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January 2008

Virgin flies by biofuel

VIRGIN Atlantic has flown the first aircraft powered by a blend of biofuel and conventional jet fuel.

The B747 flight took off from London to Amsterdam. The biofuels blend was 20 per cent neat biofuel and 80 per cent conventional jet fuel.

Virgin chief executive officer, Richard Branson, called the flight "a vital breakthrough for the whole airline industry" and said tests indicate it is possible to fly with a blend of 40 per cent biofuel.

Branson also said he thinks algae is a likely future source of renewable fuel for the airline industry.



Beijing's new terminal 3 to be operational

The Beijing International Airport Authority has announced that the first wave of carriers to move on 29th February to the new Terminal 3 at the Beijing Capital International Airport (BCIA) will be British Airways, El Al, Qatar, Qantas, Shandong and Sichuan Airlines.

A second wave of 26 international and domestic airlines will follow on 26th march. When fully operational, the capital airport is to carry 82 million passengers a year, against the present annual figure of 35 million passengers.

Construction of the new terminal building, part of the expansion project of BCIA started in March 2004. It covers a floor space of 1 million square meters. The expansion also includes a third runway, 125 more parking bays, as well as affiliated buildings, a new cargo zone, and zones for special planes and private planes. The expansion projects, which cost 27 billion Yuan (US\$3.65 billion), will cover a total area of 1,467 hectares or 1.6 times the former space.

Customs expands facilities at Brisbane Airport

Brisbane Airport Corporation (BAC) and the Australian Customs Service today confirmed plans for a new Customs office to be built at Brisbane Airport. It will feature some of the highest environmental standards for an office building on an airport in Australia.

The new building will be situated on a high-profile site at Number 1, Airport Drive. Standing four levels high with approximately 9,000 sqm of net lettable office space, the Customs building is the third office building to be constructed on the precinct.

Koen Rooijmans, BAC managing director and chief executive, said BAC had an ambitious vision for Number 1 Airport Drive, with plans for health, child care, sport, shopping, entertainment, dining, fitness and accommodation facilities currently under way.

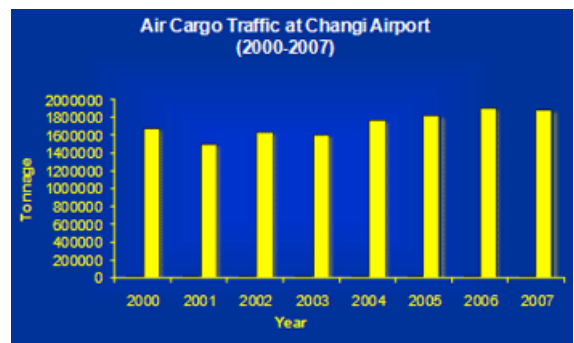
Completion for the new building is expected in March 2009.



Singapore's Changi Airport posts 7.8pc increase in January cargo volume

SINGAPORE Changi Airport started the year with good traffic growth in January, according to the airport authority, with passenger traffic growing 5.7 per cent to more than 3.1 million, and cargo volume rising to 155,000 tonnes, up 7.8 per cent year on year.

Changi Airport is served by 82 airlines operating more than 4,360 weekly scheduled flights to 189 cities in 59 countries, said the airport authority.



Cargo Throughput for January 2008

Air cargo throughput for January 2008 was 154,827 tonnes, an increase of 7.8% over the same period in 2007.

Shanghai expects volume to hit 30 million TEU in 2008

CONTAINER handling volume of Shanghai International Port Group (SIPG) is expected to exceed 30 million TEU this year, including nine million TEU handled by the port operator in Yangshan port, said general manager of SIPG Chen Xuyuan. During a promotion presentation for SIPG, Mr Chen said the company will commit itself to its major business, especially the container business.

The goal of SIPG in 2010 is to handle 35 million TEU, including 15 million TEU handled in Yangshan, he added. SIPG, the largest port operator in Shanghai, handles more than half of the cargo volume and all of the containers in Shanghai port. Mr Chen said the company has been considering overseas IPO but there is no definite plan for this year.

This year SIPG will continue to boost growth of container throughput, further expand international market and improve operation efficiency, especially the efficiency of the newly established projects like Luojing second phase, Mr Chen said. the profit of SIPG's container business has been growing steadily at about 65 per cent in recent years and that of the bulk cargo business at about 50 per cent, together becoming major sources of the company's revenue and profit., Mr Chen said. while keeping the steady growth of major business, SIPG will boost the growth of supporting business like the port logistics business, which grows at about 20 per cent yearly.

Tauranga Port buys new crane for large regional box ships



NEW ZEALAND's Port of Tauranga has bought a fifth container crane for its Tauranga terminal, reports the New Zealand Press Association. The crane manufactured by Liebherr is scheduled to be put into operation by July 2009. The crane is designed to handle

large container ships ranging in size from 5,000 to 7,000 TEU that are expected to be deployed on regional trade routes in future. The extra crane is needed as the port's container business has experienced 10 per cent compound annual growth since beginning its MetroPort Auckland operation in 2000, Port of Tauranga chief executive Mark Cairns said.

CT Freight continues to assist with the expansion of oil mining in Mongolia



CT Freight recently moved two truck mounted oil drilling rigs ex Los Angeles to Mongolia for use on a large mining project. The rigs weigh 32,000 kgs each so they did take extensive logistical planning but we are pleased to say we got the rigs all the way to Mongolia within the tight schedule imposed by the mine.



Clive Thomas -

All At C.T.Freight

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