, while ensuring the seamless movement of cargo through its hub at Muscat International Airport.

Established in 2009, Oman Air Cargo has quickly become a leading air cargo carrier in the Middle East. Having earned a worldwide reputation for high-standard products and world-class customer service, it offers its customers bespoke solutions to meet their freight transportation needs, including pharma, fresh produce, valuables, and dangerous goods among others, with express connections through Muscat. 

Congratulating all our winners



ARABIAN CARGO AWARDS 2023

Thank You

for your
overwhelming response

See you soon in 2024

www.arabiancargoawards.ae

devika@ddppl.com, sonia.butalia@ddppl.com +971 55 425 6326, rajith@ddppl.com +971 52 9208684

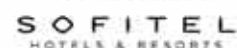
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DUBAI DOWNTOWN



Qatar Airways partners with 'United for Wildlife'

As the official airline partner, we believe in joining forces with United for Wildlife, which shows our commitment to Buckingham Palace Declaration, and represents a vital step in our commitment protecting wildlife, says **His Excellency Engr. Badr Mohammed Al-Meer, Chief Executive, Qatar Airways Group.**

 CT Bureau

Qatar Airways has announced its commitment as the official airline partner of United for Wildlife, an initiative working to tackle the illegal wildlife trade and protect endangered species. The partnership underscores Qatar Airways' unwavering commitment to wildlife conservation.

Qatar Airways and United for Wildlife will pursue cam-



paigns around their shared mission to fight the illegal wildlife trade and advance the work of the United for Wildlife Regional Chapters. One of the milestones of this initiative was the successful transport of seven lions from Ukraine to South Africa in 2021.

This operation demonstrated Qatar Airways Cargo's dedication to supporting the efforts of NGOs and conservation organizations in their vital work to rewild the planet.



His Excellency Engr. Badr Mohammed Al-Meer
Chief Executive
Qatar Airways Group

“ QAC has directed its staff to undergo illegal Wildlife Trade Awareness training and be alert for trafficking.”

His Excellency Engr. Badr Mohammed Al-Meer, Chief Executive, Qatar Airways Group said, “As the official airline partner, we believe that this partnership with United for Wildlife demonstrates our commitment to the Buckingham Palace Declaration and represents another important step in our commitment protecting wildlife. The illegal and unsustainable wildlife trade threatens our international biodiversity and poses a risk to health and safety. We are taking measures to disrupt this illicit trade to conserve biodiversity and safeguard our delicate ecosystems.”

The Qatar Airways Group maintains a zero-tolerance policy towards transportation of illegal wildlife and products. It has directed its employees to undergo the legal Wildlife Trade Awareness training. This training serves the dual purpose of enhancing knowledge as well as awareness about trafficking and equipping them with skills to identify and respond effective-

ly should they encounter trafficking activities.

The carrier’s participation in the United for Wildlife Global Summit in Singapore aligns with its sustainability initiatives and responsibilities and encourages other or-

ganizations and individuals to join in their commitment to preserving the planet’s precious biodiversity.

The carrier achieved a track record of having transported 9,000 tonnes of valuable cargo in 2022, including


electronics, banknotes, art shipments and various sensitive commodities. This volume underlines the carrier’s expertise in handling cargo requiring special care with exceptional precision and attention to detail. 🇸🇦





TIACA dwells on speeding up sustainability in air cargo

As an integral part of TIACA's Air Cargo Sustainability programme, providing the industry with a common vision, goal and action plan for its sustainable transformation. The survey will measure the state of air cargo sustainability worldwide. Its impact on the Middle East is equally significant, states TIACA.

 CT Bureau

The International Air Cargo Association (TIACA) announced that the 4th Annual Air Cargo Sustainability Survey has been launched. This year's survey will continue to monitor air cargo's progress towards a sustainable future. TIACA mentions in the survey that, "We are calling on the industry as a whole to respond to allow us to get a full under-

standing of the work we are doing." The results and recommendations of the survey are published annually in the Insights Report.

The first report was published in 2020 and serves as a benchmark to measure year-on-year progression of the air cargo industry's sustainability activities.

"We are proud to see the results of the industry's in-

vestment into sustainability. Through TIACA's Sustainability Programme, we can shine a spotlight on the work we as an industry are doing through the Insights Report, the Sustainability Awards and of course BlueSky. It is great to see the industry unite for such an important mission," said Steven Polmans, Chairman, TIACA.

The sustainability survey was launched in 2020 as part of TIACA's Sustainability

program aimed at uniting the air cargo industry towards a common vision, goals and action plan, drive and accelerate sustainability progress. The programme is set to support our members and the air cargo fraternity in their necessary transformation to do good for the planet, the people, as well as the business. This initiative supports our 3+2 vision: people, planet, prosperity + innovation, and partnerships, he added.



Steven Polmans
Chairman
TIACA



Glyn Hughes
Director General
TIACA

“ We are proud to see the results of the large-scale investments of air cargo industry into sustainability.”

“ It is vital that we track efforts towards sustainability to see the push towards a sustainable future.”

“It is vital that we track and monitor collective industry efforts towards sustainability to not only to see the

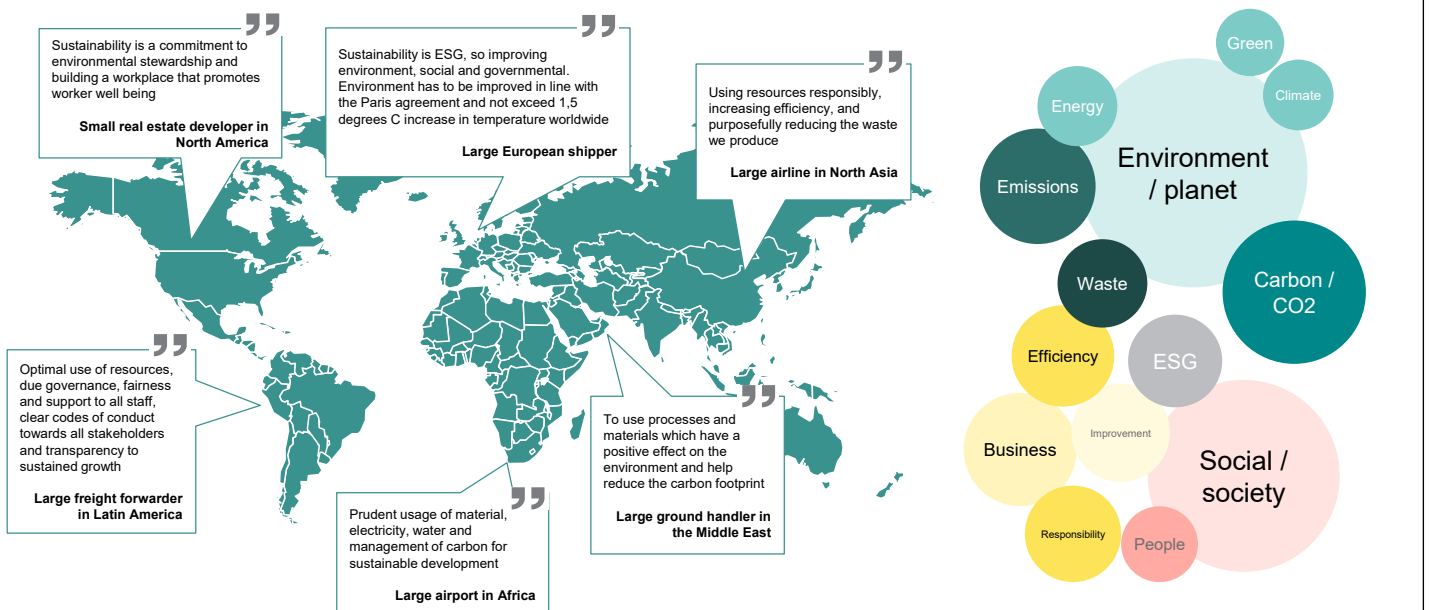
push towards sustainable future but also to tell the world about the way we are moving forward. The Insights Report

allows us to do this and with the feedback we get from the industry through the survey, we can do just that. We are

looking forward to sharing the results with you early next year,” said Glyn Hughes, Director General, TIACA.

Sustainability remains a broad concept

While the concept of sustainability is maturing in air cargo, environment still dominates how industry defines it



2023 Insight Report, based on the outcomes of the 3rd TIACA Air Cargo Industry Sustainability Survey. Produced by Change Horizon. | 8

Most of large companies have a sustainability strategy defined by now

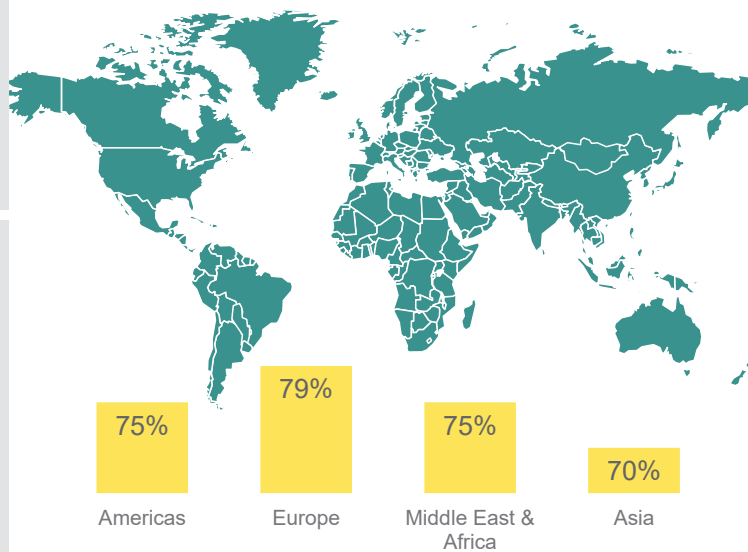
76% +3

Confirm to have a sustainability strategy
(88% of large companies but only 70% of medium and 55% of small ones)

Breakdown by stakeholder

Aircraft and OEM	100%
Real estate developer	100%
Airport	88%
Airline	80%
Ground handler	80%
GSA/GSSA	80%
Grand Total	76%
Equipment provider	75%
Freight Forwarder	70%
Shipper	63%
Association	63%
IT & data provider	62%
Academia & Consulting	55%

Companies with a sustainability strategy by region



Only for environment
Large airport in Americas

We have a strategic sustainability framework which guides work and priorities
IT solution provider in Asia Pacific

We are committed to minimize the impact of our activities, by reducing our environmental footprint and protecting the environment beyond regulatory compliance.
Airline in Europe

2023 Insight Report, based on the outcomes of the 3rd TIACA Air Cargo Industry Sustainability Survey. Produced by Change Horizon. | 13

SOME OF SURVEY FINDINGS

Conducted for the third year from October 2022 to January 2023, the annual Air Cargo Industry Sustainability Survey reveals interesting trends affecting the sector and its approach to sustainability:

Sustainability remains a broad concept, with many ways to define it for the 258 companies having that participated in the survey. However, the environment still dominates how industry defines it. The path to decarbonization is becoming clearer with air-

ports demonstrating a more consistent strategic approach developed over recent years.

He added, "Transparency is important to building trust and longstanding business relationships. It is great to see majority of companies

coming forward by tracking the progress of their sustainability objectives, and over a half of them sharing results with the world. I hope the TIACA's BlueSky programme will facilitate this effort for the air cargo businesses big and small." 🌍



Etihad Cargo to host third ACE meet in Middle East

Abu Dhabi provides the perfect place for airlines, freight forwarders, and other stakeholders to come together to share insights and deepen relationships for the transformation of the international air cargo industry, says **Christos Spyrou, Founder and CEO, Air Cargo Plus & Co-organizer, ACE.**

CT Bureau

Etihad Cargo, the cargo and logistics arm of Etihad Aviation Group, will serve as host airline for the third ACE event, to be held on 4-6 December 2023.

Organized at the W Abu Dhabi, Yas Island Hotel, Abu Dhabi, the focus of the conference will be on the Middle East market, the transforma-



tion of the global air cargo, and the handling and transportation of time-critical and special cargoes.

"After the previous editions being held in China pre-COVID, we are excited to hold ACE 2023 in the Middle East," said Christos Spyrou, Founder and CEO, co-organizer, Air Cargo Plus.

"ACE is designed for air cargo logistics executives, and our third edition will feature excellent networking opportunities, world-class speakers debating key issues, and solution-driven workshops in a friendly but professional atmosphere. Abu Dhabi is an ideal location for our conference because of its reputation as a dynamic business destination, built on its strategic regional location, fast-growing knowledge economy and innovative air cargo ecosystem, led by Etihad Cargo and Abu Dhabi Airports," Spyrou said.

Abu Dhabi Airports will welcome ACE delegates along with the local air cargo community for an onsite visit of Etihad Cargo's new pharma facility and a discussion about the future of Abu Dhabi as a key air cargo hub.

"Etihad Cargo is pleased to co-host the ACE Conference in the UAE's capital in partnership with Abu Dhabi Airports," said Leonard Rodrigues, Head, Revenue Man-



Christos Spyrou
Founder and CEO, co-organizer
Air Cargo Plus

agement, Fleet and Network, Etihad Cargo.

"Abu Dhabi has emerged as a global logistics hub, offering a strategic location to enhance connectivity between the East and the West and providing the perfect place for airlines, freight forwarders, and other air cargo stakeholders to come together to share insights and deepen relationships that will further

advance the air cargo industry," he added.

Aimed at forward-thinking executives, business owners, and cargo decision-makers, the event will offer networking opportunities, including the one-on-one meeting scheduler, in-person meetings, hospitality suites, social evening events, and long-enough breaks for quality networking to build long-lasting relationships.

"What makes ACE unique is the ability to gather executives, business owners and decision-makers from airlines, GSSAs, and freight forwarders, especially the small

“Abu Dhabi is an ideal location for our conference due to its reputation as a business destination.”

and medium size ones, and their key solution providers," said Céline Hourcade, Founder and Managing Director, Change Horizon. "ACE brings the right people for mutual business benefits: the best future partners under one roof to generate concrete business opportunities."

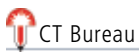
ACE 2023 is organized by Air Cargo Plus and Change Horizon and is supported by TIACA, FIATA, Pharma.Aero, NAP, and WAL





Despite falling volumes, global cargo demand increases: IATA

Global cargo demand, measured in cargo tonne-kilometers (CTKs*), increased by 1.9% as compared to September 2022 levels (+6% for international operations), according to IATA cargo analysis released recently. Middle East carriers showed 2.5% year on year increase in cargo volumes.



IATA released data for September 2023 global air cargo markets, showing continuing demand recovery. “Air cargo eked out modest growth (1.9%) in September despite falling trade volumes and high jet fuel prices. That clearly shows the strength of air cargo’s value proposition. With the key export order and manufacturing PMIs hovering near positive territory, we can be cautiously optimistic for a strong year-end peak season,”

Air cargo market in detail

SEPTEMBER 2023 (%YEAR-ON-YEAR)	WORLD SHARE *1	CTK	ACTK	CLF (%-PT) *2	CLF (LEVEL) *3
Total Market	100%	1.9%	12.1%	-4.4%	43.8%
Africa	2.0%	-0.1%	2.7%	-1.2%	43.6%
Asia Pacific	32.4%	7.7%	30.5%	-9.9%	46.6%
Europe	21.8%	-1.5%	4.7%	-3.1%	50.0%
Latin America	2.7%	2.3%	14.4%	-3.8%	31.9%
Middle East	13.0%	2.5%	16.1%	-5.6%	42.4%
North America	28.1%	-2.2%	0.2%	-1.0%	39.2%



the previous month's performance (+1.3%). Carriers in the region benefited from growth in the Middle East-Asia (+7.0%) and Middle East-Europe markets (+3.3%). Capacity increased 16.1% compared to September 2022.

Capacity, measured in available cargo tonne-kilometers (ACTKs), was up 12.1 per cent compared to September 2022 (+0% for international operations). Growth was largely related to international belly capacity, which rose 31.5 per cent year on year as airlines scaled up operations to meet peak-northern summer travel season demand.

Several factors in the operating environment include:

- In September, both the manufacturing output Purchasing Managers Index (PMI 49.7) and new export orders PMI (47.7) saw a slight improvement to the previous month. They remained, however, below the critical 50-point threshold, indicating a continuing, but slightly slower, annual decline in global manufacturing production and exports

- Global cross-border trade contracted for the fifth month

said Willie Walsh, Director General, IATA.

Middle Eastern carriers had the strongest performance in September 2023, with a 2.5 per cent year on year increase in cargo volumes. This was an improvement from



Willie Walsh
Director General
IATA

in a row in August, decreasing 3.8 per cent YOY. This reflects the cooling global macroeconomic environment

- In September, the average price of jet fuel was USD 131.0 per barrel, marking a 43.1 per cent increase from the May 2023 price. Recouping some of this added cost from surcharges in September contributed to the first increase in air cargo yields since November 2022

North American carriers had the weakest performance in September, with a 2.2 per cent fall in cargo volumes. This was a decline in performance as against to August (-1.4%). Although contractions in the North America-Asia trade lane narrowed

(from -4.3% in August to -1.8% in September) and the North America-Europe market stabilized its decline at (-2.5%) for the second month in a row. Carriers in the region did not benefit significantly. Capacity increased moderately by 0.2 per cent compared to September 2022.

European carriers saw their air cargo volumes decline by 1.5 per cent in September compared to the same month in 2022. This was a weaker performance than in August (-0.6%). Carriers suffered from further contractions in the

“With global demand increasing, we can be cautiously optimistic of a strong year-end peak season.”

within Europe market (-5.7% in September vs -5.2% in August). Gains made from the expansion in the ME-Europe trade lane (+3.3% in September vs +0.5% in August) offset some declines from within Europe. Capacity rose by 4.7 per cent in September 2023 compared to 2022. 📈





Navigating **logistics, air cargo** horizon in GCC region

Rohit Thakwani, CEO, Airglow Aviation, feels Qatar and Kingdom of Bahrain and Kuwait are crafting their narratives in the logistics saga. The airlines are embracing fuel-efficient aircraft, delving into alternative fuels, and integrating advanced technologies, he adds, in an interview with **CargoTalk**.

 Abigail Mathias

The air cargo industry is always dealing with change. An analysis from CLIVE Data Services revealed in February this year, air cargo capacity rose above pre-pandemic levels. While this was a sign of relief, things quickly changed in the second quarter with unrest in many parts of the world. Considering all these fluctuations air cargo operators (ACOs) remain steadfast to brace any challenge.

Established in 2009 and based in UAE, Airglow Avia-

“ This project is threading connectivity through all GCC states, presenting a cost-effective alternative for cargo movement.”

tion has strived to offer a new approach to the aviation industry in the Middle East and Africa. The firm started off as an ACMI-based operator and now offers cargo charter services. Over the years, the group expanded its offerings to airline representation, aircraft leasing, aviation training institute, travel and tourism,

aircraft spare parts trading and engineering services.

Can you elaborate on the logistics projects in this region, besides UAE and KSA?

In the landscape of logistics in the GCC, the UAE and Kingdom of Saudi Ara-

bia (KSA) stand as pillars, but there is more to the growth story. Qatar, Oman, Bahrain, and Kuwait are crafting their own narratives in the logistics saga.

Qatar is elevating its air cargo prowess with the Hamad International Airport, a hub strategically positioned for global connections, while Oman is establishing itself as a potential air cargo hub, centered around the modern Muscat International Airport.

In Bahrain, efforts are focused on enhancing logistics infra, with the Bahrain Inter-



national Airport playing a pivotal role. Kuwait, not to be left behind, is investing in aviation infra upgrades, gearing up for a substantial role in the air cargo sector.

Can you throw light on the rail revolution in the GCC? How do you believe this will impact the region's logistics industry?

This ambitious project is threading connectivity through all GCC states, presenting an alternative, cost-efficient, and swift avenue for cargo and passenger movement. The rail network promises to boost trade, foster economic integration, and reduce transportation costs.

Does air cargo's attempts to become sustainable be succesful?

As logistics transcends borders, sustainability takes center stage. Airlines are embracing fuel-efficient aircraft, delving into alternative fuels, and integrating technologies like blockchain for a green-

er footprint. Eco-friendly initiatives, such as sustainable packaging and optimized cargo routes, are becoming standard practices.

Creating a lifeline in times of crises has become the forte of the air cargo industry. Your thoughts on this?

Air cargo, renowned for its agility, emerges as a vital force in crisis response. With rapid capabilities, it swiftly delivers essentials to disaster-stricken areas, showcasing unparalleled accessibility to remote regions and the ability to ferry emergency equipment.

During the pandemic, air cargo transcended its logistical role, proving to be a literal lifeline. Swift and adaptable, it played a significant role in transporting crucial medical supplies, including ventilators, PPE, and vaccines for the pandemic. The repurposing of passenger planes underscored the cargo industry's flexibility, ensuring that supplies reached bustling urban centers and remote regions as well. The dedication of air cargo professionals was a testament to the industry's resilience, highlighting its capacity to bear the weight of global emergencies.

In reflection, the air cargo sector during this period evolved beyond a mere service, becoming a beacon of hopean



Rohit Thakwani
CEO
Airglow Aviation

—indispensible asset in times of crises.

What could be an attractive aspect of this industry that the younger talent may be unaware of?

For aspiring professionals, logistics is more than moving goods—it is a dynamic realm of innovation. From AI to IoT and Blockchain, logistics invites the younger generation to shape its future.

Global exposure: logistics promises an unparalleled global playground. Working in this field opens doors to global markets, diverse cultures, and a chance to be part of a vast global network. It is an opportunity to navigate the in-

terconnected landscape of the business world.

Varied career paths: this multifaceted industry offers diverse career paths—from operations and supply chain management to data analytics and sustainability roles. Logistics is a canvas for younger talent to explore, allowing them to carve unique and fulfilling careers. In this evolving landscape, the next generation is not just joining an industry, they are stepping into a dynamic world where innovation and global impact go hand in hand.

Is there a special training that is imparted to industry leaders after they have completed 7-8 years in the industry?

Professionals with seven-eight years in the industry are provided leadership and management training to be tuned to new cutting-edge technologies and stay tuned to stay abreast changing regulations to keep them at the forefront of the logistics race. In the GCC logistics landscape, air cargo industry and the emerging rail network weave a narrative of connectivity, sustainability, and innovation. As the industry evolves, the call for talent resonates, welcoming seasoned experts and the fresh perspectives of the next generation. 🚀



Freight forwarders gather in Dubai for PPL event

The prestigious freight forwarding networking event of PPL was held recently. Azimi Cargo & Logistic, which provides logistics solution with customers spread across the globe was the Gold Sponsor on this occasion. The event was attended by many logistics and forwarding firms from all over the world. v







Logistics firm achieves robust operating margins

Aramex's balanced geographical presence continues to be at an advantage. GCC remains highest contributor to group revenues with a share of 40% of total revenues, with the region also reporting 21% growth year-on-year in its gross profit in Q3 of 2023, says **Othman Aljda, Chief Executive Officer, Aramex.**

 CT Bureau

Aramex, a global leader in logistics and transportation solutions, has released its financial results for the third quarter of the year ending 30 September 2023.

Established 40 years ago, Aramex, a winner of 'Best Express Cargo Service Provider' award at the recently held Arabian Cargo Awards 2023 held in Dubai, has emerged as a global leader in logistics and

transportation for providing innovative solutions tailored to businesses and consumers. As a listed company on the Dubai Financial Market (DFM), its location facilitates extensive customer reach worldwide, bridging the gap between East and West.

In the Q3 of 2023, Aramex sustained its performance with group revenues amounting to AED 1.35 billion. This represents a moderate 5 per cent year-on-year decline, attributed to currency fluctua-

tions, macroeconomic challenges, and subdued global retail activity in certain markets. When excluding the impact of foreign exchange translation, the decline in revenue was 2 per cent.

The quarter bore testament to the company's resilience, as evidenced by a noteworthy 4% YoY increase in gross profit and resilient earnings before interest, taxes, and depreciation (EBITDA) of AED 134 million during the period. This progress was underpinned by

the firm's proactive measures to boost operational efficiencies and optimize General and Administrative expenses (G&A) for the organic business, excluding MyUS. Our cost management has resulted in strong margins in Q3, with a gross profit margin of 25 per cent and an EBITDA margin of 10 per cent.

Despite the increase in selling expenses, Aramex remained steadfast in its commitment to cost-efficiency. Notably, Q3 of 2023 show-



cased the company's ability in this regard, as evidenced by a noteworthy 9 per cent YoY reduction in organic, excluding MyUS G&A expenses. This achievement signifies Aramex's agility and effectiveness

in managing costs, bringing organic G&A back to pre-pandemic levels.

The company reported a Net Profit of AED 9.6 million in Q3 2023, a notable de-

cline from AED 39.6 million recorded in Q3 2022. More than half of the decline in net income can be attributed to the interest expenses related to the acquisition of MyUS due to the steep increase in interest rates since the transaction. Therefore, normalized net income, excluding the FX impact and the increase in finance loan expenses was AED 30.4 million in Q3 2023, a decline of 23 per cent YoY.

Aramex's diversified geographical presence remains a key advantage, with the GCC region consistently leading the way by contributing a remarkable 40 per cent of the group's total revenues. The firm maintained a strong balance sheet position with net debt-to-EBITDA ratio of 2.6x and a healthy cash balance of AED 604 million as of 30 September 2023.

Othman Aljeda, CEO, Aramex, said, "In the face of an ongoing global growth slowdown, Aramex remains steadfast in its commitment to a strategic framework centered on operational ef-



Othman Aljeda
CEO
Aramex

“Aramex's presence remains a key advantage, with the GCC region leads the way by giving 40% of total revenues.”

Business performance

International Express (Including Shop & Ship and MyUS)

In Thousands of UAE Dirhams	Q3	Q3 2022	% Change (YoY)
Revenues	511,951	493,927	4%
Gross Profit	182,510	151,839	20%
Gross Profit Margin	36%	31%	
International Express Shipment Volumes			
Total Number of Shipments	4.9	5.1	(5%)

iciency, high-quality sales, and stringent cost management. Its focus on cost optimization has been pivotal in maintaining steady operating margins, even amidst the challenges posed by currency fluctuations and the interest rate environment."

"The softening in revenue can be attributed to global headwinds, FX translations and reduced retail activities. However, with the resilience of consumer spending in the GCC, the region continues to be a key driver of growth, reporting a 21 per cent YoY growth in gross profit in Q3 2023."

He said, "We will continue enhancing trade lanes, enriching the customer experience, and fortifying our operational capabilities across all business lines. Our goal is to expand our quality business lines, focusing on B2B, direct brands, SMEs, and premium offerings such as same and next-day deliveries."

International Express Q3 revenue grew by 4 per cent year over year, reaching AED 512 million, despite the softening of shipment volumes due to the slowdown in retail activity. Premium products and dangerous goods continue to perform well.

Contd. on next page ▶

Performance in Q3 graph here

In Thousands of UAE Dirhams	Q3 2023	Q3 2022	% Change (YoY)	% Change (YoY; excl FX)
Revenues	1,349,678	1,426,250	(5%)	(2%)
Gross Profit	334,657	320,827	4%	8%
Gross Profit Margin	25%	22%		
EBIT	44,709	50,907	(12%)	
EBIT Margin	3%	4%		
EBITDA	133,866	141,357	(5%)	
EBITDA Margin	10%	10%		
Net Profit	9,642	39,643	(76%)	
Net Profit Margin	1%	3%		
Normalized Net Profit*	30,420	39,643	(23%)	

* Net income was normalized for the FX impact and the increase in finance expense loans in Q3 2023 compared to Q3 2022, noting that the MyUS acquisition was closed in Q4 2022.



Domestic Express			
In thousands of UAE Dirhams	Q3 2023	Q3 2022	% Change (YoY)
Revenues	352,597	369,820	(5%)
Gross Profit	72,164	88,902	(19%)
Gross Profit Margin	20%	24%	
Domestic Express Shipment Volumes			
Total Number of Shipments	24.5	24.4	0%

Freight-Forwarding			
In thousands of UAE Dirhams	Q3 2023	Q3 2022	% Change (YoY)
Revenues	367,911	439,530	(16%)
Gross Profit	58,314	60,782	(4%)
Gross Profit Margin	16%	14%	
Freight-Forwarding Shipment Volumes			
Air Freight (KGs)	10,901,706	11,773,193	(7%)
Sea Freight (FCL TEU)	8,051	7,766	4%
Sea Freight (LCL CBM)	5,439	4,759	14%
Land Freight (FTL)	7,718	7,355	5%
Land Freight (LTL KGs)	53,409,441	38,523,420	39%

Reported gross profit for Q3 2023 reached AED 183 million, marking a 20 per cent YoY rise and a solid gross profit margin of 36 per cent. It is worth noting that the Express product costs had a positive impact during third quarter of 2023, which we do not expect to repeat in future quarters.

Several factors, including improvements in linehaul costs and other cost optimization measures, as well as the consolidation with MyUS, continue to support the performance of the global express product. Notably, the organic business (excl MyUS) reported significant improvement—cost per shipment was well

Logistics and Supply Chain Solutions			
In thousands of UAE Dirhams	Q3 2023	Q3 2022	% Change (YoY)
Revenues	104,813	110,475	(5%)
Gross Profit	11,651	8,707	34%
Gross Profit Margin	11%	8%	

managed, resulting in a 12 per cent YoY increase in gross profit per shipment.

Domestic Express reported stable revenue of AED 353 million in Q3 2023, representing a modest decline of 5 per cent YoY due to marked currency fluctuations. Excluding the FX impact, revenue grew 4 per cent. Volumes were stable for the domestic express product. It is important to note, excluding Oceania, where a turnaround plan is currently in progress, the domestic volume growth was 2 per cent in Q3 of 2023 compared to the same period last year, driven by volume growth in GCC and MENAT.

Aramex's freight forwarding business continues to deliver quality business, with growth in volumes and good profitability. Although a 4 per

cent YoY softening in gross profit was observed in the third quarter of this year, this was influenced by the reduction in global shipping rates during that period, which impacted revenues.

The business has shown resilience through the economic cycles, as evidenced by the notable improvement in the gross profit margin, which increased to 16 per cent.

FACTFILE

- In the Q3 of 2023, Aramex sustained its performance with group revenues amounting to AED 1.35 billion.
- Domestic Express reported stable revenue of AED 353 million in third quarter of 2023.

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REGISTER TODAY

Global Freight Summit - Hope on the horizon

Global Freight Summit (GFS) started recently, drawing industry leaders from across the world. His Royal Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Second Deputy Ruler of Dubai inaugurated the summit. As many as 60% of freight forwarders surveyed were optimistic of 2024.





Aerospace logistics division solutions to UAE airports

The firm caters to airlines, maintenance, repair & overhaul operators, original equipment manufacturers, and asset leasing companies. It offers many solutions, including airside deliveries at UAE airports, multiple carrier options, and 24x7 aerospace ops, says **Raman Kumar, MD, Al-Futtaim Logistics Operations.**

 CT Bureau

Al-Futtaim's Aerospace Logistics, a regional provider of world-class supply chain solutions and logistics services, has recently announced the official launch of its aerospace logistics division in the UAE. The inauguration, coinciding with the Dubai Airshow 2023, follows a soft launch of the MRO-AIME Middle East 2023.

Raman Kumar, Managing Director, Al-Futtaim Logistics, said, "We are pleased to launch our Aerospace Logistics division in the UAE. As part of a UAE-based conglomerate with a global network, we are uniquely positioned to deliver unmatched service quality and flexibility to meet the needs of our customers in this burgeoning sector. Driven



Raman Kumar
Managing Director
Al-Futtaim Logistics Operations

by a customer-centric and solutions-oriented approach, our 24x7 AOG operations with over 300 stations, combined with our end-to-end solutions, including storage and distribution hubs within the

UAE, make us the go-to partner for aerospace companies of any size."

The firm caters to diverse clientele, including airlines, MRO operators, OEMs, parts suppliers, and asset leasing companies. It offers a comprehensive suite of solutions that includes airside deliveries at major UAE airports, multiple carrier options, and 24x7 centralized aerospace operations among others. The company provides storage solutions for customers compliant with The General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) and ASA-100 standards.

Established in 1980, Al-Futtaim Logistics, part of Al-Futtaim Group, is one of the logistics pioneer has a global reach. It provides integrated solutions for companies in


automotive, aerospace, retail, premium fashion, engineering, exhibitions, and special projects among others.

The company's service capabilities extend to global freight forwarding & local services, warehousing & contract logistics, local and cross-border and corporate transportation, domestic and international relocations, finished vehicle

“Over the next two decades, the ME is predicted to see 3.2% growth in the MRO market.”




distribution, lead logistics and 4PL. The company manages 1.56 million square meters of cold store warehousing and yard storage with its own fleet and operational centers located in major air and sea hubs.

Dubai is the seventh largest importer of parts for aircraft and spacecraft in the world. Over the next two decades, the Middle East is predicted to see 3.2 per cent growth in the MRO services market, setting the region on a heading for soaring demand for efficient and rapid aerospace logistics. The services of the new division include airside deliveries, storage, distribution hubs, and 24x7 centralized services to customers, covering all times zones. 



A milestone to chart **eco-friendly** transportation

External solutions provider has conducted a comprehensive analysis of the energy requirements for the electric fleet. DulSCO Group nears completion of study into electrifying more than 250 fleet vehicles, says **David Stockton, Chief Executive Officer, DulSCO Group.**

 CT Bureau

DulSCO Group, a leader in people's solutions, environmental solutions, Talent Solutions, and Energy Recruitment Solutions, announced plans to electrify more than 250 fleet vehicles. DulSCO is a UAE-

have assessed infrastructure and charging requirements, considering factors such as locations, charger types and quantities.

DulSCO's fleet comprises 168 vehicles in its People Solutions division with an additional 150 vehicles in its



We are dedicated to being a force in our region's battle against climate change and aligning with the goal of reducing emissions

based integrated solutions provider with a portfolio of businesses comprising: DulSCO People, DulSCO Environment, Parisima and Advance Global Recruitment.

The group has appointed a third-party to conduct a comprehensive three-month analysis of the energy requirements for the fleet. The teams

Environmental Solutions division. The external solutions partner, in turn, has offered DulSCO evidence-based recommendations to chart the course for the electrification plan and the consequent integration of electric vehicles into their fleet.

David Stockton, CEO, DulSCO Group, said, "As a re-

sponsible and forward-thinking organisation, DulSCO is proud to take this significant step towards electrifying our fleet. This initiative marks a significant milestone in our journey towards reshaping eco-friendly transportation in the UAE. We are dedicated to being a proactive force in our region's battle against climate change and aligning with the United Arab Emirates' goal

of achieving Net Zero." The electrification of DulSCO's fleet will open doors for the integration of renewable energy sources, making it an ideal sustainable partner in the market's value chain. This will contribute to the battle against climate change in the region, in line with the United Arab Emirates' commitment to reducing carbon emissions by 2050. 🌱

GSCLS experts exchange supply chain practices

Gulf Supply Chain Leaders Senate (GSCLS) held recently is pegged as the only leadership conference in the GCC to provide a platform to supply chain leaders interact and share supply chain practices. The meet is designed to identify trends and build views on an agile, resilient, sustainable supply chain for the future.





QAC's 'Drive' to transport automobiles by air freight

'Drive' exemplifies our unwavering commitment to precision and customer centricity. With this product, we combine technical proficiency, experienced teams, and charter solutions to offer a tailored experience for the transportation of automobiles, says **Miguel Rodriguez Moreno, Head, Cargo Products**.



 CT Bureau

Qatar Airways Cargo has announced its latest product, Drive. Designed to transport various types of automobile air freight by air, Drive caters to the requirements of each vehicle—be it regular cars, vintage cars, premium or luxury models, new cars and sports cars. It underscores the carrier's commitment to delivering meticulous solutions for both personal and commercial vehicles.

Miguel Rodriguez Moreno, Head, Cargo Products said, "Drive exemplifies our unwavering commitment to precision and customer centricity. With this product, we combine technical proficiency, experienced teams, and charter solutions to offer a tai-

lored experience for the transportation of automobiles. We take pride in our expert teams involved in ferrying vehicles

Safety is paramount and the teams take all safety steps and vehicles are tied down and secured before being flown

for several years, including those for global racing events. Our meticulously designed training ensures that our dedi-

cated staff follow handling protocols diligently at every stage of the journey."

Drive offers customers the ability to move different types of high value vehicles with engine and wheels in a safe and efficient manner, on the airline's freighters and passenger flights to 160 belly-hold and 70 freighter destinations and to those destinations that are not part of its scheduled services. The Drive is equipped to offer full or part-charters catering to the airline customers' requests are handled with care.


The airline's specialist teams from special loads, dangerous goods, operations, charters and its loadmasters collaborate to offer the optimal loadability and cost-effec-

tive solutions for all vehicles being transported. Safety is paramount and the teams take caution ensuring all safety measures are followed, and vehicles are tied down and secured properly before being flown. The vehicles are monitored throughout the journey by the airline's experts.

The airline has been transporting cars for several years. In 2022, Qatar Airways Cargo transported over 1,400 vehicles, asserting its proven capability and expertise in handling different segments of vehicles. The introduction of Drive showcases Qatar Airways Cargo's position as a global leader in air cargo transportation, delivering solutions that meet the unique demands of the market and its discerning customers. 🇸🇦

Record 1,500 take part in procurement and supply meet

In a year where procurement professionals have seen no signs of the volatility and inflation of previous years abating, it is more important than ever to network with peers and review current trends, **Sam Achampong, Regional Managing Director, CIPS MENA.**

 CT Bureau

More than 1,500 industry professionals joined, the Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supply, at the CIPS Saudi Arabia Procurement & Supply Chain Conference and Awards 2023 recently. Key procurement trends and supply chain initiatives, as well as innovative practices of the future, were discussed under this year's theme of 'procurement excellence'.

"In a year where procurement professionals have seen no signs of the volatility and inflation of previous years abating, it is more important than ever to network with



peers and review current trends and best practices to stay resilient and face the toughest challenges," said Sam Achampong, Regional Managing Director, of CIPS Middle East & North Africa.

"The record-breaking number of attendees at this event underscores the strate-


gic importance of our profession across myriad sectors. In an increasingly globalised economy, businesses demand the skills and knowledge to navigate international procurement and supply chain management. The expertise encompassed by our organisation has never been more crucial to the modern busi-

ness environment. We continue to see rising prices and supply constraints and these are just some of the topics we discussed during the conference," Achampong added. "As part of the event, we also celebrated 30 'procurement pioneers' who have made significant contributions to the profession and championed change and innovation," said Achampong.

The 'procurement pioneers' are a celebrated few from varied industries working within both the private and government sectors. Those gaining recognition include Abdullah Al Osaimi, Senior VP, Shared Services at Ma'aden, one of the first Saudi nationals to achieve FCIPS (the highest grade of CIPS membership), as well as Muna bin Zoubaa, an advisor, who set up the MENA Women in Procurement initiative and has been a mentor and role model

for many professionals in the region for many years. She is also the first female from the Gulf to achieve FCIPS.

As part of the event, we also celebrated 30 'procurement pioneers' who have made vital contributions

Taking place at the Hilton Riyadh Hotel & Residences on 13th November 2023, topics included How can procurement support Vision 2030, How to overcome supply chain disruption and How technology is influencing the workforce of the future. 

Unveiling tomorrow's strategies: Logistics & Supply Chain Summit

Industry leaders and decision-makers converged on the Logistics UAE 2023 Summit to identify the growth opportunities in logistics and supply chain sectors. The event provided a platform to exchange insights and perspectives on the sector's latest developments.



The leaders in logistics UAE 2023 brought together many fruitful discussions and panel discussions, fireside chats, and keynotes featuring a distinguished line-up of industry luminaries and esteemed business leaders.

exchanging insights and perspectives as well as exploring the latest developments and identifying the growth opportunities within the UAE's dynamic logistics and supply chain sectors.

The summit capped off its 13th iteration on 8 November with resounding success. Held at the Grosvenor House Hotel, the event saw a convergence of senior state officials, influential decision-makers, visionary business leaders, and industry experts, offering a pivotal platform for

Senior state officials, visionary business leaders, and industry experts convened at the event to exchange insights and perspectives as well as explore the latest developments and identify the growth opportunities within the UAE's dynamic logistics and supply chain sectors. CargoTalk captured a few snapshots of the event.



Board reviews progress on Oman and Etihad Rail project

The Board of Directors of Oman and Etihad Rail held a meeting in Muscat, which was attended by High Royal Highness Shaikh Theyab bin Mohammed bin Zayed al Nahyan, Chairman, Board of Directors of Etihad Rail. The Board reviewed the progress of the rail project.



FedEx introduces freighter linking Vietnam to Middle East



FedEx Express has announced the launch of a freighter connecting Vietnam and the Middle East, as part of its commitment to enhancing its intercontinental operations and offering faster transit time. With this, the frequency of flights carrying cargo to the region will also increase.

KSA unveils key development logistics projects for Jubail



The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) has launched several strategic projects at Jubail Commercial and Industrial Ports aimed at boosting throughput capacity and upgrading infra. These include a railway project linking northern and eastern railway networks and connects the internal railway network with Jubail Industrial City.

Warehouse facility to invest US\$28 million in JAFZA

BoxcoWorld FZE has signed an MoU with DP World to invest US\$28 million in the construction of a cutting-edge warehouse facility in Jebel Ali Free Zone (JAFZA), based in Dubai. The agreement was signed by Abdulla Al Hashmi, COO, Parks & Zones, DP World, UAE Region and Vir Kotak, Founder, BoxcoWorld. The facility is projected to have a throughput of around 15,000 TEUs. A 40,000 CBM robotic racking system for Polymers will be created, which is a pioneering initiative set to be the first of its kind in the GCC. Kotak said, "I am optimistic about the growth prospects of the region."



SAL Logistics Services firm begins trading

SAL Saudi Logistics Services Company listed its shares on the Main Market of the Saudi Exchange following the completion of its IPO of shares. Faisal bin Saad Albedah, MD & CEO, SAL said, "The firm's offering saw demand from investors, with its shares being priced at SAR 106 per share at the top end of the IPO price range, resulting in an offering size of SAR 2,544 million (US\$678.4 million) and implying a market capitalization at listing of SAR 8,840 million (US\$2,261 million).

BBN Airlines Indonesia triples its fleet size

BBN Airlines Indonesia, a subsidiary of Avia Solutions Group, the world's largest ACMI provider (aircraft, crew, maintenance, and insurance), has announced the addition of four new aircraft to its fleet with the delivery of one B737-400SF and three B737-800NG aircraft.



WestJet Cargo, Awesome Cargo set to transform air cargo landscape



WestJet Cargo unveiled an arrangement on behalf of Awesome Cargo, a rising star in the Mexican air freight industry. This collaboration represents a venture, linking Awesome's Cargo NLU hub with North America. Kirsten De Bruijn, SVP, Cargo, WestJet, declared, "We are thrilled to embark on this journey with Awesome Cargo."

Wexco to represent DHL Aviation in Australia, New Zealand

Wexco Group & Wexco NZ are partnering with DHL Aviation to provide GSSA services in Australia and New Zealand from 1 December 2023. Effective from 1 December, all DHL Aviation air cargo sales activities from Australia and New Zealand will be managed by Wexco Group & Wexco NZ, two long-established subsidiaries of ECS Group.



Freighter fleet likely to expand for EgyptAir



EgyptAir has ordered two A330-200 P2F conversions with German-based freighter firm Elbe Flugzeugwerke. EFW has confirmed the order to Air Cargo News, although the company said they had no further information to announce regarding the order. EgyptAir inked a deal with Aeronautical Engineers, Inc. for conversion in May last year.



Swissport opens air cargo terminal in Spain

Swissport is growing its cargo business in Spain by opening a new air cargo terminal at Zaragoza Airport. The facility has 14 truck docks for fast pick-up or delivery of general and express cargo. Its cargo network now covers five Spanish airports, including Barcelona, Madrid, Malaga, Valencia and Zaragoza. Franck Serano, Cargo Director, Swissport Spain, said, "The expansion of our cargo network is in response to the growing demand for air cargo handling capacity."



LATAM group receives delivery of cargo aircraft

LATAM Cargo has just announced that it took the delivery of its third Boeing 767 BCF of the year, bringing the total to 19 freighter aircraft. This milestone reinforces its position as the largest cargo airline in South America. The growth plan for the cargo fleet announced by LATAM in 2021, resulted in addition of eight aircraft converted from passenger to cargo, which has translated into a growth of 70 per cent in cargo capacity.

Rotterdam The Hague Airport accelerates sustainable fuel blending

Rotterdam The Hague Airport and Shell have signed an agreement to blend SAF on all aircraft fuelled at the airport from 2024. On top of the European blending mandate of 6 per cent, the airport will accelerate its efforts by setting itself a target of 8 per cent to meet the more ambitious goal of the Dutch aviation sector of 14 per cent by 2030.



Cargo company transforms its global GSA network in record time



As part of the company's transformation process and with a firm commitment to delivering better service levels to its customers, Avianca Cargo has redesigned its GSA network and announced new partnerships that will allow it to continue working closely with specialised teams in different key global markets.

GEODIS named conferred award at Payload Asia Awards



GEODIS received the 'Outstanding Logistics Player of the Year' award at the 10th Payload Asia Awards 2023. Onno Boots, President Middle East and APAC regions, GEODIS said, "This award is testament to the commitment of our employees to excellence and for providing our customers with the best possible service. The logistics industry is poised for growth, driven by the thriving e-commerce sector. In response, we remain committed to expanding our logistics footprint with market leading technology and end-to-end logistics solutions to help our customers meet this growing demand."

Istanbul airport to implement cargo community system



Istanbul Grand Airport has selected Kale Logistics Solutions to provide a CCS to help automate communication between stakeholders. The Airport Kargo Paydaş Platformu, which will be implemented in collaboration with TroyNet, will provide airlines, cargo agents and handlers, access to all cargo-related information at a single location.

Movements



BOLLORÉ LOGISTICS Middle East

★ **Jean-Baptiste Rambaud** has been appointed as CEO of Bolloré Logistics Middle East. Based in Dubai, Rambaud will work toward the development of the region and aim to launch new projects to drive the company's growth in aerospace, healthcare, luxury goods, and reefers. "He joined the Bolloré Group in 2003 where he oversaw different ops and commercial departments across Africa (Kenya, DRC, Zambia, Mozambique, Nigeria)."



CHALLENGE GROUP USA

★ **David Canavan** has been appointed as the COO by Challenge Group. He will be responsible for leading, planning, directing, coordinating, aligning, and overseeing all Group Operations. Canavan comes to Challenge Group with a proven track record of 30 years' experience in strategic planning, operational efficiency, supply chain management and logistics, having previously led various MNC teams in Europe and Asia at FedEx.



ACS Hong Kong

★ **Joseph Tam** has been promoted to the position of Cargo Director for Greater China region. James Royds-Jones was recently appointed as the Regional Director for Greater China. He said "Tam has been with ACS for 12 years now. His experience is unparalleled and he leads by example in the cargo sector here from the Hong Kong office," Justin Bowman, Chief Executive, ACS said. Now, Tam will work with our teams in Shanghai, Beijing and Hong Kong



MATTERNET USA

★ **Will Urban** has joined as the Senior Advisor at Matternet, developer of leading drone delivery system. Urban joins Matternet from Flexport where he served as the CRO of the company. In this role, he will have the responsibility to drive numerous strategic business development initiatives as a senior advisor to Andreas Raptopoulos, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Matternet, and the full management team.



WEFREIGHT Dubai

★ **Axel Herzhauser** has been appointed as the new Global MD, UAE-based WeFreight. Herzhauser, who will be based in Dubai, was previously Regional MD, Middle East and Africa, CEVA Logistics. He also worked in Ingram Micro, Teleplan, DB Schenker, Exel/DHL, and Logwin. He is experienced in driving business development and enhancing market strategy. WeFreight aims to enhance its global network, improve customer service under his leadership.



GLOBAL CRITICAL LOGISTICS New York

★ **Elizabeth Berman** has been appointed as the Chief People Officer at Global Critical Logistics. In the new role, she will be responsible to drive the success of the company's diverse verticals from a people perspective by developing best-in-class Human Resource (HR) infrastructure. Berman brings with her the belief in the importance of prioritizing mental health for one and all, which is the fundamental value of her work.

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