



AIRLIFT WORLD

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VOLGA-DNEPR PRESENTED 'FUTURE AIRLIFTER' CONCEPT AT IATF 2014

AirBridgeCargo Airlines, Russia's largest scheduled cargo airline and part of Volga-Dnepr Group, has been named 'Best All Cargo Carrier' in the 28th Asian Freight & Supply Chain Awards (AFSCA).

Volga-Dnepr Group was using its role as a strategic partner and participant in the Third International Air Transport Forum (IATF) at Ulyanovsk-Vostochny Airport in Ulyanovsk, Russia, on 14-16 August 2014 to present a concept for a 'future airlifter' as well as to set a new world record, displaying one of its An-124-100 freighters and sharing its expertise on various key topics in the world of aviation.

The winner of the Group's "Advanced Transport Aircraft of the XXI Century" international contest was announced at a special ceremony on 15 August 2014 and the prototype of a future airlifter was unveiled.

On 16 August, Vyacheslav Maksyuta, General Director of the Russian Power Extreme Federation and Russia's strongest man set a new strength record by pulling a 50-ton An-12 turboprop aircraft. The aircraft is a robust workhorse in military, commercial and rescue operations from the Soviet era, which has previously served in the fleet of ATRAN Airlines, now part of Volga-Dnepr Group.

One of Volga-Dnepr's unique An-124-100 freighters was on static display throughout the Forum and welcomed guests onboard each day to gain a 'close-up' of this unique transport aircraft. Visitors were also invited to find out more information as they toured a photographic exhibition entitled "Building Global Air Bridges" that demonstrates the global transport and logistics solutions provided by the Group's multi-national team.



Experts from Volga-Dnepr also gave a series of presentations during the International Aviation Congress (IAC) taking place on 14 and 15 August. Experts shared their insights into the aircraft Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) business in Russia, aviation logistics, and prospects for the development of cargo transport aviation.

On 15 August, Volga-Dnepr also hosted a special panel discussion on "Corporate Values Management as a Way for Personnel Attraction, Retention and Development" where its HR experts talked about the company's code of business ethics and corporate university. Always been the key market for AirBridgeCargo Airlines since the very start of its operations back in 2004. Since then the airline has successfully grown its market share in the region and forecasts more growth and development over the next decade, with future plans for more new freighter aircraft and more international cargo routes.

VOLGA-DNEPR AIRLINES ESTABLISHES ITS OWN DESIGN BUREAU

Artyom Arutyunov, Deputy Technical Director at Volga-Dnepr Group shared information on establishment of company's design bureau and presented several cargo aircraft concepts at IATF-2014.

According to Mr. Arutyunov, the Company is currently forming a team, having selected design engineers, and has some aircraft design sketches.

Mr. Arutyunov, at first, presented an AN-124-based aircraft concept. He said: "This version allows transporting super heavy cargo using big cargo hold which is 7 meters in width and 5 meters in height. Such aircraft is intended to transport commercial and military cargo and can be used in prospect."

Presented design sketches include aircraft with lifting fuselage, aircraft with external load sling system and aircraft which cargo hold can be converted into passenger cabin and vice versa.

"When you need a new aircraft, you can convert the passenger aircraft into a cargo aircraft. One of our concepts is based on IL-96

with modernized nose section and constructed ramp. This model can 'kneel down' and extend a ramp," explained Mr. Arutyunov. Presented aircraft looked like Airbus A300-600ST, also known as 'Beluga'.

Volga-Dnepr considers that own design bureau is a response to complicated political situation and a wish to contribute into national civil aviation development in assuring safe and accident-free operations.



Singapore Sports Hub is pitch perfect thanks to 'flying' artificial grass machines

Two 9-ton artificial grass machines used to create sustainable sports stadium pitches have arrived in Maastricht in the Netherlands onboard a Volga-Dnepr Airlines' IL-76TD-90VD.

The machines were flown in from Singapore where they were used at the Singapore Sports Hub, the country's new 55,000 capacity national stadium that officially opens on 30th June, 2014. The flight was operated for Volga-Dnepr's longstanding partner, Chapman Freeborn Airchartering.

Desso GrassMaster machines use patented technology to inject artificial grass fibres into natural grass to make stadium pitches more resilient and long-lasting. The 9-metre track-laying machines were able to drive into the cargo hold of the IL-76TD-90VD along a ramp extension.

Volga-Dnepr's team had previously organised the transportation of the loading equipment from Stansted, UK, to Singapore.



NEW SOFTWARE FROM VOLGA-DNEPR TEAM



Maxim Zinoviev

Maxim Zinoviev and Dmitry Trasin, lead software engineers of Volga-Dnepr Airlines (VDA) developed new Volga-Dnepr Airlines Learning Management System (VDA LMS) software and obtained Rospatent (Russian intellectual property agency) certificate of state software registration.

Initial task involved only modification of several features of existing Learning Management System software used for flight personnel training. **Joint efforts of training specialists and software engineers resulted in** revised VDA LMS version developed in accordance with regulatory documents and training requirements. Improved software provides for detailed training performance control and flexible training materials management.



Dmitry Trasin

But constantly changing training requirements and new training programs for Flight Operations Control Center (FOCC) officers required further modernization. Consequently the brand new Volga-Dnepr Airlines Learning Management System has been developed. New software offers such features as distance training, online consulting services, total

training process control and library of current regulatory documents and training materials. The software developed by Volga-Dnepr specialists is designed to conduct complete distance training of flight personnel and FOCC officers in accordance with regulatory documents.

Today VDA LMS is used by 234 flight specialists and 64 FOCC officers. Beginning this year the new system will be available for staff of VDA Maintenance Department. Specialists of Volga-Dnepr Aviation Training Center also have access to VDA LMS.



'CIGARETTE MARAUDER' POWER BOAT SETS SAIL WITH VOLGA-DNEPR TO NICE

A 'Cigarette Marauder' power boat has arrived in Nice in the south of France onboard Volga-Dnepr Airlines' IL-76TD-90VD freighter.

The 15-metre 'Marauder' was flown from Doha, Qatar, to Nice. The flight was operated on behalf of Volga-Dnepr's longstanding charter partner Air Partner. The charter agreement was executed at Volga-Dnepr's sales office in Stansted, UK.

14-ton boat was loaded onto a standard trailer for transportation. To ensure the boat could be loaded into the IL-76TD-90VD's cargo hold, Volga-Dnepr Airlines' experts had to develop a special loading solution because the size of the boat and the small amount of ground clearance meant it wasn't possible to use the aircraft's ramp and

internal crane. Instead, the engineers installed extension ramp normally used to load heavy and outsize cargoes onboard Volga-Dnepr's AN-124-100 freighters, the world's largest series-produced cargo aircraft. The ramp reduced the angle that the boat and trailer had to negotiate as they were carefully loaded into the aircraft and meant the boat on its trailer could be driven into the IL-76.

Rinat Akhmetov, Sales Executive at Volga-Dnepr, said: "Deliveries of yachts and boats always require an individual approach as these types of cargo are very bespoke. They are high value and custom-made and require very precise and delicate handling. Thanks to the size and capability of our AN-124-100 and IL-76TD-90VD freighters, Volga-Dnepr is able to transport a wide range of yachts and boats, boosted by our in-house engineering and logistics capability. We have shipped yachts and boats all over the world from countries such as Canada, Belarus, Ireland, Pakistan, and Russia to destinations in the USA, the Philippines, Kenya, Tanzania, and the United Arab Emirates."

Volga-Dnepr's IL-76TD-90VD Fleet sees oil and gas deliveries double in first half of 2014



Volga-Dnepr Group's Engineering & Logistics Center (ELC) developed a special loading frame that provided a timely and cost efficient solution for a customer moving a 30-ton oil and gas shipment onboard its IL-76TD-90VD from Johor Bahru, Malaysia, to Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Russia.

The oil and gas shipment consisted of five pieces, including 13-metre pipes weighing 18 tons. Normally, loading such cargo would require the use of six tons of special loading equipment but at the time of the customer enquiry for the flight, Volga-Dnepr already had an aircraft positioned in the Asia Pacific region so the ELC team set about creating a solution that prevented the additional time and cost of moving the specialist loading equipment from Europe.

Azat Yakupov, Senior Load Planning Engineer, Dangerous Cargo at Volga-Dnepr Airlines, said: "We created a solution by developing a compact 600kg frame that enabled the pipes to be loaded using the aircraft's roller tracks. Together with my ELC colleagues we prepared the necessary drawings and contracted a company in Johor Bahru to manufacture the frame for us. This enabled us to load the shipment safely at Johor Bahru Senai International Airport using the IL-76TD-90VD's onboard crane as well as an external crane and lifting equipment without any delay to the planned flight schedule."

Volga-Dnepr says air charter sales of IL-76TD-90VD flights carrying oil and gas equipment doubled in the first half of 2014 to 32% of all flights operated by the aircraft compared to the opening six months of last year. Volga-Dnepr Airlines has a fleet of five new generation IL-76TD-90VD aircraft, which are approved by ICAO for global operations.

"The customer for this particular oil and gas cargo delivery was our longstanding partner, Panalpina. The modernized IL-76TD-90VD has developed an excellent reputation in the international air cargo market and especially in the oil and gas industry and this is reflected in the doubling of our business in this market segment in the first six months of 2014," added Georgy Sokolov, Regional Sales Manager of Volga-Dnepr.

AIRBRIDGECARGO TARGETS PHARMA BUSINESS WITH NEW BASEL FREIGHTER SERVICE

The transportation options for Basel's thriving healthcare industry will be extended from September 19 with the launch of a Boeing 747 freighter service by AirBridgeCargo Airlines (ABC).

Basel has one of the highest concentrations of successful life sciences businesses in the world, including pharmaceuticals, biotechnology and medical technology organisations.

ABC will operate its new Basel-Moscow Sheremetyevo service every Friday. The airline's high on-time performance and fast handling through Moscow will enable AirBridgeCargo's customers to achieve less than 48-hour connections on O&D to major cities in Asia, including Shanghai, Beijing, Hong Kong, Zhengzhou, Chengdu, Seoul, and Tokyo, via ABC hub in Moscow.

Robert van De Weg, Senior VP Marketing and Sales, ABC said: "The healthcare industry relies strongly on the speed of air cargo and its ability to maintain the integrity of products through strict temperature-control services. Operating from Basel will enable us to provide a fast and reliable link into Russia and Asia for customers in the industry as well as the other industries that have grown up to support the healthcare market in Switzerland. This new

route and the connections we can offer will facilitate further growth between both regions."

AirBridgeCargo Airlines, part of Volga Dnepr Group, with its yearly tonnage compound growth rate of 39% is one of the fastest-growing air cargo carriers. It connects the world's largest cargo flows from Asia to Europe and the United States via Russia. It operates modern and efficient Boeing 747 all-cargo fleet of 12 aircraft and maintains a high level of on-time performance which averages to 78%. Being an all-cargo carrier, ABC has an opportunity to adjust each of the four Boeing's 747 cargo compartments between 4-29 degrees Celsius, therefore ensuring safe and reliable transportation for the high-value pharma goods.

ABC is member of IATA, Cool Chain Association, TAPA, and Cargo 2000.

AirBridgeCargo is represented in Basel by its GSSA partner, RTW Air Services SA.

The transportation of a 73-ton turbine 'runner' to Bratsk was performed in February in order to complete the modernization of Hydroelectric Power Station. To transport the runner to the Bratsk Hydropower Station, a unique technical loading plan was engineered; moreover, Volga-Dnepr provided the full scope of engineering and logistics services to the Customer.

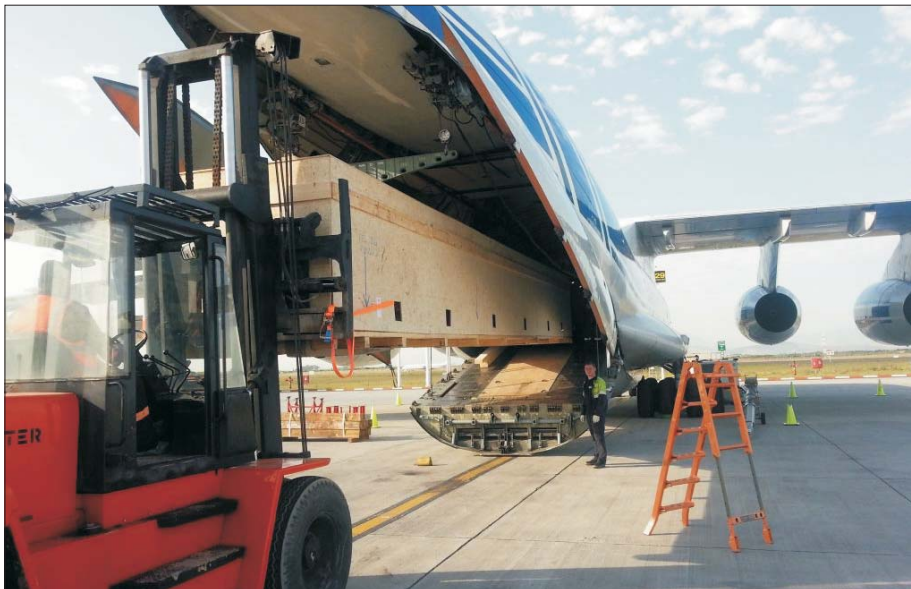
Volga-Dnepr delivers 80 tons of oil and gas equipment to Cape Town

An-124-100 and IL-76TD-90VD freighters from Volga-Dnepr Airlines' fleet were called into action to deliver more than 80 tons of oil and gas equipment to Cape Town in South Africa.

The An-124 flight carried five 13-metre pipes from Singapore weighing 60 tons. The pipes were shipped to

90VD cargo aircraft. The shipment of two subsea risers measuring 13.5m and 7.5m in length was required to complete the fast repair of a broken semi-submersible drilling rig. This equipment was delivered on behalf of French broker ATS International.

"The fast delivery of the risers to Cape Town helped the oil and gas operation



Singapore's Changi Airport by truck and then placed carefully onto airport dollies and towed to the aircraft for loading. The aircraft's onboard cranes were used to load the pipes. The delivery was operated on behalf of logistics company UTI South Africa and was contracted under the Ruslan International An-124 joint venture.

Earlier, the urgent transportation of oil equipment from Stavanger, Norway, was organised by Volga-Dnepr's experts onboard an IL-76TD-

to resume production at the rig within a short timescale. We have a lot of expertise in meeting such urgent customer requests and in situations of extreme urgency when each day of interruption to production can result in substantial financial losses, we are always ready to provide customers with fast and effective solutions to support them in keeping their projects on track" said Clair Gunn, Commercial Executive, at Volga-Dnepr.



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