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AirBridgeCargo Airlines Is Voted 'Best All Cargo Carrier' in 28th Asian Freight and Supply Chain Awards

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).

Several hundred top transport, logistics and supply chain executives from around the region gathered at The Peninsula in Shanghai on June 17, 2014, for the presentation of the awards, organised by Cargonews Asia. The AFSCA are highly prized in the industry as only shippers can vote for logistics service providers.

The criteria for the 'Best All Cargo Airline' award identified that the winning airline should have clearly set performance standards and clear communication of these standards to shippers, and demonstrate satisfactory and timely resolution of problems should these standards not be met. As well as providing a broad international network, other criteria for the award included the importance of damage-free handling of cargo and the effective use of IT and customer service systems.

Accepting the award in Shanghai, Denis Ilin, Executive President of AirBridgeCargo Airlines, said: "We are honoured to have won this award and especially proud that this recognition should come from our customers as ABC celebrates its 10th anniversary. This is a tribute to the hard work of our teams in Asia and around the world, the support of our parent, Volga-Dnepr Group, and our constant drive to improve the quality of our services. Asia is a vitally-important market to AirBridgeCargo and we look forward to further growth in this dynamic region. This award, which has judged ABC alongside other high quality international cargo airlines, will deepen our commitment to building a world class cargo service and more air bridges between major cargo market across the globe."

2013 was a record year for AirBridgeCargo Airlines as it carried 340,000 tonnes of cargo and flew 2,609,000 FTKs, achieving an average load factor of 72%, considerably above the industry average. ABC also reinforced its position as the air cargo leader in the Russian market with a market share of over 30% on major routes into Russia. ABC currently operates scheduled cargo flights to 25 destinations in 12 countries, including Hong Kong, China, Japan and Korea, and connects the largest flows of cargo on Asia-Russia-Europe-USA trade routes. The airline also operates one of the youngest and most



modern fleets in the air cargo industry with 12 Boeing 747 freighters (5 Boeing 747-8s and 7 Boeing 747-400s).

ABC started its tenth anniversary year with its strongest ever first quarter with tonnage up 9% to 86,500 tonnes in Q1, 2014.

ABC has delivered on its commitment to constantly finding ways to improve the airline's quality and performance results. On-time performance of ABC services has been constantly improving since its launch, which has resulted in a continual increase of its Delivered-As-Promised index.

"We could not have won this award without the loyal support of our customers in Asia," said Joanna Li, Vice President Asia & Pacific Region. "Motivated by this award, we will continue building long-term relationship with our clients and strive for excellence in providing high-quality air cargo connections for the Asian market," she added.

Asia, which is one of the largest cargo markets in the world, has 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.

Accident Prevention and Flight Safety School – Defining Measurement Criteria

The Accident Prevention and Safety School (one of Volga-Dnepr Corporate University specialist programs) opened its active phase by holding a scheduled session on 16 April for managers and specialists responsible for accident prevention and flight safety. Early in the session it was agreed that safety could generally be described as a product of efforts aimed at prevention of accidents. In other words, accident prevention precedes the resulting safety. Therefore, there should be a clear knowledge and understanding of the processes carried out by relevant systems established in the Group, including Flight Data Analysis and Management, Automated Accident Prevention Control System, CRM, Safety Indicator System, and Accident Prevention Manual.

“You can’t control what you can’t measure” became the leading line of the session. This principle also found its reflection in the indicator-based accident prevention and flight safety management standard of Volga-Dnepr Group. The school’s teacher Yuri Malevinsky provided a comprehensive insight into the purpose and values of the standard.

A number of essential issues were discussed, e.g. how safety is measured by us and how they do it in other companies, and how accidents should be categorized and recorded. The theoretical part was followed by case studies based on the Volga-Dnepr’s practical experience for the past three-year period, where trainees were tasked to build safety monitoring charts. It was concluded that the topic of safety risks and their management should receive more detailed and deeper attention in further sessions.

The school leader Vladimir Kozlov summed up results of discussions, outlined topics of next safety training sessions for 2014 and emphasized the importance of regular training in assuring safe and accident-free operations.



AirBridgeCargo launched B747F services to Dallas/Fort Worth and has increased Chicago Operations

Russia’s largest cargo carrier, AirBridgeCargo Airlines (ABC), is expanding its presence in the U.S. market with the launch of Boeing 747-8 freighter flights linking Dallas/Fort Worth (DFW) with Amsterdam and Moscow. New twice-weekly all-cargo flights from Dallas/Fort Worth will operate on Mondays and Thursdays

to Amsterdam Schiphol and Moscow’s Sheremetyevo airports.

The airline, part of Volga-Dnepr Group, is also developing its current services to Chicago, introducing direct flights from Frankfurt. The new routes are part of AirBridgeCargo’s new summer schedule and commence on March 31, 2014. Denis Ilin, Executive President of AirBridgeCargo Airlines, says: “Chicago has been a very successful route for us since we commenced services on the route in 2012 and the extra B747F flight a week from O’Hare International Airport will provide welcome additional capacity for our customers. Expanding services in the U.S. market is a logical step in the airline’s development and means we can increase our ability to offer fast and efficient freight deliveries for customers doing business in North America, Europe, Asia and Russia.”

ABC started performing flights to/from Chicago in 2012 thus becoming a truly worldwide airline with global coverage. Since then the airline has seen strong demand on this destination, especially in oil&gas industry which export has grown by 6%. ABC’s overall cargo tonnage to/from the North Americas has grown by 12% and 4% respectively.



ABC has launched New Routes To Moscow

AirBridgeCargo Airlines (ABC) is expanding its presence in Europe with new routes linking Moscow with Malmo, Sweden, and Leipzig, Germany.

The new Malmo service to Moscow's Sheremetyevo Airport will be in addition to the existing weekend Boeing 737 freighter flight operated by Atran Cargo Airlines, also part of Volga-Dnepr Group. ABC's B747 all-cargo flight between the two cities will operate every Friday.

"The expansion of our services to and from Scandinavia means we can offer customers additional capacity and the

ability to connect via Moscow to our network in North America and Asia," said ABC's Henk-Jan van Keulen, who is responsible for business development in Europe.

ABC will also launch a weekly B747 freighter service from Leipzig.

"Adding Leipzig to our growing network underlines ABC's commitment to the airport and recognizes its potential as a major airfreight hub in Eastern Europe," said Andrey Andreev, head of business development in Germany and Eastern Europe.

Volga-Dnepr An-124-100 has delivered Russian and Kazakh Satellites to Baikonur Cosmodrome Launch Site

A Volga-Dnepr Airlines' An-124-100 'Ruslan' freighter aircraft has delivered the Luch-5V and KazSat-3 telecommunications satellites from Krasnoyarsk in Russia to Kazakhstan's Baikonur Cosmodrome.

The satellites, weighing a combined 21 tons, were secured inside a special shipping container for the transportation, measuring 14 metres long, 3 metres wide and more than 4 metres high. The container was placed carefully onto the aircraft's loading ramp using an external crane and then winched into the cargo hold using the An-124's own onboard handling system. The flight also carried support equipment for the satellites.

Following the safe arrival of the aircraft and its cargo in Kazakhstan, Volga-Dnepr delivered the satellite container back to its manufacturer in Krasnoyarsk.

The Luch-5V is the third of four satellites designed to serve more remote Russian territory with enhance information reception and real-time broadcasting. The KazSat-3 will provide Kazakhstan with a range of telecommunications services. The satellites are due to be launched on April 28 and will be sent into orbit onboard the Proton-M launch vehicle.

Alexander Prokofiev, Senior Load Planning and Logistics Engineer at Volga-Dnepr Airlines, said: "A satellite is a very high-tech, high value and delicate piece of cargo that requires special handling throughout the transportation process. We were required to meet an extremely tight timescale for this particular flight and had to ensure the aircraft and all of the external loading equipment we needed was ready to load the satellites as soon as they arrived at the airport from their production site in the city of Zheleznogorsk. The successful completion of the delivery reflected the detailed planning prior to the flight and the close cooperation with both our customer, Max-Global Foreign Logistics and the manufacturer, JSC Information Satellite Systems — Reshetnev Company.



ATRAN Airlines ensures compliance of its aircraft with EU standards

ATRAN Airlines, a B737 freighter operator of Volga-Dnepr Group will upgrade its B737F fleet with the newest Traffic Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) software version.

The upgrade is arranged as part of ensuring continuous compliance with Eurocontrol's Single European Sky initiative. The current TCAS 7.0 will be replaced with the newest TCAS 7.1 version by a Dutch specialist company Fokker Services (part of Fokker Technologies).



Volga-Dnepr Group Celebrated Partnership with U.S. Customers as AirBridgeCargo Turns 10 Years

Volga-Dnepr Group has hosted customers at the Field Museum of Chicago to celebrate AirBridgeCargo Airlines' (ABC) 10-year anniversary and to mark the Group's 22 years of successful operations in the U.S. market.

As well as using the social gathering to thank customers for their support of the Group's scheduled and charter airlines — ABC and Volga-Dnepr Airlines respectively — members of its executive team also took the opportunity to discuss future developments in North and South Americas with customers and to invite their feedback on AirBridgeCargo's operational performance.

The U.S. market is one of Volga Dnepr Group's biggest areas of activity. The Group's aircraft operated its first commercial flight in the U.S. back in 1991 and now, more than 22 years later, it is a well-known and reliable service provider to companies in the United States for transportation of outsize and heavyweight air cargo, scheduled cargo services to Russia and Europe, and end-to-end logistics solutions.

AirBridgeCargo Airlines entered the U.S. market three years ago when it added Chicago to its network. Today, ABC operates five scheduled flights with B747-8Fs to Chicago per week, two of which continue to Dallas/Fort Worth providing direct connection from Texas to Russia and Europe.

"ABC is still a relatively new company on the American market but we are quickly moving to a higher league. Our first U.S. service to/from Chicago has been consistently showing good results during last three years. As from this April we added Dallas/Fort Worth as our new destination in the U.S. I am pleased to announce that our first Dallas flight departed with a full load and I wish to thank our customers for their confidence in AirBridgeCargo," said Denis Ilin, Executive President of ABC in his address to guests in Chicago.

The introduction of North America to its existing network serving major gateways in Europe and Asia was an important step in making ABC a truly global airline. With strong customers' support on the Chicago route, in 2013 ABC's

overall cargo tonnage to/from North America has grown by 12% and 4% respectively.

Dennis Gliznoutsa, Vice President, Business Development, Volga-Dnepr Airlines: "The U.S. is a strategically important market for Antonov-124 and Ilyushin-76 business and one where we enjoy strong customer relations because of our track record over the past 22 years and our proven ability to deliver reliable transport and logistics solutions for oversized and unique cargoes. We are proud of the partnerships we have established and the growth of AirBridgeCargo in the U.S. market further extends Volga-Dnepr Group's 'cargo supermarket' service capability, which aims to provide the best and most efficient solution for every customer requirement."

Voith Hydro, the Austrian production company expressed gratitude to Volga-Dnepr experts for the delivery of a 73-ton turbine 'runner' to Russia's Bratsk Hydroelectric Power Station, one of the world's leading producers of electrical energy.

"The task of such cargo transportation was a real challenge and included several stages. All these operations have been performed by Volga-Dnepr Airlines, under its permanent supervision during long, 2 days procedure, under severe weather conditions in Bratsk (-25 heavy wind and snow). We thank the Volga-Dnepr Airlines very much for their efforts and professionalism!" - stated Josef Gaschl, Board Member, Voith Hydro GmbH&Co KG in his note of acknowledgement.

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.

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Volga-Dnepr completed door-to-door delivery of equipment to counter terror exhibition

Volga-Dnepr Group has provided a total logistics solution for a mobile inspection system from Russia on its way to a counter terrorism exhibition in London.

In order to provide the customer with a timely and cost effective delivery for the exhibition equipment from Kaluga in Russia to London and back again, the Volga-Dnepr team managed the shipment using both road transport and scheduled flights.

The logistics chain started in the city of Kaluga, from where the 'Autoinspection' mobile system produced by the Russian company Algot commenced its journey to Moscow by road. On its arrival at Sheremetyevo Airport, the equipment was loaded onboard a Boeing 747 aircraft of AirBridgeCargo Airlines, part of Volga-Dnepr Group, bound for Frankfurt. In Germany, Volga-Dnepr completed the necessary custom clearance procedures and organised the final leg of the transportation by road to London, where the 2014 Counter Terror Expo was taking place.

In London, the Volga-Dnepr team took the Group's 'cargo supermarket' service offering a step further by helping its customer host a presentation for the Trade Delegation of the Russian Federation in the United Kingdom.

Vladimir Dvoryaninov, Sales Executive at Volga-Dnepr Airlines, said: "We are always ready to discuss any individual requirements our customers have in order to produce the best offer, whether it's using charter and scheduled deliveries of any type of cargo onboard our fleet of An-124-100, IL-76TD-90VD, Boeing 747 or Boeing 737 freighter aircraft, road transport or the expertise of our global network of offices and partners accumulated over the last 23 years of our services." Volga-Dnepr operates first satellite flight for Saudi Arabia's

"KACST" Science and Technology organisation

Volga-Dnepr Airlines has operated its first flight for Saudi Arabia's King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technology (KACST) organisation, moving the SaudiSat-4 satellite made in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to its launch site in Orsk, Russia.

The flight was operated onboard one of the airline's IL-76TD-90VD freighter aircraft from Riyadh with an intermediate stop in Ulyanovsk, Volga-Dnepr's "hometown", where the cargo passed through the required customs procedures.

The delivery was organised on behalf of the KACST organisation, which is responsible for the promotion of science and technology in Saudi Arabia. The organisation made use of Volga-Dnepr Group's services for the first time to benefit from Volga-Dnepr's experience of operating more than 3,500 flights over the last 23 years carrying aerospace cargoes.

The satellite was accompanied on its journey to the Yasny Spaceport by Faisal Alaqeel, project manager at KACST, who travelled to Russia onboard the IL-76TD-90VD. Mr. Alaqeel visited Ulyanovsk and Volga-Dnepr Airlines' office, including its global Flight Operations Control Centre and Training Centre, which houses Russia's only An-124-100 full flight simulator. Mr. Alaqeel expressed his gratitude to the Volga-Dnepr team and said he hoped there will be opportunities for future cooperation.

The precision navigation satellite system is due to be launched this summer and will conduct scientific experiments. The launch of the satellite is part of a long-term strategic plan up to 2025 adopted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the field of space technology research.

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Volga-Dnepr Airlines has seen a big increase in shipments for the aerospace industry with 22 flights moving space satellites over a 12-week period to the end of May.

One of its latest shipments was the Express AM6 Russian satellite from Krasnoyarsk in Russia to Baikonur, Kazakhstan in preparation for its launch later this year. Volga-Dnepr's An-124-100 freighter carrying the 25-ton cargo also transported support equipment for the satellite.

The satellite was protected by a high-tech container to ensure and monitor its optimal cleanliness and temperature during the transportation process. The two flights operated in support of this shipment were on behalf of the JSC

Information Satellite Systems - Reshetnev Company. Volga-Dnepr has previously delivered the Express AM6 telecommunications satellite from Montreal to Krasnoyarsk.

On May 20, a further eight satellites were carried on a single IL-76TD-90VD cargo flight from the Czech city of Pardubice to Yasny, the Russian spaceport. The satellites, produced in the UK, Canada, Japan, the Netherlands and Spain, were delivered on behalf of Air Charter Service, a longstanding customer of Volga-Dnepr.

The satellites are scheduled to be launched onboard a carrier rocket called 'Dnepr'. Andrei Rassadkin, Regional Sales Director of Volga-Dnepr Airlines, said: "From March to the end of May we operated 22 satellite flights, including six flights in May carrying a total of 14 satellites. Volga-Dnepr has over 23 years of expertise in meeting the delicate and complex requirements of aerospace customers and we see significant growth potential in the industry based on our track record, client base and the technical expertise and resources we can offer to customers to help them realise their most ambitious plans. Historically, the aerospace industry is one of Volga-Dnepr Airlines' most important areas of expertise. This industry is fast-growing and dynamic and the manufacture of space satellites is increasing as the number of launches and spaceports being built increases."

A Rig for Russian Drillers

Volga-Dnepr Airlines again proved its competence as the global leader in the specialist market of oversized cargo by delivering a mobile 24-meter high drilling rig onboard its AN-124-100 Ruslan freighter from Novy Urengoy to Mirny, Russia for Verkhnechonskoe oil-gas condensate field.

A special ramp extension was used to reduce the ramp slope and enable loading/unloading of the non-standard long single-piece cargo. The drilling rig was pulled into the cargo hold by a tractor. Special permissions were obtained in the airports in Novy Urengoy and Mirny for the Antonov's takeoff and landing. Volga-Dnepr also arranged for necessary terminal services.



The flight was operated for Krasnodar Drilling, a branch of Gazprom Drilling Company, one of Russia's largest specialists in oil and gas well construction. The customer thanked Volga-Dnepr Airlines for successful delivery of the rig. "Volga-Dnepr team was very professional, diligent and responsive. The aircraft was positioned in time and loading was performed without errors or delays," said in his letter Acting CEO of Krasnodar Drilling Andrey Tsaryok.

Volga-Dnepr sees strong growth in satellite business



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