

# Airlift WORLD

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## April 2, 2012 AirBridgeCargo Airlines takes delivery of second Boeing 747-8F

AirBridgeCargo Airlines (ABC), part of Volga-Dnepr Group and Russia's largest cargo airline, has today taken delivery of its second Boeing 747-8 Freighter from Boeing in Seattle.

The new aircraft will be used on ABC's existing route network linking Europe, Asia and the USA with AirBridgeCargo's hubs in Moscow. ABC took delivery of its first B747-8 in January 2012, part of its order for five of the new generation cargo aircraft. The airline also has options for five more.

"The introduction of another new freighter will benefit both our company and our customers, who will appreciate the additional features of the airplane. We have been successfully operating our first B747-8F for three months and the deployment of the second plane will see the continued realization of ABC's fleet modernization and optimization strategy," stated Tatyana Arslanova, Executive President of AirBridgeCargo. She added: "The optimization of new aircraft in our fleet will have a direct impact on our commitment to further quality improvement."



## May 19, 2012 Volga-Dnepr takes delivery of its fifth IL-76TD-90VD



The fifth IL-76TD-90VD aircraft was delivered to Volga-Dnepr Group in Ulyanovsk on 16 May under the aircraft delivery certificate signed by general director of United Aircraft Corporation — Transport Aircraft (UAC-TA) Sergey Velmozhkin and general director of Volga-Dnepr Leasing LLC Andrey Pakhomov.

Sergey Velmozhkin extended congratulations and best wishes to the company on its success with the IL-76TD-90VD project and noted that Volga-Dnepr is the exclusive operator of such aircraft capable of unrestricted worldwide operations, providing the company with a unique position in the air cargo market. Andrey Pakhomov and executive president of Volga-Dnepr Airlines Alexander Sidorin thanked UAC-TA for the work done in the aircraft design and manufacture project.

The fifth IL-76TD-90VD aircraft was manufactured by Tashkent Aircraft Factory (TAPO) under the agreement signed between UAC-TA and Volga-Dnepr Leasing LLC during Moscow Air Show in 2007. In April this year, the aircraft was ferried from TAPO to Ulyanovsk and painted in Volga-



Dnepr Airlines livery. Upon completion of the registration process and issue of the airworthiness certificate, the new aircraft with the tail number RA-76511 will take off on its first commercial flight in late May.





# Automatic Air Accidents Prediction and Prevention System

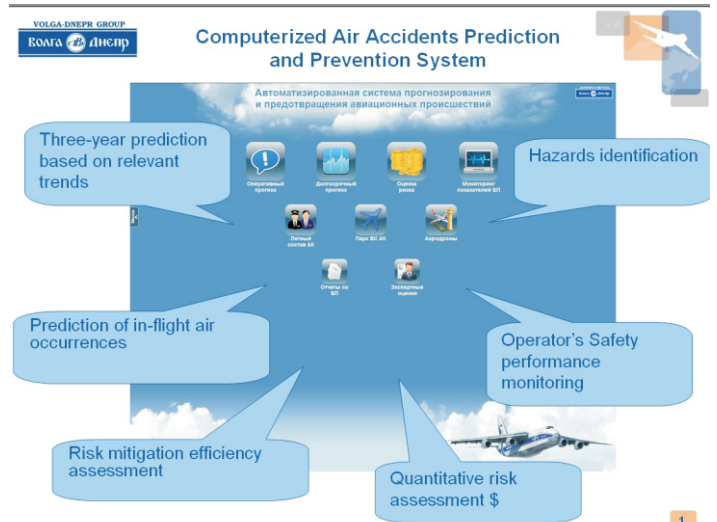
New Insurance Company will keep informing you of the dynamic implementation of the unprecedented Volga-Dnepr's project on the creation and establishment of Automatic Air Accidents Prediction and Prevention System engaged in flight operations.

At present time the Project undergoes its software testing period, error correction and specifying its expert assessment data base. The Volga-Dnepr personnel who are expected to use the System in future have started the exercise, tryout and final adjustment processes. Even now the System provides forecast for each particular operation and note that Volga-Dnepr Airlines performs 5 to 7 flights per day.

The project implementation date is scheduled for late 2012, however the system will continue to adapt by the Company for the years to come.

Objectives set before the program designers for the time being cover first of all, mathematical formulation of actual Volga-Dnepr's system air transport condition in order to help identify money-wise aspects of risks and, secondly create a data base containing management resolutions regarding mitigation of risks potentially capable of causing aviation accidents.

Under its Objective One the program is to calculate and minimize amount of risk in the upcoming flight. Risk's monetary equivalent will be calculated among other things, using all insured event payouts from the relevant data base. Risk is a product of probability multiplied by gravity of occurrence therefore such an approach will help assess aviation events against probability and gravity scales at the same time. For example, probability of a bird striking an airframe is high enough however the damage resulting in a



In total the system would process about 13 informational data bases. These are external DBs (aviation insurance base processing up to 18 million flights performed, Airport Data Base, Weather Conditions DB), Airline Data Bases (flight legs, AC technical conditions, CRM, flight staff, simulator training), internal bases generated by the system to include an extensive data base of expertly assessed cause and effect relations between accidents occurred. Suffice to say that at present time the system contains and accounts for 1200 hazard factors.

The working procedure is as follows: first comes customers' inquiry order then the relevant flight plan will be generated. It gets into the system, which will process all the relevant flight information: airports of departure and arrival, particular aircraft and the crew to pilot the aircraft. Six hours in advance as weather data come the system will produce the final probable risk analysis for the upcoming flight and measures to minimize the identified hazards further supplied to the crew. It is by virtue of such preliminary warning and airmen's skills that probable occurrence could be prevented.

This is a unique system. No other airline in the World has created anything of the kind. Quite many take individual steps but none are integrated into the specific airline system. In course of time such automated system will also be put in place by other carriers involved in risk management activities and flight safety improvement. Taking into consideration the current air accidents level the system will considerably improve flight safety level.

The screenshot shows the 'In-flight Risk Prediction Is a Part of Flight Planning Process' interface. It includes a table of flight information and a 'Flight Schedule' visualization. A prominent red 'CAUTION!!!' warning is displayed. A callout box states: 'A single flight risk level = USD 863.61'.

№ перелета	№ рейса	№ ВС	Тип ВС	Дата/время вылета (UTC)	Аэропорт вылета (ICAO)	Дата/время посадки (UTC)	Аэропорт посадки (ICAO)	ОП	Детализация ОП (пассаж)	УР
3200102	6N48409	RA-82042	AN-124-100	29.03.12 13:00	ВПП (ВЕСА)	29.03.12 19:00	ВОНБАСАЛСЕЙ (ВОНСО)		29.03.2012 16:32	9

minor skin depression is normally insignificant. When landing on a short runway the probability of rolling out would be less frequent but complications more severe. In this way when making assessment of risk and providing the relevant figures the accountable flight operations manager will issue the necessary advice and recommendations to the crew.

One of goals of the Program will be creation of Management Resolutions Data Base. The Base will play the role of a Home Savings Box in maintaining data on all Volga-Dnepr Group occurrences and resolutions taken to minimize adverse effects and performance indicators. The use of prior experience and expertise will help ensure efficient decision-taking process aimed to improve operational safety.

### Project Summary:

The entire idea of the automated air accidents predicting and preventing system is to provide recommendations to flight crews based on extensive amounts of information processed on flight procedures, aircraft equipment condition, flight crew composition, air event statistics and insurance payments in order to identify hazards, which might result in aviation accidents in forthcoming flight as well as in longer perspective.

The screenshot displays the 'Risk Mitigation Scenarios: Review of Management Resolutions Efficiency' interface. It shows a table of 'Значимые ФО события' (Significant FO events) with columns for 'Событие' (Event), 'Значение ФО' (FO Value), and 'Выборить УР' (Select UR). Below this, there is a 'Result of flight' table with columns for aircraft type and various hazard categories (ABC, BBD, DECCO, LOD4, BAC, S23 AP). A 'Recalculate Risk Level' button is visible. At the bottom, there is a table for 'Список принятых управленческих решений' (List of accepted management resolutions).

## March 27, 2012 AN-124-100 Full Flight Simulator enters service

**Antonov 124 Full Flight Simulator has been commissioned in Volga-Dnepr Flight Operations Control Center, Ulyanovsk. The final setting-up of the FFS motion system was completed on 21 March 2012.**

The FFS motion system intended for realistic flight simulation became another key event following FFS facilities installation in the new modern building of Flight Operations Control Center. Such motion system will improve the quality of and reduce time and cost of pilot training. Experts estimate that the motion system will increase the flight safety level by more than 7 per cent.

“The system can simulate the feels of acceleration, G-force, angular rate, thus considerably increasing the volume of flight information received by crew, and improving



the quality of flight situation perception,” says Sergey Vasin, Head of Aviation Training Center. “Within a month we have completed the setting-up process consisting of two stages: tests and final tuning as per pilots’ feelings. Tests showed that the motion system functions correctly and insures all necessary motion variables with regard to linear movements, deviation angles, speed and acceleration rates, etc. Moreover, FFS movements are conflict-free with construction elements of the building. The setting-up was performed by service engineers, representatives of FFS motion system manufacturer — Bosch Rexroth BV, Netherlands, and Volga-Dnepr experts. All our calculations proved to be correct, all tests were successful. During fine tuning stage, the system was adjusted to simulate the real flight conditions.”

Volga-Dnepr Aviation Training Center was established in 2009 to operate and maintain two Antonov 124 Flight Simulators (FFS and Procedural). The Center provides initial and simulator training for Antonov 124 flight & technical crews, SOP and CRM procedure training, and training on Aircraft-OPS communications. Training Center is also engaged in research on improvement of Antonov 124 flight deck ergonomics, procedure documents and crew interaction techniques.

In January 2012, the FFS was moved to the new FOCC building. Such transfer was arranged by Maintenance Department, Construction Department, Procurement Department, Cargo Service, Technical Department, Aviation Security Department, and Volga Trucks. Simulator transportation, assembly and setting-up activities were successfully performed in two months due to well-coordinated and professional teamwork that allowed to minimize a break between pilot trainings.

Following the forthcoming validation by Federal Air Transport Agency, training sessions on FFS with the newly installed Motion System will be resumed. This tremendous work will become a valuable contribution to achievement of the Group Strategic Goals.



## April 23, 2012 First A-check by Volga-Dnepr Technics

The Germany-located unit of Volga-Dnepr Technics (VDT) the VDT GmbH has accomplished its first A-Check on Boeing-747 aircraft.

The AirBridgeCargo (ABC) aircraft had its maintenance check from 11 to 13 April at Leipzig Halle Airport. The international team of VDT GmbH together with specialist from other companies of the Group like Ruslan SALIS (VDA), Volga-Dnepr Technics Moscow (VDTM) and ABC performed the Check with good quality and in due time. It was the first time that during the maintenance check of Volga-Dnepr’s aircraft the goal was achieved by the joint effort of two businesses: Scheduled and Regular Air Cargo Operations. This approach proved the efficiency and capabilities of such synergy of the two business areas with regard to aircraft maintenance (MNT).







Volga-Dnepr Technics became entitled for A-check maintenance operations early this year after the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) has provided the Company with the relevant license (EASAPart-145).

Since this was the first A-check performed by Volga-Dnepr Technics all the work was supervised by Aviation Authorities of Germany (LBA). Current procedures effective in VDT GmbH were audited for compliance with regulatory standards and assessed in a positive way: LBA inspectors noted good professional skills of engineers and efficient organization. As the result the VDT GmbH received the right to apply for further extension of its business areas, particularly Line Maintenance Operations at Frankfurt-am-Maine Airport and to establish at Leipzig Halle a Wheels and Brakes Maintenance Section.

## April 26, 2012 AirBridgeCargo Airlines awarded IOSA certification

AirBridgeCargo Airlines (ABC) had successfully completed an audit to be listed in the IATA Operational Safety Audit (IOSA) register.

The IATA Operational Safety Audit (IOSA) is an internationally accepted evaluation system designed to assess the operational management and control systems of an airlines. Standard IOSA contains requirements for organization of airline operating process which allows each company to reach and sustain essential level of safety and quality. The audit itself consisted of three stages: preparation, audit and rectifying of deficiencies. The scope of work which is necessary to comply with the IOSA standard required the involvement of all departments in the company because almost all areas of operating process were to be checked, including management system, quality monitoring and control, flight performance, operating control, flight preparation, maintenance and ground handling, cargo transportation and aviation safety. The major part of work was contributed by flight safety inspection, maintenance department, cargo and ground handling operations department, operational center, quality department, operations control center and aviation security department.

Tatyana Arslanova, Executive President of ABC, said: "Constant quality and safety improvement is priority for all AirBridgeCargo personnel and from the perspective IOSA certificate comes as an acknowledged proof of our work. This certificate is a further demonstration to our customers of AirBridgeCargo's growth, safety standards and quality level. I would like to thank all ABC employees, who participated into IOSA audit process."



## May 12, 2012 Airnautic France: We are happy to use IL-76TD-90VD in Europe

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One of Volga-Dnepr Airlines' new IL-76TD-90VD freighters has delivered 20 tonnes of oil production equipment from Malabo, Equatorial Guinea to Prestwick in Scotland.

The shipment comprised of a coiled tubing frame and a power generator with total weight approximately 20 tonnes. The cargo was loaded onto the aircraft and secured using cranes and forklift trucks.

The flight was operated for Airnautic France, a leading French freight forwarder, which has been in business since 1984. The company's founder and President, Denis Le Baler, said: "This is the first time we have used this new IL-76TD-90VD and we are proud to charter it

into Europe. We also welcome cooperation with Volga-Dnepr Group as we here in France are frequent partners of its subsidiary the AirBridgeCargo Airlines".

Coiled tubing is a continuous length of steel or composite tubing that is flexible enough to be wound on a large reel for transportation and provides a cost and time-effective solution for well drilling and intervention operations. The technology allows energy companies to achieve a number of advances in oil production operations and reduce the cost of repair and maintenance processes.

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.



## May 16, 2012 AirBridgeCargo wins 'Wings of Russia' national

AirBridgeCargo wins 'Wings of Russia' national aviation award for the fourth time

AirBridgeCargo Airlines (ABC), part of Volga-Dnepr Group, has been awarded the 'Wings of Russia' national aviation prize for the fourth year in a row. Volga-Dnepr Airlines also received a distinction in the 'Cargo Carrier of the Year' nomination category.

Russia's largest international scheduled cargo airline was once again presented with the award for 'Cargo Airline of the Year on Domestic and International Routes', reconfirming its leading status for providing reliable air logistics services to and from Russia.

Tatyana Arslanova, Executive President of ABC, said: "The achievement of our company in winning this important award for the fourth time in four years reflects the successful realisation of our 'Cargo Supermarket' strategy. This is based on the well-balanced development and synergy of the two main businesses of Volga-Dnepr Group for charter and scheduled cargo operations.

"In 2011, ABC's growth was attributed to the introduction of new markets in the USA and China and the successful development of our route network in Russia to incorporate Krasnoyarsk, Novosibirsk and Yekaterinburg. We managed not only to maintain our position in ABC's existing markets but to also improve, mainly thanks to the long-term relationships we have created with our customers. Apart from that, this victory is the result of effective cooperation with our partners and participants of the Russian cargo industry, notably airports, service providers and national authorities."

The 2012 'Wings of Russia' awards ceremony was held in the Renaissance Moscow Monarch Centre. The event gathered together more than 600 guests, including the top managers of most Russian airlines, government representatives, service providers, representatives of the Russian and foreign business and finance markets and the media.



## May 24, 2012 Volga-Dnepr Group Presented to TIACA Summit AN-124 RUSLAN, IL-76 and Boeing 747-8F

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Moscow, May 24, 2012 International Air Cargo Association's (TIACA) Executive Summit and Annual General Meeting was held in Moscow, which was organized with participation of Volga-Dnepr Group. The main issue at the Summit was Air Cargo in the Rising Economies: East Balances West.

During the TIACA Summit the Volga-Dnepr Group presented its cargo aircraft fleet and demonstrated all its freighter versions used by Volga-Dnepr and AirBridge Cargo Airlines at present time. The event was held at Domodedovo Airport in Moscow.

He participants and journalists attending the event had a good opportunity to acquaint themselves with AN-124-100 RUSLAN, IL-76TD-90VD and a fresh-from-the-factory Boeing 747-8F.

ANTONOV AN-124-100 RUSLAN has no rivals among ramp loaded freighters and permits resolve complicated logistic tasks. Within the Aircraft Modernization Program initiated by Volga-Dnepr Group a considerable amount of work was done to extend the aircraft and vendor items design service life, which ensured a trouble free operation of the aircraft. The ANTONOV's modernized version can carry up to 150 tons of payload. AN-124-100s are used by Volga-Dnepr Airlines for charter operations including carriage of heavy and outsize cargo. Company operates a fleet of ten AN-124-100s.

IL -76TD aircraft is designed to carry substandard, unique and general cargo weighing up to 50 tons. Starting from 2002 Volga-Dnepr Group has been implementing the aircraft modernization program with new PS-90A-76 engines as the key element of its renovation. The new power plant meet all current and



perspective ICAO environment protection standards regarding emission and noise. At present time Volga-Dnepr Airlines operates a fleet of five modernized IL-76TD-90VD aircraft.

Boeing 747-8 Freighter is the latest representative of the Boeing 747 family featuring outstanding aircraft performance data, which will help cargo carriers reduce operational costs and improve their economic results. The aircraft sets new fuel efficiency and noise reduction standards, thus allowing the airlines reduce fuel costs, fly longer with more frequency. This aircraft's fuel efficiency is 16% better than the Boeing 747-400's. Boeing 747-8 ensures guaranteed conformance with QC2 noise and emission standards. Boeing 747s are operated by AirBridge Cargo Airlines a scheduled cargo flyer and a part of Volga-Dnepr Group. At present time the AirBridge Cargo's fleet consists of 12 Boeing 747s including two Boeing 747-8s.

The range of issues discussed at the Summit include perspectives of Russian companies integration into the Global trade and logistics networks, improvement of customs laws, development of transport infrastructure and cargo hubs creation. In addition the representatives of the US Transport Safety Administration (TSA) held a discussion with aviation industry leaders measures to ensure safety of air transport and new international initiatives on safe cargo operations.

TIACA's Executive Summit serves as a platform for discussing a wide range of issues associated with air cargo market development. The event is participated by Russia-based and international business community, the largest aircraft manufacturers, leading transport and logistics companies, and government agencies. Besides, TIACA Annual General Meeting is held within TIACA Executive Summit.



## June 01, 2012 IATA welcomes AirBridgeCargo airlines as an active member

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AirBridgeCargo Airlines (ABC), part of Volga-Dnepr Group and Russia's largest all-cargo carrier, has become an Active member of the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

The airline was formally welcomed to the Association in a letter from its Director General & CEO, Antony Tyler, to Tatyana Arslanova, Executive President of ABC.

AirBridgeCargo is already actively participating in IATA programmes designed to improve safety, quality and efficiency in the air cargo supply chain. It has recently completed the audit to be listed in the IATA Operational Safety Audit (IOSA) register, an internationally accepted evaluation system designed to assess the operational management and control systems of airlines. It is also an Associate member of Cargo 2000, the IATA interest group working to improve the quality of air cargo, and is working to adopt the Association's e-freight programme, which aims to take the paper out of the air cargo supply chain and replace it with cheaper, more accurate and more reliable electronic messaging.

Tatyana Arslanova said: "Membership of IATA has been an important goal of AirBridgeCargo since it became an independent airline under the umbrella of our parent, Volga-Dnepr Group. We made a strategic step towards IATA membership by successfully passing the IOSA audit and we are now extremely proud to be among 243 world airlines in this association. It will give an excellent opportunity to influence current issues that are important to all quality-driven airlines."

## June 15, 2012. Volga-Dnepr Airlines is fully compliant with Federal AC Maintenance Rules

Volga-Dnepr Airlines has successfully gone through the Aircraft Maintenance and Repair Audit. On June 7, 2012 the Federal Air Transport Agency of the Russian Federation renewed the relevant Company's certificate for next two year period.

The audit, which at the end confirmed the Company's complete conformance with the Federal Aviation Rules of the Russian Federation regarding aircraft maintenance and repair, continued from 28 to 31 of May. The major input was made by the Company's Maintenance Department and Certification Department personnel. The Company has also been granted the right to perform additional AN-124-100 AC scheduled maintenance checks ("3C" and "8C"), which will



considerably increase efficiency of this AC type operation.

The renewed Aircraft Maintenance and Repair Certificate will help Volga-Dnepr Airline continue resolving the most significant strategic goals and objectives regarding maintaining the aircraft

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