

Second equine handling centre for Schiphol

Amsterdam Airport Schiphol will have a second equine handling centre from December, with the launch of a joint venture between handling agent Aviapartner and Dutch equine transport specialist European Cargo Services.

The new facility, currently under construction, will be a self-contained unit sited within the existing Aviapartner handling centre, located in the centre of Schiphol's cargo area, and only 30m from the nearest freighter parking stand.

It will have its own landside entry and direct access to the ramp, and will include 24 horse stalls, a separate quarantine area and cleaning facilities for air-stalls. In addition to the facility's own staff, experienced grooms will be on standby at all times to assist when required.

The facility will be fully-certificated for V.W.A. (veterinary) inspections, and will operate as a Border Inspection Post for acceptance and clearance of horse movements into the EU from any part of the world. Initially, the facility will cater only for horses; handling of other live animals will be included later.

Says Gerard Kervezee, Aviapartner's Manager – Commerce for the Netherlands: "Our aim in opening this new facility is not to create more competition, but to increase the airport's current market share of equine business by providing extra capacity and enhanced facilities. It will also enable Aviapartner to broaden its service offering to airline clients."

Adds Edwin Hofstede of European Cargo Services: "The combined in-house expertise and know-how of ECS and Aviapartner, our prime location, the resources to handle all aircraft types, and the ability to add ground transportation mean we can provide the market with a "one stop shop" for all horse movements through Schiphol."

Says Saskia van Pelt, Business Development Director for the airport's dedicated cargo arm, Schiphol Cargo: "The handling and international transport of horses has always been an important activity at Schiphol, for which the airport has an excellent reputation."

“We believe the creation of this additional facility strengthens our position in this demanding and specialised market sector, and will further increase the appeal of Schiphol as a gateway for live animal movements into and out of Europe.”

+ ends +

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
- 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

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.