

BRIAN HABANA ANNOUNCES IAG CARGO'S THIRD ROUTE FOR ITS A380 SUPERJUMBO

IAG Cargo today announced Johannesburg as the third route for its new A380 superjumbo. The A380, which begins flying to Johannesburg from February 12, 2014 will join the 747-400 that already serves the route. South African Rugby Star Brian Habana helped announce the route during an event for the carrier. As a major exporter of flowers and fresh produce with IAG Cargo's Prioritise and Constant Fresh products, the precision temperature control facilities onboard the A380 will offer exporters another level of supply chain control.

IAG Cargo has optimised its A380 for belly-hold cargo by purchasing two additional ULD positions in the hold. IAG Cargo is also the first carrier in the world to receive an A380 with an improved maximum take-off weight, 12 tonnes heavier than other A380s currently flying, allowing it to carry more cargo. The aircraft, which is enabled with air conditioning in the forward hold and heating and ventilation in the rear hold will also be well-suited for the shipment of temperature-sensitive goods, with IAG Cargo now able to set and maintain hold temperature to within 1°C accuracy.

Steve Gunning, managing director IAG Cargo, commented: 'The introduction of the A380 to the African market is great news for us. With Africa being one of the world's largest perishables exporters, anything that introduces greater cold chain management is a big win for our customers'.

Over the next ten years, IAG Cargo will benefit from a completely overhauled and modernised fleet. This programme will see the delivery of 24 Boeing 787s, 12 A380s and 6 Boeing 777-300ER. Additionally, IAG has ordered 18 A350-1000s and plans to convert options on a further 18 787s, both subject to shareholder approval.

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