

Airlift WORLD

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VISITS to lead European.

Representatives of Volga-Dnepr Group, NIC Insurance Company and Willis made a business tourney to visit lead European insurance companies during the period from 4 to 8 May, 2009 (Zurich, Munich, London) where they had a number of meetings with underwriters operating in the Western insurance market. The prime purpose was to furnish to the market new information on the Volga-Dnepr Group and to recruit new and existing Insurers to the Group Policy. During the ten meetings Volga-Dnepr made several slide-shows to represent and outline a number of issues arising at our re-insurance partners. The audience was interested in variety of subjects ranging from Aircraft fleet modernization process and Flight Safety Policy up to cash flows arrangements among the Volga-Dnepr Group business units.

It was the first time when such an even was participated by Mr. Michael Roguchev the AirBridge Cargo LLC Flight Training Director, who paid special attention to advance and recurrent training of ABC flight crews. In the previous release made an attempt to briefly describe such a significant subject by thanks to presence of the qualified expert many became possible to discuss additionally on site.

Yury Malevinsky, Director of Flight Safety and Accidents Prevention Department provided the audience with information regarding establishment of Flight Safety Management system in the Group. It is a pleasure to see the audience note that from year to year the Volga-Dnepr Group proves that Flight Safety is being maintained on a high level and continuously improved.

NIC Insurance Company would like to express an appreciation to all the participants of the event for the interest demonstrated in the matter and comprehensive discussions.

We are pleased to know that our electronic AirLiftWorld releases resonate positively with you and we do promise to furnish the most complete and abundant information on Volga-Dnepr Group.

Alexander Rodionov
Deputy General Director, Aircraft Insurance
NIC Insurance Company

Volga-Dnepr Airlines helps to fight pirates

Volga-Dnepr Airlines has transported supplies and equipment for Japan's Ministry of Defense (JGSDF and JMSDF) from Sendai, Japan to the Republic of Djibouti in Africa as part of a major multi-national action to wipe out sea piracy off the coast of Somalia.



The airline operated two Antonov AN-124 flights to Djibouti - May 20 and 26 – delivering over 120 tons of cargo. The shipments were destined to support Japanese defense forces deployed in the area of anti-piracy operations.

Pirates operating in the Gulf of Aden are now being confronted by a coalition of naval forces from 16 countries. The Japanese Navy has been carrying out its mission near the Somali shores since late March.

From Western to Eastern Hemisphere with 100 Tons Onboard

Volga-Dnepr Airlines transported from Argentina to China a 95-ton rotor for Mitsubishi Heavy Industries. During the flight operation AN-124-100 Aircraft covered 24500 km and made seven landings.

The operation originated from airport of Buenos Aires on April 18, 2009. The heavy cargo was loaded onto the Aircraft using special equipment. The total weight of cargo together with transport tooling was 105 tons. Due to specific capacities of en-route airports this was the maximum payload for this particular flight. The aircraft made seven stops for refueling: In Lima, Caracas, Orlando, Winnipeg, Anchorage, Petropavlovsk-Kamchatski and Osaka. As the result the cargo was delivered to its final destination in Guangzhou in five days after the mission had been started.

Cargo arrived exactly on time. Such punctuality of flight performance was provided by VDA and VD UK operation personnel. The customer and the consignee both thanked the Volga-Dnepr personnel for their professional and quality work.

The great contribution to organization of operation was made by personnel of Technical Director's Department, Cargo Planners, Sales Center and Maintenance. Precise and harmonized work of all those who were involved in operation helped the Company to carry out all the arrangements in the shortest time despite the fact that it appeared to be technically complicated. To make the aircraft available for this operation within the specified date, the Company had to allocate additional service capabilities to make serious corrections of the current flight schedule. Position of the rotor in the cargo cabin of the aircraft was determined and calculated in the most efficient way.

To make the load on cargo floor uniform, the Company engineers and cargo planners together with the Customer produced a design of improved cargo container. This allowed to additionally reduce the weight of tooling. This easy-to handle and safe design of the container will be used for other operations of the kind.



Volga-Dnepr delivered equipment for construction of Olympic objects to Sochi

On May, 16, Volga-Dnepr's AN-124-100 delivered 90 tons of tunnel-boring equipment for construction of objects of transport infrastructure for Sochi 2014 Winter Olympics.



Ruslan transported a heavy bearing, a gear and a rotor of a tunnel-boring machine to the construction site in Sochi. Special VDA loading equipment was used for loading of these oversized components in the cargo cabin of the plane.

The flight departed from Khabarovsk on May, 15. First, AN-124-100 aircraft with some components on board headed for Novosibirsk, then, after additional loading, the aircraft headed for Sochi.

The transportation was ordered by JSC Bamtonnelstroy, a long-term customer of VDA, acting as a subcontractor of Russian Railways, for the construction of railway and road tunnels as part of construction works for Sochi 2014 Winter Olympics. The first consignment of the equipment had been delivered to Sochi by the airline in March. The tunnel-boring machine will be used for construction of road and railway tunnels as part of construction works for Sochi 2014 Winter Olympics.

Heading to Flight Safety

On May 5, 2009 the Corporate University started its three-day workshop within the scope of mandatory training program for the Volga-Dnepr Group top managing personnel "Civil Aviation Flight Safety Training". The purpose of this event is to provide "live" knowledge required to ensure the real flight safety and air accidents prevention management process.

Initially such training course used to be conducted by the Ulyanovsk Civil Aviation Training School, however early this May the Federal Air Transport Agency approved the program specifically designed by Volga-Dnepr experts. From now on the flight safety training will account for the particulars of our Company's operations and will be conducted by the Corporate University.

Inaugurating the workshop, Alexey Isaikin the President of Volga-Dnepr Group noted that air operations is a socially responsible business, therefore having assumed this especially sensitive activity we shall possess and maintain a good stock of knowledge and expertise and meet the requirements set by international aviation authorities and the market. Special attention was drawn by Mr. Isaikin to the necessity maintain and

utilize experience accumulated during nearly 19-year history of the Company. All the more so that the traditional training course does not account for the specifics of our operations is behind the latest requirements.

Within the scope of the workshop the Managers analyzed the Volga-Dnepr Airlines experience and reviewed some real incidents. In the course of discussion they noted that these events and their effects shall never be ignored. According to V. Boutyrsky the Flight Operations Director, any air incident is a lesson to learn. The Company established a Flight Safety and Accidents Prevention



still one of the main priorities of Volga-Dnepr Group up till now.

The Company has established a Flight Safety Monitoring and Accidents Prevention System. By the way this October the System was presented to on an ICAO meeting in Montreal and received high estimation. However, as noted Alexey Isaikin, many human factor-based events are being caused by stereotype thinking. Traditional Russian approach of doing nothing until the thunder strikes, is absolutely wrong and unacceptable.

The President also suggested that the Corporate Safety Policy be supplemented with Flight Safety Strategy and start creating own "Safety Laws" so that Volga-Dnepr has and maintains clear standards on all and every management level. At the end of day one the commonly agreed conclusion was made: "A safe company is the most efficient company from the commercial viewpoint as well". Such an approach shall always remain priority number one both for a manager and any employee.

Similar event was arranged during 9-11 July, 2009 for the ABC Top and Senior management personnel.



Department, set up a non-punitive voluntary reporting system, developed a training program for difficult airfields operations and created engines testing laboratory. Great efforts were paid to professional English Language training.

After the Gander incident the President raised several very important issues, which are still current: When another such incident will occur? Are we able to foresee such incidents? What shall be done to prevent the recurrence of Gander and how much this will cost for us? To achieve the maximum



Volga-Dnepr Receives the Wings Of Russia for the Seventh Time



According to results shown by it in 2008, AirBridgeCargo Airlines was named the winner of the Wing of Russia National Award as Airline of the Year – Cargo Carrier Operating in Domestic and International Air Lines.

To remind, before this time, the most prestigious aviation competition in Russia was won six times in the same nomination by Volga-Dnepr Airlines in 1997-1999, 2004 and 2006-2007.

Awarding ceremony was held in Moscow Renaissance Hotel. Traditionally, winners were determined by way of secret voting by members of Public Award Board, which comprises more than 120 civil aviation experts, officials of aviation authorities,



representatives of state-owned and private companies and mass media agencies.

"The key to success for young airline AirBridgeCargo was overall success shown by the whole Volga-Dnepr Group, which is secured through combination of charter and scheduled operations within single business structure.

I would like to thank all our team whose highly professional and well-coordinated effort makes it possible for Volga-Dnepr to confirm once again the high status of the leader of Russian air cargo industry," said Executive President of AirBridgeCargo Airlines Alexey Isaikin.



Russia Minister of Industry and Trade raises an issue of developing aviation industry in Ulyanovsk

Victor Khristenko, Minister of Industry and Trade of the Russian Federation, climbed on board Volga-Dnepr An-124-100 freighter.



The distinguished guest arrived in Ulyanovsk on afternoon of 31 March. So far as Victor Khristenko's visit was dedicated to aviation industry, the programme was limited to visiting only Aviastar-SP aircraft factory. On the same day, the factory was making delivery of its fiftieth Tu-204-100B, a long-haul airliner intended for international operation. The Minister also took part in the festive occasion.

Then, Victor Khristenko was shown to the factory's Final Assembly Shop. The Minister climbed on board Volga-Dnepr An-124-100 freighter. Alexey Isaikin, President

Volga-Dnepr Group, made a presentation for the distinguished guest and told him about the An-124 Resumed Production Project.

Aviation industry development was further discussed at the meeting participated by OAK, Aviastar-SP and local Government representatives, and Volga-Dnepr Management. An-124-100 airplane production was among the key issues of discussion at the meeting.

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