حكومة دبي
GOVERNMENT OF DUBAI

هيئة دبي للطيران المدني
Dubai Civil Aviation Authority

ViaDubai

عبر دبي

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Getting Into The Right Tracks

Travel and tourism industry stakeholders utilized the 3rd Dubai Accessible Travel and Tourism International Summit, part of the AccessAbilities Expo (AAE), to debate ways and means destinations could be made better for 150 million tourists with disabilities.

Emirates named the best airline in the world

EK starts work on Premium Economy seats in 120 aircraft



Electronic link with Dubai Airports for entry permits

Convenience tops the priority list of passengers post-pandemic

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Dubai Civil Aviation Authority

In 2007, the functions of the Department of Civil Aviation were restructured. Accordingly, the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority (DCAA) was established as a regulatory body, by a decree of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al-Maktoum, Ruler of Dubai, on proclamation of law No. 21 of 2007, as amended by law No. 19 of 2010, to undertake development of Air Transport Industry in the Emirate of Dubai and to oversee all aviation-related activities.

ViaDubai

Via Dubai is the official bilingual monthly newsletter of DCAA, designed to highlight the initiatives and developments in the aviation industry and act as a knowledge-sharing platform for all the stakeholders and aviation professionals.

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US airport is now the world's most connected

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FREQUENTIS handled one billion hours of safe air travel

VCX-IP, the voice communication network solution from FREQUENTIS, has evolved significantly since its initial development around two decades ago. It started as a network solution to enhance network functionality, such as shared access to radios and radars.



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China is ahead in developing navigation satellite systems

China has taken a phased approach to developing a navigation satellite system. Starting from scratch, the system has undergone steady improvements and upgrades, providing both active and passive positioning and expanding from regional to global coverage.



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Our Vision

The World Airport, Dubai

Our Mission

To achieve leadership and ensure sustainability in the field of safety, security and environmental protection in the civil aviation sector and to support an attractive investment environment for the aviation industry .

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Dubai is the best global destination for People of Determination



Accessible travel and tourism represent a major priority for Dubai for several reasons, the most notable being it meets the needs of more than a billion people or the equivalent of 10-15 per cent of the world's total population as per estimates by the World Health Organization.

Dubai, already ranked among the best and most friendly tourist destinations for the People of Determination, has recently launched the Dubai Accessible Travel and Tourism Team, to identify the most accurate needs and requirements of this dear segment of our society, and work towards providing them with the best services and facilitating their access to choose destinations without any obstacles.

The Team includes representatives of government bodies and the private sector dealing with providing hospitality and reception services to visitors to Dubai, to work together jointly to reach the desired goal of making Dubai the best destination in the world for tourists with disabilities, estimated at 150 million annually.

The Team is currently researching and studying more than 60 recommendations made by People of Determination themselves, summarizing their most important requirements and needs while navigating airports, airlines, hotels and tourist destinations. The Team will be working on implementing those that can be applied as soon as possible to achieve our vision and goal of becoming the best-friendly city in the world for this segment of tourists.

I strongly support the Team members and hope they make every effort to achieve the goals and make them a reality. We all have the capabilities, resources and expertise to make Dubai the top destination for tourists of determination with the best services.

Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum

Dubai Accessible Travel and Tourism International Summit



In mid-November, Dubai hosted the third edition of the Dubai Accessible Travel and Tourism International Summit as part of the AccessAbilities Expo-2022. The Summit had been a huge success in shedding further light on the needs and expectations of disabled tourists along with the importance of accessible tourism to the global economy.

The Summit succeeded in attracting a large number of senior officials from across the world to meet under one roof in Dubai, to discuss the ways to strengthen combined action towards meeting the needs of more than a billion People of Determination in providing smooth mobility to them and ensure their independent living.

Among the most prominent figures who participated was His Excellency Ahmed Aboul Gheit, Secretary-General of the Arab League, who revealed the regional body's plan for 2023-2032 to promote accessible tourism in the Arab countries. The forum also had speakers from international organizations like the United Nations, Airports Council International, IATA and the UN World Tourism Organization working towards smooth and hassle-free travel for all.

Dubai has always led initiatives that serve all of humanity, including the Dubai Accessible Travel and Tourism International Summit. The first-of-its-kind gathering in the region had been to meet the aspirations of more than 50 million People of Determination who live in the Middle East region to move freely across the world and enjoy the joys of life through the provision of appropriate services in the transportation and hospitality domains.

The Dubai Civil Aviation Authority has played an active role in supporting and making the Summit a huge success and helped contribute towards communicating its goals and vision to the world.

Mohammed Abdulla Ahli

DCAA gathering for its young staff members



The Dubai Civil Aviation Authority's Youth Council organized a session for the young staff members in the presence and participation of Dr Asma Nusairi, Owner and CEO of 2071 and a leading expert on the knowledge economy in the UAE.

The session has been designed to facilitate the exchange of views among the young employees, and discuss their future ideas and ambitions for providing the best supportive environment to ensure the further prosperity and development of the UAE.

The session had been attended by Abdul Rahim Al Mulla, Executive Director for the Corporate Support and Communication Sector at DCAA, and Hamad Al Janahi, Director of the Human Resources Department at DCAA.

They expressed happiness at the hosting of the 'Youth Gathering' and thanked the members of the Youth Council for organizing its session.



They highlighted the participants about employing their abilities to serve the future government that will rely more on innovation and knowledge to reach global leadership.

At the end of the session, Latifa Mohammed Al Harthi, Chairperson of DCAA Youth Council, presented a memento to Dr Asma Nusairi as a token of appreciation for her effective contribution and efforts in the successful holding of the session.


لمتنا غير
Youth Gathering
November 17 نوفمبر
2022


هيئة دبي للطيران المدني
Dubai Civil Aviation Authority
مجلس شباب هيئة دبي للطيران المدني
Dubai Civil Aviation Authority Youth Council
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to embracing youth, empowering
and investing in their capabilities in the
Civil Aviation sector.
youth@dcaa.gov.ae

Getting Into The Right Tracks

Travel and tourism industry stakeholders utilized the 3rd Dubai Accessible Travel and Tourism International Summit, part of the AccessAbilities Expo (AAE), to debate ways and means destinations could be made better for 150 million tourists with disabilities.



The world's fourth most-visited destination took the lead in bringing together the policy-makers, experts, specialists and travel and tourism stakeholders to Dubai in mid-November to debate the current market scenario and timely ways and means in which destinations could become highly acceptable by tourists with disabilities by the end of this decade. At the 3rd Dubai Accessible Travel and Tourism International Summit (DATTIS), part of the 4th AccessAbilities Expo (AAE), Dubai unveiled revising its target of receiving 25 million tourists by 2025. The UAE has reiterated its commitment to follow a sustainable strategy for the inclusion of People of Determination into society and channelise their abilities for economic growth and social progress. The Dubai Civil Aviation Authority (DCAA) had been a key sponsor of the DATTIS-2022 which had seen over two dozen speakers and more than 500 guests making it a grand success.

His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, Chairman of Dubai Airports and Chairman and Chief Executive of Emirates Airline and Group, said: "The international organisations and experts who participated in the Summit have recommended the UAE model to the world in formulating a comprehensive inclusion strategy that helped the UAE achieve becoming the world's best tourism destination for People of Determination. Both public and private sectors should work together to sustain this achievement and remain the leader in all activities to make the UAE the best and friendliest place to work and live for one and all, in particular for the People of Determination."

Ghassan Suleiman Amhaz, Managing Director of Nadd Al Shiba PR & Event Management, the organizer of AAE and DATTIS, said that 250 international companies and rehabilitation centres from 50 countries across the world showcased advanced technologies that facilitate the lives and mobility of People of Determination. The Expo was visited by more than 10,000 people. The UAE emerged as the world's most-friendly tourism destination for People of Determination and the calls for government, organisations, airports, hotels, shopping malls, hospitals and public places to enhance their facilities for full inclusion.

The DATTIS has come out with 59 key recommendations to deal with the key challenges faced by People of Determination in the mobility, hospitality and travel domains. The People of Determination community has called on international organisations, government bodies and public and private sectors to enact laws and regulations to remove barriers to enable more than one billion People of Determination to enjoy their rights to travel, move easily and enjoy their lives. The Summit has called upon the world to follow the UAE model for success in the accessible tourism domain. Over 100-plus destinations are currently working to become easy to be explored by disabled tourists. At the Summit, the Arab League unveiled an initiative to promote accessible tourism in the 22-nation Middle East and North Africa.

This had been the first major gathering of tourism industry stakeholders post-pandemic to debate the current challenges, lost opportunities and future growth avenues. Ahmed Aboul Gheit, Secretary General of the League of Arab States, said the UAE is a good model of an accessible destination for the region that is home to 50 million travellers with disabilities. The tourism industry is working to have fully accessible destinations on the planet, with the stakeholders working to bridge the gaps in the levels of services and facilities that tourists with disabilities require to enjoy their trips to their fullest to their satisfaction. Dr Khaled Hanafy, Secretary General of the Union of Arab Chamber, suggested the Arab League should issue a guideline to be adopted by hotels, airports and public utilities to help People with Disabilities to live independently.



Emirates named the best airline in the world



Emirates Airlines has scooped up five global and regional awards from two prestigious travel and aviation organisations. It won 'Best Airline in the World' and 'Best Airline in the Middle East' at the ULTRAs 2022 awards, and bagged the 'World Class Award', '5-Star Global Official Airline Rating', and 'Passenger Choice Award for Best Global Entertainment' at APEX 2023. Based on a combination of certified passenger feedback and professional audits, EK had been honoured with a 'World Class Award' for safety, well-being, sustainability, service, and inclusiveness. Its in-flight entertainment system won it the passenger choice title at the APEX awards held in California. At the ULTRAs 2022 award ceremony in the Pan Pacific London, Emirates got 'Best Airline in the World' and 'Best Airline in the Middle East' awards The ULTRA awards are also decided by consumer votes, an international community of two million travellers who have recognised Emirates as the leading airline for luxury travel. Earlier this year, the carrier had been recognised at the Skytrax World Airline Awards 2022, taking home three coveted awards including, "World's Best Economy Class," "World's Best Economy Class Catering," and for the 17th consecutive time, "World's Best Inflight Entertainment."

Source - Zawya

Royal Jet adds another BBJ to its fleet

RoyalJet Abu Dhabi, an award-winning global leader in premium private aviation, has added another Boeing Business Jet (BBJ) to its fleet, thereby taking the total number of BBJs to 13. RoyalJet also acquired a BBJ early this year, making it the world's largest BBJ Operator in the world. The latest BBJ boasts a 19-passenger VVIP interior with a forward crew rest area, a master bedroom with a private lavatory and shower, and a first-class lounge. Finished with custom-made materials and state-of-the-art design configuration, the BBJ is designed for the best functionality and maximum comfort. The first-class lounge area is equipped with a custom liner system, CMS-controlled electric window shades, VIP-style custom carpet, LED reading, table lights, and wash lighting with customised mood presets among others. RoyalJet CEO Mohammed Husain Ahmed said over all of last year, the demand exceeded supply in the premium aviation industry across the region.



Source -Zawya

Etihad doubles cool storage capacity at Cargo Village

Etihad Cargo, the cargo and logistics arm of Etihad Aviation Group, in partnership with Etihad Airport Services and Abu Dhabi Airports, is preparing to launch a new state-of-the-art pharmaceutical cool chain facility. Due to going into operation soon, the facility will significantly expand AUH's pharmaceutical handling and storage. Customers will benefit from the carrier's expanded IATA Center of Excellence for Independent Validators (CEIV) Pharma certification for pharmaceutical and life science logistics.



Etihad Cargo transported over 50,000 tonnes of cool chain products, including pharmaceutical and healthcare products via its PharmaLife product and fresh produce via its IATA CEIV Fresh-certified FreshForward product, in the past twelve months. The dedicated pharmaceutical hub will double Abu Dhabi Airport's cool chain storage capacity and enhance the airport's capabilities for the storage, handling and transportation of cool chain products. The additional 3,000 square-metres facility comprises the latest technology and features, including bulk loading docks with levellers, high-speed roll-up shutters, insulation and a real-time temperature monitoring system. The carrier has replaced 3,000 containers from its original aluminium unit load device (ULD) fleet with a more environmentally friendly, lightweight version.

Source - Aviation Pros

DXB T3 gets a lounge with co-working space

A first-of-a-kind Arrival Lounge fitted with a co-working space has opened at the Dubai International Airport's (DXB) Terminal 3. Nestled between the Carrefour and the Dubai Duty-Free stores in the Arrivals terminal, the 'Their Patio' arrivals lounge offers travellers a sleek collaborative workspace and a lot of amenities to relax over. It has been set up and managed by Hong Kong-based Plaza Premium Group (PPG), which has airport hospitality services in over 250 locations at more than 70 airports, including one at the DXB's International Departures at Terminal 3. Travellers would have to pay AED130 to use the lounge facilities for one to two hours and AED145 for two-three hours. The 523-square-metre DXB arrivals venue features a concierge service, two meeting rooms, co-working spaces, and three phone booths for private calls.DXB now has three dedicated lounges for passengers at the Arrival terminal. Earlier this year, the Jumeirah Group also unveiled a new arrivals lounge exclusively for its hotel guests at Dubai International Terminal 3. Those using the Al Majlis VIP Terminal can avail of the option of speedy check-in, immigration and baggage clearance, and assistance with travel documentation while relaxing in the luxury lounges. In May, DXB raised its full-year 2022 passenger number forecasts to 58.3 million after a sharp increase in traffic during Q2 2022.



Source - Gulf News

EK starts work on Premium Economy seats in 120 aircraft

Emirates Airlines has started its two-year programme to work on full cabin interior upgrades for 120 aircraft, including installing Premium Economy seats. Several features of the aircraft will be given an upgrade, including the Shower Spa which will feature new colour tones with a hand-stencilled motif of a Ghaf tree. Side panels will be removed and sent to be laminated in Emirates' latest colour tones. To make room for the 56 Premium Economy seats, 88 Economy seats will be removed. Business and First class seats will be sent for refurbishing. Carpets and flooring will also be replaced. Aviation authorities will inspect the aircraft before it is cleared for flying. Engineers will work on two aircraft simultaneously, meaning that all of the refitted planes will be ready by March 2025. The airline has announced plans to introduce Premium Economy service on its routes to New York JFK, San Francisco, Melbourne, Auckland and Singapore, by the end of March 2023.



Source - Airways Magazine

UAE wins ICAO membership for the sixth consecutive time

The United Arab Emirates, represented by General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), has been elected for the sixth consecutive time to the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Council. The UAE's efforts in the international aviation sector have borne fruit after successfully garnering 161 votes out of 175 eligible votes at the meetings of the ICAO's 41st Session General Assembly in Montreal. The election session was attended by Abdullah bin Touq Al Marri, Minister of Economy, and Chairman of the Board of Directors of GCAA, Mohammed Saif Al Suwaidi, Director-General of General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), senior UAE civil aviation officials and representatives of member states of the 193-member organisation. The UAE's victory also coincides with the UAE's celebrations of Aviation Day. According to GCAA, the aviation sector contributes 15 per cent of the UAE gross domestic product, a percentage expected to increase steadily in the next years.



Source - Gulf News



Electronic link with Dubai Airports for entry permits

The UAE's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation (MoFAIC) has announced the activation of electronic linkage and integration for the airport entry permit issuance service it provides to representative missions accredited to the UAE, in cooperation with Dubai Airports. The integration was implemented within the framework of the strategic steps towards government digital transformation and designing joint services across government entities, which contribute to saving time and effort and enhancing the customers' journey. This initiative embodies partnership frameworks between the federal and local entities and reflects system integration, which enhances digital transformation initiatives in the UAE and moves from the service digitisation phase to the comprehensive customer journey design phase through all stages of implementation across all entities. The initiative aims to best serve customers and offers a unique experience seldom found at the international level, where the UAE has ranked among the world's top countries in the digital life indexes in 2022. Cutting-edge technologies were used in the field of integrated systems on both sides and according to the highest standards of information security. The electronic linkage system was designed to facilitate data transfer immediately and seamlessly while allowing for follow-up on applications' updates at every transaction stage.

Source - Zawya

Abu Dhabi Airports gets new corporate identity

Abu Dhabi Airports unveiled its refreshed brand architecture and visual identity, which the operator of Abu Dhabi's five airports believes reaffirms its commitment to developing the aviation sector in the UAE's capital. The "refreshed brand architecture, unifying the visual identity of Abu Dhabi Airports and its subsidiaries, draws inspiration from Abu Dhabi's visionary leadership, economic vision and reputation as one of the world's most touristic destinations". Abu Dhabi Airports Managing Director and CEO, Jamal Salem Al Dhaheri, said the corporate rebrand reflects our bold vision to shape the future of airport experiences. The new corporate identity reaffirms its commitment to Abu Dhabi's economic vision and the wider aviation ecosystem.

Source - Airport World

مطـــارات أبـوظبـــي
ABU DHABI AIRPORTS

Air Serbia to restore Middle East flights

Air Serbia is expected to resume scheduled operations in the Middle East in November after a gap of over two and a half years. The airline is soon to announce the resumption of flights between Belgrade and Tel Aviv. Flights are tipped to operate twice per week with the Airbus A320-family fleet. The airline discontinued services to the Israeli city at the onset of the pandemic in March 2020 and later concluded a codeshare partnership with Turkish Airlines on the route to shuttle passengers to Tel Aviv via Istanbul. Israeli carrier Arkia has operated services between the two cities on and off during the summer. There are currently no nonstop flights. The resumption of Air Serbia's Tel Aviv service effectively marks its return to the Middle East after over two and a half years. However, the airline operated charters to Dubai during Expo 2020 in late 2021 and Q1 2022. Before the pandemic, it served Tel Aviv and Beirut in the region - the latter was terminated just before the global health emergency as a result of Lebanon's economic crisis, which has since deepened. The Serbian carrier planned to launch a new service to the Jordanian capital of Amman. However, the plans were also shelved due to the pandemic.

Source - Ex-Yu Aviation News



Middle East fleet to more than double by 2041

The Middle Eastern region's aircraft fleet is projected to more than double by 2041, according to Boeing. In its latest 20-year forecast about the region's passenger traffic and commercial fleet demand, the American aircraft manufacturer said air travel and tourism continue to drive economic growth in the Middle East. Due to this, the Middle Eastern fleet is forecasted to expand to 3,400 aeroplanes to serve fast-growing passenger traffic as well as cargo demand. The Middle Eastern airlines will require 2,980 new aeroplanes valued at US$765 billion to serve passengers and trade.

More than two-thirds of these deliveries will enable growth, while one-third will replace older aeroplanes with more fuel-efficient models such as the Boeing 737 MAX, 787 Dreamliner and 777X. Middle Eastern carriers are continuing to experience growth and expansion. Emirates, for one, has invested more than US$2 billion to enhance its in-flight passenger experience. This includes a large-scale fleet retrofit project with plans to upgrade the interior cabins of 120 Airbus A380 and Boeing 777 aircraft. According to Boeing, Middle Eastern carriers have successfully managed through pandemic challenges by adjusting their business models and increasing the usage of freighters to maximize revenue. Demand for domestic air travel has made a strong recovery across several regions, with international traffic gaining momentum as restrictions ease, tracking to return to pre-pandemic levels by 2023 to 2024. The report forecasts a market value of US$7.2 trillion for new aeroplane deliveries, with the global fleet increasing by 80 per cent through 2041 compared to 2019 pre-pandemic levels.



Source - Aero Time

ME aviation market to grow by US$6.17 billion

The latest report by Technavio expects the Middle East's aviation market size to grow by US$6.17 billion, accelerating at a CAGR of 7.6 per cent during the 2022-26 period. The research company identified Airbus, Bombardier, Cirrus and Dassault Aviation among others as the dominant vendors in the market. Other players are Embraer, General Dynamics, Honda Aircraft, Leonardo, Lockheed Martin, Textron and Boeing. The increase in the number of airports and terminals being constructed offers immense growth opportunities but fluctuations in oil and gas prices will challenge the growth of the market participants, the report said. To make the most of the opportunities, market vendors should focus more on the growth prospects in the fast-growing segments, while maintaining their positions in the slow-growing segments.

Source - PR Newswire





Jazeera Airways post higher profits

Kuwait-based Jazeera Airways reported its net profit in the third quarter of 2022 jumped 14 per cent on a year-on-year basis as it carried more passengers and emerged from pandemic-induced travel disruptions. The net profit in the July-September period surged to nearly KD13.4 million or US$43.2 million.
Its revenue during the period increased 99.3 per cent to KD63.2 million. Operating profit stood at KD16.1 million, 25.7 per cent more than the third quarter of 2021. The carrier launched 11 new routes since the beginning of the year and added two aircraft to its fleet. The airline's flight movement at Kuwait International Airport reached 20,161 flights during the January-September period, making it the largest carrier operating at the airport. The nine months' earnings were supported by a strong increase in operations during the summer season with the airline carrying a record 1.1 million passengers in the third quarter and bringing the total number of passengers in the nine months to 2.6 million. The airline is moving forward with its expansion plans with the delivery of two A320neo aircraft" in the third quarter as part of its order for 20 A320neos and 8 A321neos. The delivery of these aircraft will increase the airline's fleet to 35.

Source - The National

Three ME carriers switch to Frankfurt's T2

Three Middle Eastern carriers - Etihad, Oman Air and Middle East Airlines - have moved from Frankfurt Airport's Terminal 1 to Terminal 2. However, the move is not expected to be permanent. Fraport, the owners and operators of Frankfurt-Main International Airport (FRA), says the move to efficiently manage passenger traffic in the winter months. Both Etihad and Oman Air are hub airlines with flights to Frankfurt for which they use Boeing 787s. The MEA use smaller Airbus A321neo for much of the week and the A330-200 occasionally. For MEA, the move makes it the final alliance carrier to move to Terminal 2, likely opening up new lounge opportunities for passengers soon. The same can be said for Oman Air which in 2024 joins the Oneworld alliance. Etihad won't be affected by any alliance partnerships. The Abu Dhabi-based airline left T2 in 2017, shuttering its lounge and moving to T1. Terminal 1 is the bigger and is home to Lufthansa and all of its Star Alliance partners. Terminal 2 hosts the other two alliances and any other non-aligned airlines. In 2019, the airport recorded 70.5 million passengers visiting. This winter, Frankfurt will see connections to 246 destinations in 96 countries, with 3,530 weekly departures.

Source - Simple Flying.com

Air India tops in 'on time' performance

Air India has beaten IndiGo for the third consecutive month as India's top 'on-time' airline. Since the takeover by the Tata Group, Air India has identified On-Time Performance (OTP) as a primary improvement goal. Being punctual was one of the branding strategies of IndiGo. In September, 87.1 per cent of flights of Air India were on time as compared to IndiGo's 84.1 per cent. This was 83.1 and 84.5 per cent, respectively, in June. Air India has invested in IT systems to improve the capability of aircraft predictive maintenance. IndiGo has also asked its cabin crew to make drastic changes in flight management to improve performance. One instruction is to close the cabin door within 60 seconds of the last passenger entering the aeroplane. The company has asked the pilots to reach the airports at least 75 minutes before the scheduled departures of their flights. They must be seated inside the aeroplane 35 minutes before departure. IndiGo has also increased the pace of hiring ground staff that was laid off during the pandemic.

Source - Business Standard



Chinese airlines expand international routes

Air China (CA), China Southern (CZ) and China Eastern (MU) are planning to expand their international offering in six months and aims to have over 140 routes. Chinese travel is still sitting behind its pre-pandemic capacity. Zheng Hongfeng, CEO of industry information provider VariFlight, said the civil aviation regulator is working hard to restore international routes, and it is an important way for China to connect with the world. Chinese airlines are looking to resume their footprint in the Asia-Pacific with more capacity. Air China has announced it would schedule 132 flights per week to 52 destinations. The carrier also plans to reintroduce routes that were halted in the face of the pandemic. The largest airline of the three carriers, the Guangzhou-based China Southern plans to introduce 47 international destinations frequenting 203 cities. China Eastern, based in Shanghai, will double its current 54 international flights to 108 weekly. China is tipped to account for 21 per cent of all aircraft deliveries as predicted by Boeing.

Source - Simple Flying

Starlux Airlines receives its first A350

Taiwan's Starlux Airlines has received its first Airbus A350, the first of 18 A350s the carrier has ordered. According to Flightradar24.com data, the A350-900 is joining an all-Airbus fleet at the carrier which includes 11 A321-200neos and four A330-900neos. The airline is building an impressive fleet of new aircraft, as apart from the other 17 A350s, it has three A330neos and three A321neos on order. The A350 is configured in a four-class layout, comprising four first-class suites, 26 business class seats, 36 in premium economy and 240 in the economy. The delivery is a milestone, giving the airline its first large widebody aircraft to open long-haul markets. The A350s will have two Rolls-Royce XWB-84 engines, an engine that first entered service in 2015. In August, the Trent XWB-84 ticked over 10 million engine flying hours and is used by more than 30 airlines operating on various routes, from short-range sectors to ultra-long-haul flights of more than 18 hours. The Airbus airspace cabin gives passengers a consistent level of comfort and experience irrespective of the aircraft size. Airbus also has built-in fleet commonality that drives operational and maintenance costs down, gives common pilot type ratings and gives airlines the flexibility to match capacity with demand. It is a tried and tested strategy in Asia, where the A330 has been pivotal for many airlines in building up demand and frequencies on new routes.

Source -Simple Flying

Frontier Airlines to introduce annual pass

Frontier Airlines will introduce an annual all-you-can-fly pass next spring. The discount carrier has offered scant specifics about the product, which it is calling the GoWild! Pass. No price has been revealed. Frontier has said that pass holders will be able to take an unlimited number of flights over the 12-month term with access to all the carrier's destinations. The company also implied that there will be blackout periods, noting that flights will be available to pass holders on more than 300 days of the year. Last year alone, five million seats flew empty, now they could be yours, reads a Frontier teaser for the new product. With the new GoWild! Pass, you will be able to get confirmed for your flight the day before you take off on one of your limitless adventures beginning spring 2023, it said. The carrier added that it will sell a limited number of passes. Alaska Airlines became the first



US commercial carrier to offer a subscription service in February when it launched the Flight Pass product. The pass applies to Alaska Airlines' California network as well as Phoenix and Las Vegas. Subscriptions, paid monthly, start at less than US$600 per year. Mexico's Volaris is another carrier that offers a subscription service.

Source - Travel Weekly

United aims to fly electric aeroplanes by 2030

United Airlines is aiming to have electric aircraft flying regional routes by the end of the decade, as part of its goal to fully reduce its carbon footprint to net zero by 2050. Those battery-powered aircraft are being developed by Swedish start-up Heart Aerospace, from which United placed an order for 100 planes in July 2021. United also invested an undisclosed amount in the company through its venture funding arm at the time of the deal. United has pushed heavily into a variety of lower-emission forms of aviation. It announced plans to buy electric air taxis and vertical aircraft, hydrogen-electric engines and also investing in the companies behind the burgeoning technologies. Heart Aerospace, which redesigned what will be its first electric aircraft which is now called the ES-30, plans to have the aeroplanes enter service in 2028. The 30-passenger aeroplanes will be driven by electric motors with battery-derived energy, allowing the planes to have a fully electric range of 200 kilometres (124 miles). The planes will also include a reserve-hybrid engine powered by sustainable aviation fuel, allowing it to have an extended range of up to 400 kilometres with a full flight.



Source - CNBC

New York earmarks US$50 million for airport projects

New York has allocated US$50 million to facilitate airport modernisation and safety improvement projects. This funding will be provided to the airports under the Aviation Capital Grant Program, which is part of New York State's commitment to supporting airports across the region. The funding aims to support environmental resilience and regional economic competitiveness of the state's public-use airports besides enabling safety upgrades and overhaul of operations. Earlier, the Aviation Capital Grant Program supported a wide range of airport projects such as the installation of new automated weather monitoring systems, the creation and rehabilitation of hangars and aircraft refuelling facilities, as well as new security and access control upgrades. The government expects to make the surrounding communities more economically competitive with neighbouring states. New York State Transportation Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez said: "By investing in airports, New York State is taking critically important steps that will further establish the Empire State as a leader in global commerce and tourism.

Source - Airport Technology



Vancouver Airport to have 17 million passengers



A total of over 17 million passengers are expected to be recorded at Vancouver International Airport in 2022, a staggering figure considering the trickle of passengers the airport previously experienced over much of the pandemic period. Vancouver Airport Authority says with 17 million passengers, YVR will return to annual traffic levels last experienced in 2011. YVR, based on current forecasts, could see 22 million passengers in 2023 — equivalent to 2016's total. Next year's volumes will be partially buoyed by a resurgence in tourism, including the forecast for a record 1.4 million cruise ship passengers in downtown Vancouver — higher than the 1.1 million in 2022. In contrast, YVR saw just 7.3 million passengers in 2020 and 7.1 million passengers in 2021 — down from the record of 26.4 million passengers in 2019. This year to date, YVR has seen a very strong recovery in passenger traffic from domestic flights (92 per cent pre-pandemic) and US transborder (80 per cent pre-pandemic), but international passenger traffic continues to lag in recovery at just 60 per cent.

Source - Daily Hive

Ontario Airport to allow non-travellers through security

Ontario International Airport is to return to 20th-century practices by allowing travellers to be met at the gate. The south Californian transport hub is marketing the move sentimentally. ONT+ is a way to bring back some of that experience from decades ago, safely and securely. Non-travellers wishing to access the post-security side of the airport will need to apply for an online visitor pass within seven days of their trip. If their application is successful, approval will come through by email and a digital-only ticket, accompanied by photo ID, will then be able to be used to allow non-travelling airport visitors to go through checkpoints and use facilities such as restaurants and shops on the secure side of the terminal Ontario International is the fastest growing airport in the United States, serving over twenty other major hubs in the US, Mexico, Central America and Taiwan. 2022 has been a good year for the locally-owned airport, with passenger totals at their highest since 2008 and pre-pandemic passenger levels surpassed every month for the past six months.

Source - Travel Tomorrow



US airport is now the world's most connected

Further asserting its position as the world's top transit and destination hub, a mega airport in the US has attained this year the status of most connected in the world, ending a British reign that dated back years. In numbers, flying out of this airport, US citizens can easily reach up to 262 destinations worldwide with 45 different airlines. According to aviation specialist OAG, Chicago O'Hare International is now officially the world's most connected airport. In other words, it offers the most links to other destinations, both domestic and abroad, as well as the largest passenger capacity. The newly-crowned King of Airports overthrows the UK's biggest: London Heathrow.

Unlike the previous report, issued as far back as 2019 in the pre-pandemic era, Heathrow has been deprived of its prestige by ranking at a record-low number 22. Although it still serves as many destinations as it did back in 2019, the number of 'possible connections' on its busiest day this year dropped by 40 per cent. OAG has calculated the number of 'possible flight connections' in six-hour window periods on August 12, which has been so far the 'busiest day' for international travel in 2022. Unsurprisingly, the US claimed 13 spots in the top 20 tier, powered by its domestic market. New York's JFK and Los Angeles International also featured in the top 10, as did Mexico City's Juarez International, whose straining has led to the development of a new airport located 30 miles out.

Source - Travel Offpath

TSA screened 15 million passengers

The Transportation Security Administration checkpoint witnessed the number of travellers heading through US airports surpassing the pre-pandemic numbers, according to a new analysis by Bank of America. TSA checkpoint traffic was one per cent above the 2019 levels. The TSA screened 15 million passengers at US airports, according to checkpoint data. Since the Labor Day holiday, airline traffic stalled out in September as the summer vacation season came to an end. The reason for the uptick now: Increasing international travel in October helped boost steady domestic bookings, according to the BofA analyst. Pent-up demand from cooped-up US travellers, the relaxing of global pandemic restrictions, and airlines adding new international routes all combined to increase demand in October. Southwest, JetBlue, Frontier, Spirit, and Hawaiian all reported on the continued health of leisure travel heading into the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday seasons. Flight bookings have shown three straight weeks of steady improvements following a modest slowdown after Labor Day.

Source - Business Insider

Munich Airport trials new passenger service

Munich Airport has started trials of a new Express Queue system in its Terminal 1. The Bavarian airport hopes that the new system will help it more effectively manage passenger flows ahead of security checkpoints in Terminal 1, thus reducing waiting times. Travellers departing for destinations in non-Schengen countries now have the option to secure a 30-minute window for access to security checkpoints and passport control, free of charge. Passengers can book an Express Queue slot online. The service is available daily at the security checkpoints in departure areas B and C of Terminal 1. The last available slot is no later than 90 minutes before departure time. After going through check-in, passengers wishing to use Express Queue must turn up at its entrance in front of the security checkpoint within their time slot. By scanning the QR code on their booking confirmation, they can go straight to the security checkpoint via the separate entrance. The same QR code provides fast-track access to passport control. Munich Airport is initially testing this process for 60 days.

Source - Airports International

High-standard of safety defines present-day aviation



Billy Nolen
Acting Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
United States of America

It was good to be back in UAE. I was last here for the Global Aerospace Summit in 2016. This region continues to be one of the world's fastest-growing for air travel. Dubai has unveiled a tribute to the spirit of innovation – the Museum of the Future. I had a chance to see the stunning displays of what the world might be like 50 years from now – if we see current concepts, technologies, and human skill sets develop further.

The future is happening now. What we once thought was only possible in movies and cartoons is coming true. And while we are excited about the future, it must share the high standard of safety that has come to define aviation today. That's the challenge of our time: To usher in the next era of aviation safely. The travelling public will expect a high standard of safety – whether they fly to and from Dubai, Mumbai, Miami or anywhere else. And we must achieve all of this while building a more sustainable aviation system - one that can withstand the shocks of pandemics, or new threats, like cyberattacks.

We've seen the benefits of Safety Management Systems in driving down safety risks for commercial aviation. Now, the FAA is working on a proposed rule to require charter, commuter and air tour operators, and aircraft manufacturers, to implement SMS. The SMS has given us significant insight into operations and the ability to spot looming risks. It has also given us mountains of data that hold the keys for us to move from a preventive safety system to a predictive safety system.

We're evolving toward using advanced analytics, machine learning and artificial intelligence to yield quality, consistent streams of safety data. There will be greater international collaboration through the sharing of safety risk information. We can take the next step by collectively harmonizing our safety analytics and metrics to build a shared risk portfolio. SMS and data analysis are essential programs to have in place but a mature safety culture is what makes these programs successful. We want to see a 'Learning Culture' of safety throughout the world where aviation professionals can openly report unintentional mistakes and safety concerns without fear of punishment.

We must be proactive and transparent when it comes to mitigating cyber risk in aviation. Cyber threats are continuously in flux. The FAA is working to design the International Aviation Trust Framework to provide confidence in the integrity of aviation-related digital information and its secure exchange across the aviation ecosystem. We are eager to expand our safety collaboration and share best practices with the airlines and other stakeholders. The UAE's General Civil Aviation Authority has collaborated closely with us and we look to build on it. We expect to certify the first eVTOL aircraft around 2024, provided safety allows. We are also looking at aligning our certification processes and standards globally for AAM aircraft. We're going to need the best people to help us make aviation safer, more efficient, more innovative and more sustainable.

Excerpts from the keynoted address at the IATA Safety Conference in UAE

Convenience tops the priority list of passengers post-pandemic

Travel during the pandemic has been complex, cumbersome and time-consuming due to travel requirements and restrictions. Passengers have started looking for improved convenience throughout their trips. Digitalization and the use of biometrics to speed up their journey have remained the key. The results of the IATA's Global Passenger Survey (GPS), based on over 10,000 responses from 222 countries, showed travellers have remained focused on simplification and convenience.

Proximity to the airport has been the main priority for passengers when choosing where to fly from (75 per cent). This was more important than the ticket price (39 per cent). Travellers were satisfied with being able to pay with the preferred payment method that has been available for 82 per cent of them. Having access to planning and booking information in one single place has been identified as being the top priority. As much as 18 per cent of passengers said they offset their carbon emissions.

Today's travellers expect the same online experience as they get from major retailers like Amazon. Airline retailing is driving the response to these needs. It enables airlines to present their full offer to travellers. That puts the passenger in control of their travel experience with the ability to choose the travel options that they want with convenient payment options. Most travellers are willing to share their immigration information for more convenient processing.

About 37 per cent of travellers said they have been discouraged from travelling to a particular destination because of the immigration requirements. Process complexity has been highlighted as the main deterrent by 65 per cent of travellers, 12 per cent cited costs and eight per cent time. Where visas are required, 66 per cent of travellers want to obtain a visa online before travel, 20 per cent prefer to go to the consulate or embassy and 14 per cent at the airport. About 83 per cent of travellers would share their immigration information to speed up the airport arrival process.

Countries with complex visa procedures are losing the economic benefits that these travellers bring. Where countries have removed visa requirements, tourism and travel economies have thrived. Countries taking advantage of travellers' willingness to use online processes and share information in advance is a win-win solution. Passengers are willing to take advantage of technology and rethought processes to improve the convenience of their airport experience and manage their baggage.

About 44 per cent of travellers identified check-in as their top pick for off-airport processing. Immigration procedures stood second most popular top-pick at 32 per cent, followed by baggage. About 67 per cent would be interested in home pick-up and delivery of their baggage and 73 per cent in remote check-in options. About 75 per cent of passengers want to use biometric data instead of passports and boarding passes. Over a third have already experienced using biometric identification in their travels. However, data protection remains a concern for about half of travellers. The industry is ready to power airport processes with biometrics. The proliferation of e-gates is proving the efficiencies that can be gained. The priority is to create a seamless experience across the passenger journey.



Muhammad Albakri
Senior Vice President
Financial Settlement and Distribution Services
IATA

Saudi Arabia opens first logistics zone to boost cargo capacity

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has opened its first Special Integrated Logistics Zone at King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh as part of plans to boost its cargo capacity, bolster supply chains and become a global logistics hub. The US-based tech major Apple is among the first tenants at the three-million-square-metre facility that is designed to attract the world's top multinational companies from sectors including electronics, technology, pharmaceuticals, luxury products, jewellery and aerospace components. Mohammed Alkhuraisi, Vice President of Strategy at the General Authority for Civil Aviation (Gaca), said the iPhone maker will base a regional distribution centre in Riyadh to serve local demand, export and re-export to neighbouring markets. The Kingdom is in negotiations with 20 high-profile global companies within these sectors to relocate to the kingdom with incentives that include tax exemptions, 100 per cent foreign ownership, streamlined licensing processes and "relaxed" Saudisation requirements. Over the next 10 years, it expects 66 billion Saudi riyals in GDP contribution from this special economic zone in Riyadh and the creation of 29,000 jobs on a cumulative basis.

Source - The National



DHL report finds air cargo sector in flux

DHL Global Forwarding, in its Airfreight State of the Industry report for October, has illuminated the vagaries of what is currently a very unstable air cargo market. The report found airfreight volumes as a whole remain somewhat suppressed, with demand continuing to remain low on most trade lanes, although transatlantic volumes are comparatively strong. The global demand has softened since April this year and this year's peak season is expected to see less of a surge than last year. Reduced purchasing power caused by economic lows will not help the sector, found the report. Lower sales and high inventory levels caused by reduced export orders will also not offer the industry any succour, nor will high inflation rates around the world that are causing uncertainty now and are likely to remain in force into 2023.

Source - Air Cargo News

The demand-supply gap in the air freight segment closing

DB Schenker, a global leader in supply chain management and logistics solutions, is seeing the demand and supply gap in air freight decreasing, among other reasons, on account of high inflationary pressure in western markets. "2021 was a very busy year. We were very successful. Our volumes went up in the market and yield was pretty high. We continue to see that momentum coming into this year as well. So our volume and yields are holding. But now we are moving into a very different situation due to what is happening to the world economy," says Asok Kumar, Executive Vice President and Head of Global Air Freight, DB Schenker, a division of German rail operator Deutsche Bahn that focuses on logistics. The company had been acquired by Deutsche Bahn as Schenker-Stinnes in 2002. It comprises divisions for air, land, sea freight, and contract logistics. In uncertain times, DB Schenker has been extremely successful and kept supply chains stable around the globe. It also increased its climate-friendly, biofuel-based transport options. Now facing its 150th anniversary as a company, Schenker has delivered excellent results: record revenues of over EUR23 billion for 2021, record profits, and a pioneering strategy that DB Schenker will use to further improve its competitive position, says Dr Levin Holle, DB's CFO.

Source -The Hindu



France implements 4-FLIGHT ATC system

France's new cutting-edge air traffic management modernization project, 4-FLIGHT, is being closely coordinated by the EUROCONTROL Network Manager (NM) and France's air navigation service provider-DSNA. The Network Manager strongly supports the implementation of the 4-FLIGHT system in full collaboration with all operational stakeholders. During the implementation period of this significant technological transformation, NM coordinates with air navigation service providers, aircraft operators and other partners to enable the implementation of network measures that facilitate operational performance. There has been excellent cooperation with DSNA and among many operational stakeholders in a true spirit of collegiality The Reims Area Control Centre (ACC) formally deployed 4-FLIGHT in mid-June after an operational consolidation phase that began in April. By 2026, it will subsequently be implemented in turn in the other four French ACCs. Local and network expertise are crucial for the successful implementation of 4-FLIGHT.

Source - 100 Knots

FREQUENTIS handled one billion hours of safe air travel

VCX-IP, the voice communication network solution from FREQUENTIS, has evolved significantly since its initial development around two decades ago. It started as a network solution to enhance network functionality, such as shared access to radios and radars. Several country-wide deployments in Australia, New Zealand, Mexico, Austria, Oman and Brazil are successful milestones that have contributed considerably to making Frequentis the market leader in network solutions for Air Traffic Management (ATM). As a technology leader, Frequentis is pioneering new ideas and capabilities to the market, such as the bi-directional dynamic delay compensation or the automatic voice detection on high-frequency signals, also demonstrating high performance and scalability to support up to 1,200 active channels, suitable for the critical operations environment. After the standardisation of the VoIP (voice over internet protocol) in ATM in 2003, Frequentis delivered the first operational references and VCX-IP became a global success story.

Source - Air Traffic Management





ENAIRE tests urban air mobility

ENAIRE has continued testing the European U-Space system which will regulate how drones are integrated into conventional air traffic. U-space is the set of services and procedures that are being developed in a coordinated manner to enable a high number of operations with unmanned aircraft, especially complex operations, in a way that is orderly, fluid, safe and attainable. ENAIRE is taking part in the validation of the Uspace4UAM project, which has demonstrations in four countries, with the ATLAS Centre in Villacarrillo, Jaén, hosting the one in Spain. These demonstrations involve both drones and urban air mobility (UAM) vehicles. They cover different use cases, including mixed operations, so the project can collect results that are applicable across Europe. The goal is to increase social acceptance by users to allow U-Space and the autonomy of these aircraft to develop sufficiently to show that their onboard systems are suitable for U-Space services and provide the required safety levels. At the ATLAS Centre in Villacarrillo, ENAIRE and the other Uspace4UAM members hope to demonstrate the benefits of using a U-Space platform and its associated services to manage a large number of remotely piloted aircraft (UAS) and air taxi operations.

Source -Air Traffic Management

EC invests €3 billion in innovative clean-tech projects



The European Commission is launching the third call for large-scale projects under the EU Innovation Fund. With a budget doubled to €3 billion thanks to increased revenue from the auctioning of EU Emissions Trading System (ETS) allowances, the large-scale projects will boost the deployment of industrial solutions to decarbonise Europe. With a special focus on the priorities of the REPowerEU Plan, the call will provide additional support towards ending the EU's dependence on Russian fossil fuels. General decarbonisation, with a budget of €1 billion, authorities are seeking innovative projects in renewable energy, energy-intensive industries and products like low-carbon transport fuels. For Innovative electrification in industry and hydrogen with a budget of €1 billion, the officials seek innovative projects in electrification methods to replace fossil fuel use, renewable hydrogen production or hydrogen uptake in industry. Cleantech manufacturing has a budget of €0.7 billion and seeks innovative projects in the manufacturing of components, final equipment for electrolysers and fuel cells, renewable energy, energy storage and heat pumps. The mid-sized pilots with a budget of €0.3 billion are seeking highly innovative projects in disruptive or breakthrough technologies in deep decarbonisation. Projects will be assessed by independent evaluators according to their level of innovation, potential to avoid greenhouse gas emissions, operational, financial and technical maturity, scaling up potential and cost efficiency. The call is for projects in EU member-states, Iceland and Norway, until mid-March 2023. The grant awards and signature of projects will take place in the Q4 of 2023. The Innovation Fund is one of the world's largest funding programmes for the demonstration and commercialisation of innovative low-carbon technologies. Financed by revenues from the auctioning of allowances from the EU's EU ETS, it has already held two large-scale calls awarding €1.1 billion and €1.8 billion in grants to seven and 17 projects respectively. With a currently estimated revenue of approximately €38 billion until 2030, the Innovation Fund aims to create the right financial incentives for companies and public bodies to invest now in the next generation of low-carbon technologies and give EU companies a first-mover advantage to become global technology leaders. The Innovation Fund is implemented by the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA), while the European Investment Bank provides project development assistance to promising projects that are not sufficiently mature.

Source - European Commission



China is ahead in developing navigation satellite systems

China has taken a phased approach to developing a navigation satellite system. Starting from scratch, the system has undergone steady improvements and upgrades, providing both active and passive positioning and expanding from regional to global coverage. The BeiDou Navigation Satellite System (BDS) provides high-accuracy, round-the-clock positioning, navigation and timing services to global users in all weathers. In July 2020, China announced to the world about BDS-3 getting commissioned. BDS has progressed together with China's development and advanced the process of national rejuvenation. The first-class navigation satellite system has been introduced into mass markets, empowering industries and profoundly changing the way people work by providing a spatiotemporal reference for economic and social development. The government is publishing a white paper to present China's achievements and vision in developing BDS, and to share its ideas and experience. China began to develop its navigation satellite system in 1994. BDS-1 entered service and began providing positioning services in China at the end of 2000, thereby becoming the third country in the world with a navigation satellite system. BDS-2 was completed in 2012. In 2020, BDS-3 was commissioned. In March 2015, China launched the first BDS-3 experimental satellite.



In November 2017, the first two Medium Earth Orbit (MEO) satellites joined the BDS-3 system. In December 2018, China completed the primary deployment of 19 satellites. In June 2020, it completed the entire constellation deployment of 24 MEO satellites, three Geostationary Earth Orbit (GEO) satellites, and three Inclined Geosynchronous Orbit (IGSO) satellites.

The next month, BDS-3 began to provide global services, upgrading BDS to a worldwide system. BDS provides open, free satellite navigation services, and its ability to serve the public across the world is being constantly improved. In the coming years, China will further upgrade BDS technologies, functions and services. China is the first country to adopt a hybrid navigation constellation in medium and high earth orbits.

Source - China Daily

A new terminal flight management system developed

Leidos, a global science and technology leader, has developed the first Terminal Flight Data Manager (TFDM) system. The system, developed for the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will reduce runway departure queues and allow for streamlined operations in the airport's air traffic control tower. Not only will it improve the passenger experience by reducing delays, but it also lower greenhouse gas emissions through reduced aeroplane taxi time TFDM is a tower-based Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen) technology that improves surface management and efficiency. The system shares electronic data among controllers, air traffic managers, aircraft operators and airports to stage arrivals and departures while managing surface traffic flow. TFDM implementation will be carried out at airports across the US over the next several years. Leidos reported annual revenues of US$13.7 billion for the last fiscal year.

Source -PR Newswire