

Noted...

Briefly Noted is edited for the busy executive, and presents in concise terms the air cargo industry's news highlights covering the preceding quarter. These news items are not necessarily in chronological order.

Trends

Taking advantage of the weak dollar, **Lufthansa** buys into **JetBlue** to the tune of \$300 million—a 19% stake. **DHL** buys **Sinotrans**' 50% ownership of **Exel-Sinotrans Freight Forwarding Co.** for \$90 million. Improvement of supply-chain problems enables **Boeing** to assure B787 Dreamliner purchasers that deliveries will start at the end of 2008.

Russia uses a temporary ban on **Lufthansa Cargo**'s overflights of Russian territory that will force the airline to shift its Asian hub, probably to Krasnoyarsk in Siberia, from Astana, Kazakhstan. A proposal that **Delta** consider a merger with **United**, is followed by Delta's creation of a unit to study "potential consolidation transactions". **China Southern** becomes **SkyTeam**'s eleventh member.

Qantas' part in a price-fixing arrangement linked to fuel surcharges costs the Australian carrier a Justice Department-levied fine of \$61 million. **Ryanair** files suits against the European Commission, charging that it failed to investigate the Greek Government's alleged \$470 million subsidy payment to **Olympic Airlines**; and alleging failure to investigate Italian state aid to **Alitalia**. Argentina will increase its holding in **Aerolineas Argentinas** to 20% from 5%, while the Indian Government plans to sell up to 15% of **Air India**, and Jamaica heads toward divestiture of its **Air Jamaica** holdings.

President Bush orders Department of Transportation and airline officials to put heads together to devise a method of reducing flight delays. All six US legacy airlines win new China route authorities. The **Lufthansa-DHL** joint freight airline, due for launch in 2009, will kick off the operation with an 11 B777-200 fleet.

Forwarders in the US and Europe, suspected of engaging in illegal pricing practices, come under antitrust investigation. **Kitty Hawk** files for reorganization under Chapter 11, and confines future cargo operations to charters. **American** is pondering selling off its regional airline, **American Eagle**, and **Delta** is considering following the same path with its **Comair**.

The **Star Alliance** is formally joined by **Air China** and **Shanghai Airlines**. Acquisition of **Black Hawk Freight Services** by **Forward Air** is finalized. **DAS Air Cargo** is now the property of **Continental Aviation Services (Nigeria)**.

FedEx's Fred Smith expresses doubt that the current rate of global air freight expansion is a sufficient counterweight to an economic downturn in the US. New Zealand's Commerce Commission launches its own probe of price-fixing air cargo fuel surcharges. The soaring euro prompts **Airbus** to study the possibility of shifting production to the US South.

Starting next April and running through March 2010, **Air France** and **Delta** will share revenues and costs on their flights between Paris and Lyon on the one hand and Atlanta, New York, Cincinnati and Salt Lake City on the other—a compact that will also embrace services to/from London Heathrow. Effective January 2, **FedEx**'s net average rate for domestic and US export express package and freight shipments will increase by 4.9%. **Emirates** reportedly is pondering the advisability of going public.

Filing its plea with the European Commission and citing EC law, **Aer Lingus** (which in a separate action before the Court of First Instance is seeking to have **Ryanair** removed from its shareholder list) requests that it order **Ryanair** to reduce its 29.44% holding, but the request is denied. An investor group dominated by **Banamex**, Mexican subsidiary of **Citigroup**, is the winning

bidder for the Mexican government's controlling stake in **Aero-mexico**. Taking their cue from Germany, **Nippon Express** and **Japan Post Holdings** join forces to establish a domestic small-package delivery system.

Its bid for **Iberia** is dropped by **British Airways** and its four consortium partners; and in a separate announcement, the savings bank **Caja Madrid** increases its stake in the airline to 23.3% from 10%. Minimum security criteria for airlines participating in C-TPAT are released by US Customs & Border Protection. **KLM**'s Leo van Wijk informs the **European Aviation Club** that "it is increasingly difficult for an airline to survive without an alliance."

India's **AFL** allies with **UPS** a day after **AFL**'s six-year strategic alliance with **DHL** reaches its end. **Air China**'s parent's 11.79% holding in **China Eastern** is raised to 12.07%. Iceland's **FL Group** shaves its stake in **AMR**, parent of **American Airlines**, to 1.1% from 9.1%.

SAS decides to give up on its 27-plane Dash 8 Q400 fleet after several mishaps, but **Qantas** announces an order for a dozen Q400s. **Cargo 2000** notes that Hong Kong's **Global Logistics Systems** has been certified as a fully compliant IT provider of the C2K Data Management Platform, and **Cargo Centre Shenzhen** has become the first Chinese business to successfully complete a C2K audit. China's **East Star Airlines** expanded into the international field with flights to Hong Kong and Macau, and with services to Singapore and Thailand to follow.

DHL introduces its 11"x8.5"x5.5" ShipReady Box, touted as the express industry's first prepaid, all-inclusive flat-rate box. **Expeditors** announces a semi-annual cash dividend of \$.14 per share. The cooperating airlines, **Singapore** and **China Eastern**, are considering a joint Singapore-Shanghai-New York operation.

In a \$350 million deal, **ABX Air** acquires Orlando-based **Cargo Holdings International**. **AirTrans** gives up on cargo and turns wholeheartedly to the passenger. In case you've missed it, **Varig**'s sparkling new identity is **VRG Linhas Aereas**.

CargoWise ed wins certification as an Automated Broker Interface vendor with the US Customs & Border Protection Agency; and separately announces formation of a strategic alliance with **Descartes Global Logistics Network**, as well as a deal with **Pactrans Air & Sea** to implement a global enterprise solution that "streamlines its operations and increases logistics management efficiencies". During 2008-09 **Air China** plans to activate a dozen new routes to Europe and the US, and step up services to existing destinations there. **Cathay Pacific** changes its mind about picking up a piece of **China Eastern** which is expected to go to **Singapore Airlines**.

National Aviation Co. of India (holding company of merged **Air India** and **Indian Airlines**) is set to sell up to 15% of the airline. **TSA** steps up international transportation security with creation of a new unit, **Office of Global Strategies**. **Pilot Air Freight** now does business with a new identity—**Pilot Freight Services**—and with a new Website (www.PilotDelivers.com); and separately announces creation of an automotive shipping and logistics division.

Before the end of 2008, airlines of the **Asean** states plan to implement the freedom to operate without restriction between their capital cities. **Aer Lingus**' European capacity will be beefed up 10% in the new year. **Northport Oy**, a **Finnair** ground handling unit, sells the share capital of subsidiaries **Finnhandling AB** and **Northport Handling AB** to **Menzies Aviation**.

Kuehne+Nagel acquires Germany's **GL Kayser Spediteur** and **Cordes & Simon**. **Swissport International**'s majority stake in **Unitpool** is sold to **Aviation Services Holding**. **U-Freight**

adds its Shanghai facility to the TAPA FSR 2007 security accreditations it holds.

Air Canada joins the **Descartes/GF-X** air cargo portal, while **Chambers Transportation Services** agrees to have Descartes manage load tendering and related status report, and **Polar Air Cargo** settles on Descartes Transportation System. **TIACA** presents its views on air cargo liberalization before an ICAO and WTO assembly. **Lufthansa Cargo**'s C-TPAT certification is renewed by US Customs.

American Airlines Cargo signs with **Rieches Baird** to add clout to the AA Cargo brand. The **Shenzhen Airlines-Mesa Air Group** joint venture carrier—**Kunpeng Airlines**—is off and flying, and soon will move into the international sector. **Qatar Airways** is quietly working toward becoming the world's first operator of natural gas-powered aircraft.

UTI Worldwide finalizes its acquisition of the controlling interests of Israel's **Newlog Ltd.**, its absorption by **UTI Eliat Overseas**, and the purchase of certain assets of **Transcend Trade**. On the near-horizon is an International Air Cargo Free Zone at Minna, Nigeria. **European Cargo Services** takes over as **El Al**'s GSA in Italy for the marketing of B747 freighter capacity to US and Asia.

IJS Global acquires Sydney-based **Lynair Interntional** which has been rebranded **Lynair-IJS Global**; and enters into an alliance with Moscow-based **Delivery World Ltd.**, which will manage and handle all air cargo services in the Russian Federation on an exclusive basis. **Traxon Europe** now provides MIP reports, upgrading the air cargo electronic messaging process. New Zealand and the Philippines have agreed to take another stab at hammering out an air services agreement.

Finnair Cargo and **EgyptAir** become **Cargo 2000**'s newest members. **Geodis** of France will acquire Germany's **Rohde & Liesenfeld** for roughly \$110 million. **Alitalia** discloses five companies as potential purchasers of the government's 49.9% holding in the airline: **Aeroflot**, **Air France/KLM**, **AP Holding**, **Cordata Baldassarre**, and **Lufthansa**.

Target Logistic Services President/CEO Chris Coppersmith warns that international lift overcapacity, especially on the US-China route, will exert pressure on rates. Offering offline cargo capacity to Mexico, **Emirates SkyCargo** has named **Mexico Cargo Sales Representative** its GSA. UK's **Skyroute Logistics**, specialist in Russian and CIS trade, and partner **Eastern Air Cargo** of Luxembourg extend their operations to Central Europe.

That **ABX Air-DHL** dispute over allocation of overhead expenses will be settled by arbitration. Three Chinese carriers—**Changan**, **Shanxi** and **Xinhua**—will be merged by **Grand China Air** into a single operator. **Heavyweight Air Express** has taken over as exclusive US GSA for **Silverjet Cargo**.

British Airways is the first airline to file for authority to offer services between any US city and any city in the European Union. **World Airways** contracts with **Etihad Crystal Cargo** to provide a year's MD-11 freighter service to/from Frankfurt (Hahn), Shanghai and Mumbai.

Hawaii's softening economy and infrastructure changes are cited by **DHX-Dependable Hawaiian Express**' Kane McEwen as reasons for reduced expectations for inbound freight tonnage in 2008. The freight capacities of **Germanwings** are now marketed by **Lufthansa Cargo**. **JAL** will switch its Moscow service from Sheremetyevo to Domodedovo in mid-December.

UPS' new authority allows it to schedule six daily US-Nagoya freighter flights, and onward to Shanghai. **DHL**'s Import

Noted... (continued)

Express Online service now embraces 95 countries worldwide... A **Volga-Dnepr** IL-76 carrying a 39-ton paper press from Finland to Chicago set a company record for heaviest shipment.

Expeditors is the twelfth international forwarder to join **Lufthansa Cargo's** Global Partnership Program. **Pilot Freight Services'** Tulsa station rounds out 20 years of operations. **Continental Airlines Cargo** combines its eastbound redeye and ferry services to shave delivery time for express consignees in Manhattan.

Chairman Gonzalo Pascual of **SAS**-owned **Spanair**, Spain's No. 2 airline, resigns to head a bid for the carrier. **Hitachi Transport** takes a 51% stake in the Czech-based **ESA**, logistics and distribution firm. **Velocity Express** discloses plans to expand its national delivery network through formation of **Velocity Systems Franchising Corp.**

With expansion of operations in Eastern Europe in mind, **DHL** will launch services in Bulgaria, Romania, Russia and Turkey... The Ruslan AN-124-100M-150 freighter modification is certified as being compliant with all international regulations and safety requirements... **TIACA's** 24th International Air Cargo Forum and Exposition will be held at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre on November 4-6, 2008.

Northwest's common stock in **Pinnacle Airlines** are bought out by the regional carrier... **FedEx Ground** will increase its standard list rates by an average of 4.9%, effective January 7... **SriLankan Airlines** enters the Registry of the IATA Operational Safety Audit.

Britain's **EasyJet** acquires **GB Airways** (ex-Gibraltar Airways)... **Mauritania Airways** succeeds Air Mauritania which has closed down operations... Aviation pacts: UAE/Spain (services)... Canada/Singapore (open skies)... Japan/Taiwan (cooperative)... UK/Singapore (services)... Slovak Republic/Singapore (open skies)... Nepal/European Union (services)... UAE/European Union... Philippines/New Zealand (bilateral).

Airbus' 160-plane commitment from China may thrust it ahead of **Boeing** in total commercial orders for the year... **US Airways** contracts for **AT&T's** wireless real-time cargo tracking services.

Services

Aer Lingus: Four weekly San Francisco-Dublin A330 services.

Air Arabia: Sharjah-Bangalore, four weekly flights.

Air Berlin: From May 1, five weekly A330 flights on a Duesseldorf-Beijing-Shanghai routing.

Air Canada: Starting June 15, daily B767-300 Toronto-Madrid flights.

AirFrance/KLM: Daily B777 London-Los Angeles flights, from March 30.

Air New Zealand: Three weekly Auckland-Vancouver B777-200ER flights.

Alaska: Daily B737-800 Anchorage-Honolulu flights.

Aloha: Effective January 7, daily San Diego-Kauai and Kona.

American: Starting June 3, six weekly Chicago-Moscow services.

Bmi: Effective March 13, daily A320 London Heathrow-Tel Aviv service.

British Airways: The daily London Heathrow-Detroit flight reaches its end in March... Service to Zimbabwe is discontinued... The carrier's short-haul freighter schedule adds Gothenburg and Leipzig.

British Airways World Cargo: Third weekly London-Dubai flight.

Cargolux: Second weekly Luxembourg-Kazakhstan flight.

Cathay Pacific: Second daily Hong Kong-San Francisco service...

Launch third daily Hong Kong-New York service with B777-300ER aircraft.

Continental: Four weekly Newark-Mumbai B777 flights... Effective March 29, twice-daily nonstops from New York and Houston to London Heathrow.

Coyne: Twice-weekly B747-200 freighter services out of Frankfurt Hahn to Almaty, Kazakhstan.

Delta: Daily Atlanta-Lagos B767-300ER flights.

DHL: Daily express flights from Wilmington, Ohio to Calgary and Vancouver.

Dragonair: Daily A321 Hong Kong-Fukuoka and thrice-weekly A320 Hong Kong-Sendai nonstops.

Emirates: Resume weekly B747-400 service, Dubai-New York... SkyCargo Toronto-Dubai nonstops with B777-300ER equipment... Three weekly B777-200LR Houston-Dubai nonstops... Hamburg-New York runs end March 30.

Ethiad: Three weekly Abu Dhabi-Singapore-Brisbane flights.

EVA: Starting in January, Taipei-Paris freighter service.

Frontier: Five weekly Denver-San Jose, CR A319 services, effective January 5.

Icelandair: Operations at Baltimore/Washington International Airport end January 13.

Jet Airways: Starting in April, three weekly Mumbai-Johannesburg services.

JetBlue: From March, daily Orlando-Santo Domingo hops... Operations at Columbus and Nashville cease, effective January 6.

Korean Air: Twice-weekly B747-400 freighter flights, Seoul-Munich.

Lufthansa: Starting March 31, five weekly Frankfurt-Nanjing services.

Lufthansa Cargo: Twice weekly MD-11 freighter service to Mexico City, via Dallas.

Malev: Winter timetable drops Budapest-New York and Budapest-Toronto flights.

Nationwide: The South African carrier returns to Johannesburg-London Gatwick service.

Northwest: Daily A330 services to London Heathrow from Minneapolis/St. Paul (March 29), Detroit (May 1) and Seattle (June 1).

Ocean Airlines: Weekly B747-200 freighter, Washington, DC-Milan.

Qatar: Newark-Geneva-Doha, five weekly services... Four weekly Doha-Stockholm flights.

Royal Jordanian: Thrice weekly Amman-Bangkok-Hong Kong flights, effective January 22.

SAS: Three weekly Stockholm-Bangkok flights... New route: Copenhagen-Dubai... Effective November 2008, four weekly Copenhagen-New Delhi flights.

Swiss WorldCargo: Daily Zurich-Delhi A330 service.

TAP Portugal: Weekly A310-300 freighter, Lisbon-Brussels.

Transaero: Twice-monthly Moscow-Hong Kong-Sydney B767 flights.

United: Daily Los Angeles-Frankfurt B777 service.

US Airways: Starting January 6, Pittsburgh's 31 daily mainline services will be reduced by nine flights... Effective March 29, Philadelphia-London Heathrow A330 service.

Facilities

American Airlines opened a Priority Parcel Service facility at New York's Kennedy International Airport, located at the new Terminal 8. Daily drop-off hours are from 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Pickups are daily between 6:00 a.m. and 2 a.m.

FedEx reported that operation of its Asia/Pacific delivery center

at Guangzhou's Baiyun Airport probably will kick off in late 2008. The facility represents a \$337 million investment.

United Cargo freight facility at Kennedy Airport is now at Swissport Cargo Services, Cargo Building 21.

DHL announced that it will establish a \$175 million North Asia hub at Shanghai Pudong International Airport. Among the facility's state-of-the-art features will be a Quality Control Center that also will serve as "a nerve center for crisis management." At peak capacity it will sort 20,000 parcels and 20,000 documents per hour... DHL broke ground for its new consolidation and distribution center at South Korea's Incheon International Airport, a \$50 million state-of-the-art facility that will be more than five times larger than the one currently used... The express company inaugurated its \$26 million logistics facility in Budapest.

British Airways World Cargo will expand its Perishables Handling Center at London Heathrow Airport, an investment of about \$1.75 million. The 2,325 square-foot expansion will allow positioning of a second Border Inspection Post at Heathrow.

Emirates SkyCargo transferred its Kennedy Airport operations to Building 73, adjacent to Continental Airlines Cargo.

Pilot Freight Services opened a 26,000 square-foot facility at 1303 Calle Del Norte, Laredo, Texas.

SEKO occupied its expanded facility at 5065 NW 74th Avenue, Building A, Miami, FL 33166. It provides 28,000 square feet of warehouse area, 14 dock doors, 600 tack spaces, and full-time video surveillance and security... Located near Charlotte Douglas International Airport, SEKO's Charlotte office is now in a larger facility which provides 12,000 square feet of warehouse capacity... The company recently activated operations in the Irish capital, located five minutes from Dublin International Airport.

Slated to become the company's Middle East logistics hub, **Kuehne+Nagel** has begun construction of a 52,000 square-meter state-of-the-art facility at Dubai Logistics City... **K+N** has established new offices in Kaliningrad and at Moscow's Domodedovo International Airport... A new 5,000 square-meter freight terminal has been opened at ProLogis Park, Gothenburg, Sweden.

Menlo Worldwide has taken possession of a 6,500 square-meter facility at AMB Koolhoven, near Schiphol Airport.

Hong Kong-based **Crown Worldwide** opened its 11th office in India at Gera 77, next to Bishop's School 304, Kalyani Nagar, Pune.

In a joint venture, **Sinotrans** and **Korean Air** will construct a new cargo facility in Tianjin, which ultimately will have 380,000 tons' annual throughput capacity.

Deals

Arrow Electronics renewed its contract with **Target Logistic Services**—an 18-month deal—for nationwide logistics services.

DHL was selected by Chico's FAS Inc. to serve its online and catalog sales business, providing domestic and international express services.

Agility DGS was awarded by the Defense Logistics Agency a contract for property disposal for the Department of Defense at six locations in Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan.

DSV Air & Sea, a division of DSV A/S, contracted with **Cargo-Wise edi** for the provision of a single global integrated system for forwarding, customs and contract logistics.

Solvay Chemicals' new contract with **Panalpina** includes some 2,000 tons of air freight shipments to the US, Europe and CIS countries over the next two years.

Kuehne+Nagel will manage the transportation of merchandise for Benetton Trading, Taiwan's domestic retail chain in Taiwan.

Noted... (continued)

Bouquets

For the fourth consecutive year *Fortune* named **Continental Airlines** the world's Most Admired Airline.

CargoWise edi came through first in the General Applications category at the Asia Pacific Information Communications and Telecommunications Alliance Awards.

Agility captured the Best Air Freight Forwarder Award at the Supply Chain Asia Awards in Hong Kong.

PR News' PR Platinum Award was captured by **DHL** for its promotion of employee relationship to customer satisfaction.

Deutsche Verkehrszeitung selected **Lufthansa Cargo's** fleet chief, Fokko Doyen, to receive the DVZ LEO Man of the Year award for the Cargo Human care initiative which he founded.

Kuehne+Nagel was named Logistics Company of the Year 2007 by the Irish Export Industry.

Aircraft

Air Canada: Lease a single B777-300ER for 10 years.

AirAsia: Purchase 25 A320s, plus 25 options.

Babcock & Brown: The lessor orders 20 B737-800s.

British Airways: Order 12 A380s, with options for seven more; and 24 B787s, plus options for 18.

Cathay Pacific: Order 10 B787-8 freighters and seven B777-300ERs, and takes up purchase rights for 14 additional freighters... Eight additional A330-300s ordered for 2010-12 deliveries.

China Airlines: Signs Letter of Intent to purchase 14 A350-900s, plus six options.

China Southern: Purchase 10 A330-200s for deliveries in 2010-12.

CSA Czech: Picks up options on eight A319s.

EgyptAir: Lease six B777-300ERs.

Emirates: Order 70 A350s, plus options for 50 more... Contract for 11 A380s... Buy 12 B777-300ERs.

Guggenheim Aviation Partners: Exercise options to buy three B777 freighters.

ILFC: The lessor orders 20 A350XWBs.

Jet Airways: Order 20 B737-800s, plus options for 10 more... Exercises options for five A330-200s.

KLM: Addition of three B737-700s and two B777-300ERs.

LAN: Finalize order for 26 B787s, will lease six more, and will acquire four B777 freighters, two of which will be leased.

LCAL: Dubai-based lessor orders six more B787-8s.

Lion Air: Jakarta-based carrier commits to 22 B737-900ERs.

Lufthansa/Swiss: Board approval to buy 32 A320s and nine A330-300s (to be operated by Swiss International).

Nile Air: New Egyptian carriers order nine A321s.

OceanAir: Order 21 A320s, plus options on 13 more; and purchase of seven A330-200s.

Qantas: Order 68 A320s and A321s, plus 40 options for Jetstar subsidiary; and 31 B737-800s plus 49 options.

Qatar: Confirms order for 30 B787s and five B777 freighters.

SAS: Exercise options for two 737-800s.

Saudi Arabian: Finalizes purchase of 14 A320s, plus eight options.

Sky West: Buy 18 CRJ700NGs and four CRJ900NGs, plus 22 options for either or both these types.

Tiger: Confirm order for 30 A320s, plus 20 options.

Transavia: Finalizes order for seven B737NGs.

Ural: Confirms order for seven A320s.

US Airways: Adds five planes to its A330-200 order.

Vietnam: Approves addition of 12 more B787-8s... Signs Memorandum of Understanding to buy 10 A350-900XWBs

and 20 A321s.

Wizz: The Polish-Hungarian carrier commits to 50 A320s, plus 25 options.

New Posts

Aer Lingus: David Manifold, deputy finance director... Peter O'Neill, operations director.

Agility Project Logistics: Thomas J. Griffin, president/CEO.

Air Canada: Michael Rousseau, DFO.

Airbus: Named executive vice presidents: Klaus Richter (procurement), Thierry Baril (human resources) and Christian Scherer (strategy/future programs).

AirBridge Cargo: Denis Illyin, senior vice president-SCO strategy/sales... Gennady Pivovarov, senior vice president-SCO operations and general director.

AirTrans: Robert Fornaro, CEO

Alitalia: Giancarlo Schisano, head, Passenger/Cargo Division... Andrea Stolfa, head, Marketing/Business Strategies.

Atlantic Southeast: Bradford Holt, COO.

Atlas Air Worldwide: Jason Grant, senior vice president/CFO.

Boeing: Shephard W. Hill, president, Boeing International... Pat Shanahan, vice president/general manager, B787 Program... Michael J. Cave, senior vice president-business development/strategy... Martin Bentrott, vice president-Middle East/Africa sales... Raymond Conner, vice president-sales.

Bridge Logistics: Timothy Nelson, freight sales/logistics coordinator.

British Airways World Cargo: Shameer Nasarulla, commercial manager-Gulf Region.

China Airlines: Ringo Chao, chairman.

Continental: John Slater, managing director-Latin America.

Delta: Stephan Gorman succeeds Joseph Kolshak, retired, as executive vice president-operations.

Delta Connection: Don Bornhorst, senior vice president.

Dependable Global Express: Julie Choi, regional director-Northeast.

Emirates: Jassim Saif, manager-cargo UAE.

Etihad: Adrian Parkes, vice president-sales.

Expeditors: R. Jordan Gates, president/COO... Timothy C. Barber, president-global sales/marketing.

Federal Aviation Administration: Henry P. Krakowski, COO.

FedEx: Gary W. Loveman, director; member, Audit & Information Oversight Committee.

IATA: Paul Steele, director-environmental initiatives.

JAT: Sasa Vlasisavljevic, CEO.

JetBlue: Don Daniels, vice president/controller... Ed Barnes, interim CFO.

Kuehne+Nagel: Bob Mihok, regional manager-Eastern Europe.

Malev: Peter Leonov, chairman (retaining his office of vice chairman).

Martinair Cargo: Kenny Leung, sales director-China.

Mesa Air: William Hoke, interim CFO.

Pacer International: J. Douglass Coates, director... Don Orris, president, Segment... Adrienne Bailey, executive vice president-strategy/organizational development.

Silk-Ways/Azerbaijan: Joseph Badamo, director-sales, JFK.

Silver Air: Steffen Harpoth, CEO.

South African: Kaushik Patel, CFO.

Spanair: Lars Lindgren, executive chairman... Marcus Hedblom, CEO.

Swire Pacific: Tony Gyler, executive director.

Towne Air Freight: Paul Martins, president.

In Memorium



Gunter Eser, retired Lufthansa executive who served as IATA's third director general, passed away in Nyon, Switzerland after a brief illness. He was 80.

Dr. Eser, who moved to the association's top position in 1985, served for seven years, and was credited with reorganizing IATA's financial structure.

One of his highly praised achievements was creation of the Industry Services Division.

It was during his 1985-92 tenure that IATA experienced its greatest growth, its membership expanding to 210 airlines, from 134.

Immediately on Dr. Eser's taking over the association's top job, he set about reorganizing the financial structure.

The Industry Services Division that he created offered a range of products and services for airlines and industry partners to purchase.

IATA noted that he "moved (the organization) into the commercial field, eventually making it the largest provider, by value, of services to the global airline industry."

In an interview with Air Cargo Focus shortly before his retirement as director general, Dr. Eser recalled that in his early years at Lufthansa the airline's cargo business was popularly regarded by its management as "a fifth wheel." He chortled over how the wheel has turned during the intervening decades.

Trans Global Logistics: Arun Seth, regional director-Indian Subcontinent.

UniGroup Worldwide UTS: Fred Parshley, vice president-air freight/logistics.

UPS: Scott Davis, CEO, effective January 1 upon the retirement of Mike Eskew... Kurt Kuehn, CFO, succeeding Scott Davis... Rudy Markham, director.

UTI Worldwide: Jeffrey D. Misakian, vice president-investor relations.

Virgin America: C. David Cush, CEO.

Volga-Dnepr Airlines: Sergey Dyachkov, general director.

Vueling: Lars Nygaard, CEO.

Obituaries

Tony Ryan, founder of Ryanair, died after a long illness. He was 71.