GOVERNMENT OF DUBAI
حكومة دبي

هيئة دبي للطيران المدني
Dubai Civil Aviation Authority

Via Dubai

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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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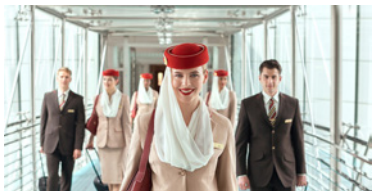
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Pangiam has launched a new project, DARTMOUTH, which will use AI and pattern analysis technologies to analyse extensive data in real-time to identify potentially prohibited items in passenger carry-on bags.

SPEEDCARGO and Gudel to bring intelligent robotic automation to airfreight

SPEEDCARGO Technologies of Singapore and Güdel of Switzerland have joined hands for developing the world's first robotic end-to-end material handling solutions for the airfreight industry.



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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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We keep flying high



Dubai International Airport (DXB) has continued its near-complete recovery process since the beginning of 2022, with the number of passengers expected to use the iconic facility will reach 62.4 million by the end of this year, much higher than the projections made previously of 58.3 million.

DXB has picked up all its lost momentum in almost every domain.

According to Dubai Airports data, the number of destinations that carriers provide connections through the world's number one airport for international travellers has reached 206 in 92 countries and 68 carriers.

DXB has restored 98 per cent of the network with the countries; more than 87 per cent of destinations, and 89 per cent with the airlines, when compared with the levels before the pandemic.

The number of passengers passing through DXB increased during the first half of 2022 to about 27.86 million, compared with about 10.64 million passengers during the same period in 2021, with a growth rate of 161.7 per cent.

OAG, a global provider of data about airports and airlines, has stated the total number of seats scheduled on international flights through DXB, during July 2022, exceeded four million, an increase of 28 per cent - the highest since the beginning of the pandemic.

This places Dubai in the top ranking as the largest international airport in scheduled seat capacity on international flights- far ahead of London Heathrow which stood second.

The amazing and inspirational achievements of our aviation industry have been the outcome of the vision, policies and programmes, sustained efforts and unfaltering hard work from every stakeholder, to ensure memorable experiences through expanding capabilities across all the facilities.

I have always encouraged the stakeholders and their teams to provide smooth and unforgettable travel experiences for people from across the world that crisscross the world through Dubai, to gain their further loyalty and confidence in our facilities and services. As they say, success is a journey, not a destination.

Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum

Enhance the travellers' loyalty



This summer travel season Dubai International Airport achieved record growth levels, reinforcing the solid standing of DXB as a global air transport hub given its strategic location, distinguished services it offers and professional human resources it has at its disposal - all contributing towards strengthening the loyalty of travellers preferring the airport as their first choice.

The Dubai Civil Aviation Authority (DCAA) has been cooperating and coordinating with all the governmental and private sector agencies at the facility, along with the airlines, to provide the best possible travel experiences for more than 62.4 million passengers expected to use the airport in 2022.

Due to the pandemic, the global aviation industry had been subject to challenges. However, we went through challenging times to maintain our high-efficiency levels, relying confidently on our vision and capabilities that normalcy and prosperity are around the corner. We are fully ready to provide all the services for which we are globally famous for satisfying the needs and expectations of the travellers and gaining their loyalty.

Dubai believes in the philosophy of dealing with crises and turning them into opportunities, and every stakeholder cooperates toward the one goal- to enhance the reputation of DXB as a global travel hub that connects the world through the flights currently provided by 68 international carriers, allowing travellers reach more than 200 destinations around the world.

The performance that we have achieved till now this year in the passengers and cargo domains provided us with the confidence to remain flying high, with the expertise and dedication of our staff members and the advanced technologies that are in place to serve travellers from across the world.

Mohammed Abdulla Ahli

DCAA participates in the 9th Nepal Aviation Safety Campaign (NASC)



The Dubai Civil Aviation Authority (DCAA) participated in the 9th Nepal Aviation Safety Campaign held from June 6 to 8 in Kathmandu. It had been organized by the United Nations World Food Programme.

The campaign had been designed to spread awareness and knowledge about the importance of safety in the aviation industry and its impact on a global level. Hamid Almahdali, Head of Aircraft Oversight, represented the DCAA and conducted a workshop on "Fatigue Risk Management Systems".



The workshop drew more than 35 attendees representing various Nepalese operators. The Authority's participation in the campaign highlights the importance of collaboration with international stakeholders to create a bright and safe future for the aviation industry.



DCAA Youth Council organises Meet & Greet programme

The Dubai Civil Aviation Authority (DCAA) Youth Council organized its first initiative under the title 'Meet and Greet'. The initiative is aimed at introducing the Youth Council and its objectives and enhancing communication between the employees. The DCAA Youth Council had been formed in line with the vision of the UAE leaders to have Emirati youth as models for leadership in all fields, by creating an appropriate environment for youth to support their ideas and future aspirations. The event included a 'Bazaar' with the participation of employees who own home-based businesses and their families. The event had been attended by His Excellency Mohammed Abdulla Ahli, Director-General of DCAA, and His Excellency Jamal Al Hai, Deputy CEO of Dubai Airports, DCAA executive directors and employees. Mohammed Ahli thanked the Youth Council members for organizing the event and underscored that the youth of the DCAA are the future leaders.







DCAA officials meet the Uganda team

Saood Abdulaziz Kankazar, Executive Director of Air Transport & International Affairs Sector at Dubai Civil Aviation Authority (DCAA) met with the Uganda Civil Aviation Authority's Board of Directors - John Bulindi and Angela Kiryabwire Kanyima. The meeting had been also attended by Abdullah Bin Khediya, Director of the Air Transport Department at DCAA. Both sides discussed the working mechanism, the importance of sharing experiences and knowledge, and strengthening bilateral relations that benefits the civil aviation sector. At the conclusion of their meeting, Saood Kankazar presented the visiting delegation with a memento.





DCAA and ExecuJet discuss private aviation

A team led by Abdullah Bin Khediya, Director of the Air Transport Department at Dubai Civil Aviation Authority (DCAA) held discussions with the officials of ExecuJet Aviation Group, the leading global company in the private aviation sector.

Several topics related to the air transport industry in the emirate came up for discussion, especially in private aviation.

During the meeting, the Emirati official affirmed the Authority's contribution towards supporting the aviation sector and keeping pace with the developments to provide the best services with high-quality standards and maintain airspace security and safety.



The visit came as part of the continuous communication and strengthening of cooperation with the strategic partners. Dubai is a global aviation hub thanks to the facilities and services provided to stakeholders and travellers looking for excellence and exclusivity.



Mohammed Bin Rashid Library visit

Dubai Civil Aviation Authority organized a visit to the Mohammed bin Rashid Library to view this cultural and civilized building and to know about the provided services. DCAA delegation included Mr. Khalid AbdulKarim Al Arif - Executive Director of Aviation Safety & Environment Sector and Mr. Saood Abdulaziz Kankazar - Executive Director of Air Transport and International Affairs Sector, with a number of the authority's employees. The library management welcomed the visiting delegation and introduced them to the distinguished facilities and the various sections.

The library is a cultural beacon and one of the most important cultural, educational and tourist destinations in Dubai.



















Steady Surge

Strong second quarter propels DXB's H1 traffic to 27.9m passengers



As traveller numbers soar in H1, DXB revised its projection to 62.4 million passengers from 58.3 million predicted earlier

A steady surge of growth throughout the second quarter has propelled Dubai International's (DXB) half yearly traffic to 27.9 million passengers, just 1.2 million shy of the airport's total annual traffic last year. DXB achieved the milestone despite a significant reduction in capacity resulting from the 45-day closure of its northern runway in May-June for a major refurbishment project.

Key Figures

Maintaining its growth recovery for the ninth successive quarter since the start of the pandemic, DXB recorded 14.2 million passengers in the second quarter of 2022, a year-on-year jump of 190.6%. The hub welcomed a total of 27,884,888 passengers in the first half of the year, up 161.9% compared to H1 2021. The traffic volume represents 67.5% of DXB's pre-pandemic passenger traffic during the same period in 2019.

Top Destinations

India remained DXB's top destination country by passenger numbers with traffic for the first half reaching 4 million passengers – driven primarily by top city destinations such as Mumbai, Delhi, and Hyderabad. Saudi Arabia was second on the list with 2 million passengers, followed closely by the United Kingdom with 1.9 million passengers. Other country destinations of note include Pakistan (1.7 million passengers), and the U.S. (1.4 million passengers).

The top three cities were London with 1.3 million passengers, Riyadh (910,000 passengers), and Mumbai (726,000 passengers).

Cargo

DXB handled 390,520 tonnes of cargo in the second quarter, bringing the total freight volume for the



first six months of 2022 to 910,075 tonnes, a contraction of 18.9%. DXB's cargo traffic was impacted during the second quarter by the moving of major freight operators back to Dubai World Central (DWC) in March. As a significant portion of the cargo traffic at DXB is carried within the hold of passenger aircraft, the total cargo throughput was affected by the reduction in capacity due to the northern runway refurbishment programme, which took place between 9th May and 22nd June.

Flights

During the first six months of 2022, DXB handled a total of 154,993 flight movements, up 55.9% compared to the first half of 2021. The figure represents 87% of the pre-pandemic flight movements at DXB during the first half of 2019.

"DXB's recovery from the impact of the global pandemic has been spectacular, and that position has been strengthened during 2022, particularly during the second quarter. Not only has Dubai Airports been successful in managing the recovery, but customer service quality has been maintained throughout. We knew at the start of the pandemic that the dramatic downturn would be followed by an equally dramatic upturn, so we were well prepared for it and using all of the business data at our disposal were able to predict the start of the recovery. We worked with our service partners across the airport community to be ready and prepared to deliver the consistently smooth and easy experience that our passengers have come to expect at DXB," said Paul Griffiths, CEO of Dubai Airports.

Waiting Times

Thanks to DXB's investment in the latest biometric technology, Smart Gates are now speeding customers through the immigration process and our advanced operations control centre uses real-time information to improve service and efficiency across all touchpoints. Customer waiting times have also remained short despite surging traffic. During the first half, 96% of passengers queued for less than 5 minutes at departure passport control, whilst the average queue times at security check on departures was less than 3 minutes for 97% of total passengers*.

Baggage

The 175km long baggage handling system at DXB processed a total of 27.1 million bags in the first half of 2022 with a success rate of 99.8% (mishandled baggage rate of 1.75 bags per 1,000 passengers), an impressive performance for the world's busiest international hub. In terms of baggage delivery on arrival, 92% of all baggage was delivered within 30 minutes**. The current baggage volume represents 77.2% of the baggage volume at DXB for the same period in 2019.

Forecast

Based on the strong first half and projection of a stronger second half with average monthly traffic expected to reach 5.6 million passengers, Dubai Airports has readjusted upwards its annual forecast for 2022 to 62.4 million passengers.



UAE airlines tapping top talent from South Asia

Airlines in the UAE are in full recruitment mode. The carriers are attracting top aviation talent from India and the wider South Asia region. The aviation industry had faced a pilot shortage before 2020 and had to put recruitment plans on hold due to the pandemic.

According to the global consultancy Oliver Wyman, there will be a global gap of 34,000 pilots by 2025 - this could be as high as 50,000 in the most extreme scenarios. “The Gulf has actually attracted a lot of engineers and pilots from India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh,” said Mark Martin, CEO of Martin Consulting. “This is not just for airlines but also MRO operators and helicopter companies.” After conducting massive layoffs in the past two years, airlines in several parts of the world are facing a severe staffing deficit. Emirates Airlines has been recruiting pilots and cabin crew since 2021 amid a surge in travel demand. EK is out to hire more pilots as the airline targets full operational and network use soon. In October 2021, Etihad Airways said it was looking to hire up to 1,000 new staffers to join as cabin crew. The airline said the recruitment days would take place in 10 countries, including Egypt, Lebanon, Russia, Spain, Italy, and the Netherlands, apart from the UAE. Wizz Air Abu Dhabi plans to double its workforce by the year-end as it adds more aircraft. The budget airline - a joint venture between Hungary’s Wizz Air and Abu Dhabi’s ADQ - will then have a total workforce of 400 including cabin crew as it hits full recruitment mode. Middle East-based airlines are expected to become profitable in 2023 due to the pent-up travel demand. Air travel demand - measured in revenue passenger kilometres (RPKs) - is expected to reach around 79 per cent of pre-Covid levels. Emirates is conducting in August three recruitment roadshows in three cities in the UK.

Source: Gulf News



Servomex sets up ME hub at ADAFZ

Abu Dhabi Airports Free Zone (ADAFZ) has announced that Servomex, the global expert in gas analysis, officially launching its operations. As a leading provider of reliable, accurate and stable gas measurement solutions to industries worldwide, Servomex will provide essential gas-related services to the local market whilst serving clients and customers across critical industries from its new Middle East office at ADAFZ. Servomex designs manufacture and distribute industrial gas analysis products and services, including combustion analysers, process analysers, emissions analysers, sensing technology, service and support and integrated solutions internationally. Close to two international airports in Abu Dhabi and Al Ain, ADAFZ offers its customers full airside and landside accessibility, achieving their objectives whilst supporting the growth of both the aviation sector and Abu Dhabi's diversification drive. Abu Dhabi Airports Freezone presents partners with a host of unique and attractive opportunities and benefits, including strategic locations, access to international markets advanced technological infrastructure, and end-to-end logistics solutions.

Source: Zawya



ExecuJet to open FBO at Al Maktoum Airport in 2023

ExecuJet, part of Luxaviation Group, is opening an FBO facility at Al Maktoum International Airport in Dubai. The FBO will feature a presidential suite, double-story crew lounge with viewing deck and games room, airside hotel room suite, transit lounge smoking area and bar. The terminal will also have discrete working and rest areas with landside access for both passengers and crew, with a duty-free shop, complimentary Wi-Fi, prayer rooms, television, refreshments, newspapers and magazines. The facility will have 33,000 square metres of modern FBO amenities over three floors. The team is working to ensure the FBO is ready by the beginning of 2023. The new aviation mega-structure will enable it to expand on its current customer service offering and provide the best experience possible. This expansion is key for the growth ambitions of ExecuJet Middle East and builds upon its current two facilities at Dubai International Airport and Al Maktoum International Airport.

Source: Business Airport International

Etihad Airways joins In-Country Value Program

Etihad Airways has joined 18 other leading national institutions and 45 UAE federal entities for the In-Country Value Program (ICV) program since its launch late last year. The ICV Program aims to increase the number of certified vendors within the program from 5,000 to 7,300 companies and increase government expenditure on Emirati products and services from AED33 billion in 2020 to AED55 billion by 2025. The Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology (MoIAT) is expanding the program's scope to include new sectors like aviation as part of the national industrial strategy to sustain economic growth and raise the efficiency and competitiveness of the industrial sector. By joining the program, the carrier will prioritize local suppliers and UAE companies in the procurement process. The In-Country Value Program is one of the pillars of the national strategy for advanced industry and technology. It benefits certified companies by increasing demand for their products and services by redirecting government expenditure towards local companies. The addition of leading Emirati companies like Etihad Airways reflects the advantages provided by the program, such as helping to boost growth, innovation, and competitiveness. The program also helps to create more robust, efficient supply chains and underlines the close cooperation between the ministry, federal and local authorities, and major national companies.

Source: SME10X

Private jet bookings operator starts ME operations

The UK-based Mirai Flights, the tech start-up service for instant booking of charter flights, will enter the Middle East with three new deals as it seeks to capitalise on robust demand for luxury travel from the ultra-rich. The self-proclaimed "Uber for private jets" signed contracts with Middle East-based charter brokers Aeon Luxe, AirJets and Jet Summit.

Adding Middle Eastern brokers to the service is a crucial step in achieving our main aim to automate the business aviation booking process, said Irakli Litanishvili, Co-founder and Chief Executive of Mirai Flights. The demand for private travel remained strong throughout the coronavirus pandemic as wealthy clients sought alternatives to commercial flights. A record for global business jet demand was set in the first half of 2022, and although the rebound is slowing, the gains on 2019 have held steady at about 20 per cent, according to a report by WingX Advance. In the first six months of 2022, about 2.7 million business aviation flights took to the skies. Business jets and turboprops flew 22 per cent more flights than in the first half of 2021 and 15 per cent more than in the same period in 2019. The turboprop rebound has been relatively weaker. Business jet activity is up 27 per cent compared to last year and 21 per cent higher than levels of 2019, according to WingX Advance. The UAE, resilient throughout the pandemic, is only three per cent up this year compared to last year, but with 86 per cent more business jet flights than in the first half of 2021, the report said. Growth in luxury travel has fuelled a boom in demand for private aircraft. Corporate jet makers have reported growing order backlogs. Honeywell International forecasts 7,400 new business jet deliveries worth US$238 billion between 2022 and 2031, a one per cent increase in deliveries from the same 10-year forecast a year ago. Mirai Flights plans to extend its first foray into the Middle East, seeking a round of fund-raising from investors there. The company said its decision to enter the Middle East is driven by the UAE's position as a well-established business aviation market and that its luxury travel segment is open to tech-based services. The region is also evolving into an "essential player" in the global IT sector, providing start-ups with an attractive base to grow their operations. Mirai Flights is backed by UK's Xploration capital venture fund and the UAE-based private investors, operating in 63 countries.

Source: The National





DAE posts revenue drop in H1 2022

Dubai Aerospace Enterprise (DAE), one of the world's largest aircraft leasing companies, has reported a five per cent drop in revenues for the first half of 2022. The aircraft lessor reported a revenue of US$583 million in the six months ending June 30, lower than the US$613 million it reported a year earlier. Profit before exceptional items soared more than 185 per cent to US$140 million. "Our financial results are reflective of the strength of DAE's franchise despite emerging macroeconomic headwinds," says Firoz Tarapore, CEO of the Dubai-government-owned organisation. "Air travel demand continues to be strong, and all leading indicators continue to point to a strong summer season for our airline customers." Supply-side constraints, particularly among airport ecosystems, as well as inflationary concerns, have not dented demand. However, it is likely going to be a key constraint as airlines globally work towards returning to 2019 levels. DAE Capital has committed about US$750 million in the first half of the year to acquire assets for both its owned portfolio and managed portfolios.

Source: Gulf News

SHJ sees a 143 per cent jump in passenger numbers

Sharjah International Airport has recorded a footfall of six million passengers in the first half of 2022, a 142.74 per cent increase compared to the year-ago period. The positive growth rate is expected to continue for the rest of the year. SHJ airport witnessed considerable growth in the number of flights, with a total of 41,189 aircraft operating in H1 compared to 21,709 in the same period last year, registering an increase of 89.73 per cent. The substantial growth illustrates the confidence that customers have in the service and assistance provided by the airport. During the same period, the airport handled over 96,000 tonnes of cargo, accounting for an increase of 50.39 per cent, compared to 63,844 tonnes the previous year. There has been a surge in flight demand across UAE as residents go ahead with travel plans after the two-year pandemic.

Source: Gulf News



Saudi Arabia opens its airspace to all carriers

In a decision welcomed by US President Joe Biden ahead of his visit to the Kingdom, Saudi Arabia announced it would open its airspace to all airlines, including from Israel. The opening of the airspace has paved the way for more overflights to and from Israel, bridging the way for normalizing ties between the Arab states and Israel. Joe Biden said it was an essential step towards building a more integrated and stable Middle East region. The General Authority of Civil Aviation (GACA) said the Kingdom's airspace is now open to all airlines and that its requirements for overflights are in line with international conventions that encourage no discrimination between civil aircraft. Such a welcoming decision will aid the efforts to strengthen the Kingdom's position as a growing global air hub connecting three continents and further enhance international air connectivity. The Kingdom does not recognize Israel as a state and the two countries have no diplomatic relations. The Saudi airspace was only open to Israel when the UAE, Bahrain and Morocco launched direct flights to Israel for the first time after establishing diplomatic ties with it in late 2020 through the Abraham records. Emirates, Gulf Air and El Al were allowed to use Saudi airspace for the Dubai-Tel Aviv and Manama-Tel Aviv routes. Still, Israel was explicitly restricted from using the airspace for other commercial flights.

Source: Simple Flying



Egypt to launch first-ever LCC

Egypt is preparing to launch its first-ever low-cost airline, Air Sphinx, scheduled to begin operations in the winter of 2022/23. Its Cabinet had been briefed on the Ministry of Civil Aviation's preparations for a low-cost airline, Air Sphinx, to enhance and increase the number of tourists arriving in Egypt from differing countries. The statement further specifies that Sphinx Air will fly from Cairo International Airport, Hurghada International Airport, Sharm El-Sheikh International Airport, Luxor International Airport, and Sphinx International Airport in Giza. Air Sphinx, a subsidiary company of state-run EgyptAir, will operate both domestic and international flights, aiming to provide tickets at competitive prices for more affordable travel opportunities. EgyptAir, founded in 1932, had been Africa and the Middle East's first-ever airline and the world's seventh, helping travellers journey to Egypt's wonders for nearly a century. More recently, the company has incurred significant losses as a result of the pandemic. The country recorded 13.6 million visitors in 2019 – a number that once represented 15 per cent of the country's GDP. The Ministry of Civil Aviation is doing its part in the tourism sector's revival as it attempts to entice prospective visitors to fly with Air Sphinx's low-cost prices.



Source: Egyptian Streets

Oman Air boosts flight frequencies to India

Starting from the first day of this month, Oman Air increased its capacity in India. Until October 29th, the carrier is increasing the number of frequencies from the Sultanate to India. The decision stems from growing demand and the need to meet the demands during the summer holidays. Sultanate of Oman's national carrier increased the number of weekly flights bound for its eight Indian destinations to 122. Particularly, the total number of additional flights in the schedule amounts to 18; therefore, in the three months from August to October, the airline will offer 10 weekly flights to Delhi, Kochi, and Chennai; seven flights per week to Bangalore, Mumbai, Kozhikode, and Hyderabad and three flights to Goa. The carrier's increased capacity to India translates into 122 weekly flights to the country. To maximize capacity on the busy Indian routes, the airline will deploy not only its narrowbody fleet of Boeing B737s but the Boeing B787s and Airbus A330s as well. According to the Global Distribution System (GDS) Sabre, in the first two quarters of 2019, 951,456 people travelled between Oman and India, with Oman Air's market share being the highest (27.94 per cent). Of the Gulf carriers, Emirates ranks fifth, with a market share of 7.9 per cent, followed by Saudi Arabian Airlines (5.85 per cent). Oman Air is the 11th carrier per passenger traffic.

Source: Simple Flying





IndiGo introduced daily flight to Bahrain

Indian budget airline IndiGo has expanded its network in the Arabian Gulf sector, with the launch of a new direct flight service to Bahrain from the Western Indian city of Mumbai. Bahrain is the first post-pandemic international addition to the Indian carrier's network. The new flight service to Bahrain operates as a daily flight for now.

India's largest airline by market share said it has plans to launch more flights to Bahrain from other Indian cities from October 2022. Bahrain is the carrier's 25th international destination. IndiGo has been beefing up its operations in the Gulf sector, with the carrier launching two additional services last month from the Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, international airport – one to Abu Dhabi and the second one to Dammam in Saudi Arabia. While the Thiruvananthapuram-Dammam flight operates daily, the flight to Abu Dhabi fly thrice a week. Indian carriers have been aggressively expanding their flight network to the Middle East. With a fleet of 279 aircraft, IndiGo currently flies to 24 international destinations, besides operating around 1,600 daily flights, connecting 73 destinations within India.

Source: Arabian Business

UAE's tourism market to reach US$17 billion by 2025

The travel and tourism market in the UAE is predicted to reach US$17 billion by 2025, with the value equally split between hotels and airlines, according to new research. Dubai has established itself as a global destination for leisure travel, with more than 75 per cent of the travel group composition being families and couples. "The UAE residents are expected to go for more travel trips this year, driven by the combined effect of pent-up demand and receding fears of the pandemic," says the research by RedSeer Consulting, a global firm specialising in online services. Post-pandemic, a new trend is emerging with more and more tourists preferring the natural environment and adventurous tourism as they seek to lessen inter-human contacts. The travel sector in the UAE is poised for a further strong rebound due to the pent-up consumer demand and the opening of more markets. The study has also shown that travellers are increasingly opting for luxury hotels post-pandemic due to safety reasons. Post pandemic, the pent-up demand for travel led to a recovery that inclined more toward luxury hotels. As much as 60 per cent of travellers stayed in 5-star hotels and 27 per cent in 4-star properties in 2021.

Source: Arabian Business



Vacation rental market to grow by US$79.30 billion



A report by Technavio says the vacation rental market share is expected to increase by US$79.30 billion by 2026. However, the growth momentum is likely to decelerate at a CAGR of 8.42 per cent. Technavio categorizes the vacation rental market as a part of the global specialized consumer services market. The research report has extensively covered external factors influencing the parent market growth potential in the coming years, which will determine the levels of growth of the vacation rental market during the forecast period. The key factors driving the global vacation rental market growth are the growing tourism industry and the increasing popularity of short-term rental properties. Baby boomers have been contributing significantly to the growth of the travel and tourism industry. The demand for short-term vacation rental properties is particularly increasing. These properties, when marketed effectively, bring increased returns than long-term rental properties.

Source: PR Newswire

Malaysia tourism eyes ME millennial

Malaysia is focusing its promotional efforts on millennial and Generation Z travellers from the Middle East, as the country sets out to revive its pandemic-wrecked hospitality sector. The Muslim-majority nation, which markets itself abroad as an ideal holiday destination, with a multi-ethnic culture, lush rainforests and pristine beaches, suffered a heavy blow when it shut its borders to foreign visitors in 2020 and remained isolated until April this year. Malaysia is popular among visitors from the Middle East and has been ranked as a top destination in the Global Muslim Travel Index since 2015. To boost post-pandemic arrivals, its marketing efforts are now focused on visitors from the demographic cohorts known as Gen Z — those born between the late 1990s and 2000s — and millennials — born between the early 1980s and mid-1990s. To cater to millennial and Gen Z visitors from the Middle East, the country is trying to promote niche tourism products such as ecotourism and adventure travel but also volunteering, and other activities that are in line with sustainable tourism practices — travel experiences that include concern for social and environmental issues, as well as the welfare of host communities. Before the global pandemic, Malaysia received about 400,000 visitors from the Middle East 2019.

Source: Arab News



India to have 220 airports 'operational' by 2027

The number of operational airports in India has increased from 74 to 141 between 2014 and at present. Also, the aircraft with its carriers have gone up from 410 to 686 in the same period. The number of pilot licences issued in this period rose from 28,599 to 40,276; flying schools have gone up from 29 to 34 and will further increase to 49 in coming times and licenses have been issued to three new airlines. Seventy-four airports were functional in the country till 2014. At present, there are 141 operational airports including eight heliports and two water aerodromes. The government plans to develop/operationalise 220 airports in the next five years. As per officials, there were 40 Flying Training Organisations (FTOs) in June 2014. After extensive review in FY16, 11 FTOs were closed following non-compliance with requirements. By March 2022, there were 34 FTOs. Fifteen new FTOs are expected to be added by December 2023 taking the count to 49. Of these 15, four have already commenced operations. The cumulative number of pilot licenses issued stands at 40,276 as of date. Before 2014, the number stood at 28,599. Given the fleet projection, India expects to require 1,000 pilots per annum over the next five years.

Source: Times of India

VINCI to buy a stake in Mexican airport operator

VINCI Airports has reached a deal with Fintech Advisory to purchase the latter's 29.99 per cent stake in Mexican airport operator Grupo Aeroportuario del Centro Norte (OMA). OMA received a letter notifying 'that certain affiliates of Fintech have entered into a share purchase agreement with a subsidiary of VINCI Airports to indirectly sell 29.9 per cent of the capital stock of OMA. The deal, which awaits regulatory approval, is valued at around US$815 million, which includes debt. VINCI Airports aims to continue to enhance its global footprint and further strengthen its stand as a major private airport operator in the world. As part of the new agreement, VINCI Airports will be able to operate 13 new airports in Mexico under a 25-year concession. The deal will allow VINCI Airports to add over 70 airports in 13 nations worldwide. These newly added airports are situated in Northern and Central Mexico, which together recorded 23 million travellers in 2019 and 18 million in 2021.

Source: Airport Technology

GMR joint venture starts operating Medan airport

GMR Group's joint venture Angkasa Pura Aviasi has started operating the Kualanamu International Airport in Medan in Indonesia. India's GMR had entered into a 49:51 partnership with PT Angkasa Pura II. Angkasa Pura Aviasi (APA) is a joint venture between GMR Airports Ltd and Indonesia's state-owned airport operator PT Angkasa Pura II. With the project, GMR Airports, a subsidiary of GMR Infrastructure, has entered the growing Indonesian aviation market and the project will cover a cooperation period of 25 years. Currently, GMR Group is operating Delhi, and Hyderabad airports as well as the Mactan Cebu International Airport (MCIA) in the Philippines. It also recently finished the construction of Clark Airport in the Philippines and is also coming up with a new airport at Crete in Greece. GMR Airports had bid for the development and operation of Medan airport and the international selection process was conducted by PT Angkasa Pura II to select a strategic partner. In November 2021, GMR Airports was announced as the winning bidder. The Shareholders' Agreement (SHA) and Share Subscription Agreement (SSA) with PT Angkasa Pura II were signed in December 2021. For the project, GMR had entered into a 49:51 partnership with PT Angkasa Pura II.

Source: Business Standard



PIA eyeing widebody aircraft expansion

As part of its growth strategy, Pakistan International Airlines is reportedly looking to enhance its widebody capacity by inducting new aircraft in 2023. The flag carrier wants to return to profitability in the next couple of years, and updating its fleet with suitable planes to meet future demand seems to be on its priority list. According to a report in ch-aviation, PIA is looking at acquiring three widebody aircraft during the first quarter of 2023 and a request for quotation will be made in the coming few weeks. PIA is interested in including both the Airbus A330 and Boeing 787 aeroplanes. However, at this point, it's unclear which variant of these types PIA would go for. The carrier relies almost exclusively on a Boeing fleet for its widebody operations. It has six Boeing 777-200ERs, two 777-200LRs, and five 777-300ERs, all of which are between 14 and 18 years old. The 777s have been at the heart of PIA's operations to the West, commonly found arriving at airports in the UK until not too long ago. But following EASA's ban in 2020, its operations in Europe have been suspended. It does, however, deploy its two 777-200LRs to Toronto. The airline is also adding to its narrowbody fleet with four Airbus A320 aircraft, two of which have already arrived.

Source: Simple Flying

Airlines in India cannot charge for web check-in

Following multiple complaints about airlines charging additional fees for web check-in, India's Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) ruled that no charge should be waged on the consumers. In a circular, the aviation regulator said such 'unbundled' services are provided on an 'opt-in' basis by airlines and are not mandatory. There is also a provision for auto seat assignment to the passengers who have not selected any seat for web check-in before scheduled departure. Scheduled domestic airlines are not charging any fee for completing web check-in formalities. As far as check-in at airports is concerned, the Ministry of Civil Aviation has advised all the scheduled airlines not to charge any additional amount for issuing boarding passes at the airport check-in counters as the same cannot be considered within 'tariff' as provided under Rule 135 of the Aircraft Rules, 1937. Earlier, the aviation ministry ruled that airlines can't charge any additional fee for issuing a boarding pass at check-in counters in airports.

Source: India TV

Malaysia Airlines introduces MHPay

Malaysia Airlines has launched a new alternative payment method for consumers purchasing air tickets, ancillary products and services through malaysiaairlines.com. MHPay is intended to supplement the airline's entire suite of digitalised payment methods, to improve the customer experience by providing greater access to all payment options via a single integration point. MHPay, developed in collaboration with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and powered by 2C2P, the full-suite payments platform, provides customers with a seamless and secure method of making online payments. Malaysia Airlines was the first airline in Southeast Asia to adopt IATAPay, and the alternative payment method has been successfully implemented. MHPay provides a cost-effective payment alternative with a quick transaction time of less than a minute for end-to-end flow, depending on connectivity, and has proven to lower payment fraud cases to further enhance payment security, which is a high priority for airlines. Customers will benefit from MHPay as it offers a fast and secure way to purchase real-time airline tickets online as well as through our mobile app, with no additional service fees. Malaysia Airlines is a member of the Travel Safe Alliance Malaysia (TSAM) and has a 7-star rating from Airline Ratings for its Covid-19 safeguards.

Source: Daijiworld

What comes first: customer or employee experience?

Can you imagine airports becoming the customer experience standard? What if leaders from other industries, companies like Amazon, Zappos, or Disney were looking at airports for best practices, and visiting airports to learn from the best?

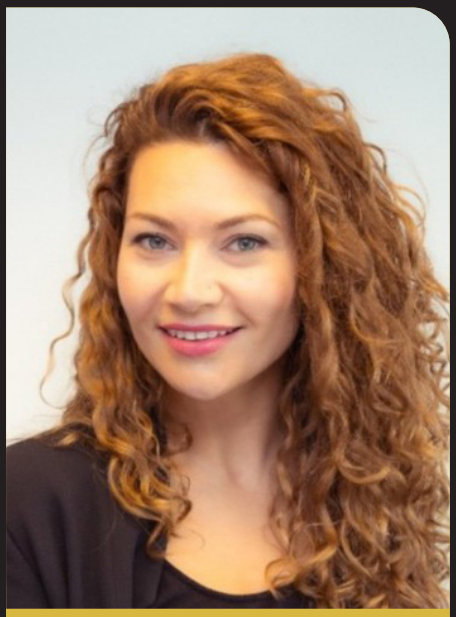
It could come as a surprise, but airports are quite new to the concept of customer experience. Lagging behind hospitality and entertainment industries, for example, the majority of airports were just until recently confusing customer experience with customer service or using these two terms interchangeably. While customer experience leaders like Amazon and Netflix have placed their customers at the centre of their strategies for some time now, excelling in removing pain points and personalizing experiences, airports are just warming up to these ideas—dipping their toes into customer centricity, learning to really listen to the Voice of Customer (VoC), and developing detailed and personalized passenger Journey Maps.

Of course, we cannot compare customer experience champions like Apple, Uber, or Ritz Carlton with airports. For obvious reasons, the former is in a much more advantageous position: it is significantly easier to design and deliver an omnichannel experience that is seamless, consistent, and unique throughout all touchpoints and for all customers when you actually own all the touchpoints and control all the channels. For airports, however, the sheer multitude and diversity of stakeholders with various and sometimes opposing objectives and interests makes it challenging to align all interactions with customers for a consistently seamless experience at all touchpoints.

Yes, airports are complex, but this can no longer serve as an excuse for ignoring global trends. Focus on customer experience is critical to the sustained growth of any business. Even governments worldwide are embracing treating citizens as customers, focusing on improving their experience and satisfaction. In today's dynamic world, besides comparing experiences at different airports, passengers also compare their experiences with different industries. Moreover, airports are losing a significant portion of their workforce to other industries. While this could be a temporary issue, the airport community cannot afford to sit and wait.

ACI's Customer Experience Accreditation is a tool that helps airports develop customer experience programs and improve their customer experience management practices. This multi-level accreditation guides airports in improving their customer experience management techniques and helps to build cooperative relations with stakeholders and improve communication. Now more than ever, airports need to attract, engage and retain employees. Begin with identifying and improving the most impactful touchpoints.

Edited excerpts from a blog



Krystyna Pokholchuk
Manager - Customer Experience Accreditation and Administration
ACI World

AirAsia and Skyports to build air taxi vertiports in Malaysia

AirAsia has announced a partnership with Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) infrastructure developer Skyports to explore the development of air taxi infrastructure in Malaysia. The budget airline signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) with Skyports- the next step in the establishment of a fully operational vertiport network in the country.



This follows several of the company's moves in 2022 which include extending drone-related training to the high-technology-related sectors. It has also announced plans to lease 100 Vertical Aerospace VX4 electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) aircraft from Avolon and launched its drone training programme. Skyports has a global portfolio of designing and building eVTOL infrastructure and is also advancing regulatory development worldwide, the latter through close collaboration with local regulatory bodies and standards-setting organisations. The one-year partnership will focus on joint feasibility studies for the integration of air taxi vertiport infrastructure and the identification of potential vertiport sites, with initial assessments focused on Kuala Lumpur. This partnership with Skyports will accelerate the review of the infrastructure including vertical take-off and landing platforms in the country as well as strengthen our potential as a zero-emissions ultra-short-haul air travel provider in Southeast Asia. Skyports is already involved in a collaboration with Volocopter to launch a service in Singapore by early-to mid-2024, having built the world's first vertiport in Marina Bay and commenced their first test flight in 2019. A scenic 12-km route around the bay had been proposed for the first commercial flights. Volocopter also entered into a partnership with Grab in 2020 to evaluate the viability of an air taxi service in Southeast Asia.

Source: SoyaCincau

Drone deliveries are taking off

Drone deliveries are not too far down the line from becoming a scalable, globally acceptable solution. This technology provides a faster way for people to get what they need when they need it. It has found new momentum since the pandemic and lockdowns. A new study conducted by UVL Robotics, a Californian provider of AI-powered drone solutions, supports the idea that an autonomous 24/7 depot-to-parcel-station model could safely and efficiently fit in urban environments – including in areas of multi-story housing, where over two-thirds of the global population are expected to live by 2050. UVL Robotics based its research on approximately a year of real-life operation of its autonomous system in Muscat, home to over a million people. The company is the first player in the world to have obtained a full Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) drone operation licence from Oman's civil aviation authority and local government.



Source: **Euronews**

UK to launch the world's biggest drone superhighway

The United Kingdom says its new 265-kilometre drone superhighway will be the world's biggest. Strict regulations will be put in place to ensure safety and avoid collisions with conventional aircraft. Research suggests the further integration of drones into the UK economy could create more than US$50 billion of growth and create over 650,000 jobs. Drones were first developed for military use, but they're increasingly being put to work in very different ways. Unmanned aerial vehicles have been adopted for everything from delivering goods and medicines to monitoring forest fires and providing aerial photography. Drone flight has been strictly regulated in many parts of the world to prevent collisions with manned aircraft. The 265-kilometres air corridor will connect towns and cities in southern and central England. Drone operators will have to sign up to use the superhighway, which will operate at an altitude below the UK's regular flight corridors. It will use ground-based sensors to detect other forms of aviation so that light aircraft and helicopters can pass through it safely. If drones do somehow get close to aircraft, they could be instructed to change their flight path or even land. The plan is part of US$325 million of measures by the UK to boost aerospace innovations. Proposed schemes include using drone monitoring to make motorways safer, including spotting hazards to improve journey times.



Source: World Economic Forum

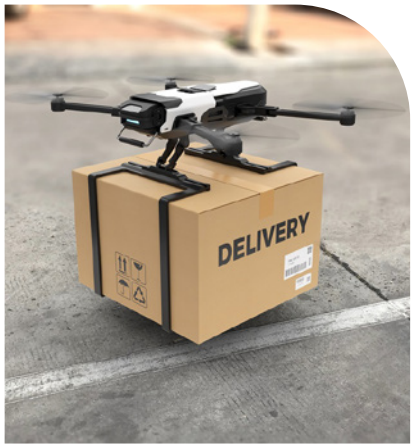
Global small drones market to reach US$24.29 billion by 2030

Increased operational efficiency and a surge in demand for enhanced surveillance activities have been fuelling the growth of the global small drone market. In its report, Allied Market Research says the global small drones industry generated US$7.44 billion in 2020 and is expected to reach US$24.29 billion in 2030, witnessing a CAGR of 13.1 per cent from 2021 to 2030. However, stringent drone regulations hinder market growth. On the other hand, advancements in drone technologies create new opportunities in the coming years. New deployment activities and initiatives were delayed due to the pandemic. The import-export activities were impacted due to the ban by government authorities.

Source: PR Newswire

India allows startups to use drones for delivery services

India, which has used drones for vaccine delivery in remote regions, says it has no objections to private players using the technology. The other use cases include inspection of oil pipelines and power transmission lines, anti-locust operations, agricultural spraying, surveys of mines, and land mapping under a scheme for issuance of digital property cards. The Drone Rules cover everything from drone type certification and airspace restrictions to R&D rules, training, and licensing. The government is opening 126 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) to help teach five courses on drone manufacturing, repair and maintenance. Three courses are technical (teaching service, manufacturing, and operating skills) and two will be focused on agricultural uses of drones. The government-backed Agri Infra Fund will start providing loans to local businesses that wish to buy agri-drones. India is keen to leverage its nascent civilian drone industry to become a global hub. Since 2021, it has built a conducive policy ecosystem to support the domestic drone industry. Most countries ahead of the drone adoption curve— China, the US, Australia, the UK, and Canada —have implemented operations within VLOS or operations that extend beyond VLOS with certain restrictions and requirements in the form of regulations.



Source: Your Story

New Georgian cargo carrier to start operations

Camex Airlines, a new Georgian cargo airline company, will become the first air freight company in the country to operate on a transcontinental route. Following the obtaining of the Air Operator Certificate, Camex Airlines will be represented on the market with four aircraft and make its first commercial flight in the second half of August. The United States International Development Finance Corporation and Gazelle Finance, an investment manager targeting growth-capital investments in small and medium enterprises in the Eurasia region, are partners of the project. The capital of Georgia has six similar airlines, which were "growing rapidly". The two centres in Georgia including the capital of Tbilisi and the country's western city of Kutaisi would help to strengthen the function of the region as a transit hub. Georgia had already established connections with important centres like Frankfurt, Istanbul, Baku and Chinese cities. According to Camex Airlines, assets worth US$36.5 million had already been added to the Georgian economy with this investment project.

Source: Agenda

Halifax airport opens new air cargo logistics park

Halifax Stanfield International Airport has opened its new air cargo logistics park. It is Atlantic Canada's largest air cargo processing facility. It includes a new building with cold storage space, cargo processing facilities and offices, which have been fully leased to Cargojet and First Catch Fisheries. Five new cargo aircraft aprons, or parking spaces, were built alongside the building. Officials said the park increases capacity and improve efficiency for global cargo carriers operating at the airport, generating more economic activity. It is Atlantic Canada's largest air cargo processing facility. Construction cost $36 million. The federal government contributed $18 million, $5 million came from the provincial government and the remaining $13 million came from the Halifax International Airport Authority. In 2021, Halifax Stanfield Airport processed 34,769 tonnes of cargo, valued at $496 million.

Source: Salt Wire Network





Etihad Cargo posts record mid-year revenues

Etihad Cargo, the cargo and logistics arm of Etihad Aviation Group, has announced record-breaking results for the H1 of 2022, achieving year-on-year revenue growth of six per cent compared to H1 2021 and contributing 35 per cent of Etihad Aviation Group's operating revenues. Etihad Cargo maintained a strong 'delivered as promised' rate of 86 per cent, a two per cent increase compared to its 2021 full-year results, along with an 83 per cent freighter On-Time Performance (OTP) rate despite the challenging handling environment across the network. The performance of PharmaLife, Etihad Cargo's award-winning, dedicated pharmaceutical shipment solution, increased by 46 per cent compared to H1 2021. The cargo carrier also posted a 52 per cent increase in the performance of its LiveAnimals product. The carrier also reported an 81 per cent electronic airway bill penetration rate. To further enhance its customers' booking journey, Etihad Cargo added more features to its new online booking portal in 2021, which resulted in 57 per cent more bookings made via the portal. The carrier also launched a Mandarin version of its website and booking portal, cementing Etihad Cargo's strategic footprint in China. This key market contributes over 20 per cent of the carrier's operations.

Source: International Airport Review

India faces ACTOs shortage

Faced with an escalating need for air traffic controllers due to the rapid increase in airports and slow recruitment, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) has asked the aviation safety regulator to revise rules on their duty hours so that their rest periods can be shortened. To comply with the Directorate General of Civil Aviation's rules on 'watch duty limitations and rest requirements', the AAI as the provider of air traffic services needs 40 per cent more personnel for 2022 than its current strength of 3,163 personnel. In 2023, it will need 5,131 ATCOs or 60 per cent more than the present numbers, and in 2024, it will need 5,428, or 70 per cent more officers. The current strength of ATCOs is already 22 per cent less than the sanctioned strength of 3,871. The AAI has sought differentiated duty timings for four categories of airports based on air traffic handled— major airports or those with more than 400 flights per day, airports with up to 100 flights, 30 flights and 10 flights per day. The DGCA brought out revised draft rules on the issue and invited stakeholders' comments. Existing rules require that an ATCO's duty period should not exceed 12 hours with a break of at least 30 minutes after every two hours and in case of less busy airports a break of 45 minutes after 3 hours or 60 minutes after four hours. Each night duty should be followed by a 48-hour rest period. ATCOs are crucial in achieving high levels of safety for flights and assisting pilots during take-off and landing, monitoring aircraft as they travel through the skies and preventing mid-air and on-ground collisions.



Source: The Hindu

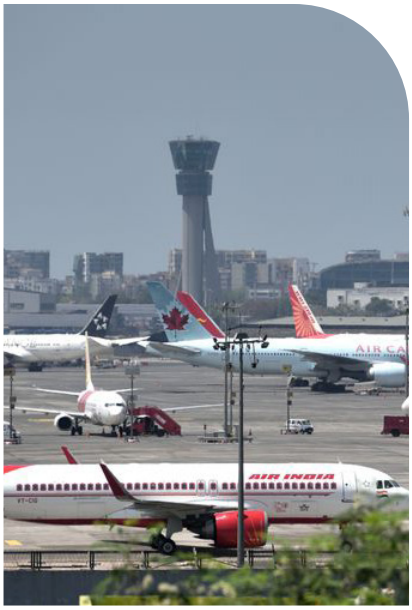
Portugal's ATCOs demand rescheduling of nighttime flights

Portugal's air traffic control company NAV wants to extend the schedule of nighttime flights in Lisbon due to the implementation of the new Top Sky control system. Notice for the consultation of interested parties was published on Wednesday to start the procedure to approve an ordinance allowing for an exceptional regime concerning the operation of aircraft at Lisbon airport. NAV's office said it is a question of extending the schedule of flights in Lisbon for the night period, not increasing the volume of traffic. More a case of "distributing flights over more hours, allowing the air traffic control system to be updated, as of 18 October". None of this sounds very clear. Lisbon airport is restricted to 91 flights per week between midnight and six AM due to noise.

Source: Portugal Resident

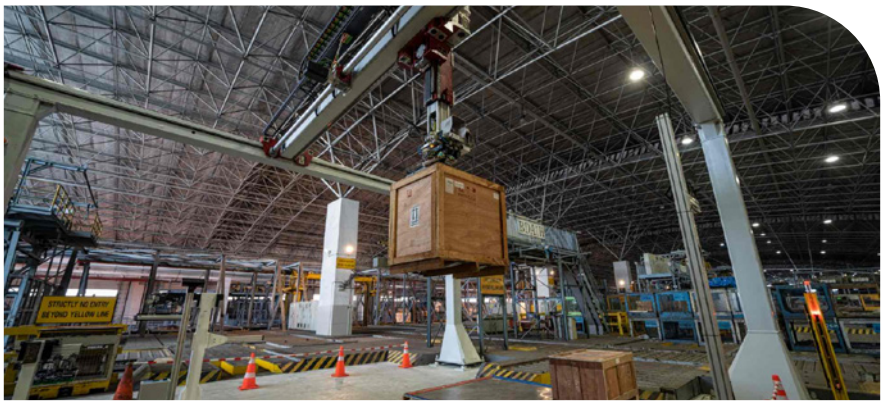
Mumbai ATC has a glitch-prone old automation system

India's second-busiest airport – Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) – has witnessed massive passenger growth in the last six months. As more flights operate out of the airport, the workload of air traffic control is also on its way up. The CSMIA's air traffic controllers (ATCOs) are not happy with the outdated equipment they have to work with. While CSMIA has been getting busier over the years, its ATC systems have not seen the upgrades to manage the heavy workload. The Air Traffic Controllers Guild has written a letter to the Airports Authority of India, stating the problems faced by ATCOs due to outdated systems. The letter stated Mumbai ATC's current hardware for the automation system is more than 16 years old, while its average lifespan is supposed to be 10 years. It had been installed keeping in view the kind of air traffic Mumbai airport was facing around two decades ago. While software upgrades have happened over the years, they have been implemented on old machines, servers, recorders, and other equipment that were already working at full capacity more than 10 years ago. In June, the Mumbai ATC's automation system faced around 70 subsystem problems.



Source: Simple Flying

SPEEDCARGO and Gudel to bring intelligent robotic automation to airfreight



SPEEDCARGO Technologies of Singapore and Güdel of Switzerland have joined hands for developing the world's first robotic end-to-end material handling solutions for the airfreight industry. The past decade has seen robotic automation efforts in the logistics industry. However, these efforts have been limited to domains where the payload is cuboidal in shape, is SKU based, is lighter than 50 kgs, and mainly comprising of low-value goods. When it comes to airfreight, operations happen in a high-mix, high-volume, and very-high-payload scenario. Each piece of cargo can weigh anywhere between one kg and up to three tonnes and they may come in any size and shape and may also include high-value goods. Additionally, airfreight requires extremely safe and secure handling, especially for dangerous goods, perishables, and pharma. Solving automated handling for airfreight requires major technological advancements in computer vision, A.I, advanced motion planning, combinatorial optimization, advanced gripper design, and sensor fusion-based low-level robot control. In 2018, SPEEDCARGO demonstrated its intelligent robotics capability to automatically build and break down a full freighter ULD with high-mix high-volume, and very-high-payload cargo. The technology developed involved next-generation robotics, computer vision and AI.

Source: ITLN

New laser technology could cut bird strikes at airports

Airports worldwide have had dedicated airside departments to find ways of combating bird strikes consistently. In China, scientists have unlocked another potential solution that keeps the birds at bay - an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-driven system and lasers. A team from the Xi'an University of Technology has built a robotic system driven by AI, consisting of four parts: a camera to detect birds; a video processing module to track the target; a laser emitter; and a moving mirror to reflect and aim the beam. Once the AI system detects a bird, it decides on target-locking and uses the camera and a video processing module to track the bird as it continues flying in real-time. Other algorithms improve the stability of this calculation and reduce the chance of losing a target - especially important for birds flying at high speeds. It also reduced the calculation burden on the system's AI. Most collisions between birds and aeroplanes occur during take-off and landing, with 90 per cent happening above airports and 50 per cent within 30 metres of the ground. These algorithms guide the high-energy laser beam that is painful but non-lethal toward the bird until it leaves the restricted air space. The new algorithm improved the average success rate and accuracy of visual image target tracking by more than 47 per cent and 51 per cent, respectively. Though the AI-driven laser system has shown promising results in diverting birds away from the airfield, some civil aviation experts have expressed safety concerns about the technology.



Source: Simple Flying

New AI aviation security solution encourages freedom of movement



Pangiam has launched a new project, DARTMOUTH, which will use AI and pattern analysis technologies to analyse extensive data in real-time to identify potentially prohibited items in passenger carry-on bags. The AI-driven technology meets open architecture (OA) standards and can be integrated with other hardware and equipment relating to security, along with other third-party algorithms. Open architecture is considered a powerful tool for airports and screening authorities as it enables flexibility in designing new security checkpoints and does not rely on a single provider. Systems can communicate securely due to these standards. X-ray and computed tomography (CT) screening of baggage require the hardware to communicate with other checkpoint hardware. Software specialists can add value to the data which is created as opposed to relying on proprietary data. The X-ray images produced are in open-source formats so that other people can read the data. The technology speeds up the process of sharing the data with the airport and screening authorities. Pangiam uses AI from Google which has been invested in over years for different use cases, as well as its data analytical capabilities in the national security space. The technology provides a deeper and more rounded view of the contents of a passenger's bag. The Google AI systems are also built to power other parts of Google technology used by operators around the world. Pangiam notes the traditional difficulties relating to machine learning projects are less challenging when using sophisticated technology. Aviation security is highly regulated and requires that technology is certified and performing at a high standard. In December 2021, the TSA's Innovation Task Force (ITF) issued a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) for transportation security solutions. As a result, ITF is searching for solutions that increase security effectiveness and efficiency. The first series of trials for Pangiam's technology will take place at the TSA's System Integration Facility (TSIF) and the TSA will eventually choose a pilot airport in the US. Elsewhere, Pangiam is working alongside AGS Airports Group and expects trials at Aberdeen, Glasgow, and Southampton airports in the UK.

Source: Airport Technology

Detroit airport tests departure board for personalized flight info

Look up a Detroit Metropolitan Airport departure board and you could see a personalized travel itinerary. In late June, Delta Airlines launched a beta version of its new Parallel Reality technology that allows dozens of people to simultaneously see unique content on the same digital screen. Detroit is the first, and currently only, the airport in the country to experiment with the futuristic technology developed by Misapplied Sciences, based in California. Delta Air Lines selected Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport to be the first airport to feature the Parallel Reality technology. This is an innovative and engaging way to make travelling a little easier for our customers. Delta passengers can scan their boarding pass, select a language and test out the system. Using multi-view pixels and proprietary technology, the board then shows personal flight information, boarding time or even standby status. As many as 100 people could be looking at the board and see something different. The Parallel Reality displays project up to millions of light rays that can be directed to a specific person.

Source: Michigan Live