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December 2024

CARGO talk

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2024

AN YEAR OF RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION





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CONTENTS

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4 New e-commerce trends, technology rule roost



12
Dubai non-oil
trade above 2019



20
Green methanol
in demand



22
KSA harnesses
future of cargo



24
QR Cargo enhances
connectivity



28
e-commerce
drives air cargo



36
Green logistics
gaining ground

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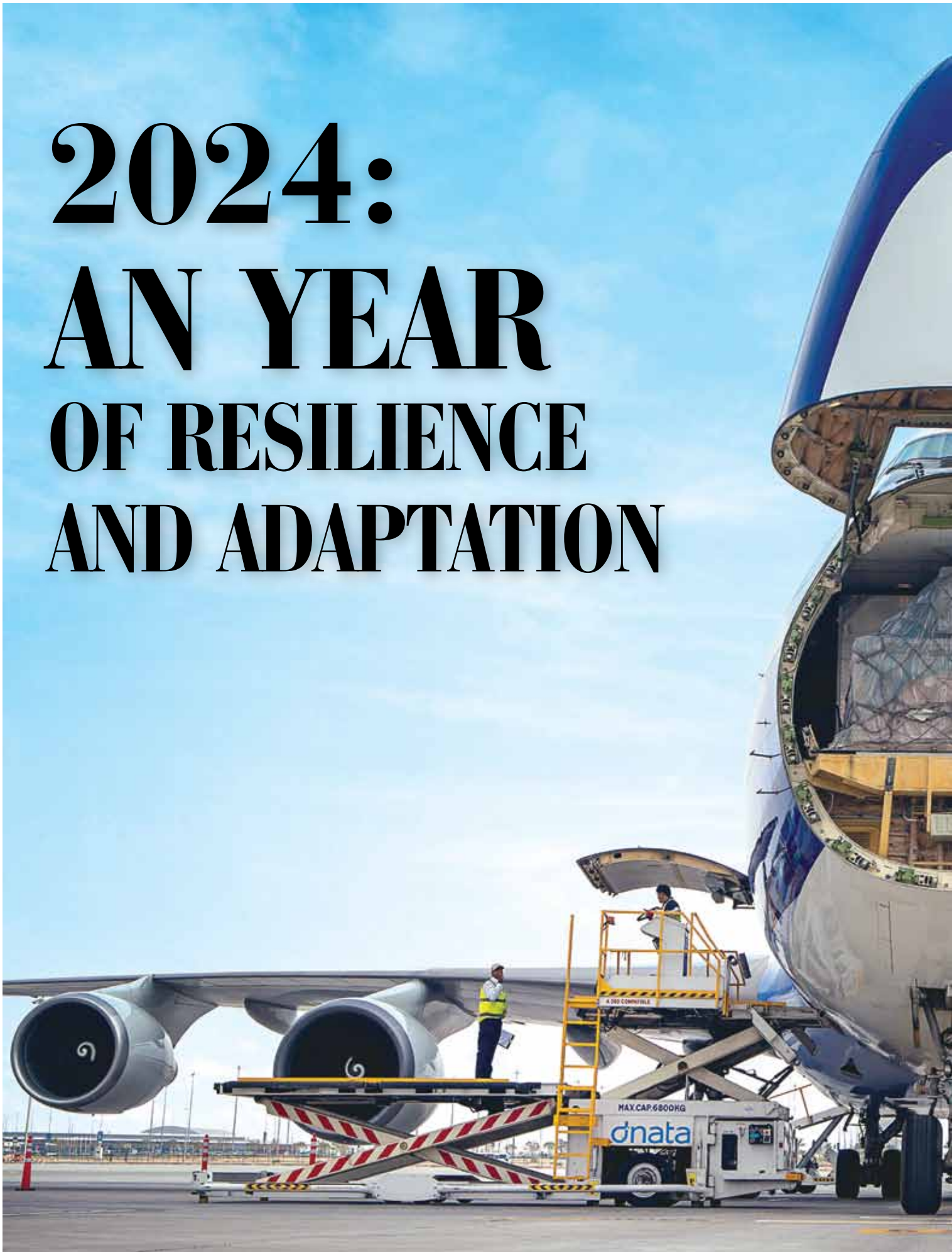
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2024: AN YEAR OF RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION





The cargo and logistics industry is undergoing transformations in the Middle East. Developments include mergers and acquisitions, shifts in supply chains, adjustments in air and ocean freight, sustainability initiatives, and adoption of technology. These trends are driven by economic pressures and geopolitical events.



 Dr. Shehara Rizly

As we come to the end of this year, the Middle East region remains relatively stable, with a notable rise in air freight demand, spurred by the continued growth of e-commerce and heightened consumer expectations for faster deliveries. In

response, air cargo operators are expanding their capacity and leveraging their flexibility to mitigate ongoing supply chain disruptions. Another key trend has been the focus on technological innovation and sustainability.

In 2024, the logistics sector embraced a range of ad-

vanced technologies. AI, automation, and predictive analytics have become significant tools for improving operational efficiency, optimising routes, managing inventories, and predicting potential disruptions. The ocean wave of mergers and acquisitions observed over the past year are expected to drive further

changes, with an emphasis on resilience, regional expansion, and sustainability.

As the industry faces an increasingly complex international landscape, maintaining agility and proactively investing in technology and regionalisation will be crucial for logistics companies to stay competitive and adaptable.

Looking back at the past year, it has been one of swift adaptation and consolidation



In 2024, the logistics sector embraced a range of advanced technologies such as AI and predictive analytics

within the cargo and logistics sector, as the companies reassess their models to manage risks, enhance capacity, and meet the demands of a more environmentally conscious, technology-driven, and resilient market.

Increased reliance on air cargo for timely deliveries

We have witnessed a surge in membership, driven by number of foreign investors to set up supply chain logistics firms. This influx is due to the geopolitical situations, positioning the UAE as a haven for businesses. Pro-FDI policies, EoDB, and seamless capital repatriation have created an attractive environment for investors. The unrest in Russia, Ukraine, Palestine, Lebanon, impacted



Nadia Abdul Aziz
President
NAFL

“Pro-FDI policies, EoDB, and seamless capital repatriation have created an environment suitable for investors.”

supply chain dynamics. Attacks on vessels have forced ships to reroute via Cape of Good Hope.

Adding flights will increase capacity

This year was a solid one for Ethiopian Airlines, although we did face some challenges, particularly regarding cargo capacity constraints that prevented us from meeting the full demand. However, global air cargo trends remained strong, and we did our best to serve the market with the available capacity. Looking ahead to next year, we are optimistic as we plan to add four new flights, two



Yamrot Nigussie
Cargo Manager
Gulf Region
Ethiopian Airlines

“Global air cargo trends remained strong. The firm did its best to serve the market with the available capacity.”

767s and two 777s, to our fleet in the first quarter of the next fiscal. This will increase our capacity.

Dubai as logistics hub will lead in New Year

This year has been a fantastic one for the air cargo and logistics industry. Dubai continues to be a leading logistics hub, not just in the Middle East, but globally. The city’s infrastructure—ranging from ports to airports—is unparalleled, and Dubai’s ambitions for the future will solidify its position as one of the world’s top export and re-export cities. For anyone in the logistics sector, living



Mohammed Jassim Al Rais
Executive Director
Al Rais Cargo

“Dubai continues to be a leading logistics hub, not just in the Middle East, but globally. Its infra is unparalleled.”

and working here provides advantages. Looking ahead, I am optimistic about the years to come.



2024 reflects period of growth, innovation

Orbit Logistics has made rapid strides over the past year. One of the accomplishments has been to ferry 820 tonnes of cargo by charter flights to Iraq from the beginning of the year up until October. This impressive volume underscores our capability to meet customer expectations in a challenging market like Iraq. We are forecasting 1,060 tonnes per annum through these charter flights by the



Yousif Najim
CEO
Orbit Logistics

“The impressive volume underscores our capability to meet customer demands in a market like Iraq.”

year-end. Also, we forged a partnership with CargoTalk, which is expected to yield fruitful collaborations.

ZEVs set benchmark in good transportation

In 2024, our Mercedes-Benz Trucks and Buses, along with FUSO Trucks and Buses, have made strides in various markets. In the GCC, we are striving for absolute market dominance, particularly in markets such as Abu Dhabi and Dubai. We delivered Battery EVs, showcasing our dedication to sustainable transportation solutions with alternative propulsion systems. With our



Michael Dietz
CEO and President,
Daimler Truck Middle
East Africa

“We are striving for absolute market dominance, particularly in markets such as Abu Dhabi and Dubai.”

zero-emission vehicles, such as eActros 300 and eEconic, we set benchmarks for a sustainable world in transportation.

30% rise in volumes due to growth in e-commerce

This year has seen a steady volume growth following the global air cargo surge throughout the past festive season. Demand, particularly for e-commerce, was booming. The demand within the UAE domestic market has grown solidly. This is testament to the multimodal service offered in Dubai. All of this drove a 30 per cent volume increase compared to 2023, which



Guillaume Crozier
SVP, UAE Cargo &
Global Cargo Strategy,
dnata

“The demand within the UAE market has grown. This is testament to multimodal service offered in Dubai.”

dnata catered to with quality, thanks to new commissioned capacity, and a digital environment.





Overall outlook remained positive this year

This year was one of mixed reactions for the logistics and freight industry across the region. While some months saw strong business and market growth, the overall trend pointed toward higher growth. Increased rates contributed profitability in the first half of the year, and the overall outlook remains positive. Looking to 2025, the landscape is shifting. Traditional supply



Shankar Subramaniam
CEO, Salt Tech
International

“Looking to 2025, the landscape is shifting. Supply routes, particularly from China, are being reassessed.”

routes, particularly from China, are being reassessed, with India and KSA emerging as key destinations.



FACT FILE

- air cargo operators are expanding their capacity and leveraging their flexibility to mitigate ongoing supply chain disruptions
- As the industry faces a complex global landscape, maintaining agility investing in technology and regionalisation will be crucial
- AI, automation, and predictive analytics have become significant tools for improving operational efficiency, optimising routes, managing inventories, and predicting potential disruptions.

Resilient industry kept supply chain stability

Air cargo sector in 2024 demonstrated adaptability and resilience amidst evolving market dynamics. Asia-Pacific and the Middle East stood out as important growth areas, with airlines expanding routes and investing in fleet upgrades to address the surge in demand for cargo services, especially e-commerce. Technology advancements reshaped logistics sector, with new digital platforms and



Santosh Soni
Head, Sales, UAE,
Airglow Aviation Services

“Asia-Pacific and the ME are key growth areas, with airlines expanding routes and investing in fleet upgrades.”

AI-driven solutions for enhancing transparency. However, the year was not without a few challenges.

Year of progress in sustainable logistics

Sustainability took centre stage in the Middle East logistics sector in 2024, with companies prioritising environmental responsibility and operational efficiency. DIMOS contributed to this transformation by driving digitalisation and CO₂ reduction initiatives. Digitalisation emerged as a cornerstone of sustainable logistics. DIMOS undertook network infra modernisation and IoT system



Martin Bremen
Managing Director,
DIMOS FZCO

“Sustainability took centre stage in logistics in 2024, with many firms prioritising operational efficiency.”

implementation, focusing on ensuring high availability and failover systems to minimise downtime.

2025 to be prosperous, cargo industry stabilises

This year has been a strong one for the air cargo industry, despite some challenges, such as the ongoing issues in the Red Sea and the Middle Eastern crises, which have affected air freight volumes. Overall, we have seen higher freight rates and, consequently, it caused an impact



Razmal Assen
Executive Director, India,
Sri Lanka, and UAE,
Scanwell Logistics

“Cargo volumes have been adversely affected following the Red Sea and Middle East crises.”

on revenue. However, 2024 has been a great year overall. As we look to 2025, we are optimistic. We are expanding into new regions, mainly Africa, which we see as a growth market. The industry is stabilising, and we expect 2025 to be another prosperous year.

Business structured to address market needs

2024 has been an exciting year for us. We restructured our business to better address market needs. This has given us an understanding of how to solve key challenges in routing, scheduling, and data management. Through our platform, we have been able to showcase how we tackle these issues. Tracking was not part of our original roadmap, but an outpouring of due to requests, we developed a



Archival Garcia
CEO
Fluent Cargo

“For challenges in routing, scheduling, and data management, a solution was developed.”

solution and brought it to market within three months. While it is still new, it has made our software more operational. 🚀



IATA WORLD CARGO SYMPOSIUM

Dubai, UAE
15 - 17 April 2025

SAVE THE DATE

The IATA World Cargo Symposium, the largest and most prestigious air cargo annual event, comes back in Dubai, UAE, in April 2025.

The 2024 edition brought close to 2'000 delegates to Hong Kong (SAR), China. The next WCS will continue offering plenary sessions, specialized streams, workshops, and executive summits tackling aspects related to technology, innovation, security, customs, cargo operations, and sustainability.

Registration will open in a few weeks. Save the Date!

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Dubai's non-oil trade soars, surpasses pre-pandemic levels

Dubai's non-oil trade surged to US\$381 billion in H1, exceeding 2019 levels. This achievement can be attributed to gamut of world-class logistics, cutting-edge digital solutions, and trade pacts. His Excellency Dr. Thani Al Zeyoudi, UAE Minister of State for Foreign Trade, outlined how these factors propelled Dubai to forefront of global trade.

CT Bureau

His Excellency Dr. Al Zeyoudi, UAE Minister of State for Foreign Trade stressed Dubai's logistics and port management system are key contributors to the emirate's trade success. It may be noted Dubai's non-oil trade was around US 381 billion in H1. "One of the factors behind Dubai's non-oil trade growth is our world-class logistics and infrastructure," he explained, noting that the city's strategic location and state-of-the-art facilities have cemented its role as a global trade hub.

DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

A major driver of Dubai's trade success is its proactive integration of digital solutions and technology. The UAE has not only embraced technological advancements for domestic efficiency but

also enhanced its global trade relations. "Many countries are hesitant to adopt new technologies, but in the UAE, we have been leaders in deploying and scaling digital solutions within our systems," His Excellency Dr. Al Zeyoudi said. This technological adoption has enabled seamless trade processes, positioning Dubai as a critical logistics hub, even amidst global geopolitical challenges.

TRADE AGREEMENTS

Dubai's success is rooted in its strategic trade agreements. A cornerstone of the UAE's trade policy, CEPAs, go beyond traditional FTAs, fostering deeper economic cooperation and providing enhanced access to global markets. "Under UAE's leadership, we have expanded the scope of trade agreements to include elements such as FDI, service investments, and digitalisation," His Excellency

explained. "These agreements are comprehensive and forward-thinking than traditional FTAs, which focused on goods and tariffs."

The impact of these CEPAs has been significant. Trade with countries such as India, Turkey, and Iraq growing substantially—by 10 per cent, 15 per cent, and 41 per cent, respectively. Equally important is these pacts have led to a surge in companies from these countries in establishing operations in Dubai, with some reporting growth of 50 to 60 per cent. "These agreements have been a game changer for us for boosting trade and creating new investment opportunities for UAE businesses," HE Dr. Al Zeyoudi remarked.

LOOKING AHEAD

As Dubai looks to the future, its focus is on diversifying trade relationships and advancing its technological capabilities, which remains central to its growth strategy. His Excellency Dr. Al Zeyoudi stressed the importance of adopting technology to stay competitive in the ever-evolving global trade landscape.

"In the coming months, we will see a shift in trade dynamics, particularly with rise of small-item deliveries as businesses navigate the complexities of geopolitical trade barriers," he noted. "Several initiatives are underway to address these changes



His Excellency Dr. Thani Al Zeyoudi
UAE Minister of State for Foreign Trade

“These pacts have been a game changer for us for boosting trade and creating opportunities for UAE businesses.”

beginning with our focus on re-exports. The UAE is one of the world's top five re-export hubs, and despite global slowdown in re-exports, we are launching dedicated zones and initiatives to maintain the steady flow of goods throughout the region."

Dubai's efforts to sign more sector-specific pacts, particularly in industries such as automobiles and agricultural food. "These pacts complement our re-export strategy, adding value to key sectors and industries," he said. Dubai will continue expanding its trade pacts and invest in tech and infrastructure. "As global trade faces new challenges, we are committed to leveraging solutions and digitalisation to navigate these obstacles," the Minister concluded.



Beyond old methods, DP World brings smart solutions to logistics

Dubai's transformation into global hub can be attributed to those driving nation's growth. At forefront is **His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, The Ruler of Dubai**, whose vision is pivotal in shaping Dubai into what it is today. **HE Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem, Group Chairman and CEO, DP World**, shared insights on strategies.

CT Bureau

DP World continues to lead the way in driving innovation and adapting to geopolitical shifts, supply chain disruptions, and the demand for reliable trade solutions. In a recent discussion



His Excellency Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem
Group Chairman and CEO
DP World

“The pre-pandemic levels taught us that relying on traditional methods are not sufficient.”

at the Global Freight Summit 2024, His Excellency Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem, Chairman, DP World, highlighted the growing need to adapt to the evolving dynamics of global trade.

“The pandemic taught us that relying solely on traditional methods was no longer sufficient. That is why we began building logistics parks and developing digital platforms to streamline our op-



His Excellency Dr. Thani Al Zeyoudi, UAE Minister of State for Foreign Trade, with His Excellency Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem, Group Chairman, DP World

erations,” he explained. As trade shifts from multilateral agreements to bilateral deals, DP World has leveraged this trend to its advantage.

His Excellency Sulayem pointed to successful agreements with countries such as India, Indonesia, and Türkiye, demonstrating how two countries can negotiate mutually beneficial trade terms. “The benefits of these bilateral agreements, particularly with India, have been clear. India’s leadership has been persistent in finalising deals, even when it seemed unlikely, and their efforts have paid off,” he said.

With a global footprint, DP World has swiftly responded to the increasing demand for new trade routes, particularly in Africa and Asia. “Relying solely on traditional meth-

ods is no longer enough,” His Excellency reiterated. “That is why we are building logistics parks, developing digital platforms, and exploring new cargo routes. For instance, we now ship goods from Karachi to Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan by road in under eight days—something that was not possible before.”

His Excellency Sulayem also emphasised the importance of intermodal solutions—using air, sea, road, and rail to provide flexibility and efficiency in logistics. “The more alternatives we can offer, the better. We are working on using Iranian rail routes to move goods to Central Asia and Europe and exploring new routes from China to Europe through Kyrgyzstan and Afghanistan. These are exciting developments that will help us


adapt and thrive in a rapidly changing trade environment.”

DP World’s logistics capabilities extend well beyond ports. In Africa, the firm operates in from locations, with a network of 10,000 trucks and operations in markets such as Nigeria, South Africa, and Ghana. It is also making major investments in Egypt, Senegal, and Congo, where new ports are under construction to meet growing trade demands. “Africa is experiencing exceptional growth, and DP World is proud to be part of this transformation. Our investments are creating new opportunities and reshaping the logistics landscape,” His Excellency Sulayem said. With its focus on flexibility, innovation, and efficient logistics, DP World remains at the forefront of global trade. 🇦🇪



Driving sustainability in logistics for greener future

In past few years, sustainability gained prominence from aviation to logistics and supply chain in the Middle East. Many practices are responsibly looked up to minimise their ecological footprint. The most important feature in this region is the PPP mode, which has revolutionised and ensured sustainable practices do not remain mere words.

 Dr. Shehara Rizly

The logistics sector in the Middle East is a cornerstone of the region's economy, fuelled by its strategic location at the crossroads of Asia, Africa, and Europe. However, the industry's

integrating environmentally friendly practices into supply chain operations, including transportation, warehousing, and distribution. In the Middle East, these practices are shaped by regional factors such as arid climates, reliance on fossil fuels, and ur-

ability goals, such as the UN's SDGs, and regional visions such as Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 and the UAE's net zero by 2050 initiative. These initiatives encourage investments in cleaner transport solutions, smart logistics hubs, and carbon offset programmes. The Middle East region has become one of the key drivers in sustainable practices; for this technology and digitalisation is something done at an early stage in this region and now technology thrives in each of these nations, and this has become an advantage.

As sustainability gains prominence, the Middle Eastern logistics players are embracing innovative practices to minimise their ecological footprint

rapid growth has brought environmental challenges, such as carbon footprint, waste generation, and resource depletion. As sustainability gains prominence globally, the Middle Eastern logistics players are embracing innovative practices to minimise their ecological footprint, while optimising efficiency. Sustainable logistics involves

ban expansion. Key strategies include adopting green technologies, improving energy efficiency, utilising renewable energy sources, and implementing circular economy principles such as recycling and waste reduction.

The governments and private entities are aligning their efforts with global sustain-

FACT FILE

- Govts and private entities are aligning their efforts with global sustainability goals, such as the UN's SDGs, and regional visions such as Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 and the UAE's net zero by 2050 initiative.



Agility rolling out low-carbon GSE fleet

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has moved to the forefront of clean-energy revolution and the drive to innovate and find answers to the global climate challenge. The Agility Logistics Park in Riyadh features first EDGE Advanced 'zero carbon ready' warehouse in KSA and the Middle East demonstrating at least 40 per cent more efficiency than the market. The company's Tristar business works



Tarek Sultan
Vice Chairman
Agility

“First EDGE Advanced ‘zero carbon ready’ warehouse in KSA demonstrates 40% more efficiency.”

with Aramco, SABIC and other customers adapting new standards in safety, sustainability, and innovation.

Sustainability is not widely understood

We have developed an air cargo container to transport life-saving nets in a sustainable, smart, and cost-effective way. Sustainability is a widely used buzzword that everyone talks about, but few truly understand in detail. It is a multifaceted concept; ESG



Edward Seligman
Founder
Swiss Air Carrier

“Sustainability is a multifaceted concept—ecological, social, and economic sustainability each play a role.”

sustainability each play a role. Ecological sustainability is measurable; we can quantify emissions and reward firms that are like those minimising CO₂ footprint in transportation. Social sustainability ties into ESG goals, which are harder to quantify.

Focus shifting to harness digital technology

The year 2024 marked a transformative period for the cargo industry, fuelled by surging demand linked to the rapid growth of e-commerce and the Middle East's emergence as a vital hub in the global market. As we look ahead to 2025, our focus shifts to harnessing the power of digital tech to enhance operational efficiency and drive collaboration. By fostering partnerships among stakeholders,



Saeed Kamran
Head, Cargo
Department, FlyNAS

“Looking at the positive side, it will be speedy, efficient, low costs and fewer emissions.”

we aim to streamline processes, improve transparency, and unlock avenues for commercial growth.



Bookings always based emissions and rates

Sustainability has been important to us from the beginning. In our team, we have some who are affected by sustainability. We saw we could make an impact for two reasons—we have been tracking data from as many as 207 airlines and calculate the sustainability of every shipment based on exact routing and aircraft code that was used. It has helped us to provide a measure of CO₂, which is interesting, but not enough.



Matt Petot
CEO
CargoAI

“We can calculate accurately the sustainability of every shipment based on routing & aircraft code.”

When a booking is made, one can see the rates and choose an airline based on emissions.

We support sustainable flow of cargo to GCC

In terms of sustainability, I think everybody knows that we are one of the leading forces and pioneers. Our ambition is to achieve net zero by 2050. We have just introduced our new DHL Group strategy, and the big change was to have green logistics as the fourth bottom line, which



Tobias Maier
CFO, Middle East and Africa, DHL Global Forwarding

“Our ambition is to achieve net zero by 2050. We have just introduced our new DHL Group strategy.”

was not in place before. So, I think it just emphasises and shows our commitment. In this region, we have brought the first big e-trucks into the region. We have installed solar panels in our warehouses to make use of sustainable energy, and we have the rail solution, which again offers an innovative and sustainable way to move the cargo across the GCC nations.

Suppliers contribute to sustainability efforts

We are committed to sustainability and are actively investing in sustainable best practices. Currently, several shipping lines are incorporating eco-friendly initiatives, such as ShipGreen and net zero initiative, in collaboration with international partners.



Jophin Varghese
CEO
Freighter

Through our suppliers, the company is proud to contribute to these sustainability efforts. We also ensure that 20 to 25 per cent of our shipments utilise

“We ensure 20 to 25% of our shipments utilise the ShipGreen facility, paying a premium on air freight costs.”

the ShipGreen facility, paying a premium on cargocosts to support the use of green fuels.





Logistics processes must adhere to sustainability

When considering sustainability within logistics, it is crucial to establish a comprehensive framework that emphasises accurate and responsible practices. Our goal is to ensure that all logistics processes adhere to sustainability standards and best practices. To achieve this, we focus on enhancing planning by leveraging data and analysing factors down to the vessel type." This allows companies to

“It is vital to establish a comprehensive framework that emphasises accurate and responsible practices.”

assess emissions even before shipments begin. Much metrics may be tied to regulatory taxes.



Axel Herzhauser
Global CEO
We Freight

CO₂ emissions impact on air cargo must be nullified

At Good2Load, we are very well aware about all the new air cargo and logistics trends that are influencing the market and, specifically regarding the sustainability aspect, I would say that the carbon footprint that are impacting the air cargo and logistics



Jessica Panigari
Founder
Goods2Load

“So green and sustainable approach should also belong to the small and medium-sized companies as well.”

industry are taken into consideration. More realities are trying to do their best to take the Green House Gas (GHG) emissions and do something different. So green and a sustainable approach should also belong to the small and medium-sized companies as well.

Policy support to play role in SAF usage

Michael Rousseau, President and Chief Executive, Air Canada, said, ‘In 2025, Air Canada will pursue efforts to mitigate its emissions, and SAF is a component of our multifaceted approach to reducing our impact on the environment and promoting environmental sustainability in our operations.’ We are proud to expand our partnership with Air Canada by supplying them with



Carl Nyberg
Executive Vice President,
Neste

“We have expanded our partnership with Air Canada in 2024 by supplying them with Neste MY SAF.”

a large volume of Neste MY Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) for use at the Vancouver Airport. 🇨🇦



Etihad Cargo records 17% tonnage increase in 2024

This year marks a celebration of Etihad Cargo’s long-term partnerships and commitment to excellence, as it continues to meet evolving needs of dynamic global market. Achieving double-digit tonnage growth is testament to team’s dedication and effectiveness of Etihad Cargo’s expansion strategies, says **Stanislas Brun, Vice President, Cargo**.

 CT Bureau

In this year, Etihad Cargo stands on the brink of a year expected to redefine industry standards through innovation, environmental leadership, and expanded global reach. This year, the carrier has set milestones combining sustainability, technology, and customer-centric operations into a strategic vision, celebrating long-term partnerships and successful commitment.

MARKET GROWTH

Etihad Cargo reported double-digit growth in 2024, with a 17 per cent increase in tonnage from H1 2023. This performance highlights its commitment to fulfilling the evolving needs of its global customers through innovation and strategic expansion.

Etihad Cargo partners with WFS for handling services at 12 major international airports

“Etihad Cargo has demonstrated agility and responded to increased demand across key markets. The carrier has strategically increased freighter and belly capacity to support regional growth and that of Etihad Cargo’s partners. Achieving double-digit tonnage growth is a testament to the team’s dedication and the effectiveness of Etihad

Cargo’s expansion strategies,” Stanislas Brun, Vice President of Cargo, said.

Etihad Cargo partnered with Worldwide Flight Services (WFS) for cargo handling services at 12 major international airports in Europe, Scandinavia, North America, India, and Asia-Pacific.

INNOVATIVE INITIATIVES

Etihad Cargo continued to enhance its product range, contributing to the carrier’s growth. Etihad Cargo has achieved IATA CEIV Pharma-certified PharmaLife. “Achieving CEIV Li-batt certification highlights Etihad Cargo’s dedication to maintaining the highest safety and operational excellence standards. This achievement positions the carrier among an elite group

of global airlines that are committed to meeting the safety obligations of the lithium battery supply chain through the competent handling and transport of these products,” Thomas Schürmann, Head, Cargo Operations & Delivery, Etihad Cargo, said.

Etihad Cargo collaborated with Abu Dhabi Airports and Abu Dhabi Food Hub (KEZAD) and launched ‘Fresh Corridor 2.0’—a full complaint and transparent origin-to-destination perishable air corridor—to support the food source diversification, opening new trade corridors, and enhancing product varieties. One of the year’s flagship projects is advancing the Abu Dhabi tarmac transportation fleet adding up high-tech cool dollies for the efficient transportation of pharmaceutical



Stanislas Brun
Vice President, Cargo
Etihad Cargo



Thomas Schürmann
Head of Cargo Operations &
Delivery at Etihad Cargo



“**Integration with K+N denotes a milestone in Etihad Cargo’s commitment to digital innovation.**”

and perishable shipments in full temperature-controlled cool chain capacity. “Etihad Cargo is committed to the safe, reliable, and robust transportation of temperature-sensitive cargo via its IATA CEIV Pharma-certified PharmaLife and IATA CEIV Fresh-certified products. Part of this commitment is ensuring cargo is transported between the aircraft and cool chain facilities as fast as possible and mitigating the risks associated with outdoor and environmental conditions during the cargo’s journey,” Schürmann said.

SecureTech, launched in February this year, is dedicated to the secured transporta-

“**Etihad Cargo is committed to safe and reliable, and robust transportation of temperature-sensitive cargo.**”

tion of consumer electronics. The carrier’s dedication to safety is further demonstrated by attaining IATA’s CEIV Li-batt certification, making it the third airline in the Middle East to achieve this globally recognised standard for the safe transport of lithium battery shipments.

DIGITAL SHIFT

Digital transformation is a core focus for Etihad Cargo in 2024. The integration of digital tools and services into its operations improve cargo tracking, and ensure prompt delivery. The carrier launched Sales Cockpit, a digital sales optimisation tool across its global stations early this year. The platform generates real-

time tracking and analytics to strengthen customer relationships. In a breakthrough, Etihad Cargo has partnered with Awery Software to implement an ERP system to manage its Cargo Chartering Programme to streamline operations, improve response times, and boost operational efficiency.

By partnering with Kuehne+Nagel, Etihad Cargo established a direct eBooking integration, improving the booking experience for its partners, and leveraging advanced web services to offer transparency and flexibility in the booking process. “Etihad Cargo’s integration with Kuehne+Nagel represents another milestone in the carrier’s commitment to digital innovation and operational excellence,” Brun said.

CELEBRATING MILESTONES

Etihad Cargo has marked significant milestones in its expansion across Asia, celebrating notable achievements in

Osaka, Vietnam, and India. First, the airline commemorated one year of operations in Osaka, Japan. Since launching its cargo services in this key Asian market, Etihad Cargo has strengthened its position as a reliable partner in the region. In Vietnam, the carrier is celebrating a decade of operations.

From record growth in tonnage to launching new products and digital initiatives, Etihad Cargo is reinforcing its position as a leader in the air cargo industry.

FACT FILE

- It’s dedication to safety is demonstrated by achieving IATA’s CEIV Li-batt certification, making it the third airline in the region to achieve this globally recognised standard for ferrying Li-batt shipments.





Green methanol in demand as SAF ushers in net zero logistics

Air cargo sector is at forefront to achieving net zero by 2050, driven by innovations in SAF and alternative energy sources such as hydrogen and methanol. We have electric airplanes flying, but they are limited by range of how much battery energy they can carry, says **Ram Menen, Founding Member, Emirates & Emirates SkyCargo**.

 CT Bureau

With global initiatives like net-zero emissions by 2050, the freight sector is exploring innovations in sustainable

aviation fuels (SAF), electric planes, and alternative energy fuels. SAF volumes reached 600 million litres (0.5Mt), double the 300 million litres (0.25 Mt) produced in 2022, as per an IATA report. SAF

accounted for 3 per cent of all renewable fuels produced, with 97 per cent of renewable fuel production going to other sectors. “Aviation needs between 25 to 30 per cent of renewable fuel production ca-

capacity for SAF. At those levels, aviation would be on the trajectory needed to reach net zero carbon by 2050. Until such levels are reached, we will continue missing huge opportunities to advance the





Ram Menen
Founding Member, Emirates
& Emirates SkyCargo

“ We have electric airplanes flying, but they are limited by range of how much battery they can carry.”

sector’s decarbonisation. It is the government policy that will make the difference. Governments must prioritise policies to incentivise scaling-up of SAF production and to diversify feedstock with those available locally,” Willie Walsh, Director General, IATA, said.

“We already have electric airplanes flying, but they are limited by the range of how much battery energy they can carry. So, this is where hydrogen, hydrogen fuel cell and electric technology come into play. They have already been certified. Firms such as ZeroAvia already have flights in the air. Airbus is doing a major experiment on the



A380 that has been converted; they are using the hydrogen engine. But it is a more challenging fuel, purely because it is cryogenic,” Ram Menen, Founding Member, Emirates & Emirates SkyCargo, said. But electric planes are limited by battery range and power

capacity, making them viable only for short-haul flights. Hydrogen fuel cells are emerging as a cleaner option, but the technology faces storage challenges, as hydrogen must be stored cryogenic at extremely low temperatures.

“Methanol is a zero emission fuel, and it is available in abundance. Talks are on about mining methanol from the sea. So long there is an ocean, you still have production there. And what is to be done with methanol fuel cells is to have a small propulsion, which charges the battery on the airplane. And methanol can be handled in any kind of tank; that is not an issue. Varying temperatures do not have a problem with that. The aviation industry picks up on this thing as an alternative,” he highlighted. In conclusion, the air cargo sector’s journey toward achieving net zero emis-

sions by 2050 hinges on new initiatives in sustainability.

The increase in SAF production, although promising, underscores the need for governmental policies to scale production and diversify feedstocks. The path forward requires a collaborative effort between the governments, industries, and innovators in order to overcome these technological and logistical challenges thereby ensuring a sustainable and decarbonised future for the sector.

FACT FILE

- Sustainable Aviation Fuel accounted for 3 per cent of all renewable fuels produced, with 97 per cent of renewable fuel going to other sectors.





KSA evolving to harness future of freight and logistics

With an aim to become an international logistics hub by 2030, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia plans to funnel US\$267 billion into its logistics sector. The Kingdom has reportedly signed 69 agreements at Global Logistics Forum organised recently in Riyadh, positioning its strong competitive power internationally.

 CT Bureau

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) is poised to become a global logistics hub by 2030, investing over US\$ 267 billion under the Vision 2030 programme, launched by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman.

The initiative focuses on creating opportunities for advanced transportation connectivity, enhanced logistics and cargo system, and integrated technology, regulatory reforms and freight network. In the Global Logistics Forum

2024 held recently, Saleh bin Nasser Al-Jasser, Minister of Transport and Logistics Services, KSA, said, “SR200 billion of the total amount has already been disbursed. These investments have leapfrogged logistics sector in KSA to rise in the global rankings. The sector has jumped 17 ranks in the Logistics Performance Index (LPI) issued by the World Bank and 14 places in IATA’s Global Connectivity Index.”

“Current disruptions highlight the fundamental requirements to ensure the safety and security of the supply chain

With more investments in the launch of the new airline, Riyadh Air, KSA links aviation and air cargo sectors

and the seamless functioning of the backbone of international commerce, so that economies can thrive, goods get delivered, and people are

connected,” he added. The region witnessed a 7 per cent surge in air cargo, reaching 900,000 tonnes last year.

With substantial investment made in the launch of the new airline, Riyadh Air, KSA connects the aviation and air cargo sectors to drive trade and commerce, providing efficient infrastructure and management facilities to the stakeholders.

INVESTMENTS

According to reports from the GLF 2024, KSA has inked as many as 69 agreements



Saleh bin Nasser A I-Jasser
Minister of Transport and Logistics
Services, KSA



Abdulaziz Al-Duailej
President
GACA

“ The sector jumped 17 ranks in LPI issued by World Bank and 14 in Global Connectivity Index of IATA.”

Cluster II Airports to improve air freight services with new training initiatives.

LOGISTICS HUB

The Kingdom is grounded in the most optimal geographic location in the Arabian Peninsula, connecting it with Asia to Europe. Under this link, the region can simplify and streamline the connec-

“ The Kingdom is becoming a global logistics hub with expansion of air cargo capabilities underway.”

tivity and time required to import and export goods across the world. “KSA is becoming a global logistics hub with expansion of air cargo capabilities already underway, leveraging the Kingdom’s location at the crossroads of three continents and within a five-hour flight of half the world’s population,” Abdulaziz Al-Duailej, Presi-

dent, GACA, said. Adding to the current infrastructure, the Saudi General Authority for Civil Aviation (GACA) also initiated development of the new airport system to improve air cargo services and special economic free zone to integrate the multi-modal logistic facilities.

TECHNOLOGICAL TRANSFORMATION

KSA recently introduced community system to oversee imports and exports, bringing a secured single-window access to the information of the shipment progress, status tracking, and digital payments. There are usages of evolving advanced tech such as AI, Blockchain, and digital infrastructure reforming the region’s supply chain. “By embracing these new technologies, we are reducing the high costs, increasing operational efficiency, and protecting the environment,” Al-Jasser added.

FACT FILE

- Under the link, KSA can streamline connectivity required to import and export goods.

worth US\$ 4.3 billion with various international and local entities to expand the air freight market in the region. By collaborating with global operators and stakeholders, more than US\$ 100 billion aviation investment is being executed under the Saudi Aviation Strategy.

The agreements signed with FedEx, PIL, Saudi Port Authority are aimed at enhancing the transport and logistics services. One of the collaborations signed was between the TGA and Egypt’s Transport Ministry in order to facilitate maritime transport and tourism in the strife-ridden Red Sea area.

Kuwait-based Agility Logistics announced plans to expand its warehouse facilities in the Kingdom. To this end, it signed an agreement with the Saudi Arabia Railways (SAR). Also, the KSA Ministry of Transport and Logistic Services partnered with the NUPCO to develop regional centres for medical cargo distribution. Saudia Cargo also signed an agreement with





QR Cargo, MASkargo to enhance global cargo connectivity

Qatar Airways Cargo (QR Cargo) announced the launch of partnership with MASkargo, the cargo airline and subsidiary of Malaysia Aviation Group. The collaboration, which began on 1 October 2024, has seen the successful movement of approximately 2,400 tonnes of cargo, including over 600 tonnes of perishables and 130 tonnes of pharmaceuticals.

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Qatar Airways Cargo reached a partnership with MASkargo, the cargo airline and subsidiary of Malaysia Aviation Group, to mark a significant milestone in enhancing global cargo connectivity and operational efficiency.

QR Cargo Boeing 777 flights now fly from Doha to Kuala Lumpur twice a week, increasing weekly cargo capacity by over 200 tonnes. The strategic partnership will solidify connectivity and efficiency to Sydney and Melbourne with MASkargo Airbus A330 freighters carrying more than 75 tonnes of weekly cargo capacity to these cities, with a swift connection time of eight hours in Kuala Lumpur. The strategic hubs at Hamad International Airport and Kuala Lumpur Interna-

QR Cargo Boeing 777 flights fly from Doha to Kuala Lumpur twice a week, increasing its capacity by 200 tonnes

tional Airport will play a pivotal role, providing seamless connections and latest handling facilities.


The agreement benefits both parties, allowing MASkargo to access key points in Europe, GCC, Levant and Africa, while QR Cargo gains increased capacity access to Australia, New Zealand, Southeast Asia and Northeast Asia. It also supports the local market in

Kuala Lumpur by enabling the export of products to more global markets.

“As the world’s leading global air cargo carrier, this partnership with MASkargo is testament to our commitment to providing exceptional service and tailored solutions, while expanding our global network through sponsorships,” Mark Drusch, Chief Officer Cargo, QR Cargo said. “By combining our strengths, we can offer our customers enhanced connectivity and efficiency, ensuring their products reach global markets in optimal condition. We are excited about the opportunities this collaboration brings and remain committed to setting the standard for excellence in the industry,” he added.

“As MASkargo joins forces with QR Cargo to create a truly interconnected global

cargo network, the partnership presents an advancement in our mission to connect our customers to the world with increased speed and efficiency,” Mark Jason Thomas, CEO, MASkargo said. “MASkargo is now better positioned than ever to serve as a bridge between Southeast Asia and key international destinations. This alliance with QR Cargo strengthens our infrastructure and capacity, empowering us to support the regional economy and facilitate the movement of high-demand goods to a larger global market, furthermore, setting new standards in cargo transportation”.

In July 2024, QR Cargo and MASkargo signed a joint cargo business agreement allowing both the airlines to leverage each other’s network strengths and fleet capacity thereby significantly increasing cargo offerings. 

SmartLynx Airlines joins two others in Pilot Runway project

SmartLynx Airlines, EU-based ACMI, charter, and cargo operator, has joined Avion Express and Air Explore in the Pilot Runway project. Launched by BAA Training and backed by its parent firm, Avia Solutions Group, innovative pilot training programme offers financial solution, and job guarantee at group's airlines upon completing training.



CT Bureau

ATA estimates half a million pilots will need to be recruited globally over the next two decades. In Europe, 5,000 to 6,000 new pilots will be needed annually.

In response to this demand, the Pilot Runway programme aims to train up to 200 new pilots yearly through its Multi-Crew Pilot License (MPL) programme. Pilot Runway is adding to preparing airline-ready pilots for the ongoing demand. "MPL pilots are taken under the wing of a specific airline right from the beginning, creating a dedicated talent pipeline for the airline while also offering pilots long-term job security—truly a win-win.

Another key distinction of Pilot Runway is that the training costs, which can be steep for some, are no longer a barrier. Prospective students receive financing from one of the airline partners for their training, and SmartLynx

Airlines is one of them now, which we are very happy to have on board the program," Norbertas Akromas, Managing Director, Pilot Runway project, said. "We operate one of the most diverse fleets

in the global ACMI industry, which requires a dedicated and skilled crew to meet our clients' needs worldwide," Edvinas Demenius, CEO, SmartLynx Airlines, said. "We are committed not

only to attracting new pilots but also to supporting their growth within our organisation. Through upgrade opportunities, expanded roles,

Another key distinction of the project is training costs, which can be steep for some, are no longer a barrier

and focused retention efforts, we ensure our team can develop professionally and take on new responsibilities as we grow together," he added.

The new pact is expanding the Pilot Runway project's reach and impact, offering more opportunities for aspiring pilots to start their careers in the aviation sector and lending a helping hand in solving the pilot demand issue. 🚀





AJEX Logistics for **new facility** at Bahrain airport's cargo village

AJEX Logistics Services (AJEX) announced it has signed a Letter of Intent (LOI) with Bahrain Airport to establish a new logistics facility at Bahrain Cargo Village. The agreement was formalised during an official signing ceremony at the Bahrain International Airshow, held from 13 to 15 November at the Sakhir Airbase in the Kingdom of Bahrain.

CT Bureau

AJEX Logistics Services reached an agreement with Bahrain Airport to capitalise on the Kingdom of Bahrain's evolving trade landscape.

A new facility at Bahrain Cargo Village would enable AJEX

The aim is to develop a new facility highlights AJEX dedication to helping businesses across the Middle East

to meet the growing demands of the e-commerce and industrial sectors in Bahrain and across the broader MENA region, ensuring seamless and reliable logistics services.

“This agreement with Bahrain Airport underscores AJEX commitment to facilitating seamless trade between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the rest of the world. Designed to enhance operational capabilities, the intention to develop a new facility at Bahrain Cargo Village highlights AJEX dedication to enabling businesses across the Middle East to thrive in an increasingly competitive market,” Naser Alateeq, Gateways & Network Operations Development Director of AJEX Logistics Services, said.

Activity at Bahrain's International Airport further underscores its pivotal role in facilitating trade, with a total of 31,938 tonnes of cargo handled at its facilities in September 2024 alone. These growth figures illustrate the robust trade environment in Bahrain, ensuring that a new AJEX facility would be well placed to support increasing demand. Recent statistics highlight the Kingdom's increasing trade



Naser Alateeq, Gateways & Network Operations Development Director, AJEX, and Mohamed Yousif Al Binfalal, CEO, Bahrain Airport Company, in the presence of Mohammed Albayati, Group CEO, AJEX, Ayman AL Markhi, General Manager, Bahrain, and Ali Al Mudaifa, Chief, Business Development, Bahrain Economic Development Board, at the signing ceremony.

activity, with the GCC nation recording a 3 per cent rise in non-oil imports, reaching BD1,443 million in third quarter of 2024 as against the corresponding period previous year. Overall non-oil imports grew by 1 per cent to BD949 million during the same

period. “A new facility in Bahrain would allow us to better serve our customers with enhanced logistics capabilities, ensuring swift deliveries. We are confident that this collaboration will drive growth and innovation in the regional logistics sector,” he added.

flydubai cargo, cargo.one launch digital transformation channel

flydubai Cargo has partnered with cargo.one to launch its first digital distribution channel, seamlessly connecting freight forwarders in the Middle East to key destinations across Africa, Asia, and Europe. With this new partnership, flydubai Cargo joins a global digital sales network that has set industry standard for air cargo booking.

CT Bureau

flydubai has announced partnership with cargo.one marking the launch of its first digital distribution channel and expanding its reach to a global network of freight forwarders across 121 countries. This alliance with cargo.one enhances flydubai Cargo's digital capabilities and underscores its commitment to innovation in rapidly digitalising logistics. The airline's customers will benefit from instant, real-time access to cargo capacity through the cargo.one platform, allowing seamless booking processes for freight forwarding companies and businesses seeking to ship goods across the globe.

With this new partnership, flydubai Cargo joins a global digital sales network that has set the industry standard for air cargo booking. cargo.one's expertise lies in creating streamlined, user-friendly digital booking experiences tai-



Mohamed Hassan
Senior Vice President, Airport Services & Cargo, flydubai

lored specifically for the needs of freight forwarders, and the platform currently works with many leading airlines in the Middle East to bring their services online. This partnership not only strengthens flydubai Cargo's digital presence but also opens doors for future growth, efficiency, and adaptability in a digital-first world.

By integrating its network with cargo.one, flydubai Cargo enhances accessibility to

these connections for freight forwarders, who can leverage flydubai's competitive edge in connecting the Middle East with Asia, Africa, and Europe. "At flydubai, we have a long-standing commitment to creating free flows in trade and adopting best-in-class practices in the industry, and

“Today, there is almost no logistical issue that cannot be addressed by technological innovations.”

we are pleased to reaffirm this with the launch of our digitalized sales," Mohamed Hassan, Senior Vice President, Airport Services & Cargo, flydubai, said. "Our partnership with cargo.one will enable us to grow our cargo market reach

and ensure the most efficient and user-friendly booking experience for our customers around the world," he added.

"We are delighted to partner with flydubai Cargo to bring its digital sales strategy to life and we look forward to applying our market experience and digital best practices to support its growth. Through the partnership, the forwarders will gain fast and exclusive access to flydubai's unique cargo offering," Moritz Claussen, Founder and Co-CEO, cargo.one, said.

As flydubai continues to expand its cargo operations, joining with cargo.one supports its mission to adopt cutting-edge technology and stay ahead of evolving logistics demand. flydubai Cargo's adoption of cargo.one's platform speaks to a broader industry trend of digitisation in air cargo, which prioritises real-time data access, faster bookings, and seamless communication for a better overall customer experience.



FACT FILE

- This alliance with cargo.one enhances flydubai Cargo's digital capabilities and underscores its commitment to innovation in rapidly digitalising logistics.
- This partnership not only strengthens the digital presence flydubai Cargo's but also opens doors for future growth, efficiency, and adaptability in a digital-first world.

e-commerce, driving force of global air cargo industry

Growth of e-commerce is driving transformative demand in the air cargo industry following rapid delivery across borders. According to IATA's recent report, air cargo achieved record-breaking growth rates in the first half of this financial year, fuelled by strong e-commerce demand and supply chain disruptions.

 CT Bureau

As digital shopping reshapes retail landscapes globally, the e-commerce market, projected to be worth trillions of dollars, increasingly relies on air freight to meet consumer expectations for quick delivery. IATA recently reported a record-breaking 13.4 per cent annual increase in cargo tonne-kilometers (CTK) in H12024, predicting substantial growth fueled by the trends.

According to IATA, Cargo Operations, 2025 Strategic Priorities Report, "strong e-commerce demand and global maritime shipping disruptions, air cargo saw record-breaking H1 performance de-



Cross border e-commerce sales are estimated to reach US\$ 1.9 trillion in 2022 and US\$ 2.1 trillion in 2023

spite rising trade tensions and policy uncertainty". The report highlighted that international air cargo volumes saw a 15.6 per cent year-on-year increase compared to June 2023, with growth supported across all

global regions and major trade routes. Cross border e-commerce sales are estimated to reach US\$ 1.9 trillion in 2022 and US\$ 2.1 trillion in 2023, a 13 per cent increase a year.

Airlines in the Middle East and Asia-Pacific expanded air cargo volumes by an impressive 18 per cent year-on-year and 16.7 per cent YoY, respectively, expecting e-commerce sales to reach US\$ 6.3 trillion by the end of 2024, affecting the increase in air cargo capacity. "The global air cargo yield, including surcharges, increased by 3.6 per cent month over month and 11.7 per cent YoY. It built the

positive trend from the previous month. By the end of September, air cargo yields stood at 50 per cent above the pre-pandemic levels. The high outcome is driven by new e-commerce businesses and companies transitioning from sea to air transport due to limited ocean shipping capacity and rising sea freight costs, competing for space with traditional air cargo customers," IATA stated.

Air cargo is attractive to e-commerce businesses, moving goods across continents in hours, thereby bridging distances to serve retailers and customers far from fulfillment

centers. Currently, air cargo handles 80 per cent of cross-border e-commerce shipments, and this figure is growing rapidly. Today, one in five e-commerce packages travel by air, forecast to reach one in three by 2027.

The sector is well-positioned to adapt and evolve alongside e-commerce focusing on digital transformation in air cargo, aiming to streamline processes, reduce paperwork, and make air transport more efficient and sustainable. These changes ensure the industry keeps pace with e-commerce growth, while addressing sustainability issues. 

Etihad Cargo extends pact with MoIAT to support ICV firms

Etihad Cargo extended its MoU with the Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology, offering preferential air cargo rates to In-Country Value (ICV)-certified firms. This initiative comes as part of Etihad Cargo's commitment to promoting local products, strengthening the UAE's industrial sector and enhancing its competitiveness in global markets.

CT Bureau

Providing discounted air cargo rates across Etihad Cargo's fleet, the carrier will continue to offer a 25 per cent discount on air cargo tariffs to ICV-certified companies. As a result, more UAE-based companies will be able to scale their operations and access more international markets. Building on the original agreement signed in 2021, the partnership highlights Etihad Cargo's significant role in driving the UAE's ambitious efforts to boost in-country value and empower local manufacturers.

Stanislas Brun, Vice President Cargo at Etihad Cargo, and Salama Al Awadi, Director of National In-Country Value Programme (ICV) at the Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology MoIAT, signed the extended MoU in the presence of His Excellency Omar Al Suwaidi,

Undersecretary, MoIAT. The ceremony took place on the sidelines of the Abu Dhabi International Petroleum Exhibition and Conference held at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre.

"The extended MoU is aligned with the Ministry's National Strategy for Industry and Advanced Technology (Operation 300bn), aimed at diversifying the national economy and enhancing the UAE's industrial sector competitiveness. Extending the agreement will enhance the export capabilities of local companies," His Excellency Al Suwaidi said.

"Leading national companies, such as Etihad Airways, always strive to support the UAE's drive towards sustainable industrial and economic development. Etihad Airways is a strategic partner of MoIAT and is one of the first companies to join the National ICV Programme in 2021. It

Etihad Cargo and MoIAT reaffirm their vision to leverage logistics ops as a catalyst for sustainable industrial growth

also prioritises local suppliers and industrial companies in its procurement business.

"The UAE has set a clear vision to elevate the national business environment and foster a competitive economy. Therefore, the MoU emphasises the important role of national entities in supporting local products and steering larger demand towards local procurement," His Excellency Al Suwaidi added.

Etihad Cargo remains committed to fostering a sup-

portive environment for local manufacturers and companies. It delivers bespoke logistics solutions aligning with UAE's ICV goals. This collaboration offers the UAE's industrial and service firms the opportunity to expand into more global markets. Therefore, it aligns with Etihad Cargo's commitment to advancing the targets of Operation 300bn along with Abu Dhabi's vision of economic diversification and long-term sustainability.

Extending the MoU between Etihad Cargo and MoIAT reaffirms their shared strategic vision to leverage logistics operations as a catalyst for sustainable industrial growth in the UAE. It also embodies Etihad Cargo's ongoing commitment to developing the local industry and enabling ICV-certified companies to expand globally, in line with the UAE's vision of creating a competitive, resilient, and sustainable economy. 🇦🇪



Emirates reopens **Edinburgh** route, fortifies UAE-UK trade links

Emirates has started resuming its flights to Edinburgh and foster ties between UAE and UK. Capacity will help support industries across Scotland, offering efficient transport solutions for businesses to access global markets to meet demand. We're excited to be back in Scotland's capital, **Adnan Kazim, Deputy President and Chief Commercial Officer.**

CT Bureau

Emirates touched down in Edinburgh for the first time since 2020, marking a new chapter in UAE-UK relations with significant opportunities for Scotland to tap into Emirates' extensive cargo network. Edinburgh, the Emirates' eighth UK destination, joins the airline's network at a crucial time for businesses seeking collaborations for trade and expansion across the new markets in Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and beyond.

With Emirates' daily service to Edinburgh complementing its daily A380 flights to Glasgow, the carrier now operates 14 weekly flights to Scotland. This expanded network opens substantial cargo capacities—each flight to Edinburgh carries up to 16

tonnes of cargo, a critical advantage for local exporters, from Scotland's iconic seafood to its world-renowned whisky.

"The UK is one of our most important markets, and we are proud to reinstate our footprint in Scotland—a country that's loved by visitors from around the world," Adnan Kazim, Deputy President and Chief Commercial Officer, Emirates, said.

"The ample cargo capacity will also help support more industries across Scotland—offering more efficient and reliable transport solutions for businesses across the region to access international markets more quickly to meet demand. We are excited to be back in the Scotland's capital and look forward to welcoming our passengers back onboard," he said.

Emirates operates 133 weekly flights across eight UK gateways; Edinburgh, London and Manchester etc

For Scotland's exporters, the additional cargo capacity is a welcome boost, enabling the efficient transport of high-demand goods such as salmon, shellfish, among others to international consumers. "Direct connectivity to Dubai is something that will be welcomed by both business and leisure passengers. The return of Emirates has been one we have all been excited

about, and the increased cargo capabilities make Scotland's world-class products accessible to more markets," Gordon Dewar, Chief Executive, Edinburgh Airport, said.

The relationship between the UAE and the UK is longstanding and continues to thrive, as Emirates strengthens relations with British cities. Currently, Emirates operates 133 weekly flights across eight UK gateways, including Edinburgh, London, Manchester, and Birmingham. The airline's commitment is reflected in its investments in modern aircraft, upscaling amenities, and expanding cargo operations. The airline's service to Scotland is more than just a route—it is a bridge that links Scotland's industries to a global stage and heralds a promising new era for the UAE-UK relations. 🇦🇪



Umm Al Qaiwain's twin projects to position it as logistics hub

Umm Al Qaiwain unveiled two transformative projects, Logistics City and Umm Al Qaiwain Cargo Airport, marking milestone in UAE's pursuit of economic diversification and global connectivity, announced His Highness Sheikh Rashid bin Saud bin Rashid Al Mu'alla during the UAE Government Annual Meetings 2024.

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Umm Al Qaiwain has announced the launch of two groundbreaking projects—Logistics City and Umm Al Qaiwain Cargo Airport—during the UAE Government Annual Meetings 2024, held in Abu Dhabi. These initiatives mark a pivotal moment in the emirate's Vision 2033 agenda, which aims to position Umm Al Qaiwain as an international logistics hub by the year 2033.

The Logistics City, located and equipped with cutting-edge infrastructure, envisioned as an integrated logistics zone, will serve as the

This move is likely to enhance the efficiency of trade flow thereby making it a place to expand business by MNCs

cornerstone of the emirate's trade and transport designed to optimise the flow of goods across the region. The complex will feature warehouses, advanced transportation systems, and sophisticated shipping technologies among others that will streamline supply chain operations.

This initiative is likely to enhance the efficiency of trade movements thereby making it an attractive destination for businesses and multinational corporations (MNCs) looking to expand their operations in

the region. "The Logistics City and Cargo Airport projects will bolster our economy and transform Umm Al Qaiwain into a vibrant logistics hub.

to air cargo operations, offering businesses an efficient and reliable solution for handling air freight. With its advanced facilities and streamlined pro-

economy. Highlighting the importance of these projects in transforming the emirate into a vibrant logistics hub, His Highness Sheikh Rashid



This development is not only an investment for the future of the emirate, but also a step towards realising our Vision 2033. The vision aims to establish a sustainable, technologically advanced economy that offers vast opportunities for our youth and ensures a high quality of life for our people," His Highness Sheikh Rashid bin Saud bin Rashid Al Mu'alla, Crown Prince of Umm Al Qaiwain and Chairman Executive Council, said.

The Logistics City is poised to catalyse substantial economic growth in Umm Al Qaiwain. Alongside the Logistics City, another game changing project is set to bolster Umm Al Qaiwain's logistics sector, the Umm Al Qaiwain Cargo Airport. Located within the emirate's central hub, the new cargo airport will cater

to air cargo operations, offering businesses an efficient and reliable solution for handling air freight. With its advanced facilities and streamlined pro-

cesses, the airport will facilitate faster shipments, reduce logistics costs, and better connectivity to global markets. The cargo airport enhances its appeal to MNCs seeking to improve their global supply chain operations. The project will also contribute to the growth of various support industries, including aviation, trade, and technology, thus further reinforcing the emirate's economic resilience. At the heart of these initiatives is the ambition to align with Umm Al Qaiwain's Vision 2033, focusing on long-term economic sustainability, infrastructure growth, and technological advancements.

The Logistics City and the Cargo Airport are crucial in creating a dynamic, competitive, and globally integrated

bin Saud Rashid Al Mu'alla said the projects will drive the region's future economic success. Through these developments, Umm Al Qaiwain is positioning itself as a vital centre for international trade and logistics. As the region moves toward its Vision 2033, Umm Al Qaiwain's role in shaping the future of logistics and trade will be crucial in achieving the nation's economic objectives.

FACT FILE

- This development is not only an investment for the future of the emirate, but also a step towards realising our Vision 2033, aiming to establish a sustainable and advanced economy.



Air cargo, logistics leaders gather under one roof at **GFS**

The third edition of Global Freight Summit (GFS), hosted by DP World under theme 'Acting on the Opportunities of a Changing World', brought together global forwarders, trade alliances, and supply chain communities. Attendees drew inspiration from Hollywood, Bollywood, and sports personalities who shared their unique experiences.





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D33: Doubling UAE's trade and redefining global growth

Dubai's D33 Economic Agenda is reshaping its role as a global trade powerhouse. After achieving a record-breaking foreign trade volume of 2 trillion dirhams in 2022, the emirate aims to double its trade volume over the next decade, strengthen its position as a leading financial hub, and foster dynamic international partnerships.

CT Bureau

Dubai, renowned for its trade and innovation, continues to make rapid strides on the global stage. With a foreign trade volume of 2 trillion dirhams in 2022, Dubai has established itself as a cornerstone of international commerce. Hadi Badri, CEO, Dubai Economic Development Corporation, highlighted this achievement at the recent Global Freight Summit. "Dubai's foreign trade has grown 10-fold over the past 20 years—a remarkable accomplishment. Last year, we surpassed our target of 2 trillion dirhams in foreign trade, a goal set by our leadership and exceeded it as an economy," he said.

D33 INITIATIVE

The emirate's D33 Economic Agenda sets ambitious targets for the next decade. Key objectives include doubling trade volumes, becoming one of the world's top finan-



Hadi Badri
CEO, Dubai Economic
Development Corporation

cial hubs, and solidify its position as a leading global tourism destination.

Badri emphasised achieving these goals requires robust partnerships. "It is impossible to realise our ambitions without collaboration, domestically and internationally. For example, the UAE's CEPA agreements embody our openness and commitment to working with others. These partnerships are catalysts for

trade, foreign direct investment, and joint ventures."

Dubai has already signed FTAs with 42 countries, with 20 more in the pipeline. These agreements unlock new markets and deepen economic integration. A standout exam-

“Dubai's foreign trade has grown 10-fold over the past 20 years—a remarkable accomplishment.”

ple is the UAE-India CEPA, which has boosted trade by 15 per cent, facilitated FDI, and fostered collaboration on key areas such as food security and digital currency. "The UAE's entry into BRICS further strengthens our commitment to global partnerships,

creating new opportunities across emerging markets," Badri added.

AHEAD OF TARGETS

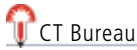
Dubai is on track to exceed its D33 targets. With GDP growth outpacing many Organisations for Economic Cooperation and Development projects leading globally for the past three years, the emirate is poised for continued success. Badri noted, "Our goal is to be one of the top three global cities. Being 'global' is not just about connectivity—it is about creating an environment that welcomes the world. Dubai's agility and innovation allow us to adapt quickly, finding solutions that make our vision not only achievable but inevitable."

Dubai's trade success is more than just a matter of numbers; it is a story of vision, collaboration, and a relentless pursuit of excellence. 🌍



Green logistics gaining ground in supply chain

Sustainability in logistics, also known as green logistics, involves actions a business can take to lessen its environmental impact in the supply chain. This encompasses processing of raw materials, transportation, and delivery of the final product, experts said.



Sustainability in logistics is triggering innovation throughout the entire supply chain, from transportation to warehousing, and is becoming a critical factor in the competitive landscape. Simply put, sustainability in logistics refers to the steps a business can take to reduce the environmental impact of these processes.

Examples include carbon offsetting, optimising transport routes to reduce emissions, and switching to EVs. Sustainability in logistics, also known as green logistics, involves actions a business can take to lessen its environmental impact in the supply chain. This encompasses processing of raw materials, transportation, and delivery of the final product. This green logistics



Lee Fletcher
Environment & Sustainability
Manager (Aviation), Chapman
Freeborn



Nicolas Jammes
Assistant Director, Environment
Communications, IATA

“The path for aviation to meet a net zero target is filled with unknowns such as development of alternative fuel.”

“Of late, firms are retiring older, and less fuel efficient aircraft and replacing them with modern ones.”



concept is steadily and slowly gaining momentum as the companies recognise the importance of being environmentally conscious.

SUSTAINABILITY

“For all businesses, be it aviation, construction, manufacture, retail, commercial, the governments, investors and stakeholders are setting precedents for reductions from environmental impacts by the businesses. Environmental investment reports such as Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive in Europe are now changing the view of how the companies are assessed, while setting their 2030/2050 targets and reporting on their progress towards these, and this has started to increase the importance of efficiency and reducing carbon emissions to all stakeholders within a logistics value chain.

Interestingly, “the path for aviation to meet a net zero target is filled with unknowns such as the development of alternative fuel supply such as SAF, hydrogen and electro-hydrogen but this will take some



time to achieve at a scale and size that can be used within large aircraft,” Lee Fletcher, Environment & Sustainability Manager (Aviation), Chapman Freeborn, said.

Aviation companies, including cargo, have undertaken processes such as reducing pre-loaded aircraft weight, reduction of reserve fuel, and improved automated takeoff and landing processes to reduce fuel consumption to name but a few. Airlines and operators are updating their aircraft stock to more efficient aircraft and this will benefit belly cargo operations, but will take some time to filter through the cargo market where conversions are used as these are usually older air passenger aircraft converted to freight, he added.

“Cargo firms are pursuing measures to improve fuel efficiency and reduce carbon emissions, driven by environmental concerns and regulatory pressures. Some of the initiatives include investment in fuel-efficient aircraft wherein cargo airlines are investing in newer, more fuel-efficient air-

craft, designed with advanced aerodynamics, lighter materials, and more efficient engines that reduce fuel consumption and carbon emissions per tonne-mile of cargo. Companies are also retiring older, less

There is a risk SAF will be controlled by the larger aviation and cargo bodies, curbing supply to smaller operators

efficient aircraft and replacing them with modern ones,” Nicolas Jammes, Assistant Director, Environment Communications, IATA, said.

THE ALTERNATIVES

DHL in an article on sustainability trends in logistics highlights that adopting renewable energy solutions will be a big part of a company’s decarbonisation strategy. About 30 per cent of the world’s elec-

tricity is generated using renewables. Renewable energy is defined as derived from natural sources are replenished at a higher rate than they are consumed; it promotes the use of sunlight and wind as an alternative to fossil fuels. This is just one of the many alternatives being explored. SAF mandates are now in place in some European countries such as France and UK (2%), and the USA has put in place incentives for SAF production and use in many American states, Fletcher said.

“EU mandates, for example, will increase in line with policies such as ReFuel EU. However, the cost and availability of such fuels is restrictive, and fuel producers have a better commercial market in biodiesel to supply conflicts currently happening around the world so until these mandates increase significantly to improve the market price, voluntary use of high levels of SAF will take time. Larger airlines are partnering with SAF fuel suppliers and airports to get their preferred fuel source directly to their aircraft and operations as part of their carbon reduction plans, but there is a risk that SAF to market will be controlled by the larger aviation and cargo organisations, further restricting supply to smaller operators. Investment from operators in Carbon Capture technology is also being undertaken but to make an impact at this scale, large investment is needed so these solutions are not always available to all operators,” Fletcher explained.

Jammes sheds light on Regulatory Compliance and Industry Initiatives such as the CORSIA (Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation) wherein cargo airlines are participating in this global initiative. Interestingly, many companies have set ambitious goals to achieve net zero carbon emissions by mid-century, aligning with broader industry commitments.

TECH MANDATE

AI is playing a big part in helping businesses transform the sustainability of their lo-

gistics. “There are many ways that technology such as AI, IoT and Blockchain are being used within cargo and aviation to help improve operational efficiency and reduce environmental impacts,” Gerhard Coetzee, Vice President, Cargo, IMEA, Chapman Freeborn, said.

“It is becoming apparent contrails produced by aircraft moving through low pressure have an impact on



Gerhard Coetzee
Vice President, Cargo, IMEA,
Chapman Freeborn

“ There are ways that AI, IoT and Blockchain are being used within aviation to help improve efficiency.”

global warming and reduce the heat that can escape back into the atmosphere. Google has been working on a solution which identifies where contrails could be produced and then amends the aircraft flight path accordingly. At Chapman Freeborn, we have invested in a Carbon accounting system which is used to report our emissions via our financial expenditure. When the annual financial records are complete, these are input into the online portal and AI then evaluates each cost line and aligns with a carbon factor and GHG Protocol Scope. Through this method, we can simplify the calculation and identification process of scope I, II and III emissions as well as produce our emissions reduction plan,” Coetzee further explained. 🌱

NAFL organises its 39th AGM, shares air cargo insights

National Association of Freight and Logistics (NAFL) held its 39th Annual General Meeting, bringing together its members to reflect on the year's achievements. Participants also explored innovative approaches and shared insights air cargo and logistics industry standards in the UAE and across the region in the years ahead.





Emirates SkyCargo joins Move to-15°C Coalition

Emirates SkyCargo has joined global coalition, securing its place as the first airline to bring its expertise to the initiative. As a world-leader in the transport of perishable goods, the carrier will lend its wealth of knowledge and experience in handling and shipping to the practical application of this potentially industry-changing initiative.

CT Bureau

First launched at COP28 hosted in the UAE, the Move to-15°C Coalition aims to redefine frozen food temperature standards and reduce energy consumption in the frozen food supply chain. The working hypothesis suggests that a three-degree change in temperature could make a significant environmental impact with no compromise on food quality and safety.

By bringing together cross-industry partners, the coalition will explore the real-world implementation of this research through data sharing, suggested operational revisions, collaborating with members and stakeholders, as well as engaging with policy-makers and regulators.

Perishables represent Emirates SkyCargo's largest business unit by tonnage, with 900 to 1,000 tonnes of fresh food travelling around the world on its flights daily. While frozen foods may represent a small percentage, the airline has built outstanding

cool chain infrastructure, employed proprietary innovations and established strong working relationships across the supply chain that would

The coalition explores the real-world implementation of this research through data sharing

provide key insight when reimagining the frozen food supply chain.

"We have long been leaders in the movement of perishables, connecting the global agricultural community across the globe and delivering freshness one can taste. The coalition is a future-looking concept, bringing together likeminded partners to evolve the industry in line with current tech advancements, equipment, facilities, packag-

ing and more. We are excited to offer our insight and expertise to help shape the next phase of food logistics, while driving meaningful environmental impact," Dennis Lister, SVP, Product and Innovation, Emirates SkyCargo, said.

"We welcome Emirates SkyCargo to our coalition. The airlines play a vital role in the global cold chain, and having a leading airline like Emirates on board represents a key step forward to us. 'Ambitious climate action across the complex frozen food supply chain, which includes food production, ports, shipping, road, rail and air freight, cold storage and retail, can happen through cross-sector collaboration. By joining the coalition, Emirates SkyCargo is demonstrating that change is possible through industries joining forces," Thomas Eskesen, Chairman, the Move to -15°C Coalition, said.

The coalition was set up in 2023, following the launch of the Three Degrees of Change report, an academic paper supported by DP World, and delivered by experts from the

Paris-based International Institute of Refrigeration, the University of Birmingham, and London South Bank University, among others.

Emirates SkyCargo is focused on sustainable and environmental initiatives that drive impact in its own operations and across the industry. Recognising that no one entity can achieve far-reaching results alone, a key part of its strategy was to find solutions to the biggest challenges in partnership with wider industry. Emirates is also an industrial partner of Aviation Impact Accelerator, marking the first disbursement from the airline's US\$ 200 million Sustainability Fund, dedicated to R&D projects.

FACT FILE

- Perishables represent the carrier's largest business unit by tonnage, with 900 to 1,000 tonnes of fresh food going around the world on its freighters/passenger flights daily.



Join NAFL / FIATA to get connected for networking and business opportunities



Here's why you should consider being a member:

International Benefits:

- + The FIATA member certificate
- + Use of the Fiata logo
- + Entry in the FIATA members directory & networking events
- + Advertising in the FIATA members directory, review and information (FIATA e-Flash)
- + Special Rates for FIATA publication and articles
- + Access to secretariat's assistance
- + FIATA arbitration code
- + Use of FIATA documents
- + FIATA worldwide member connectivity
- + Talent Connect Worldwide, E-Learning

National Benefits:

- + The NAFL member certificate
- + Use of the NAFL logo
- + Free access to networking events
- + Discounted rates in participating in global and regional conferences
- + Assistance in case of legal advocacy
- + Discounts for cargo/logistic events and exhibition stands
- + Discount training for NAFL members
- + Training/Certification for regional/international courses
- + Insurance at discounted rates (cargo/liability/medical)
- + Complimentary internship, Skill upgrade and Mentoring & Innovation ideas
- + Discounted supplier rates for industry products

Be the Industry voice, protect yourself by STC, Insurance and maritime advice, network B2B, B2C

ACCREDITATIONS



NAFL : National Association of Freight & Logistics

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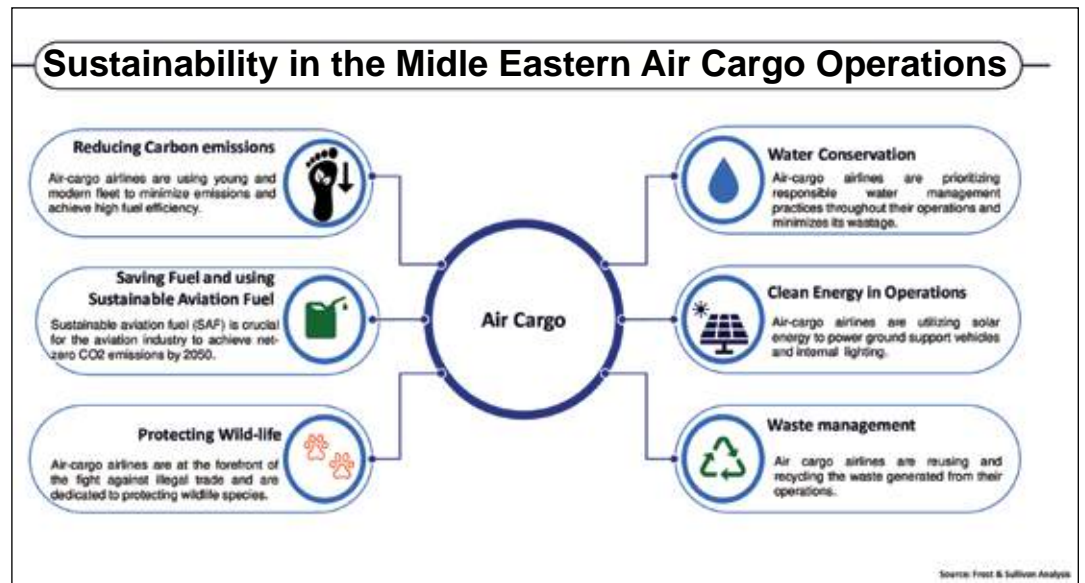
Advancing sustainable global air cargo in the Middle East

Sustainability remains concern for air cargo industry. As per TIACA’s recent survey, 70% of firms in the Middle East and Africa have embraced sustainability, committed to environmental responsibility. The consumption of 99 billion gallons of fuel in 2024 may generate 935 MT of emissions highlighting the industry’s need to reduce its environmental footprint.

The Middle East air cargo sector is increasingly recognising the importance of sustainability and taking key initiatives to reduce its environmental impact. Here’s a breakdown of some of the most prominent efforts:

Reducing CO2 emissions: Etihad targets net-zero emissions by 2050, outlining a multi-step plan. They aim for a 20% emissions intensity reduction by 2025 and a 50% net emissions reduction by 2035 compared to 2019 levels. Currently, the results are going in their favour as Etihad demonstrably reduced CO2 emissions per Revenue Tonne Kilometre (RTK) in 2023 by an impressive 26% compared to their 2019 baseline. This translates to a significant reduction in their environmental footprint.

Saving fuel: Qatar Airways, which operates one of the youngest fleets to reduce emissions and noise. Qatar Airways continues to invest in engineering upgrades for airframes and engines to



minimise drag and maximise operational efficiency. In addition, the airline has joined the IATA Turbulence Aware data exchange platform to provide a more comfortable passenger experience, and reduced fuel consumption.

PROMOTING SAF:

- Etihad Cargo has taken a proactive stance on environmental responsibility by participating in TIACA BlueSky Sustainability Verification Programme. This industry-led initiative assesses airlines’ environmental practices and awarded Etihad Cargo an “advanced” rating for its decarbonization efforts. This recognition highlights the airline’s strategic investments in Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF).

CLIMATE CHANGE:

- Etihad’s commitment extends beyond combatting climate change. Their continued efforts in Wildlife, Conservation, and Protection of Biodiversity and Animal Welfare

demonstrate a holistic approach to sustainability. Since 2016, they have proudly partnered with United for Wildlife, actively fighting against illegal trade and championing global species protection. Notably, their Etihad Mangroves Forest project in 2023 contributed to the planting of 68,916 mangrove trees. Qatar Airways prioritises water conservation across its operations. The airline has adopted General Electric’s ‘360 Foam Wash’ system for engine cleaning, which reduces water usage compared to traditional methods, making it the world’s first to do so.

USING CLEAN ENERGY:

- Emirates Engineering leverages a one-megawatt solar array powering their Engine Maintenance Centre in Dubai. This solution generates 1,800 MW hours of clean electricity annually and saves 800 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions. Emirates Engineering has also installed energy-efficient LED lighting across its facilities.

FUTURE PROSPECT:

The industry’s journey toward sustainability demands commitment and innovative solutions. As the industry grapples with challenges posed by emissions and environmental impact, implementation of sustainable practices has become a priority. Efforts between airlines, energy producers, and governments are paving the way for increased SAF production.



Madhusmita Pattanayak
Senior Consulting Analyst, Growth Advisory, Frost & Sullivan

(The views expressed are solely of the author. The publication may or may not subscribe to the same)

SOURCES:

- IATA
- TIACA
- Emirates Sky Cargo
- Etihad Cargo
- Qatar Airways
- Kuwait Airways Sustainability Report
- International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
- ICA

DHL fortifies UAE ops by launching DHL Supply Chain

DHL Group has announced the launch of the DHL Supply Chain following a transfer of business operations from DHL Global Forwarding. This expansion enables DHL to offer contract logistics services, including warehousing, fulfillment, and aftermarket support, in addi-



tion to cross-border and freight services. "With growing demand for end-to-end supply chain solutions, expanding our contract logistics portfolio was obvious. Our presence in forwarding and freight services allows us to extend contract logistics capabilities in the UAE," Hendrik Venter, CEO, Europe, Middle East, and Africa, DHL Supply Chain said.

QAC implements AI-driven solution for revenue suite

Qatar Airways Cargo (QAC) has become the first airline globally to implement CARGOSTACK Optimiser, an advanced revenue management suite from Wiremind Cargo. This AI-driven solution enhances demand forecasting, inventory optimisation, and overbooking management, positioning QAC at the cutting edge of innovation in air cargo. "The



adoption of Wiremind Cargo's CARGOSTACK Optimiser suite is testament to our commitment for innovation. This pact continues our leadership in employing AI solutions available to transform our revenue management processes," Mark Drusch, Chief Officer of Cargo at QAC, said.

Etihad Cargo boosts belly-hold capacity in expanded winter schedule on key routes

Etihad Cargo has announced an expanded winter schedule, increasing belly-hold capacity on 880 passenger flights per week on major routes from November 2024. The carrier will add more frequencies to its existing network and a new passenger route to Nairobi. "The expanded schedule offers access to its global network, with increased frequencies and a new destination providing more capacity for cargo transport. Etihad Cargo is



dedicated to supporting its customers with efficient services,"

Stanislas Brun, Vice President, Cargo, said.

Emirates SkyCargo to expand fleet with 5 more freighters, delivery in 2025-26

Emirates has ordered five Boeing 777 freighters set for delivery in 2025 and 2026 to meet rising cargo demand. It currently has 14 Boeing 777-300 freighters on order, including five confirmed in July. Emirates' is expanding its cargo capacity by converting 10 Boeing 777-300 passenger flights into freighters by collaborating with Israel Aircraft Industries. "We are investing in new freighter to meet surging demand and provide our



customers around the world with flexibility, connectivity, and options to leverage market opportunity. Demand for Emirates' air cargo has been

booming of late, HH Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Chairman and Chief Executive, Emirates Airline and Group, said.

TIACA collaborates with KSI Airport to enhance air cargo and logistics

TIACA has signed a MoU with King Salman International Airport to advance the cargo and logistics sector regionally and globally. Under the agreement, both entities will work together to connect TIACA's training programmes with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's cargo community, enhancing skills across the industry. In terms of innovation, they will partner to share best practices and emerging tech to optimise logistics operations. "TIACA has been focused on spotlighting the importance of air cargo across the globe, the training of the future of the next leaders, creating a sustainable future,



and shining a light on innovation within the industry. The signing of this MoU could not be more of a natural step and

we look forward to working with KSIA to accomplish the tasks at hand," Glyn Hughes, Director General, TIACA said.

Stonepeak reaches pact to acquire ATSG

Stonepeak has reached an agreement to acquire Air Transport Services Group (ATSG), a major provider of mid-size cargo jet leasing and aviation service, in a deal valued at US\$ 3.1 billion. "This transaction re-



flects the value of our fleet of in-demand midsize freighter and passenger aircraft, and the strength of our talented teams across ATSG's businesses," Mike Berger, Chief Executive, ATSG, said. "We thank our employees for helping us achieve this milestone."

Delta Cargo, LATAM expand partnership



LATAM Cargo and Delta Cargo are expanding their pharma transport partnership by adding new stations to their integrated network. This move enhances their Joint Venture, further aligning both the carriers' pharma logistics capabilities to better serve the growing demand in the pharma sector. "This announcement represents a benefit for our joint venture with the Delta Cargo. Through this partnership, we also fortify our pharma network," Andrés Varela, Commercial Director, North America and Asia, LATAM Cargo Group, said.

Vanderlande acquires Siemens Logistics aims to improve technology & local services

Vanderlande acquired Siemens Logistics along with digital services for airport operations. The acquisition will enhance Vanderlande's market position by accelerating access to advanced technologies and expanding its global presence. Vanderlande, specialising in logistics automation, aims to create synergies in technology. "As a provider of solutions for airport logistics, Siemens Logistics is reputed in the baggage and air-cargo handling areas. Together with Vanderlande and our committed global teams, we look



forward to bringing fresh impetus to the airport industry and to supporting our customers' business

with future-oriented technologies," Michael Schneider, Chief Executive, Siemens Logistics, said.

United Cargo opens cargo facility to increase cargo handling capacity at Newark airport

United Cargo has unveiled a new 165,000 square feet cargo facility at Newark Liberty International Airport, designed to enhance its handling capacity in support of the airline's plan to increase the number of wide-body aircraft operating at the airport. This expansion bolsters United Cargo's ability to handle increasing volumes at one of the airline's key hubs. "This investment is vital because it is a critical hub for us. It is one of important hubs and a gateway to the world: We serve 61 global



destinations. We are continuing to make great investments in this hub as the New Jersey hometown

airline," Mike Hanna, Senior Vice President, Newark airport operations, said.

Global Air Cargo is GSA for Air Serbia in USA, expands network to China

Globe Air Cargo, an ECS Group subsidiary, has become the GSA for Air Serbia's cargo operations in the USA, following a new agreement. This partnership offers 60 tonnes of weekly cargo on five Airbus A330 flights between New York, Chicago, and Belgrade. Beginning January 11, 2025, it also expands Air Serbia's reach into China with services to Guangzhou, Tianjin, and a new Shanghai route. "We are pleased to partner with ECS Group as our GSA in the USA. Our network offers access to des-



tinations, such as Podgorica, Tirana, Skopje, Sarajevo, Sofia, and Zagreb and Belgrade," Veselin Djordjevic, Head, Air

Serbia Cargo, said. It also has 50 drop-off points covered by extensive RFS connections via ORD and JFK.

Lufthansa Cargo direct freighter service between Vietnam and LA



Lufthansa Cargo has launched a new transpacific service, operating direct Boeing 777 freighters from Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, to Los Angeles, USA. This expansion will strengthen Lufthansa Cargo's global reach in the Asia-USA freight market as a part of increasing capacity out of Asia in response to the rising e-commerce demands. "This new freighter link responds to the demand of the growing economy in Vietnam, linked to the USA faster. This service reinforces our purpose of enabling global business—examining possibilities of new routes, growing in dynamic market environments," Ashwin Bhat, Lufthansa Cargo chief executive, said.

W5000, world's largest unmanned cargo drone, unveiled in China

Aviation startup Air White Whale has unveiled the W5000, the world's largest-capacity unmanned cargo drone, at an event in Changzhou, China. Currently undergoing certification in China, the twin-turboprop aircraft boasts a 5-tonne payload and a range of up to 2,600 km. With over three times the payload capacity of its 2017 predecessor, the W5000 could transform aviation logistics by offering cost-effective, long-range cargo transport. The drone offers an impressive long range of up to 1,615 miles with same safety as the large commercial aircraft.



To boost UK operations, Swissport launches cargo facility at Heathrow

Swissport announced a new cargo facility at London Heathrow. The launch follows a 17 per cent year-to-date increase in cargo tonnage and supports Swissport's growth in air cargo market. Additional expansions are planned, with a new facility soon to open at Gatwick and more developments underway at East Midlands, Manchester, and Stansted airports. "Our new facility is a cornerstone of our global air cargo expansion strategy. It enhances our service capabilities and shows our commitment to investing in infrastructure and technology to meet the growing demands of the air cargo industry," Joe Bellfield, Chief Operating Officer, Cargo, said.



Qantas Freight & cargo.one to give digital solutions for forwarders



Qantas Freight has partnered with cargo.one to provide thousands of freight forwarders access to its capacity. Through this collaboration, Qantas and cargo.one have streamlined digital quoting and booking process, offering a seamless, reliable end-to-end experience for forwarders. The platform supports instant bookings' from UK to Australia. "cargo.one is an ideal partner to help grow digital sales and link our brand and products with more forwarders. We want to strengthen our partnership with cargo.one," Igor Kwiatkowski, Executive Manager, Qantas Freight, said.

K+N leverages Amazon cargo for e-commerce shipments from China

K+N adopts Amazon's newly launched air cargo service in shipping e-commerce packages from China to the USA. As one of the first external customers of Amazon Air Cargo, K+N, through its subsidiary Apex Logistics, is leveraging Amazon's dedicated fleet of cargo jets to expedite shipments. Amazon's private airline has expanded to

offer its excess cargo space to forwarding market operating within the USA, Europe, and India, supporting general cargo transport in addition to Amazon's own parcels. "We inject in Honolulu our e-commerce business into the Amazon air fleet business, and we leverage them for distribution within



the USA marketplace. On one hand, we utilise the return flights for Amazon out of Honolulu, and on the other, we have a direct connection into the different hubs of Amazon Air in the USA marketplace. Overall, I would call it a win-win situation," Stefan Paul, CEO, K+N said.

Movements

ETIHAD CARGO UAE



Jacob David has joined as Senior Manager, Cargo Products, Etihad Cargo. His expertise will boost the IATA CEIV-certified products such as PharmaLife, Fresh-Forward, SecureTech, SkyStables, and Live-Animals.

ETIHAD CARGO UAE



Sam Hettiarachchi joined as Marketing and Communications Manager of Etihad Cargo. Having 15 years of experience in creative leadership and marketing, he will be leading its marketing strategy and campaigns.

EMIRATES UAE



Adil Al Ghaith has been appointed as SVP, Commercial Operations (Centre), overseeing the Gulf, Middle East, and Africa. Currently, he is SVP, Commercial Operations for the Gulf, Middle East, and Central Asia.

RIYADH AIR Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



Pravin Singh has joined as Global Head, Cargo, Riyadh Air. He spent 27 years at British Airways and IAG Cargo. He was Cargo Regional Commercial Manager, Asia-Pacific, India, and the Middle East during his stint in British Airways.

SAL SAUDI LOGISTICS SERVICES Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



Omar Talal Jamal Hariri has joined as the CEO of SAL Saudi Logistics Services Company. With over 20 years of experience, he will drive initiatives to achieve Saudi Vision 2030 and the National Strategy for Transport and Logistics.

EMIRATES Kingdom of Saudi Arabia



Khalid Al Zarooni has joined as the VP in KSA at Emirates. With an experience of 18 years at the airline, he has served as in the role of area manager in various cities such as Morocco, Tanzania, Uganda, and Cyprus.

DAIMLER TRUCK ME AFRICA UAE



Michael Dietz has been appointed President & CEO of Daimler Truck Middle East Africa. He recently served as CEO, Regional Center Southern Africa, oversaw setting up of D TSA Group and the new Daimler Truck Campus in Pretoria.

DAIMLER TRUCK ME AFRICA UAE



Claudio Siedmann has joined as the Vice President, Truck Sales, Daimler Truck Middle East Africa, across 59 MEA markets. He has an experience of 20 years in commercial vehicles. He also served as MD, Daimler Colombia S.A.

QATAR AIRWAYS CARGO Qatar



Eric Wilson has joined as SVP, Cargo Sales at QAC. He has been working in the aviation sector for the past 20 years. Wilson will now be responsible for managing all aspects of cargo sales, global accounts, market development among others.

DAIMLER TRUCK ME AFRICA UAE



Alexander Schneider has joined as the VP, Truck Customer Service and Parts, bringing 35 years of expertise in sales, aftersales, and leadership in commercial vehicles. He also established a regional warehouse for Mercedes-Benz Trucks.

DAIMLER TRUCK ME AFRICA UAE



Fatih Savas has joined as the Head, Strategy & Corporate Affairs, a new department overseeing DT MEA's Strategy, Marketing, Communications, and Corporate Affairs activities. He will bring a visionary approach to his new role.

DHL Bahrain



Abdulaziz Busbate joined as the new CEO of DHL Express, MENA. He will be based in the Kingdom of Bahrain. With 24 years of experience at DHL Express, he started his career in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.



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The ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open the second edition of Arabian Cargo Awards got rousing welcome by gathered air cargo and logistics experts

Spotlight on industry titans

Arabian Cargo Awards 2024 concluded with celebration in Dubai as crème de la crème of air cargo industry were recognised for their hard work. With a number of stalwarts from the industry in the Middle East, the event witnessed a sizeable growth from last year.



Dr. Shehara Rizly

Known as the ‘Oscars of the Cargo World’, the awards ceremony, held on 11 November 2024, recognised and celebrated the accomplishments of companies and individuals driving innovation and growth in the logistics and supply chains. His Excellency Humaid Mohamed Ben Salem, Secretary General,



Federation of UAE Chambers of Commerce & Industry, graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Industry stalwarts, in-

“It is a privilege to express gratitude to those who have made an impact in this air cargo sector.”

— HE Humaid Mohamed Ben Salem

novators, and leaders gathered at the event to applaud this



Sanjeet, Mentor, Arabian Cargo Awards, chief guest His Excellency Humaid Mohammed Bin Salem, Secretary General, Federation of UAE Chambers of Commerce & Industry and Sumeera Bahl, Director, DDP Group, releasing the ACA Cargo Coffeetable Book



year's awardees, whose tireless efforts and contributions have elevated standards and expanded possibilities within the sector.

"The UAE has become a pivotal hub for global cargo and logistics, connecting goods from point A to points B, C, and beyond, with remarkable efficiency and competitive pricing. It serves as a gateway to the Middle East and North Africa, driving regional trade and connectivity. Today, it is a privilege to express gratitude to everyone who has made an impact in this sector. I believe these awards will inspire and recognise your hard work and dedication, motivating continued excellence and progress in the air cargo and logistics industry," His Excellency Humaid Mohamed Ben Salem, Secretary General, Federation of UAE Chambers of Commerce & Industry, reiterated, in his address.

"This night is a testament to the spirit of excellence that defines the air cargo and logistics industry. The achievements celebrated tonight inspire all of us to reach new heights and redefine what is possible in logistics and air cargo. Enjoy your success, but make sure that you innovate, improve and develop

the air cargo and logistics industry. I am sure everyone will be watching you very

The ACA served as a game changer as it rewards a responsibility to the winners who are encouraged to take it to the next level and keep moving forward

carefully. These particular awards are not just a reward but a responsibility on you all to grow this industry, and I am sure with your efforts, the Middle East will soon become the world's most prominent air cargo hub," SanJeet, Mentor, Arabian Cargo Awards, said, while expressing his appreciation.

Highlights of the evening included awards given away across multiple categories, celebrating advancements in digitalisation, sustainable practices, and operational excellence. The companies received special recognition for their contributions and individuals demonstrating outstanding leadership and innovation were also honoured.

This edition of the awards brought in a special segment, where some of the important partners recognised their partners who have been

working with them over the past year and presented special awards in recognition of

the support extended. These awards were presented by the DHL and the Etihad Cargo during the event which made it a memorable evening to them.

The Arabian Cargo Awards serves as a game changer in the industry as it rewards a responsibility to the winners who would be encouraged to take it to the next level and keep moving forward and take it to exceptional heights. Partners for the event were DHL and Etihad Cargo along with Conrad Dubai as the hospitality partner. The awards ceremony not only spotlighted air cargo industry's achievements but also served as a networking platform for the industry leaders to discuss the future of logistics in the Middle East and beyond.



SanJeet, Mentor, Arabian Cargo Awards, addressing the industry stalwarts during the awards ceremony

Gallery of Legends



Mohammed Jassim Al Rais

“It is a great feeling to receive the award. It is a nice when your hard work and efforts are recognised by the fraternity, by the media, by the people. At the same time, we would like to improve the way we conduct our business, make it reach greater heights, and the way we continue to innovate. We are trying to be sustainable in the local market.”

Mohammed Jassim Al Rais, Executive Director, Al Rais Cargo Agencies

DDP Game Changer



Tariq Hareb Alfalahi

“It was an amazing evening. I met a lot of interesting people and built relationships that we hope to continue. We have been awarded the Game Changer award. I will need to continue to change the game to improve our field. From next year onwards, I expect to be having more collaborations with many of the companies taking part in the award ceremony.”

Tariq Hareb Alfalahi, CEO, RailDirect

DDP Trailblazer



Jude Fernandes

“We would not have got this honour without the Dubai Airports leadership, my colleagues, key stakeholders, and the air cargo community. Thank you for your support in making Dubai Airports an international cargo hub of choice. I have been working with Dubai Airports for the past 30 years. I am proud not only for myself but also for my organisation.”

Jude Fernandes, Head- Cargo Commercial Partnerships, Dubai Airports

Face of the Future



Rohit Thakwani

“The ACA outdid the second time in a row. Like I said last year, we needed this, and you provided it back-to-back. And it is been wonderful. To be honest, I was very humbled by this award to begin with. It was inspiring as well. We will create partnerships and look at sustainability as one of the key points for our company.”

Rohit Thakwani, CEO, Airglow Aviation

Excellence in Supporting UAE Freight & Logistics



National Association of Freight & Logistics

This award was received by Nadia Abdul Aziz, President, National Association of Freight and Logistics

“The award is a big responsibility for a woman, especially in a male-dominated industry. We must have direct collaborations between the private and government sectors to facilitate trade and ensure everybody is happy.”

Nadia Abdul Aziz, President, NAFL

Best International Air Cargo Terminal Operator



dnata

The award was received by Narendra Jadeja, VP, Commercial and Business Development, Mubashir Hassan, Manager Commercial & Business Development, dnata

“This award is a testament to the hard work and commitment of our team in providing quality cargo services, and for continuing to raise industry benchmarks. It also highlighted the impact of our investments.”

Guillaume Crozier, Senior Vice President - UAE Cargo, dnata

Best Cross Border E-Commerce Logistics Solution Provider



RSA GLOBAL

The award was received by Ken O'Rahilly, CEO, e-Commerce, RSA Global

“I am proud of the team. I think they have done a great job over the past 12 months. I am looking forward to taking this award back to the team. Big things are afoot in 2025. We are expanding our operations, making inroads into Europe.”

Simon Farrell, CEO, Supply Chain, RSA Global

Best Global Logistics Company



DSV

The award was received by Praveen Nair, General Manager, Air Freight, DSV

“It is great to be a winner here. Thank you so much to ACA once again. We are a growing free-forwarding firm. We are the world's largest. We have great ideas, great innovations that are coming your way in 2025 and an acquisition coming in the future.”

Praveen Nair, General Manager, Air Freight, DSV

Best Custom Clearance Company



Orbit Logistics

This award was received by Ayah Al Bidh, Marketing & Public Relations Manager, Orbit Logistics

“Winning this award is a vital step forward for us. It conveys our commitment to growth. This award will allow us to emphasise our strengths in the market, mainly customs clearance presence in Dafza and the UAE market.”

Ayah Al Bidh, Marketing & Public Relations Manager, Orbit Logistics

Best Global Forwarding Company



DHL Global Forwarding Middle East & Africa

The award was received by Mary Oxley, Regional Sales and Marketing Head, Middle East & Africa, DHL Global Forwarding

Helping you connect your goods to every corner of the globe since 1815. DHL Global promises to offer reliable, flexible and efficient deliveries to and from every country globally, in total compliance with local regulations.

Emerging Cargo GSA



Air One Cargo FZCO (part of Azimi Group)

The award was received by Azimi A.S. Managing Director, Air One Cargo FZCO (Part of Azimi Group)

“It is a wonderful feeling to receive the award. We are exclusive and only source for Afghanistan. We are the exclusive company who are transporting cargo to Afghanistan, there is no firm operating.”

Azimi A.S. Managing Director, Air One Cargo FZCO (Part of Azimi Group)

Best Road Transport Service Provider



CEVA Logistics

The award was received by Thorsten Pook, CCO, Middle East, CEVA Logistics, with Lejla Omerbasic Dukic, Head, Marketing and Communication, IMEA, CEVA Logistics

“Winning the award has motivated us. CEVA in GCC has been growing in the past couple of years and this award reflects our growth trajectory. Receiving this award is a recognition of the services we provide to our clients.”

Thorsten Pook, CCO, Middle East, CEVA Logistics

Best Cargo Airline



Etihad Cargo

The award was received by Samina Khan, Sales Officer, Huda Abbas Mohamed Bahaj, Area Manager Cargo, and Grant Kemp, Regional General Manager, Central, Etihad Cargo

“Winning the Best International Cargo Airline Award at the ACA shows Etihad Cargo's commitment to our customers, operational excellence, and innovation. We aim to build on this momentum, strengthening partnerships.”

Stanislaus Brun, Vice President, Etihad Cargo

Most Promising Cargo GSA



GSA Global Cargo

The award was received by Anandhu Peedika Kandi, Business Development Executive, and Justin Saji, Cargo Supervisor GSA Global Cargo

GSA Global Cargo is based in Dubai, 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 analyse route, payload and innovative solutions for its customers' air freight needs.

Fastest Growing Freight Forwarder - Air



EXPOLANKA FREIGHT DUBAI LLC (EFL)

The award was received by Sathish Babu, Country Manager, Expolanka Freight Dubai LLC (EFL)

“It is a proud moment to win this award. We are delighted and honoured to be here and looking forward to support the UAE in terms of imports and exports. And it encourages us to do more next year.”

Sathish Babu, Country Manager, Expolanka Freight Dubai LLC

Best Commercial Vehicle Manufacturers



Daimler Truck Middle East Africa

The award was received by Fatih Savas, Head, Strategy & Corporate Affairs, and Catalin Barbour, Head, Sales, Mercedes-Benz Trucks, Daimler Truck Middle East and Africa

“It feels great and honoured to get an award. Thanks a lot for the invitation. It is great to have this award ceremony organised for the second time in the UAE. We also feel honoured to contribute to society.”

Fatih Savas, Head, Strategy & Corporate Affairs, Daimler Truck Middle East and Africa

Best Logistics Service Provider



Hellmann Worldwide

The award was received by Hanumanthu Gopalakrishnan, Director, Sea Freight and Industrial Projects, Hellmann Worldwide and Kishore Suggu, Head, Air Freight, UAE, Hellmann Worldwide

“ We are very happy and excited to receive this prestigious award from Arabian Cargo Awards. With this comes responsibility and we look forward to work on different areas over the next year. ”

Kishore Suggu, Head, Airfreight, UAE, Hellmann Worldwide

GSA for Excellence in Customer Service



Al Naboodah Travel & Tourism Agencies LLC

The award was received by Nasir Jamal Khan, CEO, Al Naboodah Travel and Tourism LLC

“ It is a pleasure to be awarded once again in the second edition of the Arabian Cargo Awards. The hardwork and dedication by the team has been recognised with this award. ”

Nasir Jamal Khan, CEO, Al Naboodah Travel and Tourism LLC

Best Sea Freight Forwarder - Exports



ORIENT CARGO AGENCY

The award was received by Sabirmon VK, Assistant Sales Manager and Sijo Joseph Philip, Senior Manager, Orient Cargo Agency

“ It is a proud moment for us. This is the second time we have received the award. The company is going through a transformation and we would like to provide quality services to customers in the New Year. ”

Sijo Joseph Philip, Senior Manager, Orient Cargo Agency

Best IT Solution Provider



Kale Logistics Solutions

The award was received by Nagarjun R Peri, General Manager, Kale Logistics Solutions

“ It feels great tonight to gather this award. It can motivate us to create a better future. And it feels great on behalf of KALE Logistics. Next year, we will be getting another award for sure. ”

Nagarjun R Peri, General Manager, Kale Logistics Solutions





Best Cargo Airline-Africa



Ethiopian Cargo

The award was received by Yamrot Nigusie, Cargo Manager, Gulf, Solomon Begashaw, Area Manager, UAE, and Dagnachew Mengistu, Manager Airport Service UAE, Ethiopian Cargo

“ I am honored to receive this award. In 2025, to increase capacity, we will be aligning with Division 2035. I believe we are on the right track. For this region, we plan to expand the network and point-to-point connections. ”

Yamrot Nigusie, Cargo Manager, Gulf, Ethiopian Cargo

Outstanding Contribution to Consumer Goods Logistics



Colgate-Palmolive Africa & Middle East

The award was received by Kittichot Tantipana, Customer Service and Logistics Director, Colgate-Palmolive Africa & Middle East

“ Thank you for the recognition and award. The reward has given a new meaning to my company and our team. I am pleased to be recognised for our hard work and hope to return with best efforts next year. ”

Kittichot Tantipana, Customer Service and Logistics Director, Colgate-Palmolive Africa & Middle East

Innovative Partner in Sustainable Packaging Solutions



BALL CORPORATION

Founded in 1880, the company's stock is traded on the NYSE. What they do today has an impact on their future. They lead with integrity and build trust as a firm that employees and investors can count on.

Most Innovative Green Logistics Partner



Hapag Lloyd

This award was received by Tarek Al Liddawi, Senior Director, Commercial, Region Middle East Hapag Lloyd

“ When your hard work is recognised, it is a good feeling. Hapag Lloyd will invest in sustainability in 2025 with the support of Gemini Corporation. ”

Tarek Al Liddawi, Senior Director, Commercial, Region Middle East Hapag Lloyd

Excellence in Fuel Supply Chain Efficiency



Vivo Energy

Vivo Energy operates as the driving force behind the Shell and Engen brands across numerous African markets. The company specialises in sourcing, distributing, marketing, and supplying high-quality fuels and lubricants, serving customers through service stations and directly catering to commercial clients.

Best Cargo GSA



Airglow Aviation Services

The award was received by Zaidan Khalifat, Group Chairman, Airglow Aviation Services, and Rohit Thakwani, CEO, Airglow Aviation Services

“ Been honoured with the Best Cargo GSA Award for the second consecutive year is a testament to Airglow Aviations' unwavering commitment to excellence. It reflects the trust of our partners and the hard work of our incredible team. ”

Rohit Thakwani, CEO, Airglow Aviation Services

Most Innovative Cargo Software Company



GOODS2LOAD

The award was received by Jessica Panigari, Founder, Goods2Load

“ It is magical to be part of a big entity. We want to be a game changer in 2025. We have high expectations. Our team is so excited to be here. And sustainability will be our next step. ”

Jessica Panigari, Founder, Goods2Load

Best Customer Service - Cargo Airline



Qatar Cargo

The award was received by Elias Aoun, Regional Manager Cargo, Qatar Cargo

“ I am happy to get this award. It is a nice gesture from ACA. The feeling is great to be recognised by the industry. We will continue to innovate and be a leader in the industry. ”

Elias Aoun, Regional Manager Cargo, Qatar Cargo

Golden moments of Arabian Cargo Awards 2024





Most Promising Airport for Cargo Services



Fujairah Airport

The award was received by Ebraheim Al Qalaf, Deputy General Manager, Fujairah Airport, and Mark Govender, Business Development Manager, Fujairah Airport

“ We are thrilled and excited to get an award. I am sure we will win something better next year. We are efficient in the way we provide services. Cargo services will be taken across the UAE from the airport. ”

Mark Govender, Business Development Manager, Fujairah Airport

Most Reliable After Sales Service Provider



DIMOS FZCO

The award was received by Martin Bremen, Managing Director, Dimos, with Abdurasheed Cheethayil, Operations Executive, Dimos FZCO

“ I thank the Arabian Cargo Board Committee for the recognition. I appreciate my team for all the hard work they put into their jobs daily. In 2025, you can expect us to deliver better services by working even harder. ”

Martin Bremen, Managing Director, DIMOS FZCO

Most Innovative Cargo GSA



ATTA SHIPPING & CARGO

The award was received by Osama Reegah, GM & Legal Advisor, Lootah Group, and Mazhar Marzook, GSA Cargo Manager, ATTA Shipping and Cargo

“ Receiving this award is a great honour. I am happy that our hard work, staying innovative, and giving our clients better services have paid off rich dividends. We are excited to keep growing and to contribute to the industry. ”

Mazhar Marzook, GSA Cargo Manager, ATTA Shipping and Cargo

Emerging Innovative Logistics Company



9Y Logistics

The award was received by Saleem Sharif, Deputy Managing Director, Abdul Razak, General Manager, 9Y Logistics

“ I dedicate this award to the team. I am pleased to receive it in front of the fraternity. We started off with road transportation and branched out to air-sea cargo. We will also be doing custom clearance. ”

Saleem Sharif, Deputy Managing Director, ATS Travel

Best International Air Cargo Terminal



Dubai Airports

This award was received by Rashed AlFalasi, Manager Property, Dubai Airports and Jude Fernandes, Head, Cargo Commercial Partnerships, Dubai Airports

“This would not have been possible without Dubai Airports leadership, my colleagues, our key partners, stakeholders, and the community. Thank you for your support in making Dubai Airports a cargo hub of choice.”

Jude Fernandes, Head, Cargo, Commercial Partnerships, Dubai Airports

Most Promising 3PL Company



Al Mateen Express

The award was received by Omar Abboud, Regional Sales Manager, Al Mateen Express

“I am surprised and honoured by this award. We are planning to expand more in the region in 2025. We are looking forward to supporting our clients in the region, especially in KSA and all GCC firms.”

Omar Abboud, Regional Sales Manager, Al Mateen Express

Emerging Cargo Airline



SRILANKAN AIRLINES

The award was received by Chaminda Perera, Head, Cargo, SriLankan Airlines

“To be honoured for the second consecutive year reflects our commitment to the quality of services we provide through our daily operations. We have been operating in the Middle East for over four decades, ferrying perishables.”

Chaminda Perera, Head, Cargo, SriLankan Airlines

Fastest Growing Cargo GSA



M&C Aviation

The award was received by Salindha Abayakon, General Manager, Business Development, Subramaniam Mohandas, Group Director, and Ancy Joseph, Sales Manager, M&C Aviation

“It is a proud moment to be recognised in the event. It gives us confidence to grow further. We have grown quite a bit in the Middle East and Africa. Going forward, we are looking at expanding into newer horizons.”

Subramaniam Mohandas, Group Director, M&C Aviation

Best Offline Cargo Carrier



FITS Cargo

The award was received by Zameer Marikkar, CCO and S Roomy, Business Development Manager, FITS Cargo

“Winning the award is a testament to the hard work of our team. This recognition reinforces our commitment to interline partnerships and offline cargo operations. It motivates us to work harder to get an award next year.”

Zameer Marikkar, CCO, FITS Cargo

Best Supply Chain Management Company



RSA Global

This award was received by Simon Farrell, CEO, RSA Global and Brent Melvin, General Manager, RSA Global

“I am proud of my team. They have done a great job over the past 12 months. Big things are planned in the New Year. We will expand operations. We will enter major European markets as well as GCC nations.”

Simon Farrell, CEO, RSA Global

Most Promising Cargo Technology Development Company



SALT TECH INTERNATIONAL

The award was received by Shankar Subramoniam, CEO, Salt Tech International

“I am happy to receive a one-of-its-kind award. It is an honour to win this award. In 2025, we want to encourage more youngsters to enter into the AI-powered air cargo and logistics industry.”

Shankar Subramoniam, CEO, Salt Tech International

Emerging Multinational Freight Forwarder



Scanwell Logistics LLC

The award was received by Razmal Assen, Executive Director, Scanwell Logistics

“This is our first award at the ACA. It feels great to receive this award. 2025 will be an amazing year for us. We are planning to launch new products in Dubai in particular and the Middle East in general.”

Razmal Assen, Executive Director, Scanwell Logistics

Chief Guest honoured



His Excellency Humaid Mohamed Ben Salem

Secretary General, Federation of UAE Chambers of Commerce & Industry

“It is a privilege to express gratitude to everyone who has made an impact in this sector. These awards will further inspire and recognise your hard work, motivating continued excellence in the air cargo and logistics industry.”

Gold Partner



DHL Global Forwarding Middle East & Africa

The award was received by Mary Oxley, Regional Sales and Marketing Head, Middle East and Africa, Tobias Maier, CFO, Ben Lambert, Vice President, Air Freight, and Sascha Geiken, Vice President, Ocean Freight, DHL Global Forwarding Middle East and Africa

DHL Global Forwarding promises to always offer reliable, flexible, and efficient deliveries to and from every country across the globe, in compliance with all regulations.

Silver Partner



Etihad Cargo

The award was received by Sam Hettiarachchi, Manager Marketing and Communications, Samina Khan, Sales Officer and Grant Kemp, Regional General Manager Central, Etihad Cargo

“It is an achievement for the Etihad Cargo team. It is a dream come true for us to win prizes. In the New Year, we will expand our network. We are opening up new routes on a monthly basis, looking at cargo integration.”

Stanislaus Brun Vice President, Etihad Cargo

Cherished memories of Arabian Cargo Awards 2024



Hospitality Partner



CONRAD DUBAI

This award was received by Aqsa Yahya, Senior Marketing & Communications Manager, Conrad Dubai

Conrad Dubai is in the financial and shopping district near Dubai Mall, Burj Khalifa, and the Dubai Airports. This hotel offers accommodation with panoramic views, five dining venues, an outdoor pool, and yoga pavilion.







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CONGRATULATING all our winners!



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