## III/2018

action

Board of Airline Representatives

### International Airline Association in Germany

# Air Cargo & Logistics want to become more digital BARIG committee meeting to lay foundation for joint

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The meeting of the Air Cargo & Logistics committee of the Board of Airline Representatives in Germany (BARIG) on the 11th of June 2018 was a real milestone. In Cargo City Süd at the airport in Frankfurt, representatives of airlines sat together with high-ranking logistics representatives around one table for the first time to intensively discuss the measures that are necessary to sustain Germany's performance as air cargo location. The initiative's urgency became clear in the last quarter of 2017, when an especially high air cargo volume stretched logistics companies and the infrastructure at Cargo City to their limits.

Among the over 40 participants of the BARIG committee meeting was Felix Kreutel, divisional head of cargo for airport operator Fraport. He underlined the importance of constructive cooperation between all involved parties and emphasized that mutual standards for faster and more efficient processes must be established. He further assured that Fraport understands its role as enabling player and that the infrastructure must be optimized together.



Felix Kreutel, divisional head of cargo for airport operator Fraport, underlines the importance of constructive cooperation between all involved parties.

In the long-run, this initiative may not only be beneficial to Frankfurt because whatever is developed at Europe's largest air cargo location could also serve as a model for other airports in Germany.



As of 15th of May 2018, LUG and Frankfurt Cargo Services (FCS) have compulsorily introduced slot bookings via FAIR@Link at Frankfurt airport for themselves and their clients. (Photo: ACCF)

# Practical testing of first digitalization project

Accordingly, Patrick Tschirch, managing director for LUG aircargo handling, pointed out that uniform national standards are in the absolute interest of dispatchers. In this context, digitalization plays a major role since air cargo processes are today still associated with an immense amount of paperwork. Tschirch therefore demanded the development of reliable and durable digital processes. An example of how things could function in the future is currently projected by Dakosy's FAIR@Link system. Building on the digital solution for Hamburg's harbor, the internet-based system assigns time slots for truck loading and unloading to dispatchers taking part in the project and simplifies the further processing of data from freight documents. LUG and Frankfurt Cargo Services (FCS) have compulsorily introduced mandatory slot bookings for loading and unloading via the Fair@Link rampcontrolmodule at Frankfurt airport as of 15th of May 2018. On the 6th of June, three weeks after introduction, an acceptance rate of 60 % has already been recorded.



Patrik Tschirch, managing director for LUG aircargo handling, stresses the need to digitalize processes and substantially reduce the massive paper burden in air cargo.

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Major challenges for the success of such systems are the factors data quality and diversity of existing data formats. They are responsible for the common high error rate within the processes. The Netherlands however offer an example of a well-functioning system. A cloud-based solution has been established there, making the standardized transfer of relevant information and retrieval of acutely needed data possible for participating companies.

Towards the end of the event, BARIG Secretary General Michael Hoppe emphasized the importance of a mutual initiative in this respect, "Today we have discussed the potential design of an appropriate process platform. Action is now required, involving a rapid and targeted analysis to induce the next steps for achieving a substantial and sustainable improvement of process efficiency."



BARIG Secretary General Michael Hoppe, "We have to take the next steps towards a uniform and sustainable improvement of process efficiency. "

The next BARIG Cargo Committee meeting is scheduled for the 20th of September 2018. Furthermore, the guiding air cargo and logistics topics will also be on the agenda at the upcoming BARIG plenary assemblies.

### **BARIG Information:**

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BARIG Members: Aban Air \* Aegean Airlines \* Aeroflot \* AeroLogic \* Afriqiyah Airways \* Air Algerie \* Air Astana \* Air Canada \* Air China \* Air Dolomiti \* Air Europa \* Air France \* Air France \* Alt Martinair Cargo \* Air India \* Air Malta \* Air Mauritius \* Air Namibia \* Air New Zealand \* Air Serbia \* AirPridgeCargo \* Alitalia \* American Airlines \* ANA \* Asiana Airlines \* Astral Aviation \* Austrian Airlines \* British Airways \* Brussels \* Bulgaria Air \* Cathay Pacific Airways \* China Airlines \* China Eastern Airlines \* China Southern Airlines \* Condor Flugdienst GmbH \* Croatia Airlines \* Delta Air Lines \* DHL \* easyjet \* Edelweiss \* EgyptAir \* EL AL Israel Alrines \* Emirates \* Ethipad Airways \* Eurowings Europe \* EVA Airways corporation \* Federal Express \* Finnair \* Garuda Indonesia \* Gulf Air \* Hahn Air Lines \* Hainan Airlines \* Hop \* Iberia \* Icelandair \* Iran Air \* JAL Japan Airlines \* CLM \* KLM City Hopper \* Korean Air \* Kuwait Airways \* LATAM \* LATAM Brazil \* LATAM Cargo \* LATAM Chile \* Lufthansa \* Lufthansa Cargo \* Lufthansa Cityline \* Middle East Airlines \* Oman Air \* Pakistan International Airlines \* Qantas Airways \* Qatar Airways \* Royal Air Marco \* Royal Jordanian Airlines \* SA's SATA International \* Subera Airlines \* Silk Way Airlines \* Singapore Airlines \* Somon Air \* South African Airways \* SriLankan Airlines \* SunExpress Deutschland \* Suntexpress \* Swiss International Airlines \* Swiss World Cargo \* TAP Portugal \* Thai Airways International \* TUlfly \* Tunisair \* Turkish Airlines \* United Airlines \* UPS \* Vietnam Airlines \* WDL Aviation \* Yemen Airways