



ARABIAN CARGO AWARDS

2025

Note

This year's Arabian Cargo Awards carry a special sense of pride and purpose. The cargo and logistics industry across the Middle East has outdone itself; expanding faster, innovating smarter, and connecting the world with greater efficiency than ever before. We have seen new airlines take flight, logistics hubs expand their reach, and technology reshape how goods move across continents. From sustainable warehousing to smart customs ops and AI-driven supply chains, the sector is evolving into one of the strongest pillars of the region's economy.

That is what makes the winners of the Arabian Cargo Awards so inspiring. Each one represents the heartbeat of this transformation with people and companies that did not just adapt but led the change. These awards are more than trophies; they are a recognition of excellence, resilience, and forward thinking in a dynamic global marketplace.

In this book, we have captured the stories that define that progress. You will find thoughtful guest columns from our Gold Award winners, insights on the region's key developments, and a closer look at how innovation continues to drive growth. My hope is that as you turn these pages, you feel the same pride, optimism, and motivation that fuel this remarkable industry every single day.

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Down Memory Lane

SECTION 1





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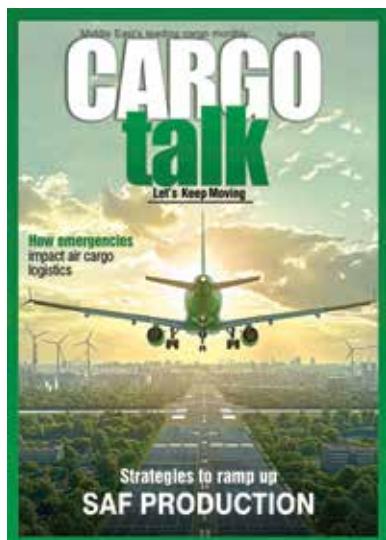
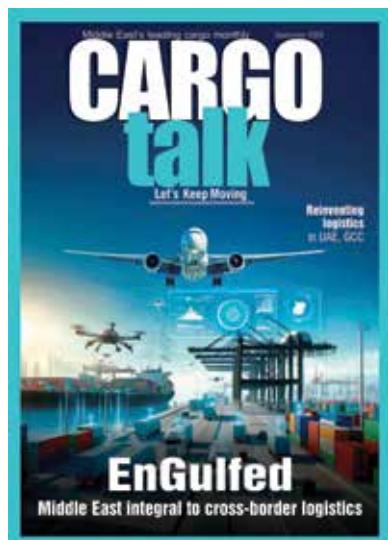
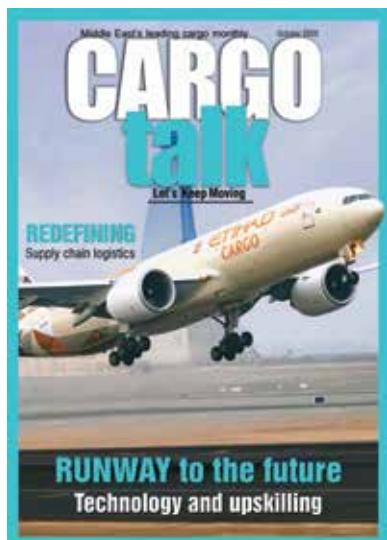
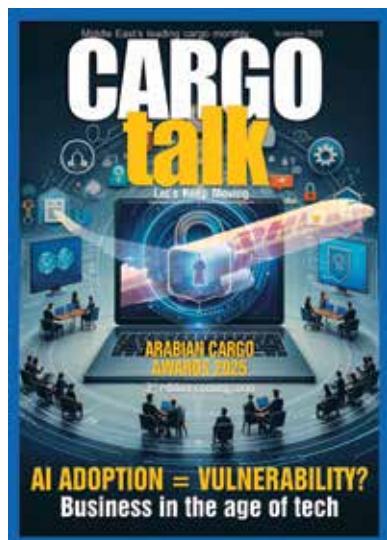
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DIMOS



Galloping towards the future of air cargo & logistics



In response to growing demand from air cargo and logistics professionals, DDP Group launched **CargoTalk** in 2022, a publication dedicated to the air cargo industry. As it enters its fourth year, the magazine has become an essential resource, filling a critical abyss by providing the latest news, insights, and industry analysis that the sector has long been craving. **CargoTalk** goes beyond the traditional format, integrating digital and video content with its print edition to deliver comprehensive

coverage across key sectors. With its sharp focus on latest trends, innovations, and business opportunities, the magazine is widely distributed to business offices and decision-makers, solidifying its role as an indispensable tool for professionals in the air cargo and logistics industry. As the Middle East continues to play an important role in global logistics, **CargoTalk** stands at the forefront, driving conversations and keeping the industry at large informed, connected, and ready for the future. 

A glance at industry champions

GALLERY OF LEGENDS



2024

Mohammed Jassim Al Rais
Executive Director
Al Rais Cargo Agencies

Mohammed Jassim Al Rais is flanked by Chief Guest Shahab Al Jassmi, SVP, Ports and Terminals Commercial GCC, DP World UAE, (Left) Sanjeet, Mentor, Arabian Cargo Awards, and (Right) Sumeera Bahl, Director, DDP Group

2023

Amadou Diallo
Chief Executive Officer
DHL Global Forwarding

Amadou Diallo is flanked by Chief Guest Shahab Al Jassmi, SVP, Ports and Terminals Commercial GCC, DP World UAE, (Left) SanJeet, Mentor, Arabian Cargo Awards, and (Right) Sumeera Bahl, Director, DDP Group



DDP GAMECHANGER

2024



Tariq Hareb Alfalahi
CEO
Rail Direct

2023



Nadia Abdul Aziz
President
NAFL

DDP TRAILBLAZER

2024



Jude Fernandes
Head, Cargo Commercial Partnerships
Dubai Airports

2023



Nasir Jamal Khan
CEO
Al Naboodah Travel and Tourism Agencies

FACE OF THE FUTURE

2024



Rohit Thakwani
CEO
Airglow Aviation

2023



Abhishek Ajay Shah
CEO and Co-founder
RSA Global



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Down memory lane 2024



*This award was received by Nadia Abdul Aziz
President, National Association of Freight and Logistics*



*The award was received by Praveen Nair
General Manager, Air Freight, DSV*



*The award was received by Ken O'Rahilly
CEO, e-Commerce, RSA Global*



*This award was received by Ayah Al Bidh
Marketing & Public Relations Manager, Orbit Logistics*



*The award was received by Sathish Babu, Country
Manager, Explolanka Freight Dubai LLC (EFL)*



*The award was received by Azimi A.S.
MD, Air One Cargo FZCO (Part of Azimi Group)*



*The award was received by Nagarjun R Peri,
General Manager, Kale Logistics Solutions*



*The award was received by Nasir Jamal Khan,
CEO, Al Naboodah Travel and Tourism LLC*

Down memory lane 2023



*Prashanth Balakrishnan, General Manager,
Orient Cargo, receiving the award*



*S. Burak Omeroglu, Vice President, Middle East and
South Asia, Turkish Cargo, receiving the award*



*Adel Al Tahiri, VP, Freezone Sales and Services,
Abu Dhabi Airport Free Zone, receiving the award*



*Kannan Nachiappan, CEO, GSA Global Cargo,
receiving the award*



*Yamrot Nigussie, Cargo Manager, Gulf Countries,
Ethiopian Airlines, receiving the award*



*Chaminda Pereira, General Manager, Cargo,
SriLankan Airlines, receiving the award*



*Amer Al Khatib, VP, UAE and Commercial Freight
Logistics, Milaha, receiving the award*



*Lejla Omerbasic Dukic, Head, UAE, ME & Africa,
Ceva Logistics, receiving the award*

Guest Columns

SECTION 2







Amadou Diallo, CEO, DHL Global Forwarding MEA, won the Gallery of Legends Award at the Arabian Cargo Awards 2024

Smart, sustainable logistics fuel freight forwarding

When I think about the future of logistics, I think about the people driving it. In the Middle East and Africa their energy is strong: Societies are powered by a young, tech-savvy generation with determination to shape an exciting future.



Amadou Diallo
CEO
DHL Global Forwarding MEA

Here, terms, such as 'smart', 'sustainable', and 'future-ready' supply chains are more than just buzzwords. They reflect the foundation currently being laid across the region's evolving forwarding and trade infra: From hydrogen-powered vehicles to rail corridors that reduce road congestion, the shift toward cleaner, more efficient freight systems is well underway. And these developments are not just about cutting emissions, but about building resilience, improving connectivity, and enabling long-term growth.

The region's global importance has been elevated as it has become an anchor in global trade. Companies diversify sourcing and





reposition inventory closer to end markets: In this scenario, the Middle East offers infra readiness and access to key growth corridors. One of the region's strengths is its flexibility: Its ability to adapt to shifting trade dynamics, whether through alternative routing during disruptions or the rapid scaling of multimodal transport. Integrated logistics zones, bonded warehouses, multiple strategically located ports, and growing rail networks are enhancing interconnectivity across borders. This agility, combined with access to Asia, Africa, and Europe, is positioning the region as a transit point and a resilient and responsive hub for global forwarding.

One of the region's strengths is its flexibility: Its ability to adapt to trade dynamics, whether through alternative routing during disruptions or scaling of multimodal transport.



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Investment is reinforcing this momentum — DHL Global Forwarding has just announced an investment of €500 million across the Middle East until 2030 to expand multimodal infrastructure, digitise freight operations, and support clean mobility. These efforts are aligned with national ambitions and reflect the growing role of the region in shaping the future of global logistics.

One major factor among all of this is 'digitalisation' as it reshapes logistics sector. Advanced tools, such as predictive analytics, real-time visibility, and AI-driven platforms are helping businesses anticipate disruptions, optimise inventory, and make faster decisions.

But advanced technology alone does not drive transformation: In the Middle East, more than half of the population is under the age of 25. With the right training and opportunities, this digitally fluent generation is helping companies adapt to a new digital era and redefine freight forwarding from the ground up.

Logistics sector has developed from a transactional service into a strategic enabler. It is becoming a space where

Integrated logistics zones, bonded warehouses, multiple strategically located ports, and growing rail networks are enhancing interconnectivity across borders

governments, industry, and talent converge to solve real-world challenges. And it is increasingly defined by collaboration across borders, sectors, and generations.

So, in the end, it all comes back to the people: How well we empower them, and how well we equip them to lead with advanced technology. It also comes back to each of us: How focused we stay on fulfilling our shared sustainability mission, so that the future of logistics sector is smart, responsible, inclusive, and lasting. 





Jude Fernandes, Head, Cargo Commercial Partnerships, Dubai Airports, won the DDP Trailblazer Award at the Arabian Cargo Awards 2024

Driving sustainability, efficiency in airport operations

As someone who has seen evolution of air logistics for three decades in this region, I have come to believe the cargo hub of the future will not be defined by how much freight it moves, but by how intelligently and efficiently, it does so.



Jude Fernandes
Head, Cargo Commercial
Partnerships, Dubai Airports

When I imagine tomorrow's airports, I see them as living ecosystems rather than static facilities. Automation, AI, and predictive analytics will seamlessly orchestrate the flow of cargo, optimising every movement from aircraft to warehouse. Data will become the new currency of efficiency — enabling real-time visibility, minimising dwell time, and allowing decisions to be made at the speed of trade.

A truly future-ready hub will operate much like a digital organism: learning, adapting, and continuously improving. But efficiency

alone cannot define progress. For me, sustainability is the new measure of success. Dubai, with its bold vision for renewable energy and green transformation, is uniquely positioned to lead this change.

Future cargo hubs must embody that ambition — powered by solar energy, designed with energy-efficient infrastructure, and supported by electric or hydrogen-powered ground handling fleets. Even the air we breathe in and around these facilities should reflect cleaner operations and a lower carbon footprint. I envision cargo facilities where every process — from cooling systems to lighting — is powered by smart energy management.



“ Being future-ready is not about chasing technology trends; it is about cultivating a mindset — one valuing foresight, flexibility, and a respect for the environment we operate in. ”

Where recycling, water reuse, and waste minimisation are part of daily practice, not policy. Sustainability, to me, is not a department: It is a discipline woven into the fabric of operations.

Equally, the digital and the sustainable must evolve together. Blockchain-secured documentation, paperless trade corridors, and shared digital ecosystems between airlines, freight forwarders, and customs authorities will transform how we collaborate. Transparency, traceability, and trust will become the cornerstones of competitiveness. The cargo hub of the future will not just move goods — it will move information,





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“ Data will become the new currency of efficiency — enabling real-time visibility, minimising dwell time, and allowing decisions to be made at the speed of trade. ”

seamlessly and securely. And at the centre of all this transformation, are people. I have learnt technology alone cannot create resilience — people do. The workforce of the future must be skilled

in automation and awareness, capable of managing data-driven operations, while understanding the value of every sustainability metric.

Investing in people is, ultimately, the most strategic form of innovation. To me, being future-ready is not about chasing technology trends; it is more about cultivating a mindset — one that values foresight, flexibility, and a respect for the environment we operate in.

The air cargo hubs we build today will define the logistics landscape for generations. If we can align intelligence with integrity, efficiency with empathy, and growth with green thinking, then the regions airports will not only serve as gateways of commerce — they will stand as beacons of sustainability for the world to follow. 🌎





Digital transformation: A catalyst for trade growth

When I look back at how logistics and air freight have evolved over the past decade, it is clear we are no longer just moving cargo — we are moving intelligence. The industry that once relied heavily on manual coordination and physical documentation is today driven by data, automation, and connectivity. This transformation — called Logistics 4.0 — is not just about technology, it is about mindset, agility, and the courage to reimagine how trade flows across borders.



When I founded Airglow Aviation, my goal was simple: To bring a more agile, boutique approach to the GSSA, and cargo management landscape. But as the world changed — first with the pandemic, then with shifting global trade dynamics — it became clear that digital transformation was not optional, was essential for survival and growth. What started as incremental improvements soon became a digital overhaul, integrating AI, predictive analytics, and automation into how we manage capacity, pricing, and performance.

Today, I see technology as the ultimate equaliser. Tools, such as AI-driven demand forecasting, real-time visibility platforms, and automated booking systems have empowered

even mid-sized players to compete globally. At Airglow, we have embraced digital tools not only to streamline internal processes but also to enhance customer experience — offering data-driven insights, transparent communication, and faster decision-making.

AI-driven demand forecasting, real-time visibility platforms, and automated booking empowered mid-sized players to compete.



Rohit Thakwani
CEO
Airglow Aviation



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Rohit Thakwani, CEO, Airglow Aviation, won the Face of the Future Award at the Arabian Cargo Awards 2024

This shift has allowed us to grow across regions such as the Middle East, India, and Africa, supporting airlines and forwarders with smarter, more connected solutions.

But transformation goes beyond software or systems — it is cultural. The success of Logistics 4.0 depends on people who are ready to evolve with it. I have always believed in empowering teams to think digitally, to challenge old models, and to innovate continuously. Whether it is through data-backed performance tracking or integrated communication platforms, the goal is to build a culture that thrives on learning and agility.

Transformation goes beyond software or systems — it is cultural. The success of Logistics 4.0 depends on people who are ready to evolve with it.



Digitalisation has also become a powerful catalyst for growth of trade in emerging markets.

In Africa and South Asia, technology is bridging gaps — reducing inefficiencies, improving route optimisation, and connecting remote markets to the international supply chain. As trade corridors expand and infrastructure modernises, digital integration ensures that smaller economies can compete on equal footing, fostering inclusivity and economic growth.

Winning the Face of the Future Award at ACA last year was an honour and a reminder of the responsibility we carry as industry leaders. The future of logistics will be shaped by how courageously we adopt innovation and how wisely we apply it. For me, the journey ahead is about using technology not just to move goods faster, but to move industries forward — sustainably, intelligently, and collaboratively.

Logistics 4.0 is not a destination — it is a continuous evolution. And as I look to the next decade, I am confident that those who embrace digital transformation with purpose will not just adapt to change — they will define it. 

Initiating innovation from the UAE to the world

The UAE has understood that logistics is more than an industry; it is a strategic pillar of national strength. From its early investments in aviation and seaports to the advanced supply chain networks defining today's economy, the country has built a reputation not just as a hub, but as a leader shaping the flow of global trade.

Dubai International Airport processed over 2.2 million tonnes of cargo in 2024. In the first quarter of 2025, more than 517,000 tonnes had already moved through its terminals.

This is not accidental growth. It is the outcome of vision, planning, and the confidence that global markets placed in the UAE. dnata reached a milestone by handling one million tonnes of cargo in Dubai between April 2024 and March 2025, recording growth of 30 per cent year-on-year. These achievements reaffirm the fact that the UAE's logistics model is both resilient and scalable.

Infrastructure has been the backbone of this progress. The cargo mega terminal at DXB, capable of managing





Nasir Jamal Khan, Former CEO, Al Naboodah Travel and Tourism, won the DDP Trailblazer Award at the Arabian Cargo Awards 2023



3.3 million tonnes annually, is among the most advanced facilities in the world. Fleet expansion continues to reinforce capacity, with Emirates SkyCargo set to more than double its freighter fleet to 21 aircraft by 2026, ensuring long-term connectivity for high-value and time-critical goods. The UAE's aviation registry includes over 920 aircraft — a testament to its dynamic role in passenger and cargo growth.

The momentum extends across the skies. In the first half of 2025, UAE airports recorded 531,000 aircraft movements, an increase of 6.2 per cent from the previous year, with volumes across the network surpassing 2.2 million tonnes. These figures highlight the confidence international markets continue to place in the UAE's ability to deliver without interruption.

The market share growth of three major airlines—Turkish Airlines, Air France, and Cathay Pacific—have demonstrated a consistent upward trend in their market share. But numbers tell only a part of the



Nasir Jamal Khan
Former CEO
Al Naboodah Travel & Tourism

Air cargo is never just cargo; it is the movement of opportunity, the lifeblood of economies, and a reflection of resilience



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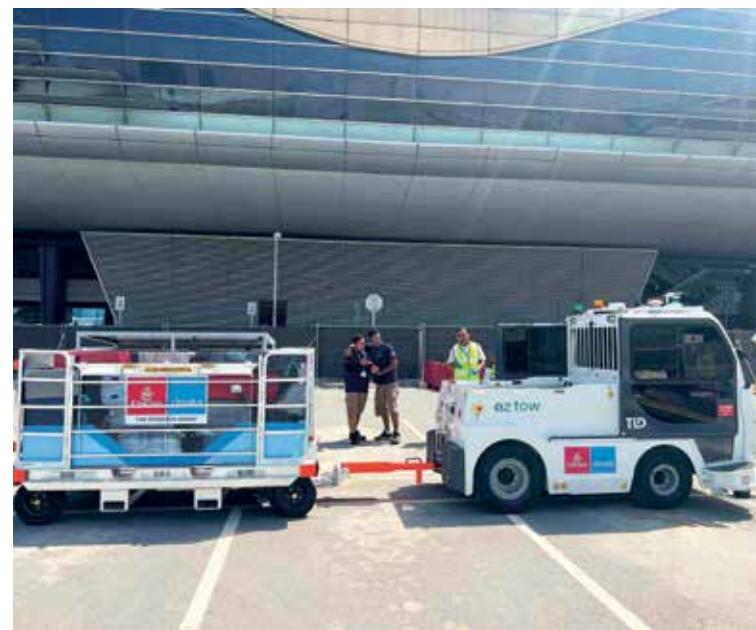


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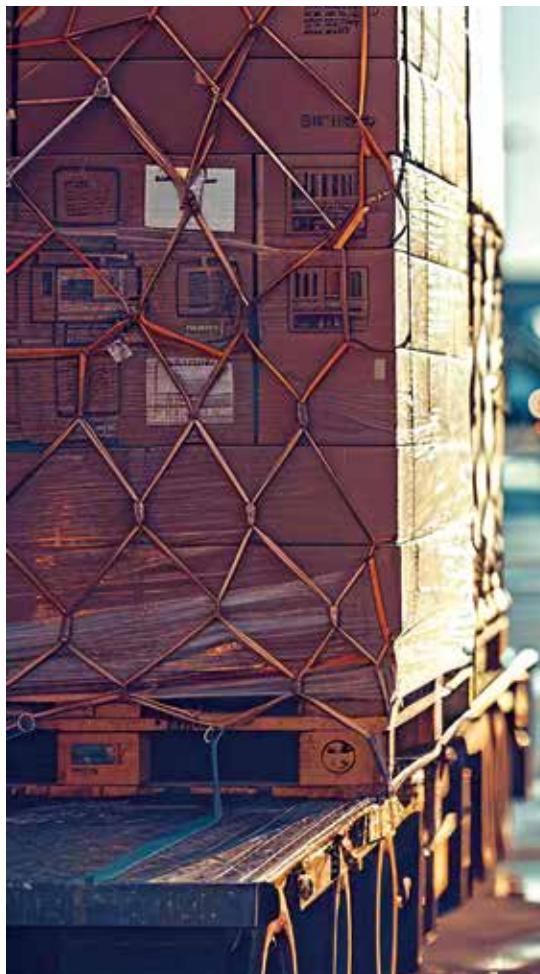
story. What truly distinguishes the country is its forward-looking vision. Cold chain investments, digital technologies, and sustainable operations are redefining the way cargo is handled. When sustainability has become a competitive advantage, the UAE embraced the green agenda early, ensuring its logistics sector is not just efficient but also responsible.

Air cargo is never just cargo; it is the movement of opportunity, the lifeblood of economies, and a reflection of resilience. By aligning infrastructure, regulation, and long-term ambition, the UAE has shown the world how logistics can transcend borders.

The nation has cemented its role as the Gulf region's logistics hub and positioned itself as an international leader in the future of supply chains. The sector is driven by the country's strategic

The market share growth of three airlines—Turkish Airlines, Air France, and Cathay Pacific—have demonstrated a consistent upward trend in their market share.

geographic location, heavy investment in infrastructure, pro-business government policies (including free zones), and rapid adoption of technology. 





Abhishek Shah, Co-founder and Group CEO, RSA Global, won the Face of the Future Award at the Arabian Cargo Awards 2023

Smart, sustainable, scalable: Building next-gen logistics

The future belongs to smart logistics that allow clients to track goods, forecast delays, and plan proactively. At RSA Global, we are embedding tech, which provides real-time visibility, predictive insights, and seamless control. Scalability is not just about expanding our footprint; it is about building our ecosystems.



Abhishek Shah
Co-founder and Group CEO
RSA Global

In today's fast-evolving global landscape, I believe logistics is no longer about moving goods, it is about building intelligent, responsible, and connected systems that power economies. At RSA Global, we have made it our mission to redefine how supply chains operate across the Middle East, Africa, and the Indian sub-continent by creating a logistics ecosystem that is smart, sustainable, and scalable.

To me, 'smart logistics' is not just about automation or data, it is about intelligence built into every touchpoint. Across RSA's businesses, from supply chain management and e-commerce fulfillment to cold chain logistics; we are embedding technology that provides

real-time visibility, predictive insights, and seamless control.

Our supply chain division integrates digital tools that allow clients to track goods, anticipate delays, and plan proactively. And at the RSA Cold Chain facility in JAFZA, advanced monitoring systems safeguard temperature-sensitive goods, ensuring consistency and compliance from dock to door. The future belongs to logistics networks that do not just react to change but 'anticipate it,' and that is the foundation of our digital-first strategy.

Sustainability is not a side initiative, it is embedded in how we design, operate, and grow. Every new RSA facility is built with



efficiency, safety, and environmental impact in mind. Our cold chain facility, with its solar-powered infrastructure and multi-temperature zones, minimise energy consumption, while maintaining global food safety standards. In our warehousing and supply chain operations, we continue to adopt green building practices, reduce packaging waste, and optimise energy use through smart automation. Equally importantly, we aim to create economic and social sustainability by empowering local talent, supporting food security, and fostering long-term partnerships that strengthen regional logistics resilience.



Through alliances with DP World, Americold, and other regional partners, the company is linking markets across the Middle East, Africa, and the Indian subcontinent.

Scalability is not just about expanding our footprint; it is about building connected ecosystems that can evolve. Through strategic alliances with global players, such as DP World, Americold, and other regional partners, the company is linking markets across the Middle East, Africa, and the Indian subcontinent. Our goal is to create one linked flow of goods — whether it is managing e-commerce fulfillment for growing brands, enabling regional re-exports through Jebel Ali, or supporting perishable supply chains with precision. By combining local expertise with global standards, we are shaping a network that scales efficiently without compromising quality or agility.

THE PATH AHEAD

Technology and infrastructure are enablers, but people drive transformation. I believe the future of logistics lies in cultivating adaptable, curious, and empowered teams who thrive in a culture of innovation. Our purpose at RSA Global has always been simple yet ambitious: To move goods, ideas, and progress responsibly. The next-gen logistics ecosystem is one where digital intelligence, sustainability, and human creativity come together to redefine what is possible, today and for decades to come. 



نحن نرى الصورة الأكبر

THE BIGGER PICTURE



DHL GLOBAL FORWARDING
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FIG 01 >

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Smart Logistics

SECTION 3





Fuelling global trade with smart air cargo



Smart air cargo solutions are reshaping the global logistics and supply chain ecosystem, enabling faster shipments, data-driven decision-making, and real-time tracking that keeps trade moving smoothly across borders. In the Middle East, where air freight is a key driver of trade and commerce, these innovations are streamlining ops, reducing delays, and strengthening the region's connectivity with the global markets.

In an era where international connectivity defines economic growth, the air cargo industry is a powerful means of international trade. From medicines and drugs to gadgets and everything in between, air freight keeps the world's supply chain moving with speed and precision. With consumer expectations already rising and supply chains becoming more complex, the need for smarter, faster, and more resilient logistics solutions has never been greater. While air cargo carriers worldwide are embracing digitalisation and smart innovations, the Middle East is advancing rapidly, positioning itself as a key

hub for technology-powered air freight and global trade.

AI AND DIGITALISATION

At this pivotal moment, smart air cargo, powered by digital innovation is creating a new wave of transformation, ensuring goods move seamlessly across borders with transparency, efficiency, speed, and precision. The integration of advanced tech such as AI, automation, and real-time data analytics is revolutionising the way the industry functions.

The Middle East is adopting these innovations, with regional carriers and hubs implementing smart solutions to fortify trade connectivity across the region. The launch of the QR Cargo Mobile App gives customers a seamless way to book, manage, and track shipments directly from their mobile devices. The upgraded app provides real-time

While carriers are embracing digitalisation, the region is positioning itself as a key hub for technology-powered air freight and global trade

visibility, tracking, instant booking, access to live flight schedules, e-AWB management, notifications, and 24x7 customer support.

The digital shift worldwide has changed how air cargo and logistics are managed, and has brought efficiency across supply chain and logistics. Smart systems now enable predictive maintenance, optimised routing, and digital documentation, thus minimising delays and reducing human error. From automated booking and dynamic pricing to digital twins that simulate cargo flow, technology is reshaping every aspect of the air freight ecosystem.

The evolution towards digitalisation has pushed the airports as well as the logistics providers worldwide to invest in technology and innovation. While smart cargo hubs equipped with IoT sensors and robotics are streamlining warehouse management, enhancing cargo handling, cutting processing times, blockchain technology is simultaneously securing transactions, fortifying data security, preventing fraud, and providing end-to-end visibility throughout the shipment journey.





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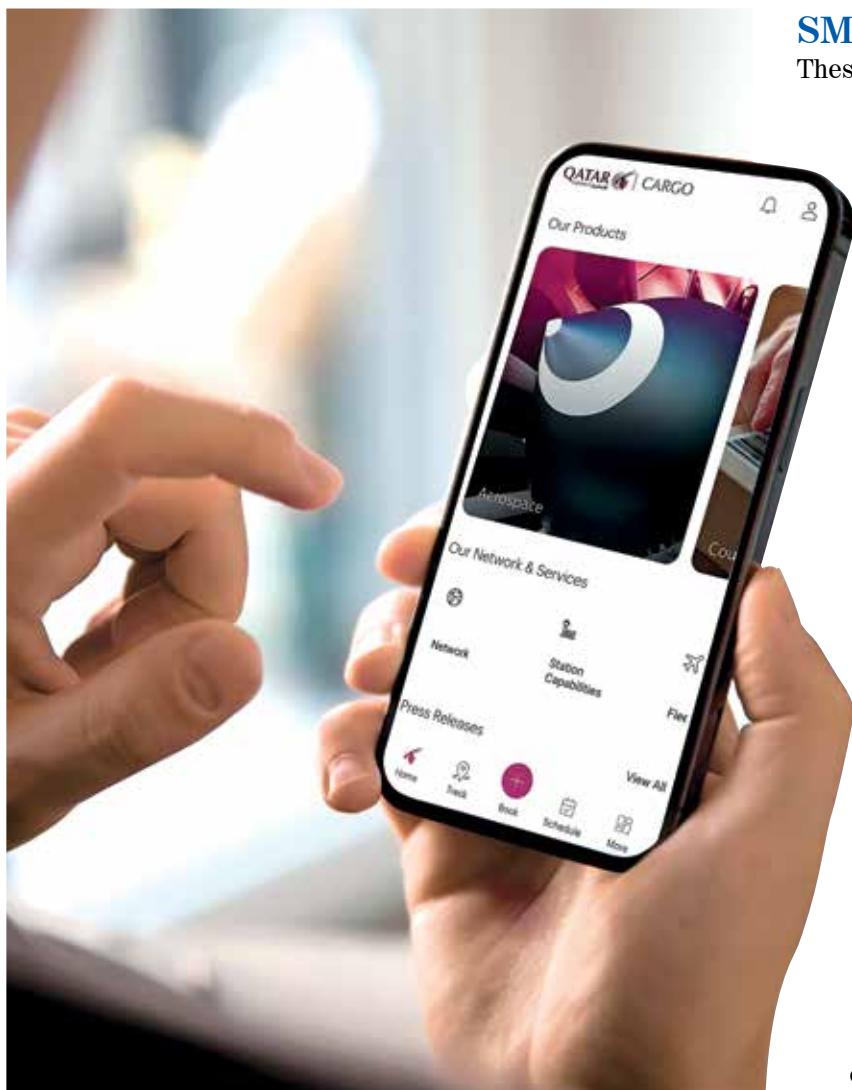


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SMART AIR CARGO

These advancements drive operational excellence and contribute to sustainability goals. Through data-driven insights, airlines can optimise fleet utilisation, reduce empty cargo space, and reduce emissions, thus aligning with the aviation industry's commitment to a greener future. Keeping in mind sustainability and efficiency,

The evolution towards digitalisation has pushed the airports as well as the logistics providers worldwide to invest in technology and innovation

Etihad Cargo recently launched SmartTrack, a premium service that gives customers real-time access to shipment location and condition data, thus raising standards for transparency in global air freight. Smart air cargo solutions are strengthening resilience in times of uncertainty. The rise of smart air cargo represents a digital upgrade — it marks a shift toward a more connected, intelligent, and sustainable global trade network. As nations and industries continue to collaborate, technology-driven air logistics will remain at the heart of powering global commerce for years to come. 



Rising volumes shape Middle East as global hub

Global shifts in cargo volumes and evolving supply chains are positioning the Middle East at the forefront of air cargo innovation. From resilient infra to airports, the region is able to link markets, manage high-value and time-sensitive cargo, and shape the world's logistics future amid global trade disruptions and shifting economic conditions.



With its location linking Asia, Africa, and Europe, the Middle East is redefining the future of air cargo. Over the past few years, demand for air freight has surged significantly. According to a recent report by WorldACD Market, the Middle East & South Asia (MESA) region recorded robust growth in volumes in the third quarter of 2025.

Chargeable weight from Middle East Saudi Arabia (MESA) rose by as much as 9 per cent quarter-on-quarter (QoQ), outperforming many other international regions, even as worldwide air cargo prices declined by 3 per cent compared to the same period last year.

Overall, international air cargo tonnages increased 4 per cent in Q3 compared with 2024, continuing a steady year-on-year growth trend. The Middle East's growth was significant amid disruptions in Asia-Pacific region (APAC) caused by typhoon Ragasa, which affected cargo flows from Hong Kong, Taiwan, and China.

According to analysts, the MESA's resilience highlights the importance of Middle Eastern hubs, particularly Dubai, Abu Dhabi, and Doha, in handling rising cargo volumes of high-value and time-sensitive cargo.

DUBAI AIRPORTS

The increase in air cargo throughput has helped faster delivery of goods, supported businesses across the Middle East, and strengthened supply chains connecting the country to international markets.

DXB and DWC's advanced cargo handling infrastructure and their location have enabled the emirate to manage high-value, time-sensitive shipments, reinforcing its position as a central node in global logistics. As air cargo volumes continue to

DHL's analysis attributes the region's resilience to strong non-oil growth, expanding logistics networks, and rising exports

rise, Dubai Airports' performance underscores the emirate's critical role in sustaining trade movements, driving economic growth, and connecting businesses as well as communities worldwide.





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- Warehousing (3PL, storage & distribution)
- Cross-stuffing & transfer of ownership
- Domestic & cross-border trucking solutions



DUBAI CITY OFFICE

- All Commercial Requirements

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- Ocean Freight – FCL, LCL & buyer's consolidation
- Warehousing & Distribution – flexible storage & handling solutions
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Sathish Babu | Country Manager, UAE
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Meanwhile, trade in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) regions is projected to grow at a faster rate than expected, as per the DHL Global Connectedness Tracker for October 2025.

According to the report, a 6 per cent improvement in trade is forecast for the period 2025–2029, making MENA region one of the few regions to see an upgrade, while others face downgrades due to tariff increases and global uncertainty.

DHL's analysis attributes the region's resilience to strong non-oil growth, expanding logistics networks, and rising exports, supported by national diversification strat-

The increase in air cargo throughput has helped faster delivery of goods and supported businesses across the Middle East region

egies such as Saudi Vision 2030 and the UAE's Vision 2031. The Gulf region continues to benefit from its position as an international trade hub. 



Sustainability and Multimodal Services

SECTION 4





Multimodal linkage boosts sustainability in cargo, trade

Logistics, sustainability, and multimodal connectivity emerging as pillars shaping the future of the air cargo and supply chain ecosystem — integrating greener practices with interlinked transport modes — is enabling businesses to move goods faster, more efficiently, and with a smaller carbon footprint, ensuring that growth and responsibility go hand in hand.





With global warming intensifying and pollution levels continuing to rise, it has become imperative for logistics and supply chain leaders to prioritise environmental responsibility. While trade is a vital driver of today's global economy, conducting it sustainably by integrating multimodal transport solutions is now more essential than ever. As governments and logistics leaders in the Middle East work toward carbon-neutral goals, multimodal transport has become a key pillar of sustainable trade development. The region's strategic investments in Etihad Rail, electric vehicle fleets, and digital

logistics infrastructure are reshaping how goods move across borders — faster, smarter, and cleaner.

FROM ROAD TO RAIL

Etihad Rail, connecting the UAE's ports, industrial zones, and borders through a 1,200-km national railway, is a project that promises seamless integration between sea, air, and land logistics, reducing the need for long-haul trucking and significantly lowering emissions. Etihad Rail aims to transport 60 million tonnes of cargo annually by 2030, supporting the UAE's vision for economic diversification, and enhanced supply chain resilience. By shifting freight movement from road to rail, Etihad Rail is likely to cut CO₂ emissions from the road transport sector by 21 per cent every

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- **End-to-End Support** – From operations and supervision to client relationship management.
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year by 2050. Each train journey can remove up to 300 trucks from highways, eliminating 8.2 million tonnes of carbon emissions annually. Through its railway network and commitment to sustainable logistics, Etihad Rail is driving progress toward a greener and more connected future for the UAE.

As govts and logistics leaders work toward Co₂-neutral goals, multimodal transport has become a key pillar of sustainable trade development

Omar Alsebeyi, Executive Director, Commercial & Performance, Etihad Rail, said, "We are proud to be part of this initiative that is rapidly becoming a key market differentiator, helping us attract and retain customers focused on reducing their

environmental impact, while enhancing their logistics operations."

DHL EVs

DHL Group is expanding its commitment to sustainable logistics through EV solutions. Its EV Centres of Excellence (COEs), including one in the UAE, are contributing to enhancing EV logistics and supply chain solutions across the region. These centres serve as innovation hubs for battery handling, component transport, and recycling logistics, ensuring environmental compliance and supporting the fast-growing clean mobility sector. These eco-friendly fleets are designed to lower last-mile emissions, reduce fuel consumption, and align with DHL Group's target of achieving net-zero by 2050. The company's investments in charging infra and route optimisation software enhance efficiency and environmental performance.

By combining multimodal connectivity and clean technology, the Middle East is building a logistics model that aligns sustainability with competitiveness. The region is becoming a global example of how smart and green logistics can drive future trade. ☀



DWC prepares to be the logistics powerhouse

DWC is steadily emerging as a strategic centre for cargo and logistics operations in the UAE, reinforcing the emirate's reputation as a global logistics powerhouse. With international trade growing and supply chains becoming complex, DWC is adopting a multi-pronged approach to fortify its cargo capabilities and attract global business.



Currently, one of the busiest hubs in the world for global air freight, Dubai handles up to 2.8 million tonnes of cargo each year, mainly through Dubai Cargo Village. The facility manages both regular and specialised cargo, with a quick turnaround time of 90 minutes. It enables fast transfer of full container loads between the quays at Port Rashid or Jebel Ali Port/Freezone and the aircraft apron at DXB.

Dubai Cargo Village has two terminals for Emirates SkyCargo and seven terminals for dnata cargo.

DWC has adopted ultramodern infrastructure, expanding its cargo terminals and warehousing facilities to handle higher volumes and a wide range of cargo types, including perishables, oversized shipments, and high-value items. Modernised handling systems, advanced storage solutions, and dedicated



areas for specialised cargo ensure that operations are efficient, secure, and reliable.

Connectivity is another crucial focus. DWC is enhancing its direct cargo routes to major trade hubs across the Middle East, Asia, Europe, and beyond. By offering faster, more seamless access markets across the globe, the airport is reducing transit times and supporting the growing demand for just-in-time delivery models. This expanded network facilitates trade and strengthens Dubai's position as a key logistics gateway.

Air cargo continues to be a critical driver of global trade, representing just 1 per cent of volume but accounting for 35 per cent of trade value. In 2024, Dubai Airports' hubs, Dubai International (DXB) and Dubai World Central — Al Maktoum International (DWC), handled 2.8 million tonnes of cargo, reflecting a 21.3 per cent year-on-year increase.

The terminal reduces water consumption by 45 per cent, while 7,500 solar panels power a 3MW plant that saves 5,300 tonnes of carbon emissions annually



The surge in cargo volumes mirrors the global air freight market, which saw demand grow 11.3 per cent in 2024, and highlights Dubai's growing role as a regional trade and logistics hub. The increase in cargo throughput has facilitated faster delivery of goods, supported businesses across the Middle East, and strengthened supply chains linking the UAE to international markets.

DXB and DWC's advanced cargo handling infrastructure and strategic location have enabled the emirate to efficiently manage high-value, time-sensitive shipments, reinforcing its position as a central hub in global logistics.

Technology and automation play a central role in DWC's cargo operations. Digital tracking systems, AI-powered sorting, and automated handling processes improve operational efficiency

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and allow for real-time monitoring of shipments. These technological upgrades ensure higher accuracy, faster turnaround times, and greater reliability for cargo operators and clients alike.

Strategic partnerships with airlines, freight forwarders, and logistics companies are vital to DWC's positioning. By working collaboratively with industry stakeholders, the airport can offer end-to-end solutions, streamline supply chains, and accommodate the evolving needs of global trade.

SUSTAINABILITY IS KEY

This phased solar project of 39MWp, to be fully operational by 2026, involves the installation of 62,904 solar panels across Dubai International (DXB) and Dubai World Central airports, expected to generate 60,346MWh



By offering seamless access markets, the airport is reducing transit times and supporting demand for just-in-time delivery models

annually. The panels will offset 23,000 tonnes of CO₂ per year, equivalent to removing 5,000 cars from the road or powering 3,000 homes, covering 6.5 per cent of DXB's and 20 per cent of DWC's energy needs.

Dr Waleed Alnuaimi, CEO, Etihad ESCO, added that initiatives such as Shams Dubai accelerate the adoption of sustainable energy solutions, reinforcing Dubai Airports' long-term vision for cleaner, smarter, and more energy-efficient operations. 





E-commerce boom reshaping cargo logistics

With the surge in e-commerce, the Middle East is seeing a change in cargo logistics. As many people turn to online shopping, logistics providers are pressurised to deliver faster, and technologically advanced cargo solutions. From the UAE to KSA, the e-commerce boom is driving the way goods are moved, stored, and delivered.

As e-commerce booms across the Middle East, air cargo is playing an important role in keeping goods moving. Cargo hubs in Dubai and Abu Dhabi are expanding and modernising their infrastructure to meet the rising volume of parcels generated by e-commerce. Facilities are being upgraded with automated sorting systems,

temperature-controlled storage, and dedicated terminals for high-value and time-sensitive shipments. Airlines and cargo operators are also increasing the frequency of flights to connect regional and international markets, ensuring rapid delivery for online shoppers.

According to a report by DHL, fashion dominates UAE's e-commerce landscape,



accounting for 38.7 per cent of total revenue. This growth is fuelled by a young, fashion-conscious consumer base that actively seeks the latest trends. It is followed by electronics and media at 19.9 per cent, reflecting strong demand for gadgets and digital content among the region's tech-savvy population.

Home goods, including furniture and appliances, represent 12.4 per cent of online sales as consumers increasingly turn to digital platforms for home essentials and interior upgrades. Beauty products remain a key growth driver, with the MENA beauty market valued at US\$ 46 billion in 2024 and projected to reach US\$ 60 billion by 2025.

LAST-MILE DELIVERIES

For online retailers, understanding these high-demand categories is vital to venture into the Middle East's fast-evolving e-commerce ecosystem. Technology is changing how cargo is

E-commerce growth is not limited to domestic shipments. Cross-border e-commerce is hiking trade flows between the region and markets in Asia, Europe, and Africa.

managed. Logistics providers are using AI, predictive analytics, and smart tracking systems to optimise cargo routes, manage inventory, and enhance supply chain visibility.

These innovations help meet consumer expectations for same-day or next-day delivery, while supporting operational efficiency and reducing costs. For instance, Emirates SkyCargo announced a 15 per cent increase in its main deck capacity beginning 2025 through wet-leasing





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two Boeing 747 freighters, in response to surging demand and expansion of e-commerce shipments. At the same time, DHL announced an investment of more than €500 million in the Middle East, including UAE and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA), between 2024 and 2030 to strengthen its logistics backbone.

Last-mile delivery is an area undergoing transformation. With the rise in urban e-commerce, many firms are expanding regional distribution centres, partnering with local delivery

For online retailers, understanding these high-demand categories is vital to venture into the Middle East's fast-evolving e-commerce ecosystem

services, and exploring solutions such as autonomous vehicles and drone deliveries to ensure packages are delivered quickly.

In 2023, Aramex tested drone and roadside bot deliveries in Dubai, as part of the company's 'Future Delivery Programme' aimed at enhancing last-mile logistics using smart shipping solutions to enable quicker, sustainable, and cost-effective deliveries.

That said, e-commerce growth is not limited to domestic shipments. Cross-border e-commerce is hiking trade flows between the region and markets in Asia, Europe, and Africa. This has prompted logistics operators to fortify global cargo networks and adopt modern warehousing practices to handle diverse product types. As e-commerce continues to grow, cargo logistics is evolving into a faster, smarter, more efficient ecosystem. The ability of logistics providers to adapt to these changes will decide the region's competitiveness in the global digital retail market. 



UAE's phased approach to resuming drone operations



Cargo delivery by drones in the UAE is a developing sector, moving from pilot projects and trials to initial commercial operations, driven by strong government support and a focus on smart city logistics. The UAE aims to be a global leader in this field, with a fully homegrown cargo drone ecosystem under development.

Drones, also known as unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), fly without a human pilot on board. They can be controlled remotely by a human operator or fly autonomously using software and sensors. The four main types of drones include single-rotor drones, multi-rotor drones, fixed-wing drones, and hybrid vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) drones.

The General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) has stringent regulations for flying drones. The GCAA framework for drones covers recreational as well as commercial use. Key requirements

aiming for commercial operations in the coming years. While large-scale, fully operational commercial cargo networks are not yet commonplace, progress is being made through government initiatives and private sector innovation.

Originally developed for military use, drones now have a wide range of civilian and commercial applications, including photography, delivery services, and agricultural monitoring. The latest drones are equipped with GPS, cameras, sensors, and other modern equipment for data collection and navigation. They are powered by electric, jet, or combustion motors. One of the challenges is the size classification of heavy lift drones. Despite their technical classification as cargo drones, some models closely resemble small aircraft and may not adhere to traditional drone airspace regulations.

At present, firms in the UAE are testing various drones, such as LODD and 7X for autonomous cargo delivery, mineral exploration, and defense applications. Other companies are testing delivery drones, such as the DJI FlyCart 30, while firms like

While large-scale, fully operational commercial cargo networks are not yet commonplace, progress is being made through government initiatives and private sector innovation

SkyStance and SAQR Aerospace are testing and using drones for services such as inspection, mapping, and security. Cargo firms, apart from utilising drones for smaller shipments, such as pharma and food, are not using drones for heavy payloads for last-mile delivery.

Lodd Autonomous: This startup is a frontrunner in the UAE's cargo drone market. They completed parcel delivery trials in collaboration with the Integrated Transport Centre in Abu Dhabi. Their flagship drone, the 'Hili', a hybrid VTOL aircraft, is designed to carry heavy payloads of up to 250 kg over long distances (300 km) and is likely to launch commercially by late 2026.



include registering drones on the drones.gov.ae website using a UAE Pass, obtaining a training certificate from an authorised academy, and complying with security rules like not flying dangerous goods without authorisation.

Cargo delivery by drones in the UAE is a rapidly developing sector, with several firms conducting pilot programmes and



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Aramex & Dronamics: Logistics giant, Aramex has partnered with Dronamics, the world's first cargo drone airline, to explore and implement same-day middle-mile and long-range deliveries using Dronamics' 'Black Swan' cargo drone, which can carry up to 350 kg over a distance of 2,500 km. Aramex has conducted successful drone and roadside bot delivery tests in partnership with BARQ EV and the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in Dubai.

DP World: The global port operator has conducted trials using cargo drones for logistics within the Jebel Ali Port, and warehouse automation to improve efficiency.

Keeta Drone (Meituan subsidiary): Keeta Drone received the UAE's first operational license for BVLOS deliveries, focusing on food, medicine, and essentials within zones in Dubai Silicon Oasis. This pilot project has been operational for some time and involved extensive safety testing.

Several companies are conducting pilot projects and aiming for commercial operations in the coming years to deliver cargo by drones



Dronamics: Dronamics has set up a JV with Strategic Development Fund to build a local factory for its Black Swan drones in the UAE. This partnership will leverage the infra to produce drones and expand into global markets. Many UAE and regional firms may use these drones for same-day deliveries.

Emirates Post Group (EPG): EPG signed an MoU with Dronamics to explore integrating drone capabilities into its logistics network for same-day delivery services, with Proof-of-Concept flights as part of the collaboration. 



Etihad Cargo strides ahead with innovation, global growth

From digital innovations to strategic partnerships, Etihad Cargo is not just transporting goods but also strengthening its position as the world's leading cargo carrier. With a focus on premium services, specialised products, and global network growth, the airline is improving reliability, efficiency, and customer experience, while setting new standards in air freight.



Etihad Cargo has steadily grown from a regional freight operator to a global logistics player, anchored in Abu Dhabi and the United Arab Emirates. By focusing on premium services, strong partnerships, digital tools, and network growth, the company is working to become a leading hub for air cargo and temperature-sensitive logistics.

PERFORMANCE

Leveraging its position as one of the prime air cargo carriers, Etihad Cargo has delivered impressive results in the past years. In H1 2025 it reported cargo revenue up 9 per cent YoY, driven by capacity growth and yield improvement. Its “Delivered As Promised” reliability metric improved by 89.6 per cent year-on-year in that period. Earlier, in 2022 it exceeded its target of 85 per cent DAP, achieving 86.6 per cent.

Tonnage growth in H1 2024 reached +17 per cent over H1 2023, with regional gains of 19 per cent in the East, 20 per cent in the West, and 15 per cent in the UAE. These figures reflect the firm’s ability to scale in bellyhold and dedicated freighter operations, while maintaining service quality.

STRATEGIC NETWORK

To support growth, the carrier has expanded its global footprint and cargo capacity. In 2022, it operated services to 68 destinations, and via an extensive roadfeeder network, it connects 132 origin stations to 290 destinations across the UAE, GCC, Europe, North America, India, Australia and beyond.

The carrier also introduced new freighter routes and increased belly capacity on wide-body passenger flights. In H1 2025, the addition of a Boeing 777F augmented the fleet and capacity. Partnerships have played a key role, such as a metals-neutral Joint Business Agreement (JBA) with China’s SF Airlines, launching a weekly Shenzhen–Abu Dhabi freighter service, and boosting the Abu Dhabi–Ezhou route to raise weekly capacity to 630 tonnes. This supports Etihad Cargo’s objective to position Abu Dhabi as an international logistics hub.

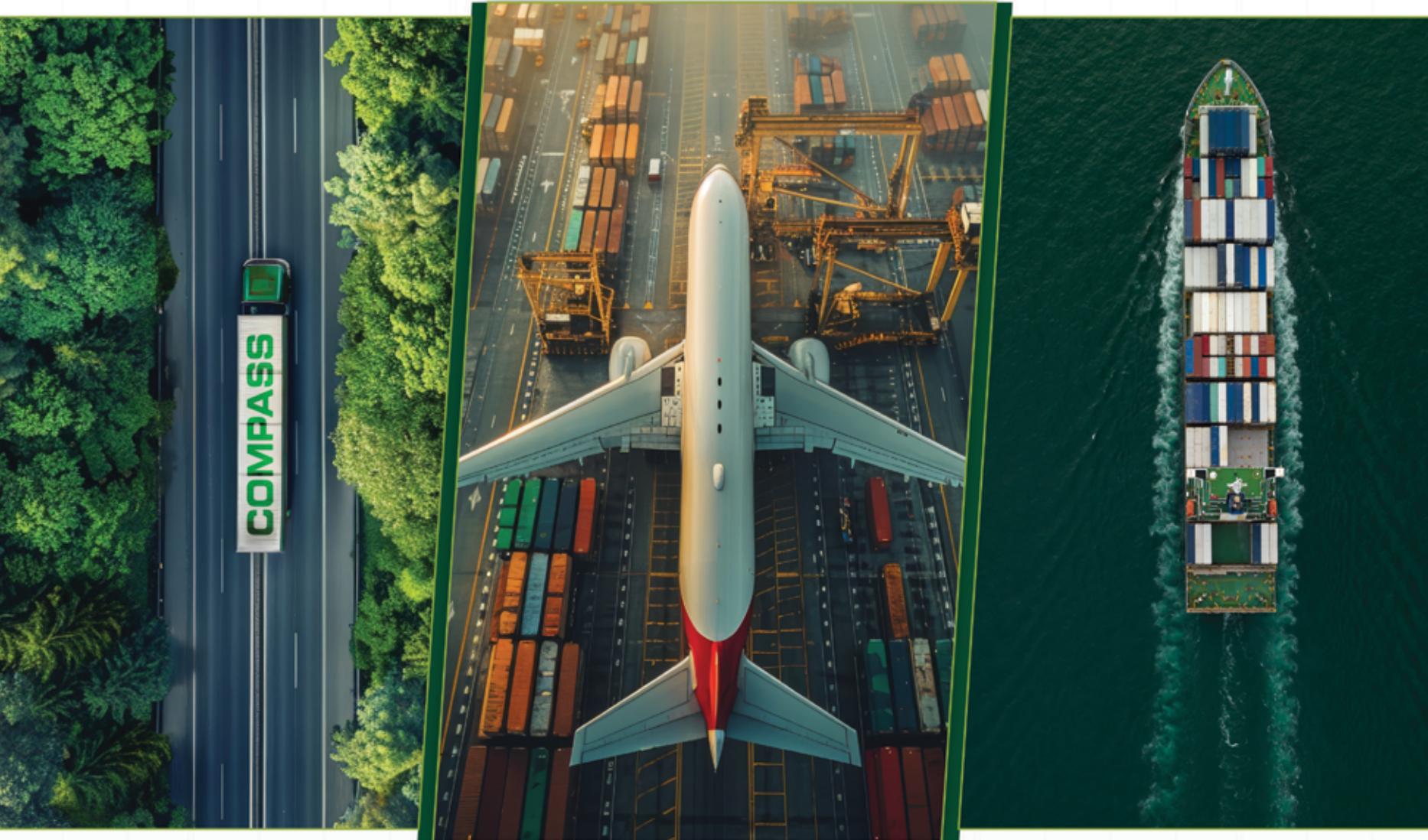
DIGITAL INNOVATION

The carrier introduced AI-powered solutions through a collaboration with Speedcargo Technologies, rolling out products such as Amplifi, Cargo Eye, and Assemble. Amplifi calculates usable cargo capacity for each flight, maximising load efficiency and reducing overbooking risks. Cargo Eye captures real-time cargo dimensions, volume at ground handling stations, enabling precise load planning, and forward operations.



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- NVOCC (Non-vessel Operating Common Carrier)
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Asia: India | China | Philippines | Thailand
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Wherever your business moves - we're already there.





Etihad Cargo has delivered good results in H1 2025. It reported cargo revenue up 9% YoY, driven by capacity growth and yield improvement

The Assemble facilitates digital ULD build-up, providing step-by-step instructions for optimally built units, while adhering to safety standards. These Artificial Intelligence-tools are operational in Singapore and piloted in Frankfurt, with plans for broader deployment across Etihad Cargo's international network.

It also launched SmartTrack, a real-time shipment visibility solution which monitors shipments using cellular, GPS, and internet connectivity, provides live updates on location and conditions such as temperature, humidity, shock, tilt, and light exposure. Supported by a round-the-clock control centre and a customer dashboard, the solution allows proactive intervention, SLA tracking, and complete custody chain visibility.

TOP PRODUCTS

One of Etihad Cargo's strengths is its special product range, particularly in temperature-sensitive logistics. Its "PharmaLife" offering for pharma and life sciences has seen consistent growth. In 2023, the cargo carrier reported as much as 37 per cent increase in pharma shipments and a 10 per cent rise in its "Fresh-Forward" perishables line. The company developed a dedicated pharma hub (launched July 2023), which doubled its cool chain storage capacity.

Etihad Cargo has developed over 1,330 IATA CEIV Pharma/GDP certified trade lanes, ensuring high integrity of shipments. More product lines include SecureTech (electronics), FlyCulture (arts & music), SkyStables (horses) and more. In 2022, SkyStables moved 6 per cent more horses YoY. These moves reflect the company's aim to differentiate itself by quality of service in niche but highvalue segments.

LIVEANIMALS SERVICE

Etihad Cargo has upgraded its IATA CEIV-certified LiveAnimals product, enhancing services for long journeys and brachycephalic (snub-nosed) breeds. The initiative extends the maximum transportation time for cats and dogs from 17 hours to 24 hours, from acceptance at origin to arrival at the last destination, in line with IATA and EU regulations. This ensures pets can travel safely and comfortably over longer distances.

A seasonal policy allows the transport of brachycephalic cats and dogs from 1 November to 1 March, providing safer travel conditions. All such pets need more checks and approval Etihad Cargo's LiveAnimals experts before travel.



Smart Airports

SECTION 5







Pioneering the future of smart cargo, aviation

DWC is redefining the global aviation and logistics landscape, embodying the city's vision for the future of cargo ops. Designed to handle 260 million passengers and 12 million tonnes of freight annually, and backed by a US\$ 35 billion investment, DWC is fast becoming one of most advanced airports in the world.





SMART GLOBAL CARGO HUB

DWC is set to become Dubai's primary airport for passenger and air cargo operations, with cargo flights likely to be the first to transition by 2032. The full migration of operations from Dubai International Airport (DXB) is projected to take place between 2035 and 2040. As part of its initial phase, DWC will establish world-class cargo facilities designed to streamline freight handling and reduce turnaround times. With a capacity to process 12 million tonnes of air cargo annually in Dubai Airports, the DWC will cater to growing international demand for air logistics, e-commerce, and time-sensitive goods.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND DESIGN

Spanning over 36,000 acres, the airport's masterplan includes five parallel runways and two terminals with seven concourses each. Its integrated air-sea logistics hub — located adjacent to Jebel Ali Port — ensures seamless multimodal connectivity between air, sea, and land transport. This setup positions Dubai as a critical link in the global supply chain, enhancing trade





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As part of its initial phase, DWC will establish world-class cargo facilities designed to streamline freight handling and reduce turnaround times

flow efficiency across continents. The airport's design places smart technology and sustainability at its core. It will feature biometric corridors for secure and frictionless movement,

Artificial Intelligence-powered robots for automated baggage and cargo handling, and digital twin technology to optimise operations in real-time.

Its eco-conscious design integrates solar power, recycled materials, and energy-efficient systems, reinforcing the international airport's commitment to sustainable aviation aligned with Vision 2030 goals.

REDEFINING AIR CARGO FUTURE

As DWC transitions into one of the smarter airports in the world, it will set standards for operational excellence, innovation, and environmental stewardship. With cargo as the first mover in this transformation, Dubai is not only preparing for the future of air transport — it is actively building it. 





Positioning Hamad airport as a preferred logistics hub

Since its opening in 2014, it has evolved into one of the world's advanced airports. With smart tech driving its cargo ops, it has become a logistics gateway, linking continents with speed, security, and sustainability. Through expansion, digital transformation, and smart infra, HIA sets new benchmarks for air cargo's future.



TECH AT THE HEART OF OPS

The airport's cargo division, managed by Qatar Airways Cargo, operates with state-of-the-art automation and intelligent systems. The integration of smart technologies — Artificial Intelligence, robotics, and IoT-enabled tracking — has transformed how goods move through the airport. Real-time monitoring of temperature-sensitive shipments, automated sorting, and digital documentation ensure efficiency and precision from acceptance to delivery.

The airport's Cargo Terminal Complex can handle 2 million tonnes annually, supported by a fully automated Material Handling System and advanced cargo management software. These technologies minimise human errors, enhance transparency, and optimise turnaround times, cementing Hamad airport's position as a preferred logistics hub for time-critical cargo.

SUSTAINABILITY, INNOVATION

Aligned with Qatar's National Vision 2030, the airport's cargo operations emphasise sustainability and innovation. The airport has introduced eco-efficient systems, energy-optimised



Digitalisation not only enhances performance but also supports sustainability goals by reducing paper-based processes and resource wastage

ENABLING THE RISE OF A NEW ECONOMIC SUPERPOWER.

The Global South, a once-flippant definition of developing nations, is fast becoming synonymous with rising prosperity and sustainability.

And logistics is playing a leading role, with easy, quick, regular and dependable trading access through a central hub. The hub is Dubai, rapidly gaining the reputation as Capital of the Future. The access is SolitAir, the newest 'middle mile' freight airline which is busy rewriting the playbook on speed and reliability.

SolitAir is the only scheduled cargo carrier, which allows 'first mile' and 'last mile' operators to function with a supremely more efficient timetable, scalable according to customer need.

Secondly, we have the capability to carry sensitive cargo such as medicine and other priority payloads which may require temperature control.

Thirdly, we're opening up new destinations throughout the Global South. Many of these communities have been under-served in the past but have not been lacking in ambition or economic potential.

To efficiently serve this region makes us proud. But to play such a significant role in the growth and prosperity of this newly self-determined community of nations, well, that makes us humble indeed.





warehouses, and green logistics solutions to reduce carbon emissions. Smart lighting, renewable energy integration, and automated airside vehicles contribute to a greener operational footprint.

Digitalisation not only enhances performance but also supports sustainability goals by reducing paper-based processes and resource wastage. These initiatives reflect the airport's broader commitment to balancing operational excellence with environmental responsibility, positioning it as a global model for sustainable airport logistics.

Hamad airport continues to lead the way as a global benchmark for smart aviation ecosystems. Through a fusion of digital

The integration of smart technologies, such as AI, robotics, and IoT-enabled tracking, has transformed how goods move through the airport

transformation, sustainability, and customer-centric innovation, Hamad is not just an airport — it is a vision of the future of global air transport and logistics. 



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Sub-Services



General Cargo



Perishable Cargo



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With state-of-the-art technology and a commitment to operational excellence, Velora cargo offers comprehensive services that ensure smooth cargo operations, fostering customer satisfaction and contributing to the airport's success as a vital cargo hub.



Sub-Services

Velora Cargo and Logistics at the cargo terminal offers a comprehensive range of services.



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Includes handling, storage, and transportation of standard freight, ensuring timely and safe delivery while maintaining operational efficiency.



Perishable Cargo

Includes specialized handling of temperature-sensitive goods such as food, flowers, and pharmaceuticals, ensuring quality and freshness throughout the supply chain.



Pharma Cargo

Includes secure and compliant handling of pharmaceutical products, maintaining strict temperature control, regulatory adherence, and traceability.



Special Cargo

Includes handling of oversized, hazardous, or high-value shipments that require customized care, specialized equipment, and strict safety measures.



Freighter Cargo

Includes the management of cargo transported on dedicated freighter aircraft, covering loading, unloading, and operational coordination for maximum efficiency.

For more information,
please contact:
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Abu Dhabi, UAE



Ras Al Khaimah airport: A gateway to the world

The airport serves as a convenient entry and stopover point for travellers from Europe. It has two passenger terminals and a cargo terminal. The airport can accommodate all types of aircraft. The new terminal will have cutting-edge features to reduce energy costs.



Ras Al Khaimah International Airport is midway between Europe and the Far East and is the gateway between Ras al Khaimah and the world. It operates passenger and air cargo services to a variety of destinations covering Europe, the Middle East, North & East Africa, Central Asia, and the Indian subcontinent.

The airport began as part of an extensive expansion programme, including a significant upgrade of the passenger terminal building, public transport infrastructure, and the building of a new cargo terminal with state-of-the-art facilities. Located about 18 km from the city of Ras Al Khaimah, the airport is not only modern with advanced equipment and facilities but also boasts a 3,760-metre-long runway.

More routes are likely to be added from the RAK airport — Moscow and Tashkent. It recently inaugurated the new “RAK Freight Centre”

The present airport is set for more expansion, including a new terminal with sustainable technologies, to be completed in 2028.

It currently comprises two passenger terminals and a cargo terminal facility, among others. The new terminal is intended to accommodate a greater number of passengers and offer a more luxurious experience.

The airport became the first in the Middle East and Asia to use DYNAES's innovative thermodynamic energy efficiency systems as part of its terminal extension. This technology helps the airport to significantly reduce energy costs.

The airport can accommodate all types of aircraft and there is continuous training for airport personnel to be able to handle these aircraft. Training is also given to all other personnel working in fire and rescue services, electronics, ground services, and air traffic control.

The new airport terminal will be equipped with various features, including state-of-the-art baggage handling,



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“ The Ras Al Khaimah airport can accommodate all types of aircraft and there is continuous training for airport personnel to be able to handle these aircraft. ”

electronic gates, and private aviation facilities. The expansion of the airport is set to increase its annual passenger capacity to three million. Being uniquely and strategically

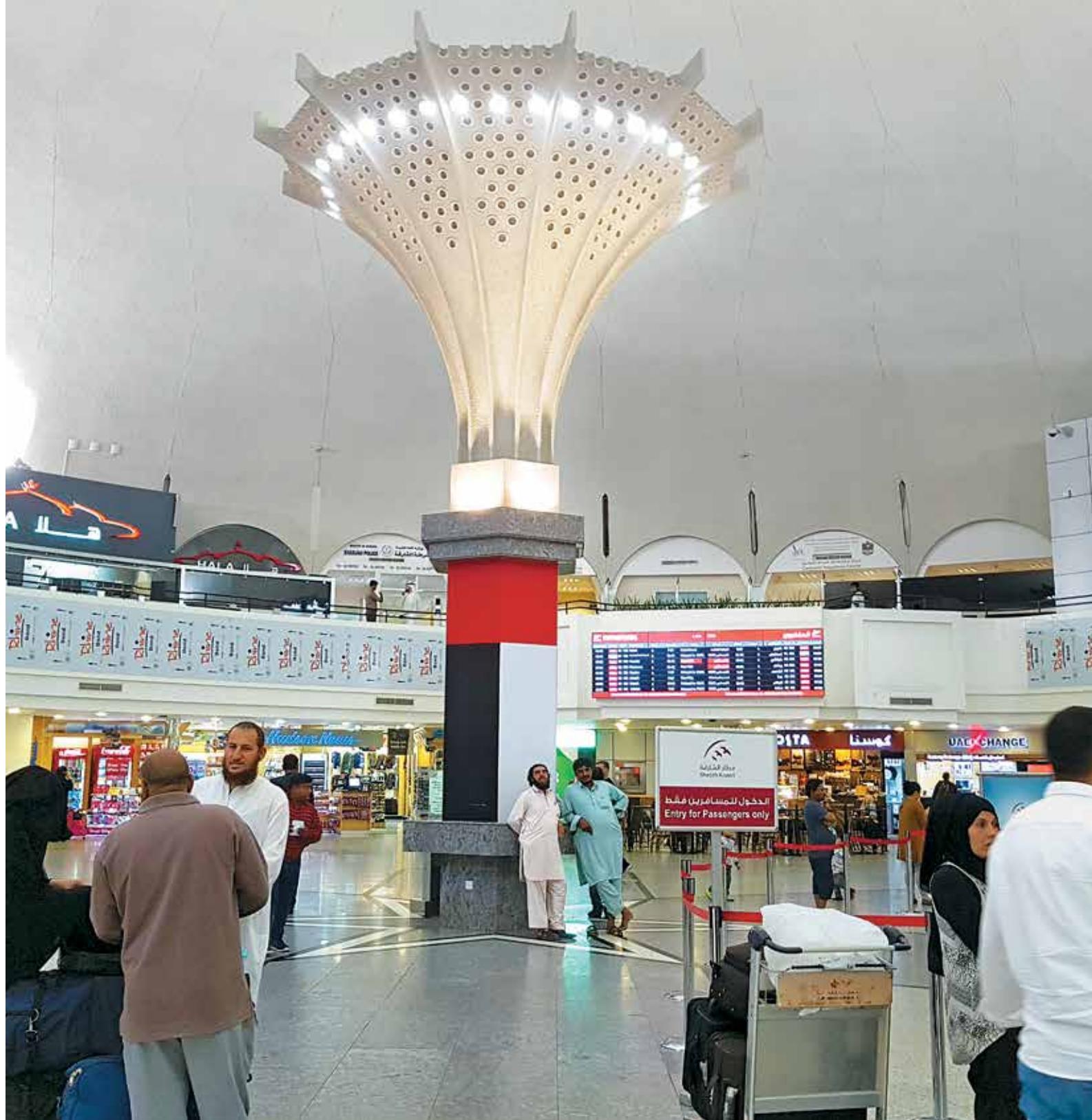
located between the East and the West, travellers from Europe, the Middle East, Africa, the Indian Subcontinent, and the East have found the airport to be as much a connecting point as a calm yet attractive stopover destination.

More routes are scheduled to be added from the RAK airport — Moscow and Tashkent. The airport recently inaugurated the new “RAK Freight Centre” with ultramodern cargo handling equipment. The airport also provides round-the-clock cargo operations and custom clearances.

The air cargo area of the Ras Al Khaimah airport comprises two dedicated buildings that house storage facilities, which include X-ray equipment, and special secure areas for storage of hazardous material and valuables. 

Cargo handling goes up over 6% at Sharjah airport

The airport, known as the gateway from and to the UAE, is recognised as the cultural capital, industrial hub, and education hotspot of the UAE. The city is becoming well-known for its pioneering sustainability initiatives and as a world-class R&D, innovation, and startup hub.



Sharjah International Airport is the third busiest airport in the country and 10th busiest in the Middle East. It is also the third largest Middle East air freight hub in cargo tonnage. Home to Middle East and North Africa's first and largest low-cost carrier, Air Arabia, the airport is spread over an area of 15,200,000 sqm. Since 1932, Sharjah International Airport has been the gateway of travel through the UAE, servicing traffic from regional and international destinations.

The airport is located just 10 kilometres from Sharjah's city centre and 15 kilometres from the emirate of Dubai. It is also not too far from the Northern Emirates of Ajman, Umm Al Quwain, Ras Al Khaimah, and Fujairah.

Sharjah Airport recorded strong operational growth during the first half of 2025, with the number of passengers rising to 9,110,397 — an increase of 10 per cent compared to the same period in 2024, which saw 8,313,811 passengers. Aircraft movements also increased by 4.3 per cent reaching 54,953 compared to 52,695 movements during the first half of last year.

Cargo handling operations registered a record growth of 6.36 per cent, with total volumes reaching 102,427 tonnes. These results reflect the airport's operational flexibility and efficiency in accommodating the continued growth in regional and international travel and cargo movement.



The airport is known for its operational flexibility and efficiency in accommodating the continued growth in regional and international travel and cargo movement.



Today, the airport has grown to accommodate an increasing number of global carriers as well as regional airlines. In 2003, it became the official hub of Air Arabia, the Middle East's first low-cost carrier, which helped fuel the airport's traffic as it ventured into new and untapped territories within a five-hour flying radius.

A dynamic, modern, and convenient hub, Sharjah International Airport completes arrival and departure formalities in just 20 minutes. The airport provides access to the main ports of the Gulf with direct road links to seaports in Sharjah. It also connects directly to other emirates through the UAE's modern highways, a convenient commute to city centres, airports, and seaports. 





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Muscat airport gets world's first drone detection system

The airport sits comfortably on area equivalent to 80 football pitches. Muscat airport has a capacity to handle 20 million passengers with more expansions planned in three stages. For the new terminal, Omani vendors were given 25% of the civil works and the potential carbon footprint was brought down by as much as 95%.



Muscat International Airport is strategically located on the Main Sultan Qaboos Road between Muscat and Al-Seeb cities. Muscat International Airport, formerly known as Seeb International Airport, is the biggest and busiest international airport in Oman. It is located in the country's province of Seeb, 32 km from the old city and Muscat — within the Muscat metropolitan area.

The airport serves as the hub for Oman Air and the Sultanate's first budget airline, Salam Air, with flights to several regional destinations as well as multiple intercontinental

The terminal sits on a floorplate of 418,202 sqm. The structures required seven times the amount of steel used in Eiffel Tower



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services to Asia, Africa, and Europe. It is the first airport in the world to install the Aaronia AARTOS C-UAS drone detection system — a drone detection and defense system that uses real-time electromagnetic monitoring to detect, track, and neutralise unmanned aerial vehicles.

Currently, the new state-of-the-art passenger terminal has a capacity to handle 20 million passengers per year. Further expansions are planned in three subsequent phases to boost the airport's capacity to 24 million, 36 million, and 48 million passengers, respectively. As the airport can now accommodate larger aircraft, including the A380, the world's largest aircraft,

It is the first airport in the world to install the Aaronia AARTOS C-UAS drone detection system, that uses real-time electromagnetic monitoring

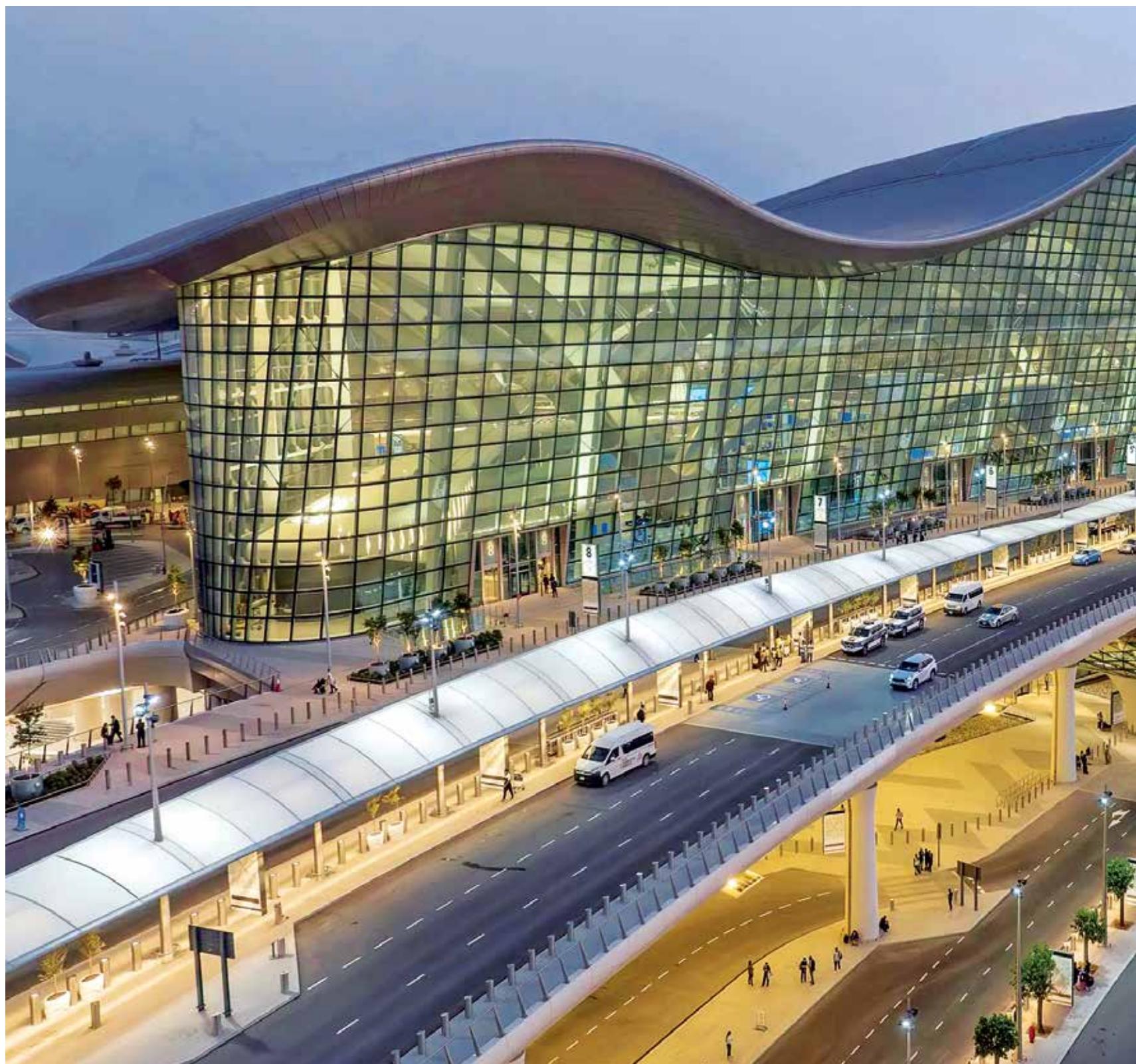


it has enabled Oman Air to launch new routes. Over 240 million hours were worked, with a peak workforce of 22,000, representing 41 different nationalities for the new terminal. The project created job opportunities for local traders and people, with 25 per cent of the civil work awarded to Omani firms. Potential carbon footprint has been reduced by 95 per cent. The project will have 118 check-in counters, 82 immigration counters, and has a system that can process 5,500 pieces of luggage per hour. The project is the largest ever to be undertaken in Oman's history. The new terminal sits on a floorplate of 418,202 sqm — equivalent to 80 football pitches. The structures required seven times the amount of structural steel used in Eiffel Tower, and 520,000 m³ of concrete — twice that used in Burj Khalifa. 



Zayed International Airport a jewel in the UAE's crown

Zayed International Airport is the primary international airport serving Abu Dhabi. It is the second busiest airport in the UAE after Dubai. The airport, covering 6,000 acres, was renamed after UAE's founder Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan.



The UAE's second largest airport, Zayed International Airport, is one of the world's fastest growing airport hubs. It is connected to 120 global destinations served by more than 30 airlines. The new terminal is now officially open to the public, with the capability to handle up to 45 million passengers per year.

The airport is one of the largest airport terminals in the world — able to process 11,000 passengers per hour. The new terminal will be the first in the world to include nine biometric touchpoints. It also reduces the average walking distance between points for those leaving, arriving, or transferring from Terminal A.

The AUH was awarded 'Best Airport for Retail' at the Frontier Awards 2025, marking yet another jewel in AUH's crown as a global benchmark for experiential travel, commercial innovation, and architectural excellence.



Conceived as a gateway to Abu Dhabi, the Terminal A building is raised up from road level which gives it the appearance of sitting on its own plateau. In this context, the building is the dominant and most imposing structure on the horizon with a profile silhouetted against the sky.

Over 30 international airlines operate from the terminal. It incorporated all nine biometric airport touch points, it uses a range of biometric solutions to deliver a quick and efficient journey in the new terminal.

Conceived as a gateway to Abu Dhabi, the Terminal A building is raised up from road level giving the appearance of sitting on its own plateau

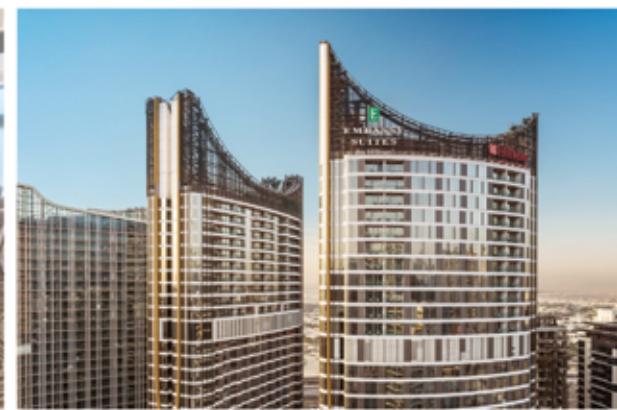
The new terminal has been designed in an X-shape to improve operational efficiency and passenger flow. It features four themed piers inspired by Abu Dhabi's desert, sea, city, and oasis landscapes. The terminal reduces water consumption by 45 per cent, while 7,500 solar panels power a 3MW plant that saves 5,300 tonnes of carbon emissions annually.

It is also fitted with Advanced Surface Movement Control System, the first of its kind in the Middle East, to allow planes to land quickly and safely during low-visibility weather conditions.

NEXT GENERATION AIRPORT

Across Zayed International Airport, Abu Dhabi Airports has implemented several initiatives that combine great design and technology to ensure all passengers experience world-class levels of service and comfort whilst visiting the capital's airport.

These processes have enhanced the passenger experience by decreasing processing times at the airport by 70 per cent, meaning less time in queues and more time for travellers to enjoy the



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SANA AL NOUR

Sana Al Nour is an integrated artwork to direct light and air between the departures and arrivals levels of the new Midfield Terminal at Abu Dhabi International Airport. It is 30 metres in diameter (close to the diameter of the internal dome of St. Paul's Cathedral, London) and 22 metre high. The artwork facilitates the energy-saving airflow design for the whole building. Sana Al Nour is a cable-net structure tensioned between compression rings at top and bottom. Sixteen 50 mm diameter stainless steel tension rods support the sculpture from the lower tip of the central strut.



Sana Al Nour facilitates the energy-saving airflow design for the building. It is a cable-net structure tensioned between compression rings

Their distinctive form is derived from the triangular form of the cable net grid, transformed by a slight curve in the edges of the panels, producing a fluid, rippling surface of glass leaves.

The glass panels are laminated with a unique semi-reflective two-sided silver/blue interlayer, which was specially designed for the project. It incorporates two offset hole patterns, which vary in size and offset distance to give an opacity from approximately 60 to 80 per cent and a variation in the proportion of blue and silver on either side of the glass. 



Memories

SECTION 6





Unfading snippets of 2024



Unfading snippets of 2024

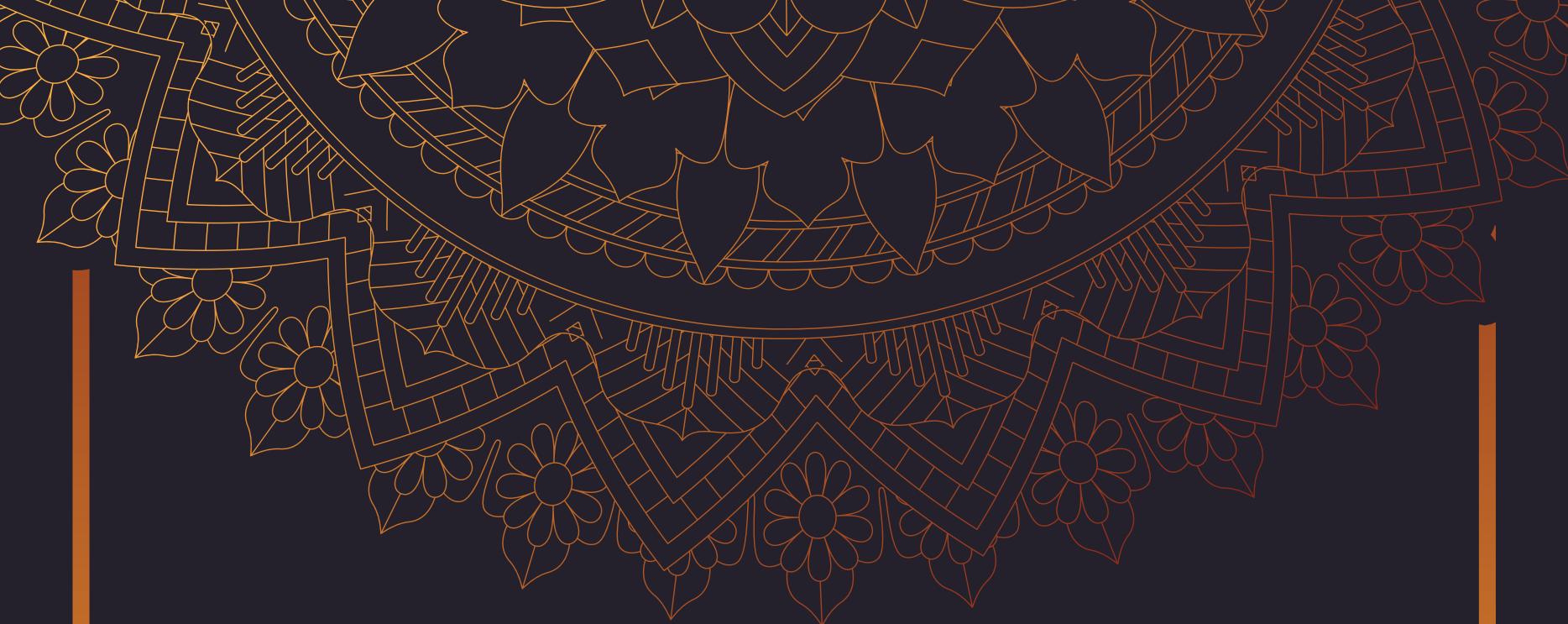


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