

BIG NEWS



INTERACTIVE BUSINESS NEWS FROM THE HEAVYWEIGHT IN AIRFREIGHT

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Volga-Dnepr Group reports 48% growth in sales for 2008

Volga-Dnepr Group has announced a 46% increase in sales for 2008 from its charter and scheduled air cargo services to US\$1.4 billion.

The Group, that includes Volga-Dnepr Airlines - the world's largest charter airline for the movement of outsize and heavyweight cargo – and AirBridgeCargo Airlines, Russia's leading international scheduled cargo airline, reported a 25% rise in cargo tonnage for the year compared to 2007. The Group transported 267,000 tons of cargo over the 12 month period, while FTKs rose 32%.

According to these provisional results, the Group is now rated 12th in the global ranking of air cargo carriers and is the largest Russian all-cargo airline group.

During the past year, the Group continued its aircraft fleet improvement program:

- two brand new B747-400ER Freighters were delivered from the Boeing manufacturing plant in Seattle to replace older B747-200Fs in the AirBridgeCargo Airlines fleet;
- the company continued to operate two modernised IL-76TD-90VD freighters and provided funds for construction of another three airplanes of the same version to the Tashkent Aviation Factory under an agreement with the Russia United Aircraft Corporation (UAC);
- negotiations commenced with UAC for an order for new AN-124-100M-150 aircraft.

2008 saw Volga-Dnepr Group consistently realising its development strategy based on the concept of offering a 'cargo supermarket' of all-cargo solutions. This combines the advantages of charter and scheduled air cargo operations and long-term relationships with key customers and partners worldwide.



Two brand new B747-400ER Freighters were delivered from the Boeing manufacturing plant in Seattle to replace older B747-200Fs in the AirBridgeCargo Airlines fleet in 2008

Volga-Dnepr is an international group that comprises 17 companies in seven countries and employs a multi-national team of over 2,800 employees across its extensive worldwide network.

It is the largest air cargo operator in Russia and the world's leading transporter of outsize and heavyweight air cargo. Today, Volga-Dnepr is a fast-growing business rated among the world's top twenty air cargo carriers and a respected expert for providing a diverse range of air logistics solutions.



Tatyana Zapashny was on hand to personally thank AirBridgeCargo for ensuring the safe transportation of the young tigers.

Tigers touch down in Moscow

AirBridgeCargo Airlines (ABC) has safely delivered two white tiger cubs on its scheduled flight from Frankfurt to join the Brothers' Zapashny circus in Moscow.

The five month old cubs arrived in Russia onboard one of ABC's Boeing 747 freighters.

The circus is one of the most popular entertainment shows in Moscow and is highly regarded for the uniqueness and professionalism of its performances. Tatyana Zapashny was on hand to

personally thank AirBridgeCargo for ensuring the safe transportation of the young tigers.

This is the latest in a long line of successful animal shipments completed by ABC. Last July, the all-cargo airline – part of Volga-Dnepr Group – delivered a polar bear from St. Petersburg to Nagoya. It has also carried brown bears to Japan, dolphins and a walrus to China, 105 elite racehorses from Amsterdam to Russia, 316 pedigree cows from Linz to Yakutsk and a giraffe from Luxembourg to Moscow.



Another + for Volga-Dnepr customers

Volga-Dnepr has developed a new service for customers called Charter+. Here we answer customers' questions about the service:

What is Charter+ ?

It is a pilot service in response to customer requirements to help remove the headache of managing outsize and heavyweight cargo, particularly in unfamiliar and remote destinations. Customers will be aware that many of the flights we perform are to airports and airfields with insufficient cargo infrastructure.

What type of services does it offer?

Typically, it is many of the same services we have been providing for some customers for quite a while such as tracking, craning,



packing, haulage and insurance on request. We also provide loading expertise and technical analysis for abnormal loads. By branding these services as Charter+ we aim to promote this extended range of our services so customers are fully aware of the level of support we can provide.

Why have you launched this new service?

It is clear that our customers – shippers, freight forwarders, project forwarders and charter brokers – see value in outsourcing various activities on some occasions. Many of them have indicated that they want us to offer not only airport-to-airport air charter but also the option of additional services that provide the opportunity to move cargo in the most cost efficient and timely way.

Are you trying to deal directly with shippers?

There are some customers, notably in the aerospace sector, that have worked directly with Volga-Dnepr since we commenced commercial operations. However, the value added services offered by Charter+ are aimed at continuing to make Volga-Dnepr Airlines the preferred choice of charter brokers, freight forwarders and project forwarders for their outsize and heavyweight charter requirements.

The working relationships we have developed with the worldwide forwarding industry and charter brokers are of the highest importance to Volga-Dnepr Airlines and we strongly value the support we receive. They are also valued added players in the market and we believe these extra, optional services we are offering will improve the quality of our service to them.

The development of Charter+ is largely based on forwarders asking if we can help them with such additional services.

Over the past 18 years we have continually developed solutions that simplify the process of moving large and heavy pieces of cargo around the globe, such as patented loading systems. This is the latest part of our offering and so far the vast majority of our forwarding customers see Charter+ as a way to help them provide the range of solutions their own customers have asked them to deliver.



How can I find out more?

If you have any further questions, please email marketing@volga-dnepr.co.uk and we will be happy to answer them.

Volga-Dnepr Airlines completes audit for IATA safety accreditation



Volga-Dnepr Airlines has hosted an independent auditing team to renew its registration under IATA's Operational Safety Audit (IOSA) program.

In 2008, Volga-Dnepr was the first airline in Russia and only the second airline in the world, to achieve certification to IATA's latest operational safety standards.

This latest annual audit, completed over five days, inspected eight fields of activity; organisation and management systems, flight operations, operational control and flight dispatch, aircraft engineering and maintenance, cabin and cargo compartment operations, ground handling, cargo operations and operational security.

In contrast to the previous audit in 2007, this time compliance of Volga-Dnepr's IL-76TD and YAK-40 aircraft was also checked.

The auditors gave positive feedback from their examination of the company's operational status.

Spring is in the air for ABC customers with the chance to win great prizes



Freight forwarders sending cargo to Russia onboard AirBridgeCargo Airlines' (ABC) flights can win camcorders, cameras and other prizes in the carrier's special 'Spring is in the air' promotion.

Valid until April 2nd 2009, customers accrue points for every air waybill plus bonus points based on the weight of each shipment. The number of entries per customer is unlimited.

ABC customers taking part in the promotion can also boost their points total by participating in three special interactive games that will appear on the airline's website during the promotion.

The new campaign follows AirBridgeCargo's successful 'To Russia with sports' promotion that was timed to coincide with the Beijing Olympics last summer.

Tatyana Arslanova, ABC's Executive Senior Vice President, Strategy, Marketing and Sales, said: "

"We understand these are challenging economic times for everyone. As a customer oriented business that values the support we receive from the international forwarding community, we hope this promotion will help to lift the spirits of customers as they continue

to work in difficult market conditions.

"Our latest promotion is designed to increase awareness of our services to Russia, attract new business and reward our customers for their support and loyalty. The campaign we ran last summer achieved excellent results and was warmly welcomed by our freight forwarding partners and we are confident they will enjoy taking part again."

Full information, terms and conditions of the game are available on the AirBridgeCargo website - www.airbridgecargo.com



78 tonnes boiler flies to LNG plant in Darwin

These 78 tonnes boilers were delivered onboard a Volga-Dnepr Airlines' AN-124 freighter to a liquefied natural gas plant in Darwin, Australia.



The shipment from San Francisco required special loading equipment in preparation for its successful flight on February 13th.

The ConocoPhillips LNG plant in Darwin was commissioned in the first quarter of 2006.

It has introduced several firsts in the evolution of LNG liquefaction technology. The Kenai LNG Project set the trend for the LNG industry when it was the first LNG plant to use gas turbines for refrigerant compressor drivers in place of the traditional steam turbines. The Darwin plant continues to build on this history of innovation by being the first LNG plant to use high efficiency, low emission, aero-derivative gas turbines as refrigerant drivers.



Humanitarian aid heads to Zimbabwe under aegis of UN World Food Programme



AirBridgeCargo Airlines has operated a Boeing 747F charter carrying humanitarian aid to Zimbabwe for the Russian Federation Emergency Committee (EMERCOM) under the aegis of the UN World Food Programme.

The flight from Moscow's Domodedovo Airport to Harare carried 50 tonnes of flour and over 50,000 one-litre bottles of cooking oil. In total, nearly 99 tonnes of aid was transported to help victims of the cholera outbreak in the country.

One of the most alarming signs of the country's problems is the spread of cholera. A report from the medical aid group Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) sets out in stark terms the severity of the crisis. MSF says its medical teams have treated almost 45,000 people – an estimated 75% of the total number of cases in the outbreak – and the crisis is far from over.

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