

# Schiphol partners among signatories to Neutral Logistics Information Platform

Schiphol Cargo, Cargonaut, KLM Cargo and Air Cargo Netherlands are among the signatories to a covenant by a broad spectrum of Dutch business and government, to create a revolutionary new approach to information exchange between parties in the logistics chain.

The covenant was signed in the presence of Melanie Schultz van Haegen, Netherlands Minister of Infrastructure and Environment.

The “Neutral Logistics Information Platform” (NLIP) is being developed to give the Dutch logistics sector a competitive advantage in Europe. NLIP will enable all supply chain partners to input information once, and then share it throughout the entire chain. Originators of information will control who has access to it, and when.

The aim of NLIP is to assist shippers, logistics providers, ports and government departments to optimise supply chains, reduce administration and work more efficiently.

Says Schiphol Cargo Senior VP Enno Osinga: “We are very pleased to be a partner in this exciting and ground-breaking initiative. We strongly support any move to drive inefficiencies from the supply chain, and the NLIP’s goals exactly match our own.

“In the short term, NLIP will further strengthen Schiphol’s position as an integral element of the Netherlands’ multi-modal hub proposition. Longer-term, we hope our logistics model will set an example globally, and contribute to a healthier future for the entire industry.”

As an integral part of the airport’s mainport infrastructure, Cargonaut is recognised as a key pillar to the NLIP. Similarly Portbase, Cargonaut’s counterpart in the port communities of Amsterdam and Rotterdam, is acknowledged as having similar status in the ocean freight sector.

There are sixteen signatories to the covenant: Air Cargo Netherlands, Schiphol Cargo, Cargonaut, Dutch Customs, EVO (Dutch Shippers’ Council), Fenex (Forwarders Association), the Port of Amsterdam, the Port of Rotterdam, KLM

Cargo, the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs, Portbase, Rijkswaterstaat, Strategic Platform Logistics, TLN (Transport & Logistics, the Netherlands), VRC (Port Shipping Agents) and VRTO (Port of Rotterdam Terminal Operators).

The NLIP combines the knowledge and experience of the existing and successful information platforms of Schiphol (Cargonaut), the ports of Rotterdam and Amsterdam (Portbase) and the Government (Digipoort). In due course, NLIP will be expanded to include additional platforms.

The NLIP is neutral and non-profit, and will be accessible to all parties on equal terms.

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**Note To Editors:**

Cargonaut is the operator of the Cargo Community System at Amsterdam Airport Schiphol. Air Cargo Netherlands is the trade body for the Dutch airfreight industry.

**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.
- 1,483,448 tonnes of cargo in 2012
- 317 scheduled airline destinations in 90+ countries
- 106 scheduled airlines
- 22 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 m2 of cargo warehouses, of which 60% have direct air side access
- 11,000 m2 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-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.