



News



Emirates SkyCargo Creates New French Trade Lane with Lyon Launch

Annual capacity between carrier's three French gateways and points across its network of 126 destinations will exceed 52,000 tonnes

London – 9 November 2012 – Emirates SkyCargo, the freight division of Emirates, one of the fastest growing international airlines, has strengthened its operations in France, with Lyon to become the third French gateway that it connects to international trade opportunities across its network of 126 destinations.

The launch of flights to Lyon on 5th December, operated by A340-500 with a belly-hold capacity of 15 tonnes, will take the annual cargo capacity into and out of the country to more than 52,000 tonnes spread across five [flights to Lyon](#), seven to Nice and 19 to Paris.

The new gateway is [Emirates'](#) 35th destination in Europe and should help stimulate another period of growth in France's international cargo trade, which has grown significantly since [Emirates SkyCargo](#) commenced operations. In the last year it exported a total of 21,000 tonnes, representing an increase of 26% on the 15,600 tonnes carried during the same period in 2007/08.

“After Paris, Lyon is a major economic centre in France and the long-term outlook for international trade is positive,” said Ram Menen, Emirates’ Divisional Senior Vice President Cargo. “With the airport boasting easy truck access and excellent links to Europe’s highway network, the potential to support businesses in surrounding areas is also very strong.

“France - with a weekly capacity of more than 1000 tonnes spread across the belly-hold of 31 return passenger flights serving Paris, Nice and Lyon – is a key trading point for Emirates SkyCargo. We expect there to be demand for a variety of commodities going into and out of Lyon and have no doubt the destination will be a strong addition to our European network,” continued Menen.

“With such a comprehensive service connecting businesses in France and Europe to opportunities in West Asia, the Middle East, Australasia, Africa and the Far East, we are in a good position to help the continent’s economic recovery by facilitating international trade with its business partners and opening it up to new markets on our ever-expanding network.”

Goods coming into Lyon are expected to include leather products, clothing, textiles, pharmaceuticals and electronics, while wine, machine and electronics parts, and pharmaceuticals will be transported in the other direction.

EK82 departs Lyon on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 21:00hrs and arrives in Dubai at 06:15hrs. EK81 departs Dubai on a Monday, Tuesday Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 14:35hrs and arrives in Lyon at 19:00hrs.

-Ends-

About Emirates SkyCargo

Emirates SkyCargo is the freight division of Emirates and serves three destinations in France: Paris (launched 1992), Nice (1994) and Lyon, launching 5th December 2012.

Reflecting Emirates' overall policy of excellence in every area of operation, Emirates SkyCargo's investment in highly-qualified staff, the very latest information technology, the most efficient aircraft and the finest ground handling facilities, has made it a significant force in the global air cargo industry.

In the 2011-12 financial year, Emirates SkyCargo carried 1.79 million tonnes of cargo across its network, contributing 16.2 per cent - US\$ 2.6 billion - of the airline's total transport revenue. Based out of Dubai International Airport, its \$327million 43,600 square metre Cargo Mega Terminal is designed to handle 1.2 million tonnes of cargo a year.

Emirates' 186-strong fleet – including eight freighters (currently comprising five Boeing 777-Fs, two B747-400ERFs and one B747-400F) – is one of the youngest in the skies.

Since January 2012, Emirates has introduced services to Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Dublin, Dallas, Lusaka, Harare, Liege (freighter-only), Seattle, Ho Chi Minh City, Barcelona and Lisbon, Washington DC and Adelaide, while Lyon (5th December) and Phuket (10th December) are still to come online. Warsaw (6th February) and Algiers (1st March) will be added in 2013.

Emirates SkyCargo currently serves a global route network that spans 126 points in 74 countries, including 10 cargo-only destinations, while more than 50 of the locations Emirates SkyCargo serves are e-freight compliant.

For further information on Emirates SkyCargo, please visit www.skycargo.com.

Contact: Andy Johnson. Tel: +44 (0) 207 395 7194. E-mail: andy.johnson@fleishman.com; visit: www.theemiratesgroup.com