



global shippers forum

PRESS RELEASE

JL/102/15

3 June 2015

Value of air cargo to the global economy must be recognised, says GSF

It is imperative that recognition is given to the advantages of air freight and that the growing challenge of climate change is tackled, according to the Global Shippers' Forum, which is holding its Annual Meeting in Toronto from 2-4 June.

Air is an essential mode of transport for many industry sectors, including high end manufacturing, engineering, pharmaceuticals, retailing and the automotive sector. It can take a month to take goods from Europe to the Far East by ship - it takes a day by air. There are also time-sensitive goods such as medicines and documents which cannot travel any other way, says GSF in its briefing document '*The value of air cargo to the global economy*', published today (3 June).

Chris Welsh, GSF Secretary General, said:

"The importance of air freight to the global economy is often overlooked, with the focus almost exclusively centred on passenger and business travel. Aviation is a key enabler of global economic growth and social development, and GSF aims to champion the 'value' of air freight."

Aviation is often presumed to be an environmentally damaging form of transport when, in reality, the industry has been taking extensive action to reduce emissions. GSF examines in its publication how the aviation sector is reducing emissions,