

MEDIA RELEASE

SWISSPORT BASEL INAUGURATES NEW COOL CHAIN TERMINAL "COOL+CONNECT"

The new state-of-the-art 'cool+connect' infrastructure ensures seamless cold chain management, reduces CO2 emissions and handling time, and reinforces Swissport's leadership in managing temperature-sensitive goods at EuroAirport Basel-Mulhouse.

Swissport Basel is inaugurating its new "cool+connect" terminal on 27 June 2024. The new infrastructure seamlessly ensures the integrity of pharmaceutical and temperature-sensitive goods (2-8°C) throughout the loading process. By consolidating shipments from the same suppliers in a single truck instead of several as before, CO2 emissions and handling time are reduced by around 70% (from 4.5 to 1.5 hours), as transportation outside the airport is no longer necessary.

"'cool+connect' is the first of its kind and we are proud to offer this innovation to our customers at EuroAirport," says Andreas Behnke, Station Manager Basel, and Board member of the Swissport Global Cargo committee. "The cool chain infrastructure for pharmaceutical centers with many refrigerated containers meets a global need in the logistics industry. Swissport offers a proven, standardized terminal for airlines, logistics providers and airports to outsource business-critical operations."

Swissport plans to introduce the "cool+connect" infrastructure worldwide. Additionally, the company is committed to expanding its network of IATA CEIV Pharma-certified cargo warehouses for pharmaceutical logistics. Swissport aims to achieve CEIV certification across its network, with Geneva, Switzerland, and Hamburg, Germany, already in the planning stages. In the United States, Swissport is actively pursuing certification for major pharmaceutical centers at Miami International Airport and Chicago O'Hare International Airport, reinforcing its dedication to providing world-class handling of pharmaceutical goods.

The modern cargo warehouse at EuroAirport Basel includes an IATA CEIV-certified Swissport Pharma Center, which offers optimum conditions for handling temperature-sensitive goods, mainly from the pharmaceutical industry. Swissport plays a key role in the temperature-sensitive air cargo supply chain and its cargo infrastructure is renowned for its expertise in handling pharmaceutical products. In 2023, Swissport Cargo in Basel handled 43,000 tons of freight for 1,875 flights and employed 105 staff.

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