

# Press Release

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## Schiphol Cargo spearheads Lifescience Steering Group

Schiphol Cargo – the dedicated cargo arm of Amsterdam Airport Schiphol – is forming a Lifesciences Steering Group to develop a long-term strategy for the promotion of Lifesciences-related activity centred around the Dutch airport.

The initiative follows a recent, highly-successful mission to India, in which Schiphol Cargo and representatives of the Amsterdam Life Sciences Platform met with local pharma industry executives in round table format, to discuss the development of a pharma trade lane between India and Europe, using Schiphol as its distribution hub.

In the new Lifesciences Steering Group, Schiphol Cargo will be joined by AmsterdaminBusiness, Amsterdamse Innovatie Motor, Bioport Europe, Amsterdam Airport Area, Schiphol Area Development Company and the Holland International Distribution Council.

Says Schiphol Cargo Business Development Director Bart Pouwels: “Lifesciences is one of the industry clusters that Schiphol identifies as a key to the further development of its role as a cargo mainport and logistics centre for northern Europe.

“Our early collaborations and meetings have been very productive and encouraging, helping us to understand and resolve the special issues that surround global distribution in this demanding sector. For example, we are now in discussion with our resident carrier partners about enhancing the frequency, quality and volume of freight capacity on major routes from India to Schiphol.”

With the creation of the Lifesciences Steering Group, a programme of further meetings has been planned in India and Schiphol. The next meeting, to be hosted by Schiphol Cargo, will take place on June 1<sup>st</sup>, attended by airline and pharma manufacturing representatives. This meeting will focus on the potential role of Schiphol in the pharma supply chain, and the creation of a Lifesciences supply chain strategy. The Group is also considering the establishment of a parallel programme involving lifesciences trade between the USA and Europe.

Continues Pouwels: “The recent award of GDP\* certification to Panalpina, one of our resident logistics service providers at Schiphol, and the impending opening of a dedicated pharma facility by another major operator, highlight the intense interest that this industry sector is creating.

“The Lifesciences Steering Group will target process optimisation in the lifescience supply chain, assisting stakeholders to establish best practice for handling this traffic. As a key player in this initiative, Schiphol Cargo will do everything possible to support its community in their efforts to maximise the huge potential of this fast-growing market.”

**+ ends +**

\* Good Distribution Practices – internationally-recognised quality system for warehouse and distribution centres dedicated to medicines

### **Amsterdam Airport Schiphol Cargo at a glance:**

- third largest cargo airport in Europe
- seventeenth largest cargo airport in the world
- Schiphol’s air cargo community employs over 26,000 people.
- 1.5 million tonnes of cargo in 2011
- 313 scheduled airline destinations in 90+ countries
- 106 scheduled airlines
- 21 scheduled freighter operators
- Highest share of (non-integrator) maindeck capacity in Europe
- 25 dedicated full freighter Cat 8/9 stands
- 5 main runways, ranging from 3,400 – 3,800 metres in length
- Ready to handle multiple A380s & B747-8Fs
- Eight cargo handling companies
- 400,000 m<sup>2</sup> of cargo warehouses, of which 60% have direct air side access

- 11,000 m<sup>2</sup> of new cargo buildings under construction with direct air side access
- Airside access for logistic service providers
- Over 150 logistic service providers situated at or in vicinity of Amsterdam Airport Schiphol
- Over 50% of all American and Asian European Distribution Centres located in the Netherlands
- Airport-seaport synergies: Amsterdam Airport Schiphol close to Ports of Rotterdam and Amsterdam
- Unparalleled European road feeder and distribution network
- Over 25 trucking companies operate at the airport

#### **Amsterdam Connecting Trade:**

- 3 new logistic parks planned
- dedicated freight lane planned to connect air cargo terminal directly to logistic parks, truck-, water- and High Speed Train Cargo terminal of ACT

#### **Schiphol SmartGate Cargo**

The airport, air cargo industry & customs have joined forces to integrate monitoring of goods leaving the EU from Schiphol, allowing rapid and efficient clearance:

- Integrated cargo control & inspection
- Shorter lead times & lower costs
- Increased reliability, safety & security

See [www.schiphol.com/smartgate](http://www.schiphol.com/smartgate)

#### **About e-freight:**

E-freight is an IATA initiative which aims to replace paper with digital documents throughout all elements of the air cargo supply chain – including shippers, forwarders and export customs, carriers, import customs, handling agents, forwarders and consignees. Traditional paper-based air cargo involves some thirty documents for every shipment, and is estimated to create the equivalent of eighty Boeing 747 freighter-loads of paper every year. E-freight eliminates re-keying of data: reducing cost, speeding processes and enhancing accuracy.

#### **About E-Freight@NL:**

E-freight@NL is an important initiative to turn Amsterdam Airport Schiphol into a paperless cargo hub. In 2010 the project was awarded a € 1.2 million grant from the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs. With KLM Cargo as secretary, the project's participants include various supply chain partners and organisations including Air Cargo Netherlands. Amsterdam Airport Schiphol plays a key role in strengthening relations with other major worldwide hubs involved in e-freight, such as Singapore and Hong Kong.

**About e-Link:**

This is a pilot scheme operated by Amsterdam Connecting Trade in collaboration with Schiphol Smartgate Cargo. Three handling agents and three forwarders are currently testing the system, whose aim is to reduce customs clearance times and unnecessary paper in the supply chain.

Under E-link, the existing ACN pass has been expanded into a “smartcard” that carries data for Customs-cleared shipments. The card provides security access for vehicle and driver at the handling agent’s premises, where the data and responsibility for the shipment is transferred from the card to the next party in the supply chain. The system then allocates a door for offloading the cargo. E-link complies with all customs procedures, and has already demonstrated 25% time savings in some processes.

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