

Amsterdam Airport Schiphol to open cool chain dialogue at Air Cargo Africa Conference

Amsterdam Airport Schiphol will organise a round table discussion session under the title "Perfecting the Africa-Europe Supply Chain" at this year's Air Cargo Africa Conference (Johannesburg, February 20-22).

The session will feature speakers from the entire supply chain, and governmental bodies including Netherlands African Business Council (NABC), the South African – Netherlands Chamber of Commerce (SANEC), Air France KLM Martinair Cargo, Nairobi-based perishables forwarder Total Touch Cargo, Flowerwatch, airfreight and perishables trucking company Van Swieten Cargo and BAMA (Norway's leading supplier of fruit and vegetables). It will be moderated by Schiphol Cargo's Senior VP Enno Osinga.

Reflecting Africa's huge importance as a producer and exporter of cut flowers, the session will begin with a video presentation by supply chain engineers Flowerwatch, highlighting the dramatic differences in vase lives of flowers which have been correctly packed, handled and shipped, as compared to those which have been incorrectly transported.

Follow-on topics will include "Changes in the cut flowers sector, and how the air cargo industry can adapt to retain and develop its business"; "Supply chain skills in emerging markets"; "Supply chain opportunities in landlocked countries"; and "Is African air cargo ready for 100% screening?"

Says Organiser Bart Pouwels, who is Schiphol Cargo's expert on perishables: "Africa is a vastly important new market, particularly in the production and export of flowers, fruit and vegetables. However, lack of supply chain expertise and infrastructure is holding it back, and inhibiting its ability to fully exploit its huge export potential.

"By bringing together growers, freight agents, handlers, airlines, cool chain experts and other stakeholders in open forum, we will identify and begin to solve challenges, skills gaps and bottlenecks in the Africa-Europe coolchain..

"Schiphol Cargo is dedicated to identifying new markets for airfreight and logistics activity that will generate business for its community. Our unique ability to act as

neutral facilitators in such situations has proven highly successful in other sectors; we expect our role in organising this conference session to mark the first step in opening up valuable new opportunities for African producers and our industry."

Full details of the conference and how to attend can be obtained from <http://www.stattimes.com/aca2013/>

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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-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.