

MEDIA RELEASE

SWISSPORT JOINS AIRBUS "OPEN CARGO LAB"

Swissport International participates in Airbus' OpenCargoLab, joining forces with industry leaders such as KLM Cargo, Kuehne+Nagel, CHAMP Cargosystems and Fraport, to develop data-driven concepts for the future of air cargo handling.

Swissport International AG has joined the OpenCargoLab initiative, leveraging its expertise as the global leader in aviation services to contribute to the development of data-driven processes for air cargo handling jointly with a group of leading industry players. Launched by Airbus, the OpenCargoLab is as a platform to evaluate how digital innovation, including AI and sensor technologies, can pave the way for more efficient air cargo handling.

"We are proud that Airbus has invited Swissport to represent the global air cargo handling industry in its OpenCargoLab initiative," says Dirk Goovaerts, Global Cargo Chair and Head of Continental Europe, Middle East and Africa at Swissport International AG. "Being a key member of this initiative underscores our dedication to driving advancements in the air cargo sector, positioning Swissport at the forefront of industry innovation."

Swissport will bring its extensive expertise in air cargo handling to the table, supporting the OpenCargoLab group in understanding how to best collect and analyse data during the physical handling of cargo. The aim is to improve the efficiency of the overall process. The initiative extends to support the development of technology for the cargo holds of the new Airbus A350F cargo aircraft, aligning with Airbus' vision of a "smart freighter."

"We are pleased to welcome Swissport to our OpenCargoLab initiative," says Marvin Ehrmann, Head of Airbus' OpenCargoLab. "With their in-depth knowledge of air cargo handling services, combined with the expertise of our experienced partners, we aim to drive the air cargo sector towards greater transparency, efficiency, and connectivity."

In 2023, Swissport International AG provided best-in-class airport ground services for some 232 million airline passengers (2022: 186 million) and handled roughly 4.7 million tons of air freight (2022: 4.8 million) at 115 air cargo centers worldwide. Several of its warehouses have been certified for pharmaceutical logistics by IATA's CEIV Pharma and by the British MHRA. At the end of December 2023, the world's leader in airport ground services and air cargo handling, with currently around 60,000 employees, was active at 286 airports in 44 countries on six continents.

Media contacts

Swissport International AG, Group Communications, Stefan Hartung, P.O. Box, 8058 Zurich Airport, Switzerland
media@swissport.com, +41 43 815 00 22