



AIRLIFT WORLD

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Happy New Year!

Best wishes for a Happy Holiday Season!
We hope that the coming year will
bring you peace, good health,
success and prosperity.

New Insurance Company



AIRBRIDGECARGO VOTED "BEST ALL-CARGO AIRLINE" IN ASIA FOR SECOND YEAR IN-A-ROW



AirBridgeCargo Airlines (ABC) has been voted 'Best All-Cargo Airline' for the second consecutive year in the Asian Freight, Logistics and Supply Chain (AFLAS) Awards.



The 2017 awards, hosted and organised annually by Asia Cargo News, recognized leading service providers including air and shipping lines; airports and seaports; and logistics, 3PLs and other associated industry professionals. The nomination and voting processes allowed more than 15,000 readers of Asia Cargo News and e-news subscribers to determine the leading companies in the market first, and then choose the winners, making the results of service users opinion rather than a panel of judges.

Jenny Zhao, AirBridgeCargo's Regional Director, SCO — Asia & Pacific, accepted the award on behalf of the airline from Sachi Bala, vice president of SATS Cargo at the special gala dinner in Singapore. She commented: "It is a great honour for AirBridgeCargo to once again be recognised by customers in Asia Pacific for our quality of service, growth and commitment to the region. This is a vibrant and dynamic market that we are proud to serve. We will continue to develop our network in line with the requirements of our customers and provide a range of specialist products to support their businesses,

such as our abcPharma services and abcXL solution for Off-size Cargo."

AirBridgeCargo has been supporting customers in the Asia Pacific region ever since its launch in 2004. Supported by strong investment in its Boeing 747 freighter fleet, the airline has doubled the size of its route network in the region in the last two years.

In April, Taipei came ABC's twelfth online destination in Asia Pacific, joining AirBridgeCargo's existing services to and from Tokyo, Seoul, Singapore, Hanoi, Phnom Penh, Hong Kong and the Chinese cities of Shanghai, Beijing, Chengdu, Chongqing and Zhengzhou. ABC, which grew its volumes ex Asia Pacific by 25% last year to 265,000 tonnes, now operates 79 Boeing 747F departures a week from the region, giving customers fast connections via its Moscow hub to 14 online destinations in Europe and five major gateways in the U.S.

"Thousands of shippers and other customers have voted for the 2017 AFLAS winners, making these awards a true reflection of industry expertise," said Asia Cargo News publisher Darren Barton ■

AIRBRIDGECARGO EARNED SKY FRESH® SUPPORT TO IMPROVE SERVICE QUALITY OF TEMPERATURE SENSITIVE CARGO TRANSPORTATION

AirBridgeCargo Airlines and Sky Fresh® have inked a Service Level Agreement on digital procedures for transportation of time and temperature sensitive shipments, most notable pharmaceutical, to keep pace with the latest industry technologies and guarantee 24/7 traceability for its customers worldwide.



The main point of cooperation will be related to cargo acceptance checklists, which were traditionally paper-based and filled in manually in the course of transportation process. Sky Fresh® provides an online web platform to centralize data from all acceptance checklists, with the possibility of monitoring freight movements for time and temperature sensitive shipment at each step of transportation and sending automated notification to all supply chain stakeholders. The users will be able to complete the checklists via a mobile application on their smartphone or tablet, available either on App Store or Google play. All corresponding data are in real-time visible in the Sky Fresh Web platform, consultable in any browser.

The agreement in this area comes with countless benefits for all the parties concerned, as it offers high level of customization, transparency of operations, traceability, efficiency and the possibility to take corrective and preventive actions, if needed.

It is not every day we see cutting-edge technologies penetrating in air cargo industry, which makes Sky Fresh® an attractive industry-and-tech-savvy solution. We foresee it propelling the quality of our abcPharma product, bringing it to the next level by eliminating human mistake factor. With environmental considerations being

on the agenda for our company, we will contribute by decreasing number of paper documents and going on the digital side instead. It will definitely make the whole process of transportation more transparent, customized and accurate.' – pointed our Fedor Novikov, Global Director, Pharma for AirBridgeCargo airlines.

'For the first time Sky Fresh® will closely cooperate with ABC as an airline. Together we want to create a digital mindset in the Air Freight Industry. Not only by efficiency gains but also by providing real-time data to support strategic decisions and proof the excellence of ABC.' – as stated by Fen Lasseel, Business Developer manager at Sky Fresh®.

For the first 10 months of 2017 ABC has reported largest growth in temperature pharmaceutical goods carried, which demonstrated 153% upsurge YOY – significant increase, which illustrates ABC's commitment to the industry and efforts done in the field of development for special cargoes solutions. The carrier has come a long path by now, with gaining CEIV IATA certification in the end of 2016, QEP accreditation for certain online stations in 2017, training home-grown pool of specialists for time and temperature sensitive cargo and networking in order to be abreast of innovations in air cargo industry. ■

VOLGA-DNEPR AN-124-100 DELIVERS 30 MERCEDES VEHICLES TO ANGOLA FOR NEW PRESIDENT'S INAUGURATION CEREMONY

Volga-Dnepr Airlines has used the special two-tier car racking system developed for its An-124-100 freighter fleet to deliver 30 vehicles on a single flight to Luanda for the inauguration ceremony of Angola's elected President, Joao Lourenco.



The valuable 90-tonne payload of vehicles was transported from Leipzig on behalf of the Angolan Embassy in Germany. It consisted of a fleet of Mercedes cars comprising 25 luxury sedans, three police cars and two heavy armoured G-class vehicles. Including tooling, the total load exceeded 110 tonnes.

As a regular provider of air logistics solutions to the automotive industry, Volga-Dnepr designed and built its special racking system to help reduce the cost of air transportation for customers moving high quantities of vehicles. This system was originally produced in 1996 to support international Paris – Beijing Rally. The two-tier platform enables cars and 4x4s to be driven onboard the An-124-100 and parked safely inside its spacious cargo cabin. Since that time the platform has been successfully used by Volga-Dnepr. For this particular flight, Volga-Dnepr's experts developed an optimal loading technique based on the size and specifications of the vehicles being carried. This also ensured the airline was able to successfully meet the tight delivery deadline.

"The vehicles were carefully loaded inside the An-124-100 freighter with minimum clearances. This was completed by our expert drivers who have special experience of loading vehicles using our two-tier racking system, with the assistance of staff from Volga-Dnepr's operations base at Leipzig and the airport authority. Our local team managed the expeditious preparation of the aircraft, installation of the necessary tooling, and loading procedures to ensure the flight was ready to depart on schedule to support such an important event in Angola," said Alexander Prokofiev, Deputy Head of Volga-Dnepr's Load Planning Center.

As part of Volga-Dnepr's 'Cargo Supermarket' service offering, customs export formalities at Leipzig Airport were also provided to support the customer. This was Volga-Dnepr's first-ever flight for the Angolan Embassy in Germany, whose officials highly commended the airline for the quality of service provided ■



VD GULF WINS ROSSIYA AIRLINES MAINTENANCE CONTRACT AND NEW INTERNATIONAL CUSTOMERS FROM TURKEY AND PAKISTAN



VD Gulf to perform C-check on Turkish Corendon Airlines

VD Gulf, the Sharjah based independent MRO, announced that it has been awarded Boeing 737NG maintenance work by Corendon Airlines, a young & dynamic airline based in Turkey.

This new contract heralds VD Gulf’s entry into the Turkish narrow body aircraft MRO market. The planned work on the Corendon Boeing 737NG covers heavy C check, AD/SB accomplishment and other works.

To support Corendon and other Turkish operators VD Gulf recently extended its Turkish Civil Aviation approval to cover Boeing 737NG. This was achieved after a thorough evaluation and audit of the facility by Turkish Department of Civil Aviation experts, which was successfully passed by VD Gulf.

Mikhail Khoroshaev, VD Gulf Director General, said: “We’ve been working on development of our relations with Turkish operators for a long time and are pleased to announce this new milestone. We are confident that VD Gulf will provide a very high quality product to our new and valued Customer”■

VD Gulf Acquires Pakistan Certification to serve airblue

In mid 2017 the MRO and Airblue signed a GTA with aim to ensure provision of support to its operations in the region. With signature of this agreement airblue has secured a permanent partner for all its fleet maintenance needs.

Pakistan Civil Aviation Authority (PCAA) has granted direct AMO approval to VD Gulf, a leading independent MRO services provider based in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates. The approval was granted in line with the MRO’s current EASA Part-145 certificate and based on a thorough audit of VD Gulf by the PCAA inspector.

VD Gulf has acquired the certification in order to serve its latest client in Pakistan, one of the foremost airlines in the country – airblue. The all-narrow-body operator of A320 fleet is set to perform a check scheduled in November 2017 at VD Gulf’s facility. This C-check assigned to Sharjah-based MRO follows a number of smaller inputs that required base maintenance capabilities to ensure safe and uninterrupted service to the airline’s passengers.

airblue is Pakistan’s fastest growing private airline, having state-of-the-art, modern and youngest fleet in Pakistan, which is providing scheduled Domestic and International destinations■

VD Gulf

- signed up a contract with Small Planet Airlines for C-Check of Airbus A321
- executed C-check and painting Boeing 737 of TAJIK AIR airlines
- signed up a contract with NordStar Airlines for the basic maintenance of 4 narrow-bodied aircrafts Boeing 737NG





Rossiya Airlines Awards 747 Heavy Checks to VD Gulf

Rossiya airlines – One of the largest Russian carrier based in Moscow and Saint Petersburg has awarded its Boeing 747-400 heavy maintenance work scheduled for 2018 to VD Gulf. The independent MRO based in Sharjah will perform a total of seven heavy maintenance checks including out of phase works, structural modifications, AD/SB incorporation and shipset landing gear change.

VD Gulf was awarded this contract after Rossiya completed evaluation of an exhaustive international tender floated worldwide. VD Gulf experience and know how on this model aircraft is among the best in the world and Rossiya has witnessed this on the 747 maintenance work performed for the airline in 2017.

Mr. Mikhail Khoroshaev, Director General of VD Gulf said, 'this major contract award for VD Gulf from a prominent 747 operator is testimony to our high level of competence on this model aircraft' "On behalf of VD Gulf staff and management I would like to thank Rossiya group for their confidence in VD Gulf VD Gulf a leading independent aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) facility serving a wide range of customers internationally.

Strategically located at Sharjah International Airport free zone, with an infrastructure that includes a large hangar that can accommodate up to six aircraft; VD Gulf is certified by a number of international & local regulatory authorities including the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA)■



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