

MEDIA RELEASE

SWISSPORT ADDS 3RD AIR CARGO CENTER IN LIÈGE, BELGIUM

Swissport International continues to grow at Liège Airport, Belgium, adding a third air cargo center at one of Europe's major gateways for international air cargo. The extension is driven by additional capacity for eCommerce and forwarder handling, expanding the overall capacity by 17 percent to 27,000 square meters.

With the addition of a third, brand-new air cargo terminal at the airport of Liège in Belgium, Swissport expands its total surface space to 27,000 sqm, making it the largest air cargo handler at the logistics hub. Located in a second line just behind its existing two air cargo centers, the terminal expansion enables Swissport to offer a wide range of handling services at unparalleled capacity. In a step aligned with Swissport's global cargo strategy, the product portfolio now includes forwarder handling, eCommerce processing and sorting, import trucking, and specialized build-up/break-down operations for brokers, airlines, and others. The new, customs bonded facility, which opened on 22 April adds 4,000 sqm to Swissport's capacity of now 27,000 sqm.

"The opening of our third terminal here at Liège Airport is an important milestone for us," says Wilfried Jans, Director of Swissport's Cargo Division at Liège Airport. "The additional capacity relieves our first-line air cargo warehouses, enhances our operational efficiency and provides flexibility to respond to short notice customer needs. The expansion also enables us to offer customized handling solutions, catering to the specific needs of forwarders and eCommerce providers, activities that do not necessitate first-line services. We are now even better prepared to meet and exceed the demands of our existing customers and to forge new partnerships."

"Liège Airport has established itself as a key player in the air cargo landscape, with a remarkable 13 percent increase in cargo volumes year-on-year," adds Dirk Goovaerts, Global Cargo Chair and CEO of Swissport's CEMEA region. "Recognizing the growing demand in eCommerce, particularly driven by air cargo movements out of Asia, Swissport has secured contracts with leading eCommerce players to handle cargo at its Liège facility. This strategic focus reflects the role of Liège as the ideal cargo hub for eCommerce logistics in central Europe, capitalizing on the airport's prime location and existing flight connections to India and China."

Swissport has been serving cargo airlines at Liège Airport since 2001 and offers a comprehensive suite of services for over eight airlines, covering general and special cargo handling, temperature-controlled handling, hub handling, express services, and forwarder handling. In 2023, a dedicated team of 300 Swissport professionals successfully handled an impressive 360,000 tons of air cargo and serviced over 3,750 freighters, significantly contributing to the robust performance of Swissport's air cargo operations globally.

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, Silvia Garrido, P.O. Box, 8058 Zurich Airport, Switzerland
media@swissport.com, +41 43 815 00 22