

BIG NEWS



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Multi-modal cargo terminal opens in Krasnoyarsk

A ceremony has taken place at Emelyanovo Airport in Krasnoyarsk in the Russian Far East to mark the opening of a new cargo terminal forecast to evolve into Russia's first world-class multi-modal air cargo hub.



Alexandr Khloponin, Governor of Krasnoyarsk Krai, Dmitry Kozak, Minister of Regional Development of Russia, Igor Levitin, Minister of Transport of Russia and Alexey Isaikin, President of Volga-Dnepr Group mark the opening of the new cargo terminal in Krasnoyarsk.



The ceremony was attended by project partners – Krasnoyarsk Territory Administration, AirBridgeCargo Airlines – the scheduled services business of

Volga-Dnepr Group - as the principal cargo operator, Krasnoyarsk Airlines and Kratos Investment Group.

AirBridgeCargo Airlines commenced scheduled cargo services via Krasnoyarsk Airport in November 2004 recognising the unique potential of its geographical position on the shortest routes connecting Europe, Asia and the US and its ability to support extended network deliveries around Russia.

AirBridgeCargo now performs 20 stops a week in Krasnoyarsk linking Europe's largest hubs (Frankfurt, Amsterdam) with Asia (Shanghai, Hong Kong, Beijing, Tokyo). Since 2006, scheduled domestic flights have been operated between European Russia (Moscow), Siberia (Krasnoyarsk) and the Far East (Khabarovsk and Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk). At present, Volga-Dnepr Group delivers 90% of all air cargo traffic carried between Krasnoyarsk and Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk.

"This new terminal will, in the future, allow us to double AirBridgeCargo's flights to Krasnoyarsk up to 40 weekly frequencies and proceed with cross-polar routes from Asia to the United States and Canada with a stop at Krasnoyarsk

Airport," said Denis Ilyin (left), senior vice president of AirBridgeCargo.

Volga-Dnepr is already experiencing strong growth in its business through Krasnoyarsk. In 2005, for example, Krasnoyarsk saw a five-fold cargo traffic growth. Volga-Dnepr has become a distinctive catalyst of export/import trade activities in the Krasnoyarsk Territory, supporting the development of local businesses and forming an essential part of the region's transport infrastructure.

Into Space!

One of Volga-Dnepr Airlines' AN-124 cargo aircraft carried the American telecommunications satellite AMC-14 from Moffett Field in California to Baikonur in Russia.

The 75 tonnes satellite, manufactured by Lockheed Martin for SES Americom, is scheduled to be launched into space onboard the Proton M rocket on March 15th 2008. The Proton M rocket launches both commercial government payloads from the Baikonur space center, which is operated by ILS (International Launch System).

Special delivery for ABC



AirBridgeCargo Airlines is set to take delivery of its second new Boeing 747-400ER Freighter on February 29th 2008 is a special ceremony in the US. Look out for the full story in the March issue of BIGNEWS.

Six 34 tonnes heat exchangers arrive on-time in Houston

Volga-Dnepr was recently tasked with moving six heat exchangers each weighing 34 tonnes from Dubai to Houston. The airline's technical experts created a special frame to transport the cargo, ensuring the even distribution of weight across the cargo hold floor of the AN-124 freighter.

Carried over two flights, the successful project was the result of a two-week planning process by Volga-Dnepr's load planning team and

close consultation with the customer and consignor.

The deliveries were all completed as planned thanks to close interaction between companies in Volga-Dnepr Group that ensured special loading equipment required for the flights was transported on time from Ulyanovsk to London Stansted and onto Dubai.



ABC builds business relationships in India



AirBridgeCargo Airlines (ABC) was one of the leading participants in the Air Cargo India 2008 exhibition and conference in Mumbai as it looks to gain a share of the country's thriving export market.

ABC used the opportunity to develop contacts in the region and establish relationships with potential GSAs representing online and offline foreign airlines in India and other prominent local businesses. AirBridge is looking to develop offline services routed from India to China/Hong Kong-Russia-Europe and has also stated

its attention to serve the Indian market with its own B747 freighter operations in the future.

India is fast emerging as a global force in the air cargo market with exports expected to reach US\$150 billion by 2008/9. The country's textile market is expected to grow from its current level of \$37 billion to \$85bn by 2010, mostly export traffic. India also has a thriving pharmaceutical industry with 80% of its \$9bn annual output exported.



Oil equipment arrives safely in the heart of West Siberia

This 88 tonnes shipment of trailers and oil equipment was destined for Nizhnevartovsk in the centre of the West Siberian oil producing region. Operated on behalf of Albacor Shipping, the cargo began its journey in Schwerin in Northern Germany.

Volga-Dnepr Group is a recognized expert in the airlift of oil and gas equipment. The Group's Antonov AN-124-100 'Ruslan' and Ilyushin IL-76 cargo aircraft play a vital role in the production and logistics chains of oil and gas customers, enabling them to significantly reduce delivery times and speed up the production cycle. The unique operating capabilities and reliability of the Volga-Dnepr fleet make it possible to carry a wide variety of oil and gas equipment and supplies. By factoring Volga-Dnepr's transportation capability into their planning process, the world's leading energy companies are able to accelerate the development of oil and gas projects.

