

Airlift WORLD

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Dear Friends!

We would like to invite you to a new state-of-the art Flight Operations Coordination Center built to ensure efficient control of cargo operations, immediately respond to complicated situations occurring in flight and take urgent management resolutions. You will also have a chance to try your hand on piloting a simulated aircraft. The new Full Flight Simulator, which has been recently furnished with a Motion System, has an opportunity to realistically simulate flight conditions both is standard and abnormal conditions.



15-02-2012 FOCC XXI: A Higher Level Control of Flight Operations

On 10 February 2012 Volga-Dnepr Group presented its Flight Operations Coordination Center in Ulyanovsk. The event was attended by the Top Managing Personnel of the Group, ABC, Volga-Dnepr and Atran Airlines.

Flight Operations Coordination Center was commissioned by Alexey Isaykin President of Volga-Dnepr Group who appreciated the contribution of all those who were involved in implementation of the FOCC XXI Project and construction of the FOCC building: "I am pleased that we accomplished that what had been started and now we shall proceed with great and extremely complicated work. All functional units of the FOCC and Simulator Complex shall become integrated to ensure that Flight Crews and Maintenance Teams be well trained and prepared to face any problematic situation".



Michael Smirnykch Director of the Flight Coordination Control Center presented to the attendees Goals and Objectives of the new unit, anticipated effect and particulars of training process. He drew attention of the audience to the situational center, which will enable the Company to efficiently respond to different situations occurring during cargo transportations and take urgent management resolutions. Operations Room personnel will be able to continuously monitor the current status of operations on a wide screen and control the process more efficiently.

Tatiana Arslanova the Executive President of AirBridgeCargo Airlines also congratulated the audience with the occasion: "Creation of this center shall be a new stage of the company development improving its competitive ability, customers servicing, who are known to value reliability and timely information most of all".

Roman Krishtal the General Director of Atran Airlines, which joined Volga-Dnepr Group last June, expressed his confidence that the Project will be a source of new achievements of Volga-Dnepr Group and the Atran in particular.

Dmitry Obsharov Director for Marketing and Strategic Management spoke about specifics of software applications used by the Center, which helps immediately obtain weather, climatic, geographical details of any location in the World.



Legal Department of Volga-Dnepr Group is the Best in Airline Industry

On New Year's eve, Volga-Dnepr Airlines has added the fourth modernized IL-76TD-90VD freighter to its fleet. The new aircraft has already completed its first commercial flight en-route Moscow-Bahrain-Moscow and returned to Moscow Domodedovo Airport on December 27.

The fourth new generation IL-76TD-90VD freighter was built to order at the Tashkent Chkalov Aviation Factory in accordance with the contract concluded between JSC "UAC — Transport Aircraft" and LLC "Volga-Dnepr-Leasing" at the International Aerospace Show MAKS in 2007. In November 2011 the aircraft was delivered from Tashkent to Ulyanovsk and painted in Volga-Dnepr Airlines colours later. The new freighter was assigned RA-

76503 side number.

According to Vice President for Sales, Volga-Dnepr Airlines, Dennis Gliznoutsa, the increase in IL-76TD-90VD fleet will allow to respond to market demand more flexibly and expeditiously. "The aircraft has shown excellent results in air freight transportation segment and is in demand by our customers. Entry of the fourth IL-76TD-90VD into service facilitates our plans aimed at recouping freight capacity at the market in up to 50 tons category. The demand on newly modernized IL-76TD-90VD services increases because older version of this aircraft is gradually taken off the market", — notes Dennis Gliznoutsa.

"Volga-Dnepr Group will continue to

implement its programme on the new IL-76 fleet growth. We expect the delivery of the fifth IL-76TD-90VD in May 2012, it is being build now at the Tashkent Chkalov Aviation Factory", — says General Director of LLC "Volga-Dnepr-Leasing" Andrey Pakhomov.

Volga-Dnepr Group initiated IL-76 modernization programme in 2002. The first IL-76TD-90VD entered in commercial service in the summer of 2006. IL-76TD-90VD meets all the current requirements of foreign aviation authorities and is allowed to fly all over the world without restriction. It is equipped with PS-90A-76 engines and modern avionics — flight navigation system "Kupol-III-76M-VD". The aircraft crew size is reduced to 4 people.



29-12-2011 Volga-Dnepr Technics Receives Permit to Perform Maintenance of Boeing 747-8 and Boeing 737

During the period from 12 to 15 December 2011 Volga-Dnepr Technics was audited by European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA). The audit covered the scope of scheduled annual inspection and at the same time was designed to review the preparedness of the organization to provide maintenance services to Boeing 747-8 and 737-300/400/500 aircraft.

As the result of the audit Volga-Dnepr Technics renewed its Sheremetievo Airport Line Maintenance Station Certificate and was awarded with certificates authorizing the company to perform maintenance operations on Boeing 747-8 and Boeing 737-300/400/500. For Boeing 747-8 the authorized scope is limited to Line Maintenance Check while Boeing 737 will be services up to A-Check.

Following the audit Volga-Dnepr Technics also received the EASA permit for Indirect Approval procedure. This will allow the company to make, on its own discretion amendments to its procedures and the list of approved personnel by way of notification only. Such an authorization is a good evidence of the Agency's confidence and trust in Volga-Dnepr Technics.

11-01-2012 AirBridgeCargo is adding Chengdu in Western China to its online network

On January 10th AirBridgeCargo operated its first scheduled freighter flight to Chengdu International airport (CTU). The service operated by B747-400 freighter has added Chengdu- the capital of Sichuan province in Western China- to the existing service of ABC between Zhengzhou (CGO), Moscow, and Amsterdam (AMS) launched earlier in September 2010.

Chengdu is not a new destination for Volga-Dnepr Group and AirBridgeCargo. Many charter flights with unique cargoes have been operated to this airport by Volga-Dnepr's An-124 aircraft. A number of emergency flights by both An-124 of Volga-Dnepr and B747 of ABC freighters have been operated to Chengdu in May 2008, delivering relief goods, medical and rescue equipment to the region hit by a devastating earthquake. From now on the freighter service will be provided on scheduled basis.

The new routing will operate 3 times per week, connecting

Chengdu directly with Moscow, Amsterdam, and ABC's many other online network destinations in Europe.

The service will undoubtedly benefit the local export manufacturing and freight forwarding communities. Exporters since long have been interested in reliable and dedicated freighter solution for their products, especially for those time- and security-sensitive commodities of high-tech industry for which Chengdu is particularly known. As a fast developing consumer market Chengdu will also take advantage of direct flights from Europe delivering high-end consumer products. With already strong presence in China's traditional air freight markets of Shanghai, Hong Kong, Beijing, and Zhengzhou, AirBridgeCargo continues expanding its service coverage to inland China regions which are energetically catching up with the developed coastal areas of the country.

19-01-2012 Volga-Dnepr Technics GmbH awarded with EASA Part-145 Certificate

December 19, Volga-Dnepr Technics GmbH was granted EASA Part-145 Certificate. The Volga-Dnepr Group division is the first Russian company to obtain this Certificate in the European Union.

The Part-145 Certificate states that VDT GmbH complies with requirements to Boeing-747 200/300/400 Maintenance Organisations (A/C powered by GE CF6 Engines). This EASA Part-145 Certificate is a significant milestone within VD Group Airworthiness Control Program and a groundwork for Unified Maintenance Center in Leipzig. The main Volga-Dnepr Technics GmbH contributors to this achievement: Danis Aliaskarov, Irina Boyko, Christina Wervine, Alexander Dammer, Andrey Deryugin, Igor Zaitsev, Ildar Ilyasov, Dmitry Natyagov, Anastasia Ostretsova, Georgios Papageorgiou, Wolfgang Pehan, Grigory Pchelintsev, Christian Tittel, Andrey Khorev.

The company received valuable support from the personnel of Volga-Dnepr Moscow, Ruslan SALIS and Volga-Dnepr Technics Moscow.

Volga-Dnepr Technics GmbH was established in May 2010 and registered in Leipzig-Halle Airport. Despite its short history, the company has already been a major success and proceeds with its development plans: in 2012 three Boeing-747 200/300/400/8 line maintenance stations will be established in Frankfurt, Amsterdam and Sharjah. Furthermore, the tires and brakes overhaul facility will be equipped to service Russian and foreign aircraft types.

20-01-2012 Ruslan SALIS GmbH certified to ISO 9001:2008

December 20, Ruslan SALIS GmbH was granted ISO 9001:2008 QMS Compliance Certificate.

This Certificate gives Ruslan SALIS the chance to catch up with major ISO 9001:2008-certified global companies and to meet the competition. The customers regard this quality approval as a warranty of company robustness, on-time performance and confidence in punctuality and quality.

In early 2011 the company decided to undergo certification, the preparation activities started in April. From June to October RS proceeded with QMS standards and finally, in October the company applied for approval to TÜV Thüringen e.Vc., an independent German certification company. Ruslan SALIS GmbH passed an audit and was granted ISO 9001:2008 QMS Compliance Certificate for Aircraft Maintenance and Air Charter Services.

The Ruslan SALIS Quality management System is based and implemented in accordance with Volga-Dnepr Airlines' QMS. VDA experts widely supported and consulted Ruslan SALIS GmbH personnel.



27-01-2012 Boeing delivers the first 747-8 Freighter to AirBridgeCargo Airlines

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EVERETT, Wash., January 26, 2012 -- AirBridgeCargo Airlines (ABC), part of Volga-Dnepr Group, has today celebrated the delivery of its first of five new generation Boeing 747-8 freighters from Boeing (NYSE: BA).

Tatyana Arslanova, Executive President of AirBridgeCargo Airlines, said: "The introduction of the Boeing 747-8F does represent a huge commitment towards our customers since we are investing into state-of-the-art equipment to further expand our route network for our customers. We have a firm believe that our established and new customers will greatly benefit from the additional features the 8F will provide such as enhanced payload especially on denser routes. With the introduction of the Boeing 747-F and the withdrawal of the classic freighters we will entertain the youngest freighter fleet in the whole industry. It does mean that we do maintain the highest standards of environmental compliance a wide body full freighter fleet currently does offer."

"ABC is a valued customer of Boeing that has built a very successful cargo business with a help of eleven 747 airplanes and we are confident it will maintain its impressive rate of growth, supported by the new fleet

of Boeing 747-8 Freighters," said Marty Bentrott, Vice President of Sales for Russia, Central Asia and Middle East for Boeing Commercial Airplanes.

The new 747-8 Freighter is 250 feet, 2 inches (76.3 m) long, which is 18 feet and 4 inches (5.6 m) longer than its predecessor, the 747-400 Freighter. The stretch provides customers with 16% more revenue cargo volume, which

translates to four additional main-deck pallets and three additional lower-hold pallets. The 747-8 Freighters are powered with GE's GENx-2B engines.

ABC sees the addition of the 747-8 to its fleet as another important step in its long-term business strategy. In addition to the five 747-8 Freighters it has on order, AirBridgeCargo has options for five more aircraft.



01-02-2012 Project Management Team (PMT) AN-124-100»

Restarted series production of AN-124-100 Aircraft: PMT AN-124-100 will Lay Foundations of the Group Development for Many Years to Come

AN-124-100 Project Management Team was set up by Volga-Dnepr Group in 2005. At present time the project team works hand in hand in Moscow and Ulyanovsk.

Urgency and criticality of aircraft series production process, where more than 500 different enterprises were actively involved, requires accurate planning and management. "We are planning that the Team will work until 2030, we are seeking to anticipate problems and ensure management of risks, which may provide obstacles on the way of the Project development in ten, fifteen and even twenty years!", said Konstantin Ivanov the PMT Director.

Restarted production requires concentrated efforts by Volga-Dnepr Group as well as the industry and government authorities. That is why the Project involves Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Transport, United Aircraft Corporation of Russia and the US biggest aircraft building corporation Boeing.

In pursuance of the directive by A. Isaykin President of Volga-Dnepr Group the Project Team made a presentation for the company personnel containing the main achievements, problem issues and perspectives of AN-124-100 Project Management Team.

Brief project information:

— Principal: A. Isaykin, President of Volga-Dnepr Group

— Client: V. Gabriel (Volga-Dnepr Airlines)

— Estimate: USD 17.0 million

New AN-124s are scheduled for delivery commencing 2017.

Volga-Dnepr Airlines is going to place an order for 20 AN-124 aircraft (plus option for 20 aircraft).

20-02-2012 Volga-Dnepr Airlines Awarded by the Interstate Aviation Committee

The Interstate Aviation Committee awarded Volga-Dnepr Airlines for achievements in Flight Safety and implementation of advance risk management processes.

The ceremony was held on 17 February 2012 during the 32 Session of the Aviation and Air Space Counsel. The certificate was presented to Volga-Dnepr's representative by T. Anodina the Chair of the International Aviation Committee, who distinguished the company's efforts in maintaining safe flight operations and its input into utilization of up-to-date approaches to risk management.

Maintaining a high safety level is the first priority for Volga-Dnepr Group. The main direction in this area is the further implementation and development of proactive accident prevention and safety management forms in accordance with ICAO strategy global airlines operational experience.

Volga-Dnepr Airlines was the first in Russia and CIS and the World second air cargo operator (after Lufthansa) to successfully take the IATA Operational Safety Audit (IOSA).

At present time Volga-Dnepr Airlines in collaboration with the Ulyanovsk State University has started an Automated Accidents Prediction and Prevention System project, which is currently being developed and intended for organization and performance of air operations.

Time of this Volga-Dnepr's award coincided with the anniversary of the Interstate Aviation Committee, which celebrated its 20-year jubilee late 2011.



06-03-2012 AirBridgeCargo Made its First Cross-Polar Flight

AirBridgeCargo Airlines the biggest Russia air cargo carrier has made its first flight over the North Pole from Chicago to Krasnoyarsk.

On that flight the Boeing 747-400 Freighter had unusual occupants: 175 Aberdeen-Angus cows. Their total weight amounted to 104 tons. The kettle were delivered safe to Krasnoyarsk Yemelyanovo Airport and then transferred to local breeding farm.

Cross Polar flights greatly differ from normal air operations and require best skilled and experienced Flight Crews. Flying over the Pole is difficult due to satellite navigation system errors, high radiation levels and frequent communication interruptions. Bearing all this in mind the AirBridgeCargo Airlines selected for this operation one of its most experienced pilots Oleg Trotsenko who was involved in testing Cross Polar routes from 1997. "Opening and operating a new route particularly over the Polar Region is a large scaled task. To accomplish the goal the AirBridgeCargo Airlines has created a team of professional pilots", said Oleg Trotsenko.

AirBridgeCargo understands advantages provided by Cross Polar transportations for the development of transit potentials of our country. This route will help save both time and fuel and we do believe that Cross Polar operations will find demand among our Customers", said Tatiana Arslanova the Executive President of AirBridgeCargo.

14-03-2012 Flying Non-Stop

In early March in Ulyanovsk Volga-Dnepr Group has conducted VIII Flight and Technical Conference, which subject matter is essential and current for the Company: "Flight Crew Duty and Rest Time. Fatigue Control as a Flight Safety Condition". The conference was arranged by Flight Operations Departments of Volga-Dnepr and AirBridgeCargo Airlines and coordinated by the Corporate University. It was the first time when the Conference was attended by representatives from ATRAN a new Company of the Group dealing with regional air cargo operations.

At the very beginning of the Conference Alexey Isaykin President of Volga-Dnepr Group indicated the Company's fleet development perspectives: in the nearest future number of aircraft will increase several times, An-124 will acquire flight deck very similar to that of B747. Therefore very precise flight techniques will be required — highly efficient and reliable. In this regard physical condition and morals of pilots were selected as basic subject of the Conference.

All key speakers made a point that "A tired pilot at the wheel is a sigh of trouble in the company".



It is a universal truth that flying is an extremely hard job. Reasons are excessive work load, frequently changing pressure, high vibration and noise, "re-sets" of circadian body clocks, rapid change of geographical positions without any possibility to adapt, physical inactivity and oxygen deficiency in body tissues. All these are good fuelers for sleet disorders, acute chronic diseases and fatigue built-up. Participants of the Conference discussed the ways how to prevent such specific problems and optimize Flight Crews' work load.

During preparation to the Conference B747 Captain Pavel Polymestny learnt Western experience inside out.

According to FAA 20% of aviation incidents are directly or indirectly caused by fatigue. It is evident therefore that for this Company, which mainly deals with extra-long-range (transcontinental) air cargo operations, the problem of a tired pilot at the wheel is urgent and pressing. How can we resist the challenge? Brainstorm on five Round Table sessions immediately produced 24 answers (recommendations). Evidently this was the reason why A.Isaykin concluding the event put the highest "Excellent" mark to the Conference.



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