

Issue 29, September 2008

Airlift WORLD

www.volga-dnepr.com

edition for insurance company
Published by Volga-Dnepr Airlines and New Insurance Company



AirBridgeCargo

ABC delivers 60 tons of heavy metal as Iron Maiden arrive in Moscow

World famous rock band, Iron Maiden, will perform their first live performance in Moscow in over 15 years on August 19th 2008 with the help of a heavy metal delivery by AirBridgeCargo Airlines (ABC). Air Charter Services (ACS) has chartered an AirBridgeCargo Boeing 747 freighter on behalf of their client, , to carry 60 tonnes of stage equipment from Amsterdam to Moscow's Domodedovo Airport. The flight was performed on August 17th. The concert at Moscow's Olympisky Stadium is the last event in Iron Maiden's 2008 touring schedule. The band will reportedly bring over 200 of their own family and friends to watch the show. This is just the latest charter flight performed by ABC for leading performers from the world of music. Previously the Volga-Dnepr Group has worked with some of the world's most well known musical artists, carrying stage equipment for Michael Jackson, Phil Collins, Ricky Martin, Jean-Michel Jarr and U-2.

VOLGA-DNEPR GROUP

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Volga-Dnepr transported deep-water vehicles to Baikal

July 11, AN-124-100 freighter of Volga-Dnepr Airlines delivered two Mir-1 and Mir-2 deep-water vehicles and other research equipment from Kaliningrad to Ulan-Ude within the preparation activities for complex scientific expedition at Baikal. The overall weight of equipment delivered equaled to 80 tons. The valuable equipment was loaded on-board at Chkalovsk military airport in Kaliningrad. First, Mir-1 and Mir-2 vehicles were accommodated in the cargo cabin by means of specially designed monorail. Second, an oceanographic vessel was loaded on-board, and all the other necessary research equipment went last. Despite all fears of scientists, the unique navigation system of underwater vehicles sustained the long-haul flight well. The expedition is arranged by The Baikal Lake Preservation Foundation (Foundation's President is A.N. Chilingarov, Member of the State Duma of Russia, Hero of the Soviet Union, Hero of Russia, Correspondent Member of Russian Academy of Sciences; Foundation Sponsorship Board Chairman is .V. Slipenchuk, Metropol Group President). The unprecedented submersion of vehicles to the lakebed is scheduled for late July. The research activities of Baikal flora, fauna, lakebed and ecology are planned for two-year period. Over 60 diving missions will be performed within the first expedition stage.

AirBridgeCargo Airlines appointed GSA in Taiwan

Starting July 15th, Worldwide GSA Pte Ltd. is appointed to act as General Sales Agent (GSA) for AirBridgeCargo Airlines in Taiwan. Worldwide GSA group is a holding company, incorporated in Singapore since 1995, and specializing in airlines GSA services in Asia and Australia. Today Worldwide GSA is operating 13 offices in 8 countries, including Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, Thailand, Philippines, Taiwan, China, and New Zealand. In Taiwan, Worldwide GSA will represent ABC through its subsidiary - Orient Air GSA Co. Ltd. (Taiwan). Following the regional strategy aimed to ensure that the Russia's booming market is accessible to exporters and freight forwarders across Asia & Pacific, the new

appointment will no doubt stimulate commercial activity between Russia and Taiwan by promoting the shortest and most direct freighter service - first to Hong Kong by interline connection, and then by non-stop direct scheduled services to Moscow Sheremet'yev International Airport (SVO). Other key destinations in Russia, including the largest Moscow Domodedovo (DME) International Airport, St. Petersburg Pulkovo International Airport (LED), and Krasnoyarsk (KJA) airport in Siberia will be also made accessible to Taiwan businesses through ABC online network

Airshow “Ulyanovsk – 2008”



On August 17, 2008, the National Aviation Day, the Airshow “Ulyanovsk-2008” was held in Ulyanovsk. Such aerospace event has been arranged in the city for the very first time and by estimation of its initiators the airshow was visited this day by over 50 thousand citizens of Ulyanovsk.

Among the fundamental components of this airshow was a unique group and solo aerobatics of SU-27 and MiG-29 which made its first public appearance in the Ulyanovsk district. The famous Russian Nights (“Russkie Vityazi”) and Swifts (“Strizhi”) performed their breathtaking aerobatic stunts, i.e. Loop-the-loop, Barrel Roll, Semi Loop, Arrow, Oblique loop, etc.

The static display being part of this airshow program gave its visitors and participants the opportunity to really get up close to AN-124 “Ruslan” and TU-204 aircraft and examine their features in detail.

The airshow display included selection and showcase of small aircraft too. Among the exhibitors at “Ulyanovsk-2008” were not only the aircraft enthusiasts but guests from other Russian regions as well, i.e. Kazan, Samara, Moscow and Saint Petersburg. The total number of small aircraft displayed to the visitors at this airshow was 20.

The airshow program feature was also parachute jumping and small aircraft flying display, including the fly-by of TU-204, IL-76 and AN-124 “Ruslan” of Volga-Dnepr Airlines which was among the initiators of this significant aerospace event.



AirBridgeCargo Airlines Appoints Airnautic As Its Gsa Partner In France

AirBridgeCargo Airlines (ABC) has appointed Airnautic France as its cargo general sales agent in France. Founded in 1984, Airnautic France has become one of the country's leading specialists in air cargo transport. The company operates from three locations in Mulhouse, Paris Roissy and Lyon. Denis Le Baler, founder and president of Airnautic France, said: "Winning this contract from AirBridgeCargo Airlines represents a significant step forward for us in terms of covering the needs of the Russian mar-

ket. We are proud to be the airline's GSA in France and look forward to building a successful, long-term partnership with ABC." The French market is one of the most important in Europe for ABC due to the country's strong air cargo traffic levels to and from Russia, China, Hong Kong and Japan – all destinations served by the airline - and its close proximity to AirBridgeCargo's European hubs in Frankfurt and Amsterdam. Airnautic's primary focus will be to develop exports from France to Russia and CIS countries.



Will competition increase if several major foreign companies enter the Russian market?

In terms of charter operations, we work internationally and fly to countries worldwide. Nothing will change. As for domestic market, the competition will mostly affect passenger airlines. It is not important for us, our scheduled operations are mostly transit via Russia; we almost do not carry Russian cargo. Such competition in the domestic market will hardly affect overall situation, although additional players in any market increase the competition. We do not fear this factor, as we already have competitors.



SEPA Introduced to the Minister of Transport

On 18 June, Russia's Minister of Transport Igor Levitin came to the Ulyanovsk Region for a working visit. He made stopovers at Ulyanovsk Flight School and, Ulyanovsk-Vostochny Airport, participated in a meeting hosted by Volga-Dnepr Airlines on establishment of the region's special economic port area (SEPA), and inspected the new bridge being constructed across the Volga River. One of the main purposes of Igor Levitin's visit was to familiarize with the project of future Special Economic Port Area (SEPA) in Ulyanovsk. The project was presented onboard Antonov 124-100 aircraft of Volga-Dnepr Airlines at Ulyanovsk-Vostochny Airport. Discussions were then continued at Volga-Dnepr's headquarters. Alexey Isaikin, President of Volga-Dnepr Group described the company's plans to build MRO facilities at Ulyanovsk-Vostochny Airport as part of the SEPA project. The minister gave high praise to these plans and emphasized that the 'Volga-AviaCargo' SEPA will see great prospects in the Ulyanovsk Region. During the minister's visit, an official ceremony of signing a strategic partnership agreement

between Volga-Dnepr Group and Ulyanovsk Flight School was held. The green light to the strategic partnership was given by Alexey Isaikin and Sergey Krasnov, rector of Ulyanovsk Flight School. The agreement is made for five years with an option of its extension for another five years and is intended to combine efforts in initial and advanced training of pilots and other aviation specialists to satisfy Volga-Dnepr's staffing needs. The agreement contemplates, among other things, for development by Volga-Dnepr and the Flight School of a Pilots Training Program to be filed with Russia's ministry of transport. The purpose of this program will be to reduce periods of pilots training for Class 1 transport aircraft. Being oriented to resolve the problem of pilots shortage, the program is of crucial importance for the industry. The partners undertake to train 372 pilots and 762 other specialists by 2030. The agreement will further facilitate effective long-term constructive cooperation of Volga-Dnepr Group and Ulyanovsk Flight School in training and retraining of flight personnel.

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