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Port Authority and Vaughn College Announce 1.3 Million Dollars In Scholarships for Six Students from Queens

Governor Cuomo announced the six winners of four-year full-tuition scholarships to Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology in a ceremony held to coincide with the opening of the new Council for Airport Opportunity LaGuardia Career Center in Corona, Queens on April 26th. The CAO's LGA Career Center is located in a building operated by Elmcort, a social service agency based in Corona. The new office was made possible by \$1.3 million in funding from the Port Authority and an additional \$200,000 contribution from CAO. Neighborhood Housing Services of Queens is also a partner in the office.

"A critical part of delivering a new world class LaGuardia Airport is ensuring the local community is included every step of the way," Governor Cuomo said. "I want to congratulate

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Port Authority Marks National Autism Awareness Month

Hosted Wings for Autism Event and Exhibit At LaGuardia Airport

The Port Authority, in partnership with The Arc, Delta Air Lines and the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA), hosted a Wings for Autism event at LaGuardia Airport on April 13, to help familiarize the autism community with air travel procedures.

Volunteers from the New York chapter of The Arc (AHRC NYC), Delta, TSA and Port Authority will assist autistic children, along with their parents and siblings, from the moment they enter the airport terminal for ticketing and baggage check-in, continuing through the security checkpoint and into the gate area before boarding a plane.

April was National Autism Awareness Month and The Arc, a nonprofit dedicated to

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Woodside resident Laila Abdelnaby, 10, wears a pilot's hat as she sits in the cockpit of a Delta plane with Capt. Todd Cook at LaGuardia Airport.

STEVEN SUNSHINE

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Port Authority and Vaughn College Announce 1.3 Million Dollars In Scholarships for 6 Students from Queens

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the winners of the LaGuardia opportunity scholarships and look forward to these future leaders helping build a modern, state-of-the-art LaGuardia that will fundamentally transform New York for generations to come.”

CAO is a nonprofit organization that provides airport-related recruitment and job placement services to minority and disadvantaged residents in Queens and Newark, New Jersey. The CAO’s LGA Career Center is located at 107-20 Northern Boulevard in Corona.

The partnership with Vaughn College, located just a stone’s throw from LaGuardia Airport, provides six incoming freshmen full four-year scholarships starting with the 2019-2020 academic year. The scholarship program is part of the Governor’s continuing effort to provide opportunities for local communities to share in the economic benefits of LaGuardia



Airport’s ongoing redevelopment program.

This unique initiative provides local students an education in the aviation field, with the promise of a full-time position in Aviation at the Port Authority airports upon graduation. Recipients will also be offered paid internships at the Port Authority airports during the summers of their enrollment at Vaughn.

Dr. Sharon DeVivo, President of Vaughn College, said, “Vaughn College is proud to partner

with The Port Authority to offer the students of Queens an incredible opportunity to join this in-demand industry.

Graduates of our institution have the greatest likelihood of moving to the top in income out of every other college in the country, and coupled with a debt-free education and employment possibilities in Queens, these students have an almost guaranteed successful future ahead of them.” ■

Port Authority Marks National Autism Awareness Month

Continued From Page 1

promoting and protecting the rights of individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, has made improving the travel experience for autistic children and their families a longstanding priority through the Wings for Autism program.

Additionally, with the help of the New York State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities, LGA is taking steps to foster a greater understanding of autism spectrum disorder and the people affected by it, through a new exhibit in the Marine Air Terminal (Terminal A) featuring eight oversized panels with autism facts.

The exhibit titled Spotlight on Autism will help illuminate autism by providing facts meant to get people thinking and to spark the imagination about a group of disorders that now make up the fastest-growing diagnosis among all developmental disabilities in the United States.

In honor of World Autism Awareness Day, Port Authority of New York\New Jersey turned 128 LED lights blue on One World Trade Center’s 408-foot spire, highlighting “Light it Up Blue” in commemoration of the day and to increase awareness for Autism Speaks. ■

TSA at LaGuardia Airport Set Record for Passenger Throughput

The Transportation Security Administration at LaGuardia Airport set a record on April 18, for the most passengers who went through the security screening process in the history of the airport when 59,698 travelers passed through the checkpoints and onto their departing gates. The previous record was set last year, on June 25, 2018, when 58,617 passengers were screened at the LaGuardia Airport security checkpoints.

With the Passover and Easter holidays both starting this weekend, “travelers were getting a head start on their holiday travel and many departed for their holiday celebrations on Thursday,” said Robert Duffy, TSA’s Federal Security Director for LaGuardia Airport. “Our officers expected a larger than usual throughput and they remained focused on security procedures to ensure that travelers reached their destinations safely. We expect the remainder of this spring and into summer to continue seeing a high volume of passengers and with that in mind, my advice to travelers is to get to the airport two hours before their flight and listen to the guidance that the TSA officers are providing at the checkpoints. The officers know the procedures and their instruction will keep the flow of passengers operating smoothly.”

Duffy also recommended that travelers pay close attention to the items that they place in their carry-on bags to ensure that they are not carrying any prohibited items to the checkpoint because doing so will slow down the security screening process. ■



TSO Quinda Miller, STSO Karean Edwards from LGA

The JFK Airport Rotary Club ‘Run The Runway at JFK 5K’ Has Record Entrants

The JFK Airport Rotary Club ‘Run the Runway 5K’ was a huge success. Over 1700 runners registered. It was VERY foggy, but everyone still had a great time.

The winner of the Team Challenge was **JetBlue** with **Unity Electric** coming in at a very close second place. **Sammy Gotts** of NYC came in First Place Overall and **Anna McCusker** of Brooklyn came in First Place for the Women.

A special thanks to all of our volunteers and sponsors, we couldn’t do it without you! JetBlue and Cathay Pacific both donated Airline tickets for the raffles in addition to the many other prizes on hand. Unity Electric was the event Gold Sponsor and VRH Construction & Donnelly Mechanical were the Silver Sponsors. Russo’s on the Bay, Worldwide Flight Services, Swissport, URW Airports, Duty Free Americas and Allstate were all bronze donors.

Other contributors included: Corporate Loss Prevention Associates donated the security services and provided volunteers to assist with the event logistics, JetBlue and Poland Springs donated the water for the runners, TNT Industries and Royal Waste donated their services, A&R donated the bananas and their facility to stage the event and HMS Host provided a coffee and tea station that was a huge hit!

Aviation High School Color Guard was on hand to lead the Pledge of Allegiance and color guard. The students from the Customs and Border Patrol Explorer program were amazing volunteers.

The JFK General Managers office, the JFK Operations Team and PAPD worked incredibly hard on the planning and the execution of the event for months prior, ensuring the event would run smoothly as well as being there day of.



The event is JFK Rotary Club’s largest fundraiser and this year’s beneficiary is the Queens Achilles Foundation. The mission of Achilles is to enable people with all types of disabilities to participate in mainstream running events in order to promote personal achievement. ■

Visit www.jfkrotaryclub.org for more information about the JFK Rotary Club.

Announcement From TSA for Metropolitan Airport News Readers

Residents of New York and New Jersey will need a REAL ID or Enhanced ID to board an airplane starting October 2020

New York and New Jersey residents will need an enhanced driver’s license or a REAL ID compatible driver’s license by October 1, 2020, if they want to use it to get on a domestic flight, enter certain federal buildings or enter military bases. With that in mind, it is highly recommended that New Yorkers who plan to travel upgrade from a standard driver’s license to a REAL ID or enhanced license before the deadline.

Both states of New York and New Jersey REAL ID driver’s licenses have a star in the upper right corner to indicate that it meets federal regulations that establish minimum security standards. The enhanced driver’s license has a U.S. flag on the bottom right of the license.

Airlines and ground handling firms should include this on their respective websites if not already done.

For more information, go to www.dmv.ny.gov/which-id-right-me

New York Area Airports Set Passenger Record During Easter/Passover Holiday

The U.S. Transportation Security Administration reported that two airports in the United States, LaGuardia and Newark Liberty International, set records for the number of passengers screened at security checkpoints on Thursday April 18th, the unofficial start to the Passover/Easter holiday weekend.

LaGuardia Airport saw 59,698 travelers pass through its security checkpoints on Thursday, while Newark Liberty saw 78,811.

The previous record for LaGuardia was set last year when the airport saw 58,617 passengers on June 18 and the previous record for Newark was also set last June. The airport welcomed 76,963 passengers on June 25, 2018. ■

Jet Airways Suspends Operations

Jet Airways, a major Indian international airline, announced temporary suspending operations as of April 17th. On its website the airline said:

“It is with deep sadness and with a heavy heart that we would like to share with you that, effective immediately, Jet Airways will be suspending all its domestic and international operations.

Late last night we were informed by SBI, on behalf of the consortium of Indian lenders, that they are unable to consider our request for interim funding. Since no emergency funding from the lenders or any other source of funding was forthcoming, it would therefore not have been possible for us to pay for fuel or other critical services to keep the operations going.

Consequently, with immediate effect we are compelled to cancel all our domestic and international flights. This decision has been taken after painstaking evaluation of all alternatives and after receiving guidance and advice on the same from the Board of Directors of Jet Airways.

Over the last several weeks and months we have tried every means possible to seek funding, both interim as well as long term funding, to keep our operations going. Unfortunately, despite the very best of our efforts, we have been left with no other choice today.

A decision like this is never easy to make, but without the interim funding, which we have been repeatedly requesting for, we are simply unable to conduct flight operations in a manner that delivers to the very reasonable expectations of our guests, employees, partners and service providers.

After 25 years of sharing the Joy of Flying with Indian and International guests, Jet Airways and its Board of Directors have been forced to take this extreme measure, as prolonged and sustained efforts with lenders and authorities to ensure the sustainability of the airline did not yield the desired results.

But, tomorrow is another day and tomorrow provides us with new hope, new opportunity and new expectations. We know that India is better off with a flying Jet Airways, and so do our potential investors.”

Jet Airways ran flights from Mumbai and Heathrow to JFK Airport. ■





JetBlue To Offer Non-Stop Service To London From New York and Boston

JetBlue Airways announced plans to offer non-stop service from both New York City and Boston to London, with service starting in 2021.

The news was announced at an employee event at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York.

The airline will operate the flights using Airbus A321LR or Long Range aircraft. London will be the airline’s first European destination.

The New York-based airline said it has not yet determined which airport in London it will operate from but it probably

won’t be London Heathrow, which is severely slot constrained.

The A321LR aircraft will feature what the airline termed “an all-new international take” on its JetBlue business-class cabin and service. The airline plans to offer lower fares than those currently offered on the two routes.

What We Know So Far About JetBlue’s London Service

Unfortunately, at this point the details are still fairly limited. We know JetBlue plans to start flying to London in 2021, though we don’t know when in 2021 they plan to launch the service, or

how many frequencies they plan to offer (other than that there will be multiple).

JetBlue says they are still evaluating which London-area airport to serve, which is kind of a big detail. London Heathrow slots are very expensive, so it seems like that they’ll fly to another London-area airport. The airline has tried to argue to regulators that some of the transatlantic joint ventures need to be broken up, but that seems unlikely to be successful.

The airline acknowledges that they still have a lot of work to do. The routes will be served by Airbus A321LR aircraft. JetBlue will get these by converting 13 of their A321neo orders into A321LRs. These planes easily have the range to complete these routes.

What’s great is that JetBlue is known for bringing down premium fares with their Mint class, and I can’t wait to see them do that on transatlantic flights, where it’s so overdue (especially markets like Boston and New York to London).

JetBlue’s president and COO, Joanna Geraghty, had the following to say:

“Twenty years ago, our founders had a simple formula for choosing a new market – it had to be overpriced, underserved, or both. London is the largest metro area JetBlue doesn’t yet serve from both Boston and New York, and we could not be more thrilled to be changing that in the years ahead. The fares being charged today by airlines on these routes, specifically on the premium end, are enough to make you blush.”

As of now no other transatlantic destinations have been announced, though the airline has made it clear that they’re considering expansion beyond that. ■

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For Five PAPD Recruits, Big Shoes to Fill as they follow in the father's footsteps

Port Authority Police Department Graduates 124 Recruits

The Port Authority Police Department welcomed 124 new police officers to its ranks on March 28th of the 117th Police Academy graduating class, raising the number of officers to a department-record 2,117 members and reaffirming the Port Authority's commitment to the highest level of safety for the traveling public.

The newest class includes 85 college graduates and 14 military veterans, while 31 graduates have prior law enforcement experience. In the agency's ongoing commitment to building a diverse department that reflects the metropolitan region the Port Authority serves. The graduates speak a total of 12 languages, and Hispanics, African-Americans and Asian-Americans make up nearly 30 percent of the graduating class.

Port Authority Executive Director Rick Cotton, Chief Security Officer John Bilich and PAPD Superintendent Edward Cetnar attended the ceremony held at the Dunn Sports Center in Elizabeth, NJ., offering congratulations to the officers and their families. Nine new officers have parents or other relatives who serve or have served with the PAPD.

As part of their 26-week training sessions, the new graduates studied the laws of both New York and New Jersey and received comprehensive instruction in police procedures, firearms usage, First Aid and counter-terrorism techniques. They also received training from a Holocaust survivor to help them examine the roots of prejudice and intolerance and apply those lessons to police work.

Said PAPD Superintendent of Police Ed Cetnar: "These new officers are tasked with protecting millions of travelers each day, and we are confident they are prepared to handle one of the most challenging jobs in law enforcement today,"

The PAPD is responsible for ensuring the safety and security of the agency's land, sea, air and rail facilities, which include airports, bridges and tunnels, the Port Authority Bus Terminal, the PATH rail system, regional ports in New York and New Jersey and the 16-acre World Trade Center site. ■

Oculus Hosts Smorgasburg Say That Fast Three Times

Your Friday lunch options just got an upgrade. Following a successful three-day debut in the fall that attracted droves of foodies from near and far, Smorgasburg – the largest outdoor weekly food market in the United States – will return to the Oculus plaza as a weekly fixture on Fridays.

The Port Authority and Westfield have partnered to host this foodie paradise from 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. every Friday through the spring, summer, and early fall – ending October 25. About 25 vendors will participate, offering WTC workers and visitors, as well as Lower Manhattan residents, with a plethora of culinary awesomeness (that's the technical terminology).

Confirmed vendors include Big Mozz, Bolivian Llama Party, Bona Ice Cream, Burger Supreme, C Bao, The Choripan, D'Abruzzo, Dan & John's Wings, Destination Dumplings, Home Frite, Ji-anbing, Mao's Bao, Mutz, Nansense, Parish Po Boys, Red Hook Lobster Pound, Ring Ding Bar, Rooster Boy, Thaibird, Tojo's Kitchen, Wood Fired Edibles, and Yakitori Tats. ■

All Woman Team Enters to Compete In Maintenance "Olympics"

From a CBS News blog of April 11th comes a story about female maintenance technicians. "Chix Fix is a group of female technicians who have come together to compete in the Olympics of aviation maintenance," Bonnie Turner, managing director of Airframe Repair and Overhaul at United Airlines, told "Good Morning America." "It's just to demonstrate that female technicians are just as good as the male counterparts."

Top teams from around the world compete, racing against the clock to complete aviation mechanical tests ranging from fuel checks to inspecting aircraft control systems. Although the competition is fast-paced, the competitors make sure that in their everyday routines on the job, they take the necessary steps and amounts of time to ensure the safety of the aircraft.

In 2018, Chix Fix was one of three all-female teams to compete at AMC and the only commercial all-female team to compete. They ended up placing in many categories.

"It makes me proud of United and my team," Laura Spolar, an aircraft maintenance supervisor for United Airlines, told "Good Morning America." "It's been a really great bonding experience." ■



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Take Your Kids to Work Day for FAA Employees at JFK

Highlight of the day was a visit to JFK's Air Traffic Control Tower

Maria Crisci Munafo from the FAA has been hosting Bring Your Kids to Work Day for over 25 years. The places she brings the kids changes, but the one thing that never changes is a trip to the FAA Tower at Terminal 4 JFK.

It never disappoints the families that share in the excitement of learning about all the different jobs that happen within the FAA today and into the future...Anyone want to fly drones as a career?? The little kids love the police cars and the airplanes. The older kids have so many questions about ATC logistics and how to prepare to get jobs within the FAA. The airport is an exciting place with a lot going on.

In addition to the FAA Tower, the kids got to meet the officers from the Federal Protective Service. They sat in the cars and tried out the equipment. They also got a visit from the Ark at JFK's four legged Ambassador, Aiden.

They were exceptional kids, they followed all the security protocols, waited patiently and asked loads of questions. Many of them will surely follow in their parents foot-steps.

A very special Thank You to **Dave Siewert**, JFK Air Traffic Control Tower Manager and **Tom Sargent** for their time speaking with the kids and giving the tour of the tower. ■

Oculus Hosts Lego Block Party

550 hours of labor. 40,000 pieces. One incredible Oculus LEGO model.

The scene in the World Trade Center's Oculus was one of enthusiasm, anticipation and wonder. After presentations from various LEGOLand officials, New York Stewart International Airport General Manager Ed Harrison was the one to pull a lever revealing the intricate three-foot LEGO model of the iconic building in which all of the attendees were standing.

LEGO Master Model Builder AJ Deguzman worked on the Oculus LEGO model in Florida, and it was shipped up to New York City once completed. "It was pretty daunting to build since it was so unique in structure," he said. The trick? "Build from the base and then put some LEGO magic in there."

LEGOLand's upcoming New York Resort, set to open in Spring 2020, will sit on a sprawling 500-acre site in Goshen, N.Y., just 16 miles from New York Stewart. The international destinations served by Stewart and a new bus route from Port Authority Bus Terminal to LEGOLand will contribute to the number of annual visitors and the overall economic growth of the region.

"When I met with LEGOLand executives at Stewart a couple years ago, they saw our facilities, they saw our runways, and they saw our potential to bring international passengers to Orange County, New York, and LEGOLand," Harrison said. "It's an exciting moment for us. New York is open for business!"

The model displayed today in the Oculus and will eventually be installed in Miniland, an interactive part of the park featuring animated LEGO-built U.S. cities. **ABIGAIL GOLDRING**



Ed Harrison, GM of Stewart Airport shows his Legoland mock-up.



Queens Air Services Development Office (ASDO) & Dolores M. Hofman, Program Manager, Cordially Invite You to Attend ASDO's 37th Aviation Networking Event

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WFS and Swiss World Cargo Get GDP Certification

Worldwide Flight Services (WFS), the world’s largest air cargo handler and Swiss World-Cargo, the air freight division of Swiss International Air Lines and one of the industry’s leading pharma air carriers, opened New York’s first GDP (Good Distribution Practice) compliant pharma facility after achieving certification of its Building 66 at JFK airport.

The GDP certification confirms WFS’ compliance with World Health Organization (WHO), IATA, and Parenteral Drug Association (PDA) quality standards for handling pharmaceutical and life science products, as well as with Service Level Agreements signed with individual airline customers in New York.

“As the leading cargo handler at JFK, we are proud to be the first airline handling facility to become GDP certified, which is in response to growing customer demand for high quality, standardized pharma handling,” said Michael Simpson, WFS’ Executive Vice President Americas, who added: “We will continue to expand our network of certified facilities, adding to our current list of JFK and Miami in the

Americas as well as multiple locations in Europe.”

“We are very excited that New York’s first GDP-compliant airline facility is located at Swiss WorldCargo’s warehouse,” said Michael Ganz, Head of Northeast-/Midwest USA and Canada for Swiss WorldCargo. “This latest addition of GDP-compliant facilities allows us to offer additional quality corridors to our pharma and healthcare customers. The certification of our boutique-like single-airline facility in New York further strengthens our position as a global quality leader.”

This initiative is aligned with WFS’ program to provide coordinated cold chain handling services which secure product integrity and ensure patient safety. Achieving GDP certification is further evidence of the company’s ability to deliver resilient working procedures and processes, as well as specialized and dedicated equipment for the handling of sensitive temperature-controlled cargo. The features of the program include a Pharmaceutical Handling Quality Manual and Quality Management



System, dedicated cooler facilities, a Special Products Manager, as well as providing a team of fully experienced and trained personnel. WFS also invested in a new cooler for the 1,000 sq ft pharma facility at JFK in support of the GDP requirements.

The opening of this pharma facility also closely aligns with key Swiss WorldCargo values of customer focus and quality care. In 2018, Swiss WorldCargo received a global CEIV certification, which ensures that the company adheres to the highest standards of pharmaceutical handling globally. The airline remains committed to providing the highest standards at its stations worldwide. With three daily flights from

Zurich and Geneva, JFK is an important North America-gateway for Swiss WorldCargo.

WFS has also signed a 15-year lease on a new state-of-the-art, 346,000 square feet cargo terminal at the airport, the first phase of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey’s comprehensive Vision Plan. The facility, which will have a throughput capacity of over 300 million kilos a year, will offer improved cargo flows and reduced transfer times, shorter truck waiting times and incorporate the latest security and screening systems and procedures. It will also house dedicated facilities for temperature-controlled pharmaceutical products and perishables cargo when it opens in 2020/21. ■



Vaughn College Career Fair Draws Wide Array of Industry Employers

Vaughn College held their annual Spring Career Fair on April 11th. It was a well-attended event on both sides of the tables. There were representatives from all divisions of airlines as well as many companies that service the aviation industry. All sections of the U.S. Military, N.Y.S Troopers, NYC, Suffolk, Nassau police agencies, FAA and more were there to meet the highly skilled students of Vaughn College.

Regardless if the student is training to be a pilot, engineer, ATC, TSA, Aviation Management, Civil Service or maintenance technician, there were possibilities galore in the room. ■



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Newark International Airport's Terminal One Outreach Office Is Open for Business

On April 15, Port Authority Chairman **Kevin O'Toole**, Executive Director **Rick Cotton**, Aviation Director **Huntley Lawrence**, as well as local and state officials announced the opening of the Newark Terminal One Outreach Office, which will serve as the central resource for job and contracting opportunities for local businesses and residents.

The Terminal One Redevelopment Newark Community Outreach Office will focus on communication and outreach activities, as well as community engagement throughout the work of the Program. Additionally, the office will connect local firms and residents with job and career opportunities, as well as assist in the process to become certified Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises (MWBE). Outreach staff will also provide access to resources and events, including certification workshops and job fairs.

"We are taking an unprecedented step to actively engage with those who live or work in the neighborhoods adjacent to our legacy facilities that are being or will be rebuilt," Executive Director Rick Cotton said. "We recognize these major construction projects impact the local communities that surround these facilities and we want economic activities from our projects to yield benefits to local communities."

The new \$2.7-billion Terminal One, which is replacing outmoded Terminal A as part of the agency's ongoing commitment to a world-class Newark Liberty International Airport, will feature cutting-edge digital technology, superior dining and retail options in approximately one million square feet of space and be able to accommodate 13.6 million passengers on three levels. The new terminal will have 33 common-use gates to handle larger aircraft and modernized check-in, security and baggage claim areas.



Port Authority Executive Director Rick Cotton and Newark Mayor Ras Baraka

The Terminal One Redevelopment Program overall is expected to generate more than \$4.6 billion in regional economic activity, create more than 23,000 job years and provide more than \$1.9 billion in wages. The project goal is to award certified minority- and women-owned business enterprises a significant portion of sub-contract, vendor and consulting work within the project. Terminal One is scheduled to be fully operational by 2022.

For more information about the project, go www.ewrredevelopment.com ■

Strong Air Cargo Growth Is Driving Demand for the Freighter Capable Engines

As high-volume shippers continue to snap up cargo pallet space on widebody freighters, MRO demand for the engines powering those aircraft is significant. That is particularly true of GE Aviation's CF6 family, a leader in widebody propulsion, with more than 10,000 engines produced through year-end 2018 since the CF6-6 entered service on the McDonnell Douglas DC-10 in 1971.

More than 3,600 units are in service, including 1,135 CF6-80C2s and 295 CF6-80E1s, which are in current production, along with the CF6-80CK1F, which powers the Kawasaki C-2 military transport, according to Scott Brensike, GE Aviation's general manager for the CF6 product line. Taking the CF6 family as a whole, some 90% are on commercial airliners. "As a result, the in-service fleet size is increasing year over year," Brensike says.

To illustrate, he says that GE shipped 42 CF6-80C2s in 2018, along with 14 CF6-80E1s and four CF6-80CK1Fs. "We have increased production for the past two years and project 20% yearly growth in demand through 2021, when we could be producing over 100 engines," Brensike says. "The utilization rate and MRO market for these engines will continue to be very strong, with retirements of older aircraft countered by demand for good, mature widebody passenger and freighter

aircraft, and feedstock for passenger-to-freighter conversions, as well as continuing production for current and potential new applications."

Cargo, in fact, is what Brensike terms "a great tail wind" for the CF6-80C2, driving production rates upward, along with more freighter conversions of passenger 767s. This will extend engine service lives by 15 or more years, he predicts.

At the same time, the uptick in cargo shipments is enabling the return to service of 747 freighters that were in storage, as well as extending the lives of Airbus A300, and A310 and McDonnell Douglas MD-10 and MD-11 fleets. "Given that we have CF6-6-powered MD-10s in service with FedEx, which will be 48 years old this year, we expect that the CF6-80 fleet will be flying well past 2050," Brensike remarks. ■



JFK ROTARY ANNUAL LADIES GOLF OUTING & SPA DAY

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www.jfkrotaryclub.org/main/golf-outing



Bishop Wright Award Held at Russo's On The Bay

The 40th Bishop Wright Aviation Industry Awards Luncheon was held on April 10, 2019 at Russo's on the Bay. After opening remarks by **William Huisman**, Aviation Development Council and an invocation by **Reverend Dabee**, awards were presented to this year's honorees.

The 2019 Bishop Wright Woman of the Year is **Stephanie Baldwin**, Vice President of Airport Operation JFK for Delta Airlines. Stephanie spoke of her austere childhood, working hard in the tobacco fields with none of leisure or amenities today's youth take for granted, and how it has shaped her work ethic.

Starting in 1988 as a Customer Service agent for Delta, Stephanie has advanced to various positions in airport customer service and in 2017 became Vice President, Airport Operations for Delta at JFK. She strongly believes in developing, mentoring and connecting with her team and has watched as JFK continuously improved to its current position of the #1 Hub in the Delta system.

Man of the Year is **Finney K. Kurian**, Executive Vice President of Red Eye Aviation Service LLC. Finney's childhood was spent traveling throughout India, where he was born, with his missionary parents setting up new churches. After his studies in the U.S., Finney joined America West in 1989 as a part time Customer Service Agent and worked his way up to become Station Manager at LaGuardia, then Newark and finally JFK in 1992. Finney went on to join National Airlines as Director of Stations until its shutdown, and went on to various management positions with Terminal One and ABM.

Finney spoke at length about the importance of reaching out and making a difference in someone's lives. He is a member of the Kiwanis Club of LaGuardia, having served as a board member and President in 1997.

The 2019 Bishop Wright Clergyman of the Year is **The Reverend N.J.L'Heureux Jr.**, who retired in 2019 after serving 41 years as Executive Director of the Queens Federation of Churches, and a four year tenure as Executive Director of the Council of Churches of the City of New York.

As chief executive officer, he provided oversight for the Federation's varied programs, which include information services, consultations and training seminars for church leaders and ministries, including Queens Interfaith Hunger Network and the Christ for the World Chapel at JFK airport.

ROBERTA DUNN



(L.-R.) Finney K. Kurian, Red Eye Aviation; Stephanie M. Baldwin, Delta Operations JFK; Rev. N.J. L'Heureux, Queens Federation of Churches; Mother of Kasia Brown, Sue M. Baer Memorial 2019 Scholarship Awardee; Chaplin Dabee, Christ of the World Chapel.



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Fast Five

Brandon Fried

Executive Director, Airforwarders Association



Brandon Fried was appointed to serve as the Executive Director of the Airforwarders Association in November 2005. Brandon has more than 38 years of experience in the air freight industry. He started his career as a sales representative in Los Angeles. He then moved to Washington, D.C. where he began, owned and operated the Washington office of a global freight forwarder specializing in time definite air cargo transportation.

In 2000, Brandon joined the Airforwarders Association and was elected as Chairperson in 2001, serving for two consecutive terms. In August 2005 he sold his company interest and began consulting air cargo companies on business strategy and management practices until his appointment as Executive Director of the Airforwarders Association.

1 With Air Cargo currently in a resurgent mode, what do you see on the horizon that may restrain growth?

There is certainly no shortage of moving parts influencing the air cargo industry as the e-commerce megatrend continues its emergence versus traditional retail. Of course, global trade policies and looming tariffs may play a significant role in eroding consumer confidence which could hamper freight volumes. According to a recent survey, attracting and training the next generation of logistics professionals remains a significant concern. As the air cargo industry changes, automation will continue to play more of a role, requiring educated workers who are familiar with its requirements in fulfilling customer demands.

2 UPS just announced a plan to tie in with Pharmaceuticals for on line e-commerce and distribution; do you believe this is a strategy to offset Amazon's competition via their newly developed delivery capabilities?

The plan may be an offset, perhaps, but more likely UPS is capitalizing on yet another emerging trend.

3 Do logistics firms play any role in uncovering counterfeit goods?

To a limited extent, perhaps yes but the industry should not serve as the first line of defense. The government should be adequately funded to provide vigorous enforcement of our counterfeit laws.

4 There has been easing of regulatory constraints by this administration; do you see any areas that still need to be addressed? Example, Motor Carrier Safety System electronic measurement of truck drivers.

Electronic Logging Devices are still an evolving issue and doubtless will be for some time. Despite new hours of service requirements with drivers reducing their operational time behind the wheel, a recent study shows improved compliance but unchanged accident rates. Also, security remains a significant concern as is the ever-present challenge of streamlining the transportation process while maintaining high security standards.

5 What is your key goal for 2019? Either from the viewpoint of Airforwarders Association and/or your client/partners.

Our primary goal is to continue to advocate for stability and predictability around trade policies. Uncertainty creates a loss in consumer confidence resulting in less product and manufacturing demand. The inability to forecast our future economic situation reduces freight volumes while adversely impacting our industry and nation's economic vitality. ■



Port of New York/New Jersey Tackling Port Congestion

New Rail Assets Introduced, Barge Project Inaugurated, Labor Productivity Measures Enacted

BY PETER BUXBAUM

Congestion is a challenge that is not new to the Port of New York and New Jersey, but it has taken on an added dimension of late. The introduction of a new generation of megaships create cargo spikes when they call on the port, while, at the macro level, the port saw a six-percent increase in cargo volumes in 2018, and volumes continue to grow this year. So, it is encouraging to see that the port has taken steps to combat congestion in recent months.

In January, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey inaugurated a major expansion of its ExpressRail system, the final rail facility in a network aimed at handling over 900,000 rail lifts a year. The Port Jersey facility marks the culmination of a \$600-million Port Authority capital investment program dating back to the 1990s that established on-dock and near-dock rail access at all of its major marine terminals.

Three months earlier, the Port Authority, along with the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC), announced the creation of the North Atlantic Marine Highway Alliance to develop barge services to supplement rail cargo and offset the use of trucks to and from the port. The project is backed by a grant from the Federal Maritime Administration.

Meanwhile, a recent report indicates, that the Port NY/NJ terminals are successfully moving out a backlog of containers that accumulated earlier this year and are improving turn times. Truckers say that NY/NJ terminals are getting as many as 80% of container movements done in two hours or less, according to the report. That compares to earlier reports of drivers waiting around for between four and eight hours in extreme cases. Port stakeholders are also taking steps to increase the number and efficiency of dock workers.

The new ExpressRail facilities were designed to reduce the port's heavy reliance on trucks to transport cargo to and from the port. Trucks still account for 85% of container movement on and off port, but the opening of the final rail facility will allow the port to eliminate 1.5 million truck trips annually, reduce congestion and enhance air quality.

"An efficient rail cargo system can deliver cargo to an inland destination before the vessel reaches the next U.S. port," said Port Authority Chairman Kevin O'Toole, noting that three-quarters of vessels arrive in NY/NJ as their first call.

According to the report on port congestion, the Port of NY/NJ continues to see strong volumes this year, even though the late-2018 spike may have been caused by shippers seeking to beat Trump administration tariffs. Some terminals opened their gates periodically on Saturdays since the beginning of the year, and some port stakeholders, such as the Association of Bi-State Motor Carriers, are pushing for permanent Saturday gate hours as part of a solution to promote port fluidity. ■

PETER BUXBAUM has been writing about international trade and transportation, as well as security, defense, technology, and foreign policy, for over 20 years. Besides contributing to the AJOT, Buxbaum's work has appeared in such leading publications as *Fortune*, *Forbes*, *Chief Executive*, *Computerworld*, and *Jane's Defense Weekly*. He was educated at Columbia University.

XTRA Airlines The Other New Entry Coming Into U.S. Market

Besides the well covered market re-entry of David Neeleman's new airline venture - unnamed at the moment - we have another entry. Andrew Levy, the former chief financial officer of United Airlines, is now CEO of a new, planned carrier. XTRA Airways, may soon begin operating in the United States to help carry travelers across both the nation and the world at rock-bottom prices.



"There's a lot of room for more airplane seats in the United States," Levy stated regarding the airline's future launch.

According to Here & Now, XTRA will attempt to provide better service at a lower cost by flying in and out of second-tier airports, rather than major hubs. That, according to Levy, will also help to provide flights to an underserved market.

"Doing the same thing as everyone else, but trying to do it better, hasn't worked, historically, very well in the airline industry," Levy said. "So that's certainly not what we're trying to do, is out-Spirit Spirit or out-Allegiant Allegiant or anybody else like that. We aim to do something that's different."

XTRA may not be the only new low-cost airlines flying the friendly skies in the United States soon. Moxy, an airline led by JetBlue founder David Neeleman, is also set to enter the market soon. It too will target second-tier airports, but will likely launch later than XTRA. ■



(Front Row L.-R.) Camila Turietta Pilot, Jetblue; Ellyn Slow, Ellen Slow Consulting
(2nd Row L.-R.) Suria Rahman, President, Vaughn College Chapter Women In Aviation; Dr Sharon De Vivo, President, Vaughn College; Daniela Tabares, Former President Vaughn College Chapter Women In Aviation; Ana Peña, FAA Data Analyst; Karen Leckey, Pilot United Airlines; Tammy Jones, HR FAA

Vaughn Hosts Womens Luncheon 'Securing The Skies'

The 4th annual Powerful Women's Luncheon was held on April 16th at Vaughn College. In attendance was a panel of five Women who are involved in the Aviation Industry. The audience consisted of young women who are interested in a career in aviation.

Former President of Vaughn Chapter Women in Aviation, Danielle Tabares, had a list of questions for the panel. The panel consisted of FAA, Pilots and an aviation consultant. Each panel member had the opportunity to respond. Afterwards there was a question and answer segment.

This was a very informative seminar and the audience received an excellent representation of the type of jobs and the skills needed within the aviation industry for women today and into the future. ■



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JFK Airport Terminal One Group and Vision-Box to Roll Out Facial Recognition Boarding

New York's John F. Kennedy (JFK) Airport Terminal One Group and Vision-Box have signed a co-operation agreement to modernize passenger processing and roll out one of the largest biometric boarding airport platforms in the USA. Passengers will board their flight without needing to show their passports or boarding passes.

The upcoming transformation of JFK Airport envisions the creation of modern facilities and infrastructure to accommodate significant growth, and to offer an outstanding world-class experience to customers. Terminal One Group Association (TOGA), terminal owner and composed by 26 international carriers, have together with JFK Airport taken a visionary approach to passenger experience, welcoming the adoption of a seamless biometric-based passenger management platform as a strategic long-term growth pillar.

A self-service biometric boarding solution will be implemented by Vision-Box in Terminal 1 to offer a more convenient, faster boarding process. International Travelers will be allowed to board their aircraft in just a few seconds using biometric eGates, which will recognize them by their face. The platform will match the live faces with previously enrolled and stored ones. No need to present their passport or boarding pass at the gate.

After taking part in the Los Angeles Airport proof of concept, Lufthansa has reconfirmed their support to seamless travel. Having been instrumental in the cooperation process so far, the airline will be the first to use the technology at JFK Terminal One, their largest USA operation.

TOGA Executive Director Steve Rowland was enthusiastic about the development with the very experienced partners at Vision-Box. He said:

"Biometric self-boarding is one of our top priorities – improving the passenger experience and enhancing security and safety for all those who travel at JFK Terminal One. We are proud to pilot this unique, paperless, biometric boarding process, and CBP and Vision-Box have been tremendous partners in this effort." **ANA CATARINA MELEIRO**

Local Artist Residency Program Returns to LaGuardia Airport's Marine Air Terminal for Second Year

Five Queens residents with unique artistic visions will be featured over the next year, building off successful inaugural season inside landmarked art deco facility

LaGuardia Airport is continuing its partnership with the Queens Council on the Arts, offering five Queens-based artists the opportunity to showcase their work in the historic Marine Air Terminal (also known as Terminal A, which serves JetBlue).

The second year of the program, known as QCA ArtPort, will allow each artist to spend a three-month period in residency, where they will hold regular open studio hours and invite travelers to view and discuss their work. Artists receive a \$6,500 stipend from LaGuardia and QCA for art supplies and materials, and will utilize the 110-square-foot studio in the Marine Air Terminal's art deco rotunda.

"The passengers who experienced the first year of ArtPort provided extremely positive feedback, and we're delighted to continue this distinctive program for another year," said LaGuardia General Manager Lysa Scully. "It's a fun and unique way to enhance the travel experience, with passengers and airport employees alike able to immerse themselves in art from the local Queens community."

"By showcasing Queens artists in such a dynamic public setting, the ArtPort Residency celebrates the rich arts and culture tradition we have in this borough," said QCA Executive Director Hoong Yee Lee Krakauer.

Over the next year, passengers arriving or departing there will be greeted with a piece of live performance art.



(L.-R.) Linda Ganjian, Holger Keifel, Davi Leventhal, Natsuki Takauji, and Haksul Lee.

The 2019-20 artistic class consists of local talents Holger Keifel, Linda Ganjian, Davi Leventhal, Natsuki Takauji and Haksul Lee.

Keifel is first up, featuring portraits taken of travelers passing through the terminal, with a short interview to collect their travel experiences. Subsequent exhibits will focus on creating fuxicos, a traditional Brazilian decoration made from fabric scraps (Leventhal); the design and printing of original postcards with illustrations of LGA and Queens landmarks (Ganjian), and an airplane sculpture consisting of white and blue planes, mirror images with visitors' names written in their own language (Takauji and Lee). ■

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Shuttle Bus Fleets At Region's Major Airports Will Be 50% Electric By Summer

Recent arrival of six buses at Newark Liberty, in addition to six at JFK and expected arrival by June of six more at LaGuardia, puts agency ahead of schedule for full conversion of 36 shuttle bus fleet

In recognition of Earth Week 2019, the Port Authority announced that 50 percent of its shuttle bus fleet at the three major regional airports will be all-electric by the summer. Twelve of the buses already are in operation – six at Newark Liberty International and six at John F. Kennedy International. An additional six buses are coming to LaGuardia Airport by the end of June.



The 18 buses make up 50 percent of the full fleet being converted from diesel to electric power. The Port Authority is now targeting the end of 2020 to have a 100-percent electric shuttle bus fleet, accelerating the agency's original goal. New charging stations to power this first phase of electric bus deployment have been installed as part of the program at each airport.

The buses in the first deployment phase will save approximately 269 tons of greenhouse gas emissions and approximately 40,000 gallons of diesel fuel at each airport each year. In addition, these zero emissions buses will improve local air quality by removing approximately 2,000 pounds of nitrous oxide and 150 pounds of particulate matter from the air each year. The buses have an estimated range of about 250 miles per charge, with each charge taking less than four hours.

The agency's Clean Dozen initiatives were rolled out in October, at the same time the Port Authority Board of Commissioners embraced the Paris Climate Agreement, becoming the first public transportation agency in the United States to commit to the global climate agreement. ■

TSA Arrests Man With Gun At JFK Airport

A man from Queens, New York, was arrested at John F. Kennedy International Airport on Saturday, April 13th, after Transportation Security Administration officers detected a 9MM handgun artfully concealed inside a DVD player.

The man's checked bag triggered an alarm in the security scanning equipment and the bag was pulled aside and opened to resolve the alarm. TSA officers spotted a DVD player inside the checked bag. Upon further inspection, TSA officers detected a 9 mm handgun wrapped in aluminum foil that was artfully concealed inside the DVD player. The gun was not loaded.

TSA officials notified Port Authority Police of the discovery of the concealed weapon. Police tracked down the man, a resident of Elmhurst, New York, who was at the gate waiting for his flight to Mexico. Instead of catching his flight, the man was arrested and charged with weapons violations. ■



(L.-R.) Madeline Arango, Michele Delgado and Lysa Scully

Women's Empowerment Group Takes Off At LaGuardia

Last year, three women at the helm of LaGuardia Airport's management piloted a program aimed at connecting and empowering women in aviation. Now, less than a year later, WOW – short for Women Empowering Other Women – is already 50 members strong and growing.

LaGuardia General Manager Lysa Scully remembers brainstorming with her colleagues, Senior Policy Analyst Madeline Arango and Assistant Manager of Airport Maintenance Michele Delgado, about how to address the need for women-focused mentorship and networking communities at the airport.

"We had been doing annual events around International Women's Day to recognize women and their contributions, but we knew we wanted to go far beyond that," Scully said.

Delgado and Arango stepped up to the challenge. According to Delgado, they wanted to form WOW as a safe place where women could share their experiences, as well as support and inspire each other. After all, the aviation staff at LaGuardia Airport is about 20 percent female.

"Initially, there was some hesitation on my part because I had only been at LaGuardia for nine months, and I didn't know that many people," Delgado recalls. "I wanted to make sure the group represented what people wanted to have, rather than just what I wanted it to be."

At a recent meeting, about 30 WOW members heard stories and advice from Jane Garvey, the first female head of the Federal Aviation Administration who served under former Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush.

Garvey spoke about balancing raising a family while working in government offices far from home. She also shared how she made her voice heard in predominantly male workplaces. "As women, we tend to hold back more than males," she said. "Always be prepared and be a good listener. Your voice is just as important as everybody else's."

WOW's early success has Arango and Delgado excited about what's to come. "I'm looking forward to hopefully fulfilling people's expectations by growing the group's scope, accomplishments and reach in 2019 and beyond," Arango said. **ABIGAIL GOLDRING**, Media Relations Staff

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Neeleman U.S. Market Entry

After founding or co-founding Morris Air, Westjet, JetBlue and Azul, and whatever the new U.S. entries name would be David Neeleman shows no sign of relaxing on his laurels.

These days, the charismatic businessman is developing his fifth major airline startup. Once again, Neeleman is looking to fill a market niche left open by others in the industry.

Code-named Moxy, his next endeavor wants to transform low-cost air travel for smaller cities in the U.S. in very much the same way Azul did in Brazil. According to Neeleman, as costs increase for airlines, they have a tendency to re-trench their network to focus on their hubs and operate larger planes. Thereby leaving behind smaller, less trafficked destinations.

"I would be very surprised if a single Moxy route had nonstop service competition," he told us. "There are literally hundreds and hundreds of city pairs that are crying out for nonstop flights."

It's unclear what the airline's actual name will be when it goes into operation in 2021. However, when it does, it will operate a fleet of



David Neeleman

60 brand-new Airbus A220-300 airliners.

Best known for launching JetBlue Airways in early 2000, Neeleman hasn't stopped there: After leaving JetBlue in 2008, he headed south to start up Azul, a Brazilian clone of the New York carrier, complete with TV seats and leather seats. Eight years later, in 2015, he acquired close to a majority stake in TAP Air Portugal, and began

turning around the fortunes of the once-sleepy state-run flag carrier.

Neeleman is embarking on what might be his riskiest venture yet: to build a new U.S. airline that will carve out a niche serving travelers and communities that lost out in the wave of airline consolidation. The nascent carrier, using the working name Moxy, is amassing a war chest of \$100 million and has ordered a fleet of 60 A220's, a new type of plane that Neeleman says will allow him to keep fares low while providing good service. He is, after all, the same guy who promised to "bring humanity back to air travel" nearly 20 years ago, a pledge that drew ridicule from critics—until JetBlue proved them wrong.

When asked his reasons for beginning a new airline at the age of 59, Neeleman says, "I don't start airlines for the sake of starting airlines. I do it because I see that there's an opportunity. Even when I started Morris Air, there was a vacuum there in the West. When I helped start up WestJet, the Canadian airlines were consolidating. And with JetBlue, Kennedy Airport was wide open and the legacy airlines were big and bloated. Today, we are getting back to the point where there is a lot of concentration in the industry and the legacies aren't doing a lot of flying that people really want. So we are going to try to fill that gap. If there is an opportunity, then I can build a better mousetrap and do something that others aren't doing and can't do."

With his prospective new domestic airline, Moxy, he is re-entering a very different landscape from when he started JetBlue nearly 20 years ago. Instead of going up against, say, six or seven big network airlines, it's now three huge network airlines that dominate the market. How will he get a large enough share of the market to survive?

Neeleman thinks the current U.S. based airlines costs have crept up, and they have really become hub focused. There are a lot of cities where, if you don't go through the hub, then you know you can't get there nonstop. So there is an

opportunity to get people there twice as fast at half the price.

Neeleman says the airline would be low cost but strays away when you say "ultra low cost". He says, "ultra-low cost," that means you have to treat everyone like garbage. I prefer to say we are a high-tech company that just happens to fly airplanes. We are going to build all the technology out; it's going to be like using the Uber app or the Amazon app, and we will have a whole menu of things on the airplanes and on the ground, and we will take care of you."

The big question is when will he get his airplanes and how long will it take to develop a fleet large enough to cover all the routes he wants to serve. Neeleman does not appear concerned about that; "There is a line around the block of people wanting to talk to us, wanting to get service. Finding the airports is not the problem."

Azul is doing very well and Neeleman is looking for a repeat performance. He is still at an early development stage and needs to file for authority to start up his new airline with the Department of Transportation, plus, get his airplanes delivered by Airbus.

The new airline will be getting its' initial airplanes in 2021. It will be an interesting couple of years for the industry with David Neeleman back in the saddle. ■



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AirBridge Continues Cargo Expansion In Midwest

The airline plans to increase to a twice-weekly frequency at Rickenbacker International Airport, which moved more than 5,000 tons of cargo for the carrier in 2018.

AirBridgeCargo, which operates a fleet of 18 Boeing 747 freighters, serves destinations in 34 locations, including 12 in Asia, 11 in Europe and six in North America, is planning a second rotation at Rickenbacker Airport in Columbus, Ohio. The company announced that it plans to expand its scheduled freighter operations at Rickenbacker International Airport (LCK), to a twice-weekly frequency.

The second scheduled weekly rotation is planned to begin in April, the airline said, and will complement its existing Thursday flights from the airport. The carrier introduced Columbus to its network in 2018 and the airline's volumes "tipped over 5,000 tons to/from" the airport in 2018, said Sergey Lazarev, general director of AirBridgeCargo Airlines, in a statement. ■





A rendering of a hypersonic vehicle in flight.

Hypersonic Flight Passes Major Benchmark

Engineers working on a propulsion system to enable hypersonic air travel say they have passed a development milestone.

U.K.-based Reaction Engines is developing technology for Synergetic Air-Breathing Rocket Engines (SABRE), which could one day allow aircraft to fly up to five times faster than the speed of sound — that’s Mach 5 or 3,836 miles per hour.

At that speed, hypersonic flights between London and Australia could be over in just four-and-a-half hours.

While some commercial plane makers are racing to bring back supersonic jets, Boeing has gone further than many of its competitors by unveiling a design for a hypersonic aircraft that could potentially travel five times quicker.

But for those speeds to be possible, the futuristic engines need to process air flows with extremely high temperatures. Now Reaction Engines has revealed that its precooler component — designed to manage extreme heat — has successfully handled temperatures of 420 degrees Celsius, matching the conditions it would face when reaching Mach 3.3 speeds. At that speed, an aircraft would be traveling three times faster than the speed of sound and 50 percent faster than Concorde.

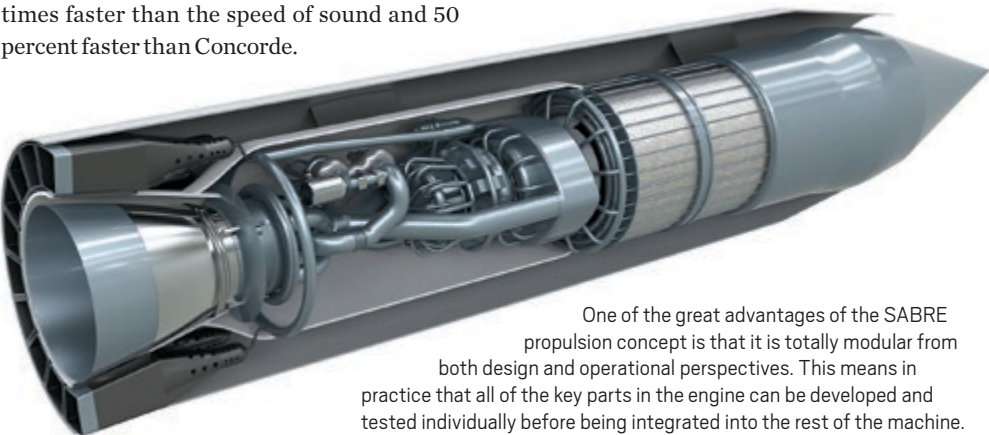
The test took place at Reaction Engines’ facility at the United States’ Colorado Air and Space Port. They were the first phase of an extensive trial program, which will eventually see the precooler exposed to temperatures hotter than 1,000 degrees Celsius — the conditions expected during Mach 5 hypersonic flight.

In space rocket mode, the engines are being designed to speed a craft up to Mach 25.

Over the last four years, Reaction Engines has secured more than £100 million (\$130 million) in investment from backers including BAE Systems, Rolls-Royce, and Boeing’s venture capital arm. The firm has also received a £60 million (\$78 million) funding commitment from the U.K. Government.

Mark Thomas, Reaction Engines CEO, said in a press release that the results were unparalleled and a “hugely significant milestone.”

“This provides an important validation of our heat exchanger and thermal management technology portfolio, which has application across emerging areas such as very high-speed flight, hybrid electric aviation and integrated vehicle thermal management,” he said. ■



One of the great advantages of the SABRE propulsion concept is that it is totally modular from both design and operational perspectives. This means in practice that all of the key parts in the engine can be developed and tested individually before being integrated into the rest of the machine.



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Joining The Century Club

Airport growth trends follow industry turnaround

Delta Air Lines’ main hub at Atlanta Hartsfield–Jackson International remains the largest airport in the world. It handled 107.4 million passengers in 2018, an increase of 3.3%.

Beijing Capital became the second airport in the world to pass the 100 million passenger mark. The airport enjoyed a further 5.4% rise in traffic as passenger numbers reached 100.9 million. That comes in a big year for the Beijing airport system, as the city’s new Daxing facility is set to open later in 2019.

Beijing and another Chinese hub, Shanghai Pudong, were the only two of the 10 biggest airports to report passenger growth in excess of 5% last year. Passenger levels rose 5.8% at Pudong, the ninth-biggest airport in the world, handling just over 74 million passengers.

Los Angeles and Tokyo Haneda were the only airports among the top 10 to change positions. Passenger growth of 3.5% at Los Angeles to 87.5 million ranked the U.S. hub fourth-biggest in the world, putting it ahead of Haneda, which handled 87.1 million.

Dubai International is the third-biggest airport in the world, catering for just over 89 million passengers last year. But this marked growth of only a little over 1%.

Airports in Asia-Pacific account for more than one-third of the top 100 and the largest share of passengers, with more than 1.7 billion. The next biggest category, North American airports, which accounted for 1.3 billion passengers, has 26 hubs in the top 100. Europe comprises 29 of the 100 biggest facilities, which between them account for almost 1.2 billion passengers. There remain no African airports among the 100 biggest in the world.

There are 24 U.S. airports among the 100 biggest, the next-highest number for a country being the 17 Chinese hubs that feature in the top 100.

Each of the local area NY Airports showed growth, but did not match the overall airport industry growth of 5.3% (Data compiled by Silva Ishak Cirium data research team) ■

Amazon Pilots Protest Working Conditions

Pilots flying for Amazon took to the streets again to protest over pay and working conditions at the airlines providing capacity for the e-commerce giant.

The pilots flying for Atlas Air, Southern Air and ABX Air took to the pavement outside Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport (CVG) – where the e-commerce firm will base its fleet – as contract negotiations between unions representing the pilots and their airline employers continue.

The pilots, represented by Airline Professionals Association, Teamsters Local 1224, say they’re “tired of low pay, trouble recruiting and retaining pilots, and sinking morale” and that contract negotiations have stalled. The unions point to a recent survey they carried out that shows 65% of respondents have been asked to fly on their days off in the last year and that 65% percent of respondents from Atlas Air and ABX Air said they have little faith that their carrier has enough pilots to meet the long-term needs of Amazon Air.



Meanwhile, aircraft flying for Amazon as part of its most recent expansion have begun arriving in the US. In March, it was confirmed that Amazon would add five B737 freighters to its existing fleet of B767F aircraft.

Website *Flight Radar 24* shows that two B737 (N851DM and N843DM) arrived in Jacksonville Cecil Airport on April 5 after flying from Sapporo. The Boeing 737-800 aircraft will be leased by Amazon from “a third party” and sub-leased to Southern Air, which will provide CMI services. ■

McAleenan Named Acting Homeland Security Secretary

President Donald Trump named Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Kevin McAleenan as acting DHS secretary following the resignation of Kirstjen Nielsen.

President Donald Trump named Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Kevin McAleenan as acting secretary of the Department of Homeland Security. “I have confidence that Kevin will do a great job!” Trump tweeted after accepting the resignation of Kirstjen Nielsen as DHS secretary.

Trump reportedly had wanted to replace Nielsen since late last year and had grown increasingly impatient with her department’s response to the swelling flows of Central American migrants at the U.S. border with Mexico.

McAleenan became CBP commissioner on March 20, 2018. He had previously served as acting commissioner since the start of the Trump administration, after serving as deputy commissioner from 2014 to 2017, and prior to that, as assistant commissioner for the Office of Field Operations and area port director of the Los Angeles International Airport.



Kevin McAleenan

Freight forwarder and customs broker associations, such as the National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of the America, Pacific Coast Council of Customs Brokers and Freight Forwarders Association and Airforwarders Association, and other large trade associations supported McAleenan’s nomination to CBP commissioner for his understanding of the industry and the fact that he already had intimate knowledge of the agency’s vast operations.

McAleenan has become a face to the public in recent weeks with the arrival of increasing numbers of Central Americans at the U.S.-Mexico border who are seeking asylum. On March 27, he declared that the country’s immigration control system along the U.S. southern border was at a “breaking point” and requested the reassignment of up to 750 CBP officers to assist with immigration duties there.

With the reassignment of the CBP officers immediately taking effect, U.S. ports of entry across the southern border quickly experienced reduced cargo processing lanes, larger truck queues and weekend day closures at small border crossings.

Trump had proposed to close the border entirely, which exacerbated American shippers’ concerns that their deeply integrated supply chains with companies in Mexico would suddenly be crippled. It’s uncertain how long McAleenan will serve as acting DHS secretary. Longtime CBP official Robert Perez currently serves as the agency’s deputy commissioner.

Trump reportedly has considered several nominees to replace Nielsen, including Kris Kobach, who previously served as Kansas’ state secretary; Ken Cuccinelli, former attorney general for Virginia; and current Energy Secretary Rick Perry, who was a former governor of Texas.

CBP is the largest law enforcement agency in the U.S. with 60,000 employees and myriad regulatory responsibilities, including anti-terrorism and preventing illegal drug trafficking, securing and facilitating legitimate trade and travel, and protecting the country’s agriculture from pests and disease. ■



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UPS Considers In-Home Vaccination Delivery Service

A Reuters report published week of March 18th indicated that Atlanta-based transportation and logistics services bellwether UPS is in the process of entering the United States home health services market that is expected to begin later this year.

According to the report, UPS is currently preparing to test a U.S. services in which it will dispatch nurses to vaccinate adults in their homes (it was not stated what vaccines would be used), at a time when UPS and its healthcare clients are making efforts to quell cost pressures, as well as competitive threats from Amazon. And the report added that global pharmaceutical player Merck & Co indicated it is “looking at partnering” with UPS for this service.

What’s more, Reuters explained how this move reflects how UPS is looking to get more involved in the \$85 billion outsourced healthcare logistics market, currently paced by the Deutsche Post DHL Group, which is expected to expand to \$105 billion by 2021.

The report said that the home vaccination efforts would work in the following way:

“Workers in UPS’ 1.7 million-square-foot healthcare complex at Worldport will package and ship the vaccine to one of the more 4,700 franchised U.S. UPS stores. A home health nurse contracted by UPS’ clinical trial logistics unit known as Marken will collect the insulated package, transport it the ‘last mile’ to the patient’s home and administer the vaccine, which will target a viral illness in adults.”

UPS executives indicated, in the report, that they are bullish about this initiative, with Chris Cassidy, UPS vice president of global healthcare logistics strategy, saying that “over-the-threshold services is where the world is heading,” and Wes Wheeler, CEO of Marken, whom UPS acquired in 2016 describing its objective as a way to “see if we can connect all these dots.”

When UPS first acquired Marken, it said that said this acquisition would provide the company with growth opportunities across the life sciences customer base. And they added that clinical trials require strict regulatory compliance, streamlined logistics services, and global reach, which is where Marken’s operations of a

global network of clinical supply chain services to meet increasingly complex customer demands, made it a good fit, along with various acquisitions UPS has made to expand its healthcare logistics services offering portfolio.

A UPS official indicated that the company is not offering any further details beyond the

information outlined in the Reuters article due to concerns about confidentiality.

“We often develop custom operating plans involving various capabilities in our network, but we don’t elaborate on those details because we seek to maintain competitive advantages,” he said. **JEFF BERMAN**, *Logistics Management*



UPS Introduces Commercial Drones In U.S.

And so it begins: commercial drone use is happening in the U.S. as UPS, when drone company Matternet, on March 27th delivered medical samples to a hospital and campus in Raleigh, North Carolina.

The FAA sanctioned the drone for routine revenue flights involving the transport of a product under a contractual delivery agreement, and has oversight of the program. Currently, most

medical samples and specimens at WakeMed’s NC facility are brought by car, but drones will bypass the traffic and allow for on-demand delivery. “Drone transport will improve speed of deliveries at a lower cost, enhance access to care and create healthier communities,” said Donald Gintzig, WakeMed president and CEO.

“WakeMed is committed to innovation, and we believe drone technology has the potential to

achieve transformative improvements in health care delivery.”

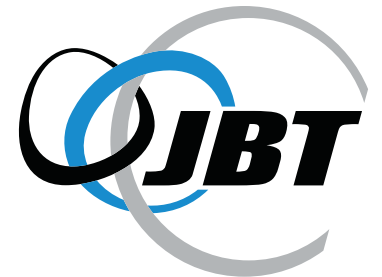
The project is also supported by the NC Department of Transportation, which, along with the FAA, Matternet, UPS and WakeMed, is part of three-year pilot program using Matternet’s lithium-ion battery-charged M2 quadcopter.

The drone will fly along a predetermined flight path, monitored by a specially trained remote pilot-in-command (RPIC), to a landing pad at WakeMed’s main hospital and central pathology lab.

This collaboration is the latest UPS program to use drones to support healthcare logistics. The operator partnered with GAVI and Zipline in 2016 to deliver blood products to remote locations in Rwanda and the Matternet team has already completed more than 3,000 flights for healthcare systems in Switzerland.

“UPS Healthcare & Life Sciences is excited to expand on our current lab specimen logistics portfolio to drive step change in today’s delivery models,” said Chris Cassidy, UPS president of global healthcare & life sciences strategy.

“Using drones to bring blood and other diagnostic specimens from medical facilities to central labs will improve transport efficiencies like never before. And with fewer vehicles on the road, we’ll generate less environmental impact.” ■



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Mr. Awesome

Miami Airport's Awesome Full-Size Boeing 727 Tribute to My Late Son

BY CHRIS SLOAN

Five years-ago on April 13th, I kissed my son goodbye for the last time. On April 13, 2014 just a week after his seventh birthday, my son Calder Jacob Sloan was instantly electrocuted and killed in our backyard pool. My wife and I were at a friend's birthday party when we received the call that our son was dead.

We went immediately into survival mode, dodging our way through crowds of people at Miami Beach's Pride Weekend to drive to the hospital to face the unfathomable. Words cannot explain what it's like walking into a morgue to see your lifeless son. And only being given a short time to kiss his cold body and stroke his hair for the last time.

This freak accident, caused by a cascade of failures principally from negligent electrical

work and an electrical short instantly became national news that shocked the community. The loss of our beloved Calder nearly destroyed us but thousands of people wrapped us in love: family, friends, strangers, and many we never knew or to this day have met. We owe them everything.

Calder's mantra was Adventure. Laughter. Kindness. He was a big-hearted, loving, athletic, talented, spirit filled, brilliant and beautiful, beautiful, beautiful boy. His list of adjectives is so long that we had nicknamed him Mr. Awesome. Because he was.

They say in unfathomable times like this "There are no words", but there are pictures. And deeds.

In the immediate wake of his death, Calder's self-portrait project from school inspired an

inspiring global viral campaign created by dear family friends Jim Cahill and Dana Zuckerman that unexpectedly spread worldwide.

His smiling self-illustration projected on Times Square Jumbotrons and sports arenas, posed with celebrities, appeared on TV shows like *Ellen* and *The Today Show*, billboards, with people on vacations, on t-shirts of marathoners, even posed with Tibetan Monks.

And now his Mr. Awesome portrait adorns a plane. We were told by many and knew instinctively that Mr. Awesome would change the world. In the dark days, week, and years after his death we learned how much he would change not only our world – but the world at large.

We wanted to ensure our son would never be forgotten. His name would be eternal, his smiling face would be forever present, and that his loving spirit would forever contribute to the world.

The site of seeing my son's casket lowered into the ground and the sound of dirt landing on his wooden coffin will be seared in my memory forever. But for Calder, the words "Rest In Peace" wouldn't do. And though his life was over, his work was just getting started.

The uplifting Mr. Awesome campaign became the catalyst to create a non-profit foundation honoring him and his equally awesome brother Caleb: forever dedicated to spreading Calder and Caleb's positive mantra of doing good in an increasingly toxic world. Calder's heart provided the energy and hundreds of people including his brother Caleb, became his hands.

Over the last four years, because of the support, donations, and generosity of thousands, Caleb and Calder Sloan's Awesome Foundation has made a tremendous difference in our world.

It's succeeded in changing pool safety codes and laws in the state of Florida, annually beautifying schools attended by disadvantaged children with our annual Give Back Day, Annual Toy Drives, exhibits and installations such as at the Miami Children's Museum and their synagogue, supporting causes like the Parkland

High School students and their families in the wake of the deadly tragedy.

In the wake of Hurricane Maria, the foundation led Operation Puerto Rico Care Lift and Operation Puerto Rico Gift Lift. In association with co-Founder, Lara Richardson, Spirit Airlines Lufthansa Technik, and many other partners and donors, it provided over \$500,000 worth of aid and toys to the suffering.

Awesome One

It's fitting that five years after our boy slipped the surly bonds of earth, Calder's name once again adorns a graceful Boeing 727. This plane that we affectionately call Awesome One will be publicly displayed at Miami International Airport.

Once the maestro that is Roger Jarman had completed the installation, a Calder once again graced an airplane for the first time in thirty years.

The plane will eventually be on public display at MIA at the Central Base entrance to MIA once ramp reconstruction is complete. The airplane's number two engine works and the hope is for it to taxi on its own when it's officially unveiled. The 727 is currently located on the west side of the airport off of N.W. 36th Street near Signature Flight Support. It is visible through the fence.

Now, I may be biased but I think this is the most Awesome plane ever. Though this Calder 727's triple slotted Krueger flaps will never retract again and hence will never leave the ground again, Calder's spirit is soaring forever – flying maximum fleet utilization 365/24/7.

Calder's grave lies just a few miles west of MIA underneath the final approach and is often visible from the air, which seems fitting to an AvGeek who rotated into the skies far too early. Here's to clear skies, smooth air, adventure, laughter, kindness, and awesomeness. Forever. ■

This article was published in *Airways Magazine* by Chris Sloan, Aviation Journalist

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Heathrow-JFK Was Europe's Busiest International Route In 2018

London Heathrow to New York-JFK is Europe's busiest international scheduled service, according to Routesonline, which revealed that almost three million passengers travelled on the 5,500 kilometer route in 2018.

A total of 2,919,864 passengers boarded flights between the two destinations in 2018, based on the latest data from Sabre Market Intelligence, representing a rise of 1.8% compared with the previous 12 months.

Four airlines served the market last year, led by British Airways, which commanded a 40.7% share of all available seats on offer, followed by Virgin Atlantic (28.5%), American Airlines (20.6%) and Delta (10.2%).

The ascent of London Heathrow-New York John F Kennedy to the position as the busiest international route to/from and within Europe followed a 16.6% year-on-year decline in the number of passengers flying between London Heathrow and Dubai International (DXB).

Figures from Sabre show that 2,674,872 passengers flew non-stop between the UK's busiest airport and United Arab Emirates city in 2018, down from 3,206,776 a year earlier. Five airlines served the market although two of them – Qantas Airways and Royal Brunei Airlines – ended service during the year.

In total, London Heathrow appears in eight of the top ten busiest international routes to/from and within Europe, underlining its position as a major global hub. Only Istanbul Atatürk (IST)-Tehran (IKA) in fourth and Paris (CDG)-New York John F Kennedy (JFK) in ninth did not feature the UK airport.

The research had been released as 1,200 aviation professionals prepared to gather at Routes Europe 2019. The event took place in April in Hannover, Germany.

The event, which was attended by the likes of Air France, British Airways, Lufthansa and Turkish Airlines, provides a meeting place for airlines, airports and tourism organizations to discuss new market opportunities and the evolution of existing services. ■

Port Authority Conducts Daughters and Sons Day

Daughters & Sons Day Took Place Throughout PA Facilities On April 25th

The theme of this special day was "Workforce Development for All," which aims to empower young people to effect positive change in their communities, schools, and homes. As in years past, departments across the agency will no doubt be inspired by this theme to organize educational, enriching, and entertaining activities for children of PA staffers.

As Chief of Human Capital Mary Lee Hannell explained in a broadcast, this event provides an "opportunity for us to show our children how to build and maintain dependable teams as well as provide insight on how each role in our organization contributes to the overall success for staff, customers, and the communities we serve." ■

A Giant's First Steps Into Logistics Marketplace

Amazon Shipping is currently operational for sellers with warehouses in the greater Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York/New Jersey areas.

From *TJI's Research Letter* of April, comes the news that Amazon has appeared to have expanded the geographical reach of warehouses it will originate shipments from New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago vicinities. The report goes on to say that they currently have no reason to believe Amazon will not continue to broaden the areas it can handle shipments from in the future.

Big picture, it appears as though Amazon Shipping as a national ground shipping service is real and growing.

Amazon Shipping currently only originates shipments from warehouses in three major metro areas, the news seems to point to growth of this capability over time. In addition, while Amazon Shipping currently only operates via ground, it would be a natural move for Amazon to employ more of its logistics assets and expertise to incorporate air and other modes of transportation in the future. Amazon is expected to continue to work with logistics partners both for regular Prime shipping and possibly for certain parts of the Amazon Shipping network as well.

From *Supply Chain Dive's* blog of April 11th, we learn that this is not the first sign that Amazon Shipping is on the way. CNBC got word that early pilots of the service had begun in Los Angeles in November (at steeply discounted rates) and *The Wall Street Journal* published a similar report in February (calling the program "Shipping with Amazon.")

Amazon is perhaps uniquely capable of sustained investment in new national and global logistics systems, and this threat to current logistics competitors may be the event that makes them to expand their capabilities to move into Amazon's marketplace. This is what UPS has recently done with its' overture to Pharmaceutical firms. **JOSEPH ALBA**



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Safety Starts With A Fire Drill

Travelers heading into John F. Kennedy International Airport on a recent Monday may have been startled by the sight of a plane engulfed in flames on the runway. What the passengers didn't know is that the fire was a training session aboard a replica aircraft, used to train members of the Port Authority's elite Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Unit (ARFF).

During the training exercise, ARFF team members battled the blaze using specialized trucks equipped with foam and hundreds of gallons of water. Then, they strapped on 70 pounds of fire protective gear before extinguishing fires in the engine, wheel well and wing while initiating a rescue operation, all within seconds.

ARFF is a unique unit of the Port Authority Aviation Department, staffed and operated by police officers trained to serve as firefighters responding to emergencies with aircraft. Each officer assigned to ARFF is a Federal Aviation Administration-certified aircraft rescue firefighter and must requalify twice annually, which exceeds FAA requirements.

"Public safety is a top priority for the Port Authority," said Chief Security Officer John Bilich. "ARFF plays a critical role in ensuring that travelers flying in and out of our airports have the highest level of protection. The

training component, whether visible or invisible, to the public is crucial in keeping the firefighters focused on making quick decisions."

The goal is that ARFF is always available and rarely needed, but when called to service responds effectively in dangerous situations. During one weekend in March, ARFF responded to a flight that made an emergency landing at Newark Liberty International Airport after a report of fire and smoke onboard. The team evacuated the passengers to the runway via emergency slides; only two minor injuries were sustained.

There is also a mutual aid component to the unit's service. When a small plane crash-landed recently in a Long Island neighborhood about nine miles from JFK, an ARFF unit was dispatched to assist local fire and rescue personnel.

Training standards are rigorous. "This is the most regulated discipline in fire training in the entire world," said ARFF Chief Tom Wiczczak, a 20-year veteran who oversees the unit's training. "We have to make sure personnel are proficient in their knowledge, skills and ability. On top of that, we have to keep up with regulatory requirements."

Rapid response could mean the difference between life and death. The challenges ARFF



officers face differ from fighting a conventional building fire, from the difficult shape of an aircraft and the rescue challenges it presents, to the fact that planes can be carrying thousands of gallons of fuel, potentially making a bad situation worse.

About 80 percent of aircraft incidents happen within a 3,000-foot radius of the airport, either on take-off, taxiing or landing. ARFF has about 300 personnel assigned across the Port Authority's airports, with 24 trucks at its disposal that can be deployed when airport control towers report an aircraft emergency.

Most training takes place at the JFK training center set up to meet any firefighting situation. A 125-foot diameter pit employs

clean-burning propane to simulate a fire, and the center also features a 75-foot aircraft mock-up with a broken wing section. Computer controls allow for the creation of firefighting scenarios that vary in size,

ARFF continuously trains for firefighting and potential emergency rescues from planes at JFK, Newark Liberty, LaGuardia and Teterboro airports. They also train operations personnel assigned to New York Stewart International Airport, as well as other area airports in aircraft rescue and firefighting.

"Many kids have the dream of becoming a cop or a firefighter. But in this job, I can be both," Curley said.

LENIS RODRIGUES, PANYNJ Media Relations



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Airbridge Flies 37½ Ton Spare Part

AirBridgeCargo Airlines (ABC) has transported a record shipment weight, a 37.5 ton vessel part, from Frankfurt to Singapore using its abcXL product for oversize and heavyweight consignments. The 8 m long single unit was trucked from the Belgian factory of maritime construction company Jan De Nul Group to the German cargo hub as part of the transportation organized by freight forwarder Ziegler.

A spokesman for the Russian-owned airline said that, “despite challenging weather conditions” in Frankfurt, including strong winds and rain, the loading procedures were completed as planned.

The carrier’s abcXL specialists and Frankfurt airport operations team ensured that the shipment – weighing a total of 40 tonnes after build-up – was securely loaded on to a Boeing 747 freighter.

The abcXL team completed all the arrangements and gained the necessary confirmations for the transportation within a minimum timeframe of six days from the initial customer request to the booking stage, including organizing all essential operational staff and equipment.

The shipment, which was placed onto a high loader by a special 110-tonne capacity crane and pulled onto the aircraft’s maindeck using the freighter’s upswing nose cargo

Sergey Lazarev, ABC general director, stated: “This is the all-time record shipment weight for our company and, as we celebrate our 15th anniversary year, it is another demonstrate of our expertise and delivery capabilities. We are delighted that our customers value our network of dedicated abcXL staff and hubs.

“Both our FRA and SIN stations provide the whole spectrum of operational coverage needed for the transportation of XL shipments – essential equipment, trusted ground handling companies, and certified personnel. This, coupled with their promptness in the organization of each delivery, fosters ABC’s volumes of XL shipments and allows us to guarantee a consistently high level of service quality.” ■



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For That Last Mile of Delivery, Yamato Utilizing Scooters

This year, the Japanese logistics provider Yamato is celebrating a hefty company milestone, its 100-year anniversary. As the number one provider on Japan's domestic parcel market and to cope with the rapidly growing e-commerce market, Yamato has been reforming its services and network to meet the changing needs of customers. In its centennial year, the company ordered 500 electric light utility vehicles from StreetScooter, a subsidiary of Deutsche Post DHL Group, to offer more environmentally friendly service and a better working environment so as to facilitate its reform. As part of the close development partnership between the two companies, the electric vehicles have been modified to meet both Japanese standards and the specific needs of Yamato. That means these "Made in Germany" e-transporters will be sporting a steering wheel on the right. Delivery is scheduled for operation during fiscal year 2019.

Yutaka Nagao, Representative Director, President and Executive Officer of Yamato Transport: "While restructuring a sustainable last mile delivery network for TA-Q-BIN, it has been a big challenge for us to develop new delivery vehicles with the consideration of our employee's point of view. This encounter with StreetScooter is truly exciting to us, and we're looking forward to our first step towards a resolution through joint development."

The order is good news to Achim Kampker, the CEO of StreetScooter. "We're truly thrilled that Yamato has chosen our electric vehicles," Kampker said. "It's fresh validation that our vision of building customized, industry-specific vehicles is blossoming, this time on an international scale. The strategic cooperation with Yamato is thus an important step on the road to tapping the Japanese market for electric light utility vehicles."

Yamato has ordered 500 Work Pure. This model is StreetScooter at its most basic since the variant has no truck body. Truck bodies will be assembled and installed on Work Pure chassis by the Japanese company Toprec, and will also be suitable for cold-chain applications. Maintenance and repair will be performed by the Yamato Transport's group company, Yamato



Autoworks, which is responsible for the group's delivery fleet and also functions as a fleet services provider for third parties.

Yamato Transport is the leading logistics company in Japan and number one on the domestic parcel market. In fiscal year 2018, the company transported some 1.8 billion items. With the help of Yamato's "TA-Q-BIN" service, customers can send parcels, merchandise (even cold-chain items) as well as bulky goods and luggage to nearly any address in Japan, including hotels and airports. In addition to last-mile delivery, the Yamato Group also offers a range of commercial options: Logistics services for major customers (BIZ logistics), appliance installation and moves (home convenience) as well as IT solutions (e-business), financial services (financial) and vehicle services (Autoworks). Yamato is the official logistics partner of the Olympic Games and the Paralympics in Tokyo in 2020.

JOSEPH ALBA

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FAA's Proposed Mechanic Training Rules Too Rigid

FAA's proposed update to modernize the Part 147 maintenance school rule sticks with time-based, versus competency-based curriculum.

FAA's proposed expansion of rules that aviation maintenance technician schools (AMTS) must follow to train mechanics will not please those in the industry who were hoping for more flexibility and less bureaucracy.

FAA's supplemental notice of proposed rulemaking (SNPRM), set for publication Apr. 16, seeks to make Part 147, which AMT schools must follow, more modern. Approved in 1970 and modified little since, Part 147 is far behind modern aviation technology, such as composite repair. A 2015 draft rule based largely on a 2009 industry rulemaking advisory group report addressed many of the modernization concerns, such as updating core competencies that students should learn.

But commenters identified two major issues: FAA's insistence on an hours-based curriculum, not a competency-based one, as well as the growing need to teach classes at remote locations, such as high schools, that were not FAA approved. The SNPRM adds both of these, but with caveats: FAA would approve competency-based curriculum on a case-by-case basis, and it also would require approval of so-called satellite locations.

While encouraged by FAA's progress, the Aviation Technical Education Council (ATEC) is concerned that the expanded rule would add more red tape than benefits.

"The agency's insistence that it approve a school's competency-based program is going to create nothing but bureaucratic roadblocks," ATEC Executive Director Crystal Maguire said. "The FAA oversees safety, not education. It needs to leave the education part to [the Department of Education], which these schools are already beholden to as part of being accredited educational institutions."

ATEC also expressed concern about how FAA proposes handling remote instruction, such as programs that partner with local high schools to offer introductory AMTS courses. Exposing potential mechanics to the business is seen as key to ensure industry has enough technicians in the coming years—part of the reason that airlines, repair stations, and AMTSs are partnering with local schools.

FAA's plan for AMTSs is to either certify so-called "satellite" locations as dependent or independent. Both would require registering with FAA, and an independent operation would have to apply for its own Part 147 certificate. "Both types of satellite training locations must use the curriculum and procedures of the parent AMTS," FAA explained in the updated draft rule's preamble.

ATEC suggested language that permitted remote operations so long as the AMTS "provides suitable facilities, equipment, and material" similar to what the rules require of certificated schools.

"Adding [requirements] to the regulation on satellites that call for more government approval isn't the answer," Maguire said, expressing concern that existing high-school partners may pull back rather than seek FAA's blessing to keep hosting AMTS classes.

The 170 active AMTSs produce about 60% of the 6,500 new aviation mechanics certified in the U.S. each year, with the rest coming from the military or other sources, such as industry-sponsored instruction.

The new draft rule will be open for public comment through June 15. ■

North Bergen Students Introduced to STEM Academy

Teterboro Airport recently hosted a facility tour for the North Bergen STEM Academy. Students learned about Aviation's diverse career opportunities, visited airside operations and one of TEB's Fixed-Base Operators, and observed an equipment demonstration by the Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting unit.

"Our students were fully engaged, and even a bit mesmerized, by what they learned at Teterboro Airport," said Stephanie Stern-Protz, a teacher at the academy. "Many said it was one of the best STEM experiences they had since coming to school because you [TEB] encompassed so many sciences and engineering specialties in one place." ■

Delta Wants To Use Drones On The Airfield for MRO

Delta Air Lines through its Delta TechOps is working on being able to use unmanned aerial vehicles on the airfield--outside of a hangar--to conduct inspection work on its air transport aircraft at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport and others.

It's coming," David Piotrowski, senior principal engineer at TechOps, told a MRO Americas 2019 panel April 11. "It's going to happen; I just don't know on what timeline."

"It's still probably a few years before it gets accepted" by regulators, agreed Josselin Bequet, CEO and cofounder of Donecle. He predicted a regulator-approved operation will arise somewhere in the world within a "couple of years."

Donecle provides drone-based inspection services inside hangars now. Some companies have announced these projects, for instance AFI-KLM, Avianca, Airbus and El Al Israel Airlines. Like Delta, it also is pushing for unscheduled maintenance tasks such as post-lightning and hail damage inspections done outside hangars on the ramp.

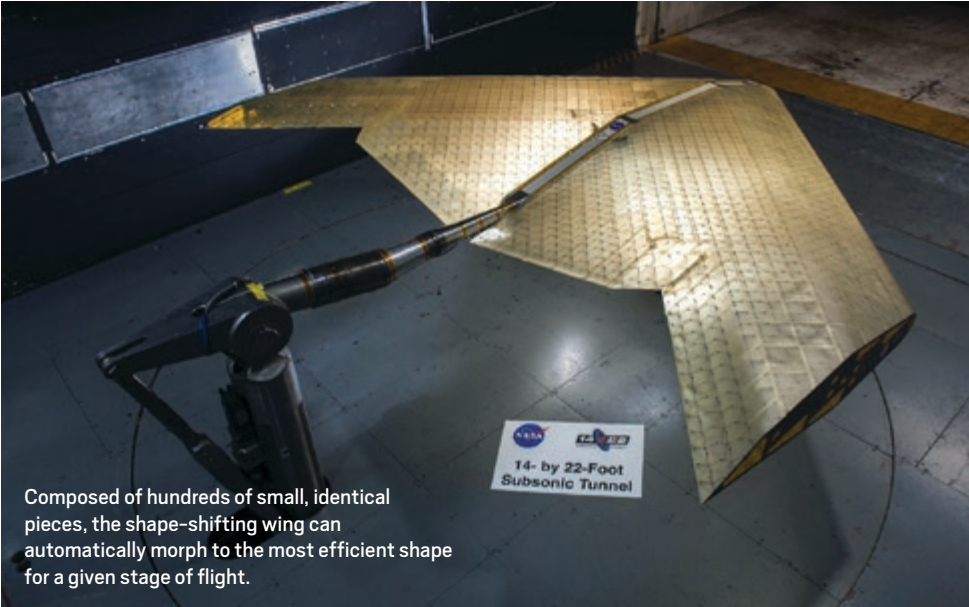
Bequet told Aviation Week Network's MRO Americas that regulators--he did not specify who--are most concerned with so-called flyaway risk with drones; the fear that the UAVs get loose and interfere with airport operations or worse, run into a flight.

One obvious near-term solution may be tethering the UAVs. Donecle started testing and showing regulators 2-3 years ago, including at least one yearlong experiment. "Part of the issue is that regulations are very different in different countries at different airports," he said, slowing regulatory adoption.

Piotrowski said Delta envisions several, specific locations having the capability. Another idea could include having a deployable field unit that can go to an airfield where aircraft are parked for inspection after experiencing hail or lightning strikes. The airline is talking with regulators over how to go about getting approval, including possibly a blanket waiver of some kind.

"At Delta we absolutely want to fly outside," Piotrowski said. Delta aircraft experience 1,800-2,000 lightning strike events each year, spurring inspections including at airfields without adequate hangar space. ■





Flying Like A Bird

A New Type of Airplane Wing That Adapts Midflight Could Change Air Travel

A team of engineers has built and tested a radically new kind of airplane wing, assembled from hundreds of tiny identical pieces. The wing can change shape to control the plane’s flight, and could provide a significant boost in aircraft production, flight, and maintenance efficiency, the researchers say. The new approach to wing construction could afford greater flexibility in the design and manufacturing of future aircraft, according to David L. Chandler of the MIT News Office.

The new approach to wing construction could afford greater flexibility in the design and manufacturing of future aircraft. The new wing design was tested in a NASA wind tunnel and is described in the journal Smart Materials and Structures, co-authored by research engineer David Cramer at NASA Ames in California and MIT Engineering Project Manager; MIT alumnus Kenneth Cheung SM ’07 PhD ’12, now at NASA Ames; Benjamin Jenett, a graduate student in MIT’s Center for Bits and Atoms; and eight others.

Instead of requiring separate movable surfaces such as ailerons to control the roll and pitch of the plane, as conventional wings do, the new assembly system makes it possible to deform the whole wing, or parts of it, by incorporating a mix of stiff and flexible components in its structure. The tiny subassemblies, which are bolted together to form an open, lightweight lattice framework, are then covered with a thin layer of similar polymer material as the framework.

The result is a wing that is much lighter, and thus much more energy efficient, than those with conventional designs, whether made from metal or composites.

Jenett explains that for each of the phases of a flight — takeoff and landing, cruising, maneuvering and so on — each has its own, different set of optimal wing parameters, so a conventional wing is necessarily a compromise that is not optimized for any of these, and therefore sacrifices efficiency. A wing that is constantly deformable could provide a much better approximation of the best configuration for each stage.

This is all accomplished by the careful design of the relative positions of struts with different amounts of flexibility or stiffness, designed so that the wing, or sections of it, bend in specific ways in response to particular kinds of stresses.

Because the overall configuration of the wing or other structure is built up from tiny subunits, it really doesn’t matter what the shape is. “You can make any geometry you want,” he says. “The fact that most aircraft are the same shape” — essentially a tube with wings — “is because of expense. It’s not always the most efficient shape.”

The new wing was designed to be as large as could be accommodated in NASA’s high-speed wind tunnel at Langley Research Center, where it performed even a bit better than predicted, Jenett says.

The team included researchers at Cornell University, the University of California at Berkeley, the University of California at Santa Cruz, NASA Langley Research Center, Kaunas University of Technology in Lithuania, and Qualified Technical Services, Inc., in Moffett Field, California. The work was supported by NASA ARMD Convergent Aeronautics Solutions Program (MADCAT Project), and the MIT Center for Bits and Atoms. ■

This article is published with cooperation of MIT News Office

JetBlue Names Michael Stromer Chief Product Officer, Technology

JetBlue Airways Corp. announced the promotion of **Michael Stromer** to Chief Product Officer, Technology, effective immediately. In this role, Mr. Stromer will be responsible for strategy and product oversight across all of the airline’s digital and IT products that are key to driving efficiency and cost savings in the airline’s operations.

Mr. Stromer will report to **Eash Sundaram**, the airline’s Executive Vice President and Chief Digital & Technology Officer and will lead the design and execution of the digital commerce web and mobile applications that support revenue initiatives; technology for airport, customer support (reservations), system operations, technical operations, flight, and inflight teams, as well as back office products. Mr. Stromer will also have primary responsibility for the modernization of JetBlue’s customer sales and service (CSS) and system operations technology, across all crewmember- and customer-facing products.

“Mike and his team have made tremendous progress in maturing our digital, operations and corporate product portfolios,” said Sundaram. “With our ever-increasing focus on providing JetBlue customers and crewmembers with the best tools and setting the stage to reimagine the future of travel, I have every confidence in Mike’s vision and ability to see us through into that future.”

Mr. Stromer joined JetBlue in 2007 and has held various roles with increasing responsibility across marketing and information technology. Most recently, Mr. Stromer was Vice President Tech Products where he led the airline’s customer and crewmember IT products including JetBlue’s digital transformation program, where his team developed the award-winning redesigns of jetblue.com and the airline’s mobile applications. Mr. Stromer also serves as the Vice Chairman of the Cradle of Aviation Museum in Garden City, NY.

“It is an honor to step into this role and to be able to contribute to this amazing organization’s next chapter of success,” said Mr. Stromer, “We have an incredible team of crewmembers and a powerful brand to live up to. I am excited by the opportunity to deliver to our customers and crewmembers the innovative tools that exemplify the personal, helpful, and simple service that has made JetBlue so unique.” ■



Michael Stromer



British Airways Brings Liveries Together In One Place

British Airways, which is celebrating its centenary this year, has brought together four of its aircraft in heritage liveries along with the fifth plane in the current livery to record in a unique photograph all the iconic BA designs.

The unique “get-together” also marked another milestone. Already 50,000 travellers have flown on these special aircraft around the globe since they entered service.

“The excitement and pride that we’ve witnessed from customers and colleagues as these heritage liveries, which we painted to mark our centenary, have flown around the globe has been unparalleled”, said Alex Cruz, British Airways’ Chairman and CEO. ■



Honor Flight Motorcycle escort

Celebrating Service of Hudson Valley Veterans With Honor Flight to DC

The 22nd mission of the Honor Flight to Washington DC took flight at Stewart Airport on Saturday, April 13th with veterans on board who have served our country in past wars.

The day began for our veterans early on a Saturday morning where the entire group assembled at a Shop Rite parking lot in Montgomery NY at 5:40 AM where refreshments were provided.

At 6:20AM promptly – remember these are former military – the veterans were escorted to Stewart Airport by the motorcycling group, Rolling Thunder who are members of the American Legion posts throughout Orange County NY and meet separately at the American Legion Post 1420 in Newburgh, NY.

The major function of Rolling Thunder is to publicize POW-MIA issues, and to educate the public that many American Prisoners of War were left behind after all previous wars. This part of their mission is their commitment to helping American Veterans from all wars.

Waiting at the airport was a large contingent of citizens who wanted to give our veterans a big send-off. Then, the veterans winged their way to Washington D.C. to celebrate and reflect on their legacy of service to this nation. They will be touring through the sights and monuments at the Capitol, with all expenses taken care of.

A total of 84 veterans were on the flight, ranging in age from a 108-year-old World War 2 veteran, to former troops who served during Desert Storm. One of them told us exactly why this trip is so

meaningful to him. “Because it shows appreciation for the country. They appreciate what we did,” said veteran Francis Bestenheider.

Perhaps the highlight member of this esteemed group is 108-year-old World War II Veteran, and the world’s oldest barber, Anthony Mancinelli, from New Windsor.

We are continually amazed by the real-life stories of the veterans who sign up for Honor Flight. Mr. Mancinelli’s story is one of many. We are so fortunate to have 14 veterans from WWII participating in this flight and with veterans from the Korean War, Vietnam and Desert Storm as well, this flight truly bridges many generations,” said Chairman Frank Kimler. “We are so grateful to ShopRite Supermarkets for their dedication and generosity. We couldn’t do this without their support,” said Executive Director Jennifer DeFrancesco. **JOSEPH ALBA**



Anthony Mancinelli 108-year-old WWII Veteran and practicing barber.

Robbery Defused At Albanian Airport

One man was shot dead and four others were arrested in Albania, following a high-stakes robbery at the Mother Teresa Rinasi International Airport, just north of the capital Tirana.

Armed robbers wearing masks stormed the airport runway in the afternoon and stole millions of euros from an Austria Airlines flight. The robbers managed to gain access through a gate reserved for firefighters. Dressed in military fatigues, three robbers threatened employees handling the flight’s luggage in order to get a hold of the money. Austrian Airlines spokeswoman Tanja Gruber said the cash was being loaded just as the robbers arrived.

“Boarding had just taken place. There was never any danger for crew and passengers,” Gruber said. She added that the heist caused the plane’s departure to be delayed by nearly three hours. Authorities caught up with the robbers one kilometer away from the airport.

“The perpetrators exchanged fire with the police during the chase in a secondary road and one of them lost his life in that exchange,” the police statement said. According to media reports from the scene, the dead man was found with an assault weapon, a grenade and magazines.

Police have not commented on the exact amount that was stolen. But it has been reported that the sum was roughly €2.5 million (\$2.8 million), although local media have claimed that it could be five times higher.

At least two similar heists have taken place at Tirana’s airport in past three years.

Albania-based foreign banks routinely ship out hard currency via air through its international airport to Vienna, because the Balkan country’s central bank does not accept their deposits of hard currency. ■



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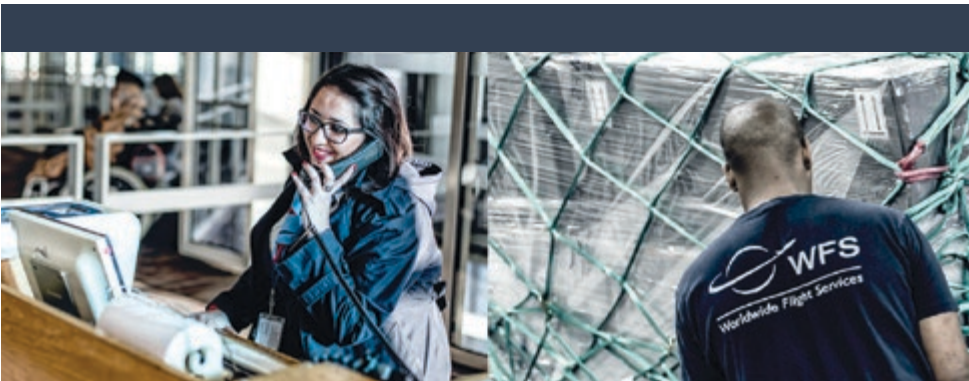
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OWEN CLARKE

The Worlds Most Beautiful Runway

Irish airport beat stiff competition from the Caribbean, North America and New Zealand

What is the most beautiful airport landing in the world? Hopping over the skyscrapers of New York City? Skimming past the beaches of Bali? Not according to avgeeks (self-described aviation fans) who have voted on their favorite final approaches, and have decided that Donegal airport in Ireland is the most breathtaking on the planet.

The runway – which skims the beach and Atlantic Ocean beyond – came top in a survey of 8,500 fans. A total of 112 airports were nominated in the poll conducted by PrivateFly, a private jet booking platform.

It was followed by Barra in Scotland, where the ‘runway’ is actually the beach itself; Nice; and Queenstown in New Zealand.

The coastline around Donegal has featured in the Star Wars movies. The Independent’s Ben Kelly, who flew in from Dublin last year, said that the view on landing is “truly spectacular”.

“The runway is a slim strip of land, with an inlet of water on one side, and the North Atlantic stretching out on the other,” he said. “From the houses and old cottages sprinkled across the green hills to the beaches of Carrickfinn, it’s the Ireland of postcards – and luckily the tiny planes which take you there fly low enough for you to take it all in during the descent.”

Below is the full list of top 10 scenic airports in the world for 2019

- Donegal (Ireland)
- Barra (Scotland)
- Nice (France)
- Queenstown (New Zealand)
- Saba (Dutch Caribbean)
- Orlando Melbourne (USA)
- Toronto Billy Bishop (Canada)
- London City (UK)
- St Maarten (Dutch Caribbean)
- Miami (USA)

JULIA BUCKLEY, *The Independent Magazine*

Pennsylvania Man Arrested At Newark Airport With Gun At Security Point

A Bucks County, Pennsylvania, man found out that Transportation Security Administration officers at Newark Liberty International Airport were not joking this April Fool’s Day when they stopped him from bringing a handgun onto an airplane because it’s no joke when someone gets arrested.

TSA officers caught the .45 caliber handgun in the man’s carry-on bag as it entered the checkpoint X-ray machine at the C-1 Terminal checkpoint. The traveler, a resident of Riegelsville, Pennsylvania, was arrested by Port Authority Police. The man told officials that he is on a competitive shooting team and he forgot that he had his gun with him.

This most recent gun catch marks the fourth gun caught at TSA checkpoints at Newark Liberty International Airport so far this year.

Last year, 14 guns were caught at the airport’s checkpoints, which set a record for the most firearms caught at the airport in one calendar year. ■

Goodbye Flying Lady

Virgin Atlantic is moving on from its Flying Lady motifs on the front of its aircraft, replacing them with a slightly more contemporary Flying Icons theme.

The Flying Icons are “a diverse range of men and women representing modern Britain,” the airline said. They will be added to four new Airbus A350-1000 aircraft this year and a further eight by 2021. They will replace the Flying Lady artwork the airline has used since its launch.



The Flying Lady was inspired by figureheads that have decorated ships since the 16th century, and are based on the pin up girls drawn by Alberto Vargas in the 1930s and ’40s.

“The saying goes ‘You can’t be what you can’t see’ and that has never been truer than the aviation industry’s glamorous image in the past,” Virgin Atlantic SVP Nikki Humphrey said.

“We’ve been working for a number of years to tackle our gender pay gap, create an inclusive workplace and increase the diversity of our workforce, through the development of our Springboard scheme for women, as well as the launch of engineering apprenticeships.

“By introducing our new Flying Icons I hope it encourages people from all backgrounds to feel at home flying with us, but also working with us.” ■



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Pothole Closes Airport

An obstacle to the operation of our vehicles called a pothole is a piece of news that New Yorkers are intimately aware of; you will find them on our well-traveled streets and highways. But an airport's tarmac?

On April 11th, a pothole temporarily shut down one of San Francisco International Airport's runways and travelers were not happy. The 12-inch depression appeared on Runway 28L and crews have been hard at work trying to fix it. The airport remained closed for seven hours, according to tweets from the maintenance crews, while work on fixing the runway was going on.

"During a dawn inspection our airfield team found a 12-inch pavement depression on Runway 28L. We've closed that runway to patch the area, which will take a few hours," SFO rep Doug Yakel told Fox News. "During that time, we may experience delays similar to those we see during bad weather.

Responded Stefanie Plumley in a particularly unhappy tweet:
Fab! Nothing better than having a quick flight delayed by 5 hours, facing rush hour traffic over the golden gate and missing a dinner reservation that took 6 months to get. Happy birthday to me. **JOSEPH ALBA**



The Ark at JFK and Terminal 4 Rolled Out the Red Carpet In Honor of National Pet Day!

The event featured Aiden and Tucker, the Ark at JFK Ambassadors. The passengers and terminal staff alike loved to take a few minutes and decompress with these lovely pups. Nothing relaxes you more than to spend a few minutes with a furry friend.

The Ark at JFK and T4 wanted to inform the traveling public that they can choose how their loved ones travel to, from and through JFK International Airport. The Ark is a privately owned full service, 24 hour animal reception area at JFK. They will handle all the details to ensure that all traveling animals are cared for in their state-of-the-art facility located on airport property.

No detail is left out, from airside pickup, temperature controlled transport vehicles, USDA approved and monitored cleaning practices, caring and well trained staff and a great location to be reunited with your pet. Terminal 4 offers pet relief areas at the terminal and is service animal friendly. ■



Latam and Gol Seek To Acquire Avianca Brasil Assets

In a stock market disclosure, Gol said it would partner funds controlled by Elliott Management to submit a proposal to acquire select assets from Avianca Brasil. The U.S. based private equity firm is the distressed Brazilian carrier's largest creditor and is owed approximately USD515 million.

Gol said it had opened talks with Manchester Securities Corp., Elliott Associates, and Elliott International on March 27 over the proposal which would rival a USD105 million bid pitched by rival Azul Linhas Aéreas Brasileiras (AD, Sao Paulo Viracopos). Azul plans to acquire an isolated business unit (Unidade Produtiva Isolada - UPI - or NewCo) named Life Air which will contain Avianca Brasil's Air Operator's Certificate (AOC), 70 airport slot pairs at São Paulo Congonhas, Rio de Janeiro Santos Dumont, and São Paulo Guarulhos, and approximately thirty A320 Family aircraft.

According to Gol, its proposal with Elliott envisages the establishment of seven UPIs for Avianca Brasil which will then be auctioned off as part of the Revised Judicial Restructuring Plan. Of those seven, six will hold the carrier's Congonhas, Santos Dumont, and Guarulhos slots as well as its AOCs while a seventh will hold assets related to its Amigo frequent flyer program. Unlike the Azul proposal, under the Gol/Elliott plan, bidders will be able to submit offers for one or more of the UPIs.

Gol and LATAM Airlines Group have both confirmed they will make separate minimum offers of USD70 million for at least one of the UPIs.

GOL added that in the event it acquires any UPI, it will retain the relevant Avianca Brasil staff associated with that particular UPI's activity. ■



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Upcoming Airport Events

Upcoming events are also online at www.metroairportnews.com/airport-events

May 2

CAO ANNUAL SPRING JOB FAIR
Newark Liberty International Airport, Newark, NJ
www.caonynj.com

May 2-6

2019 KAAMCO CONVENTION
Condado Vanderbilt Hotel, San Juan, Puerto Rico
www.kaamco.org

May 4

VAUGHN COLLEGE CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL DRONE DAY
Vaughn College, East Elmhurst, NY
www.vaughn.edu

May 5

NY METRO BLACK PILOTS OF AMERICA MEETING
Republic Airport (FRG), East Farmingdale, NY
www.nymetrobpa.org

May 7

ROTARY CLUB DINNER
King Umberto, Elmont, NY
www.jfkrotaryclub.org

May 8

JFK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GENERAL MONTHLY MEETING
JFK Airport, Building 14, Jamaica, NY
www.jfkairportchamberofcommerce.org

May 9 & 23

LAGUARDIA AIRPORT KIWANIS MONTHLY MEETING
LaGuardia Marriott Hotel, East Elmhurst, NY
www.lgakiwanis.org

May 11

COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION OF U.S. CUSTOMS & AFFILIATED FEDERAL AGENCIES
Leonard's Palazzo, Great Neck NY
www.columbiaaassnusc.org

May 13 & 27

CIVIL AIR PATROL FALCON SQUADRON MEETING
JFK Airport, Building 14, Jamaica, NY
www.falconsquadron.org

May 15

ROTARY CLUB LUNCHEON
A&R Food Service, JFK Airport, Building 14, Jamaica NY
www.jfkrotaryclub.org

May 15

ROCKAWAY DEVELOPMENT & REVITALIZATION CORP. 33RD ANNUAL TRIBUTE & GALA DINNER
Honoring Dolores Hofman, ASDO
Russo's on the Bay, Howard Beach, NY
www.rdrc.org

May 16

LAAMCO ANNUAL CONVENTION
Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, Banf, Alberta, Canada
www.laamco.com

May 17

FDU EWR OPEN HOUSE – MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MPA)
Newark Airport, Building One, Newark, NJ
www.fdu.edu/mpa

May 30

JFK AIRPORT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LUNCHEON
Speaker: David Neeleman, founder of four commercial airlines, Morris Air, WestJet, JetBlue Airways and Azul Brazilian Airlines. He is also the co-owner of another commercial airline in Europe, TAP Air Portugal
TWA Hotel, JFK Airport, Jamaica, NY
www.jfkairportchamberofcommerce.org

May 31

LAGUARDIA AIRPORT KIWANIS GALA
Leonard's Palazzo, Great Neck NY
www.lgakiwanis.org

June 5

QUEENS ASDO 37TH AVIATION NETWORKING EVENT
Russo's on the Bay, Howard Beach, NY
www.asdoonline.com

June 5

LAAMCO MONTHLY MEETING
LaGuardia Airport, Terminal B, Flushing, NY
www.laamco.com

June 5

PALS ABOVE & BEYOND 2019 GALA
The Mansion at Oyster Bay, Woodbury, NY
www.palservices.org

June 12

FDU EWR OPEN HOUSE - GLOBAL AFFAIRS
Newark Airport, Building One, Newark, NJ
www.fdu.edu/mpa

June 13

GATEWAYJFK 2019 ANNUAL MEETING
TWA Hotel, JFK Airport, Jamaica, NY
www.gatewayjfk.org

June 24

QUEENS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GOLF TOURNAMENT
Garden City Country Club, Garden City, NY
www.queenschamber.org

June 25

QUEENS CENTERS FOR PROGRESS ANNUAL GALA
Terrace on the Park, Corona, NY
www.queenscp.org

July 15

JFK ROTARY ANNUAL LADIES GOLF OUTING & SPA DAY
Cold Spring Country Club, Huntington, NY
www.jfkrotaryclub.org

August 15

15TH ANNIVERSARY DANNY FERRANTE JFK GOLF OUTING & GALA DINNER
Stonebridge Golf Country Club, Smithtown, NY
www.stonebridgegclcc.com

Are We Closer To Getting the Boeing 737 Max Back In Service?

Boeing Reporting Progress As 120 Test Flights of 737 Max Occur Prior to Re-certification

Boeing CEO Dennis Muilenburg has announced that Boeing completed the final test flight prior to certification testing for software designed to address issues with the Maneuvering Characteristics Augmentation System (MCAS) on the Boeing 737 MAX on April 16th. MCAS activation in response to faulty angle of attack sensors has been highlighted as a likely factor in the fatal accidents of Ethiopian Airlines Flight 302 and Lion Air Flight 610. Muilenburg reported that 120 test flights totaling more than 203 hours flight time have now been completed using the new software.

Certifying the software update is just one aspect of returning the MAX to service. As previously reported, the FAA recently posted a draft report from the Boeing 737 MAX Flight Standardization Board (FSB) adjusting pilot training requirements for the aircraft. The report added the MCAS to the list of areas that must receive special emphasis during ground

training, but is not requiring flight simulator training for the system.

FAA posts report on pilot training for re-certification of 737 max

The FAA has posted a draft report from the Boeing 737 MAX Flight Standardization Board

(FSB) covering updated pilot training requirements for the aircraft. The draft adds the Maneuvering Characteristics Augmentation System (MCAS) to the list of areas which must receive special emphasis during ground training, but does not require flight simulator



Boeing 737 MAX 8 aircraft of Shenzhen Airlines grounded at Shenzhen Bao'an International Airport in March 2019.

training for the system. The FSB only reviewed “training aspects related to software enhancements to the aircraft” for the report.

According to the draft, “MCAS ground training must address system description, functionality, associated failure conditions, and flight crew alerting. These items must be included in initial, upgrade, transition, differences, and recurrent training.” The new requirement is based on a March 2019 evaluation of the “modified” MCAS conducted by the FSB. The report states that the board found the MCAS to be “operationally suitable.”

Still No Date Estimate for Return to Skies

In a lengthy hearing on April 16th before the Senate’s subcommittee on Aviation and Space, chaired by Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, acting Federal Aviation Administrator Daniel Elwell did not provide a specific timeline for when the planes would be back in service. The FAA grounded the 737 Max jets after high-profile accidents that killed hundreds of people in Ethiopia and Indonesia.

“The 737 Max will return to service for U.S. carriers only when the FAA’s analysis of the facts and technical data indicate that it is appropriate to do so,” Elwell said. ■

THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NY & NJ

PA Begins Runway Reconstruction at JFK Airport

A reconstruction project involving the expansion of the 13L-31R runway and its associated taxiways to improve safety and increase peak period capacity is now underway at John F. Kennedy International Airport.

The rehabilitation will also include repaving the almost 10,000-foot-long runway with concrete, which will extend its useful

life span to 40 years instead of the usual 8-12 years with asphalt.

And the creation of new high-speed taxiways will enable aircraft to exit the runway more quickly allowing it to handle more traffic during peak hours. Runway 13L-31R is one of JFK's four runways and handles approximately one-third of the airport's arrivals, which translates into more than 61 million customers and over 450,000 flights a year.

Port Authority Executive Director **Rick Cotton** said: "With this project, the Port Authority is moving to rebuild JFK's last outdated runway. This reconstruction effort will transform runway 13L-31R from a 150-foot-wide asphalt runway to a 200-foot-wide concrete runway that will extend its life expectancy by a factor of four and improve the safety of flight operations. The project will also advance and upgrade the antiquated electrical lighting system originally installed in 1993 to a more sophisticated and energy-efficient system."

The airport's terminal operators have all expressed support for this project, and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has also developed a strategic plan to manage aircraft traffic while the runway is closed in order to maximize efficiency and minimize delays.



The runway reconstruction is projected to create 3,340 jobs, \$251.8 million in payroll wages and generate over \$600 million in economic activity.

Port Authority Chairman **Kevin O'Toole** notes: "The Port Authority recognizes the need for infrastructure upgrades to improve the customer's flight experience and to better maintain and operate our facilities and assets. This project is critical to achieve these goals, and we are working to ensure minimal impact while the reconstruction is underway."

The work on this project is expected to continue through November 2019. ■

New Terminal Expansion at SWF

Preparation work on the new \$37 million International Arrivals Hall at New York Stewart International Airport has begun, and the 20,000-square-foot addition will not only give Stewart more space to accommodate the influx in passengers it has experienced since welcoming its first international airline, Norwegian Air in 2017, but also room for a permanent and dedicated facility to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection, which currently uses a moveable wall to seal off a secure area within the terminal to process international passengers.

According to Stewart Airport's Business Development Director **Michael Torelli**: "The phase of that project is to do a new sterile corridor into the baggage claim area for an interim inspection station, because our existing entrance into the Federal Inspection Station will be under construction."

In addition to this project, and as part of the Port Authority's plan to make all of their facilities more environmentally sustainable, Forefront Power of San Francisco has been awarded the contract to build a solar carport over part of the terminal's parking lot to help supply power to the building.

This month will see ground broken to begin the actual expansion work on the terminal which is expected to be completed by August 2020. ■



PA Launches New Lost and Found Website

Have you just landed and found something missing? No problem, because the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey recently launched a new website to help you find a lost item at any of its four airports – free of charge!

That means, the only thing you'll pay for is the shipping and handling once your item is located and it's that easy. All you have to do is go to the website: panynj.lostandfoundsite.com and click on the Report Lost Item button, then fill in all the fields with the corresponding information about your lost item.

After you've done that, a quick search of the site's database will see if your item has been found and it has, you'll receive an email notification about how you can have it shipped to you.

The cost of shipping and handling fees will vary according to the size and weight of the item, as well as the priorities you choose, such as same day or overnight delivery. Payment is easy since all major credit cards are accepted. Just provide your information on our secure and encrypted website – and if you want your item insured, there's also an option for purchasing shipping insurance for an extra charge.

Once completed, your item will be shipped via the next scheduled USPS/FedEx/USPS pick-up date during regular business hours between Monday and Friday (excluding postal holidays).

However, if you choose USPS Priority Mail, you'll get your item/s within 2-3 business days. And with the even faster USPS/FedEx/UPS overnight mail option, you'll have delivery in just one day.

And with whichever option you choose, you'll receive a Tracking Number to follow your item's progress by email.

Plus, this service is now available at John F. Kennedy, Newark Liberty, LaGuardia and New York Stewart International Airports. If you need any additional information or assistance, please call us at: **(561) 408-0101**. ■

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Funding provided by grants from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security