

# ARABIAN CARGO AWARDS 2025





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# Honouring excellence in the Arabian cargo industry



The Arabian Cargo Awards officially began with a ceremonial ribbon cutting by dignitaries at the event.

The Arabian Cargo Awards concluded with resounding success this year, uniting the region's leaders in air cargo, logistics, and supply chain under one roof. The awards underscored the region's stature as a global logistics powerhouse and reaffirmed its role shaping the future of global freight.

 Dr Shehara Rizly Fenando

The ceremony unfolded in the stylish setting of Embassy Suites by Hilton Business Bay, Dubai. Welcoming guests was **SanJeet**, Mentor, Arabian Cargo Awards, and host for the night, whose opening remarks set a dynamic tone for the celebration. The event drew a distinguished audience—including senior executives, visionaries and key decision makers—reflecting the strength, ambition and collaborative spirit that define the industry.

Among the notable dignitaries present were **Mohammed Abdulla Al Suwaidi**, Air Cargo Head at Dubai Customs, and **Ute Brunn**, Deputy Consul General of Germany in Dubai. Their presence emphasised the strategic importance of the region's logistics ecosystem and highlighted the award platform's growing international relevance.

The participation of top officials from both governmental and diplomatic circles further underscored how integral air cargo

and logistics have become in strengthening economic ties and commercial connectivity across continents.

A standout moment of the evening was the unveiling of a special collector's edition coffee table book, curated exclusively for the Arabian Cargo Awards. This premium publication chronicles defining milestones, visionary leadership and landmark achievements that have shaped the regional cargo and logistics landscape. Designed as both a keepsake and a record of the sector's evolution, the book pays homage to the organisations and individuals who continue to push boundaries, embrace innovation and influence global standards.

In his address, SanJeet highlighted the overwhelming response to this year's awards, with more than 4,000 votes cast across various categories. He noted that this strong participation reflects the deep trust placed in the platform as a transparent and respected benchmark of excellence. According to him, the engagement also speaks to the increasing value organi-

sations attach to recognition—whether to inspire internal teams, build brand reputation or reinforce their contributions to the region's growth story. He emphasised that the Arabian Cargo Awards serve as more than accolades; they represent a collective acknowledgment of how collaboration, innovation and forward-thinking leadership continue to redefine the logistics landscape.

Ute Brunn in her opening remarks, said the air cargo industry, driven by leaders across the sector, not only moves goods, but



The collector's edition of Arabian Cargo Awards was unveiled on stage.



Brunn further noted that as fleets grow, routes expand, and partnerships strengthen across continents, sustainability targets are being translated into concrete action—from cleaner aircraft operations and electrified ground fleets to innovative packaging and reduced emissions across the supply chain. Commenting on these achievements, she said that they not only support businesses, but also the economies, communities, and industries that rely on the cargo sector's reliability every single day.

“Today, the Arabian region is not only a strategic hub between East and West, but also a global benchmark for efficiency, connectivity, and forward-thinking logis-



also strengthens economies, opportunities, and the future.

“Over the past years, the cargo and logistics sector has undergone an extraordinary transformation. What once seemed impossible has become reality. Supply chains have not only recovered from global disruptions, but have evolved into smarter, faster, and more agile systems that continue to set new benchmarks for efficiency,” she said. Pioneering digital platforms, real-time tracking, predictive analytics, artificial intelligence-driven planning, environmental logistics, and state-of-the-art cargo applications have pushed the boundaries of the industry, ensuring the world keeps moving despite ongoing challenges, she added.

*For Germany, the UAE is our anchor in the region and recognises the importance of cooperation in logistics and trade*

tics. That is thanks to the companies, leaders, and teams we are honouring tonight. Their dedication has elevated the region into one of the world’s most important cargo hubs,” she added.

In conclusion, she reiterated that the presence of the German companies in the Middle East underscores Germany’s

strong global leadership in air freight, aviation, and supply chain innovation.

It also highlights that the UAE, despite its moderate population size, is Germany’s most important trade partner in the entire GCC countries. Successful trade, of course, relies on excellent services and high-quality products. Successful trade between Germany and the UAE remains a cornerstone of the strategic partnership that has existed between the two countries for more than 20 years.

Germany views the UAE as an anchor in the region and recognises the importance of close cooperation in logistics and trade, a vision that sees opportunity where others see obstacles, and a resilience that transforms pressure into performance. 

## Gallery of Legends Stanislas Brun

Stanislas Brun, Chief Cargo Officer, Etihad Airways received the trophy



“ It is a privilege to be entering the Gallery of Legends at the Arabian Cargo Awards for my work and career. It is a great recognition of all the innovations we have done recently at Etihad Cargo. This would not have been possible without my team, and I thank them for their support and dedicate this award to them. Thank you very much DDP, for this evening and this honour. ”

## DDP Game Changer Guillaume Crozier

Guillaume Crozier, Chief Cargo Officer, dnata, accepted the trophy



“ This recognition reflects the collective drive of our teams across the business, who consistently deliver safe, innovative and customer-focused solutions for our airline and logistics partners. As supply chains evolve, dnata remains committed to investing in talent, technology, and operational excellence. This award reinforces our mission to shape a smarter, more resilient cargo ecosystem in the UAE and beyond. ”

## DDP Trailblazer Naresh Ranganathan

Naresh Ranganathan, Vice President, Velora, received the award



“ It is the first time in my three decades of aviation career that I have received an award. It is a great honour and I feel humbled. I am representing the collective of the remarkable team of people that we have at Abu Dhabi, including all the stakeholders and the wider community. ”

## DDP Face of the Future Aaron Smith

Aaron Smith, Director at ACI Logistics honoured with the trophy



“ It is an honour to receive this award and follow in the footsteps of my father who set up this business 25 years ago. It was even more special with both my parents in attendance. The credit goes to my team. Receiving this award is not just a win for me, but a win for the business. ”





## Special Recognition for Safeguarding Dubai's Trade and Logistics Ecosystem **State Security Department Cargo**

The award was received on behalf of State Security Department, Air Cargo Dubai Airports



The State Security Department is a security institution established under a federal law and fulfils its functions and jurisdictions by performing all the duties and tasks assigned to it for ensuring the sustainability of the security and safety of the country.

## Special Recognition for Outstanding Contribution to Cargo Security **Dubai Police – Cargo**

Major Waheed Ali Moosa, Head, Cargo Security, Express Mail and Courier Services, DWC Airport and Major Yahya Matar Aljumairi, Head, Free Zone Cargo Security section, DXB Airport



The Dubai Police Cargo Security Division at Dubai Airports has shown professionalism and dedication in protecting passengers and cargo across all flights. The team screened the largest cargo shipment — completing the op in 10% of the allocated time.

## Best International Air Cargo Terminal **Dubai Airports**

The award was received by Jude Fernandes, Head, Cargo Commercial Partnerships, Dubai Airports, and Rashid Falasi, Manager, Cargo property, Dubai Airports



One of the busiest hubs in the world for global air freight and a handling capacity of 2.8 million tonnes, the operation is clustered around Dubai Cargo Village. The facility accommodates general and specialised cargo with a turnaround of 90 minutes.

## Special Recognition for Outstanding Contribution to the Cargo and Logistics Industry **Dubai Customs**

Mohamed Al Suwaidi, Director, Dubai Customs, Air Cargo Management; Abdulla Al Blooshi, Sr. Manager, Air Cargo Inspection, and Khalid Ali Ibrahim, Manager, Air Cargo Inspections



Dubai Customs plays a major role in turning the emirate into a principal capital, business and tourism destination. It smoothens legitimate trade and leverages economic development, in line with its slogan 'gateway to Dubai's prosperity'.

## Excellence in Supporting UAE Freight & Logistics **NAFL**

Nadia Abdul Aziz, President, NAFL (National Association of Freight and Logistics), Senior Vice President, FIATA; Cargo Chair UNASCO; Chair, ICC UAE Customs and Trade Commission



**“**This award is a big responsibility to give back to the industry, maintaining transparency and ethics in all my work. I am honoured and thank our leaders in the UAE for always empowering women and giving us great opportunities. **”** - Nadia Abdul Aziz

## Best Cargo GSA **Airglow Aviation Services**

The award was presented to Rohit Thakwani CEO & MD and Santosh Soni, Head of Sales, Airglow Aviation Services



**“**Winning this award — our third consecutive one — is a milestone that reflects our team's consistency and dedication. This recognition reinforces the trust our airline partners place in us and motivates us to push boundaries even further. **”** - Rohit Thakwani

## Emerging Aerospace Logistics Provider Compass Logistics International

The award was bagged by Ahmed Shakeer Mohamed, COO; Pascale Matta, Branch Manager, Dubai, Compass Logistics International



“ Our aviation ops have grown from the USA into the ME, with DWC now set up as our primary hub for all MRO and engine movements. We are expanding into Europe. This award reflects the hard work of our teams. ” - Ahmed Shakeer Mohamed

## Fastest Growing Air Cargo Products Manufacturer AeroNet

Brito Daniel, Marketing & Communication Manager, Jinesh Koorakkottil, Regional Manager, Sales & Business Development, and Manesh Balakrishnan, Deputy General Manager, AeroNet



“ This award is a recognition of AeroNet’s dedication to efficiency in Air Cargo Restraint Solutions. As we move forward, we will focus on expanding its global presence, strengthening partnerships and investing in R&D. ” - Manesh Balakrishnan

## Emerging Freight Forwarder – Air BGL Cargo Express LLC

Abdul Shukoor, Air Freight Manager, and Aswanth Vijay, Assistant Manager Air, BGL Cargo Express LLC



“ I thank my team for winning this award. We have planned a huge expansion, and are working on different routes to support our customers in the industry. This recognition reflects our team’s dedication to delivering excellence. ” - Abdul Shukoor

## Best Sea Freight Forwarding Company – Automotive Transport Overseas Shipping DMCC

Christian Weber, Managing Director; Daniel Lumma, General Manager Sales and Richard Hall, Director, ME/APAC, Transport Overseas Shipping DMCC



“ This is a great recognition for the work we do, not just for those of us here, but for everyone back home in Germany at our headquarters. This award reflects the commitment, teamwork, and passion of our entire organisation. ” - Richard Hall

## Best Cargo Airline Etihad Cargo

The award was presented to Grant Kemp, Regional Manager, Etihad Airways and Stanislas Brun, Chief Cargo Officer, Etihad Airways



“ This award is dedicated to my team. Without their hard work, this achievement would not have been possible. A big thank you to DDP, for the two awards, and the recognition. At Etihad Cargo, we strive to serve everyone. ” - Stanislas Brun

## Most Innovative Cargo Airline EightD by Fits Cargo

Roomy, Commercial Director, and Shalat Nadakkal, Assistant Manager, Cargo UAE, Fits Cargo



“ Winning this award reinforces our commitment to innovation and customer-centric cargo solutions. It motivates us to invest in digital transformation, expand strategic trade lanes, and strengthen airline and partner collaborations. ” - Roomy

## Best Sea Freight Forwarder—Exports Orient Cargo Agency

Manjula Kezhedath, Senior Manager Corporate Sales, Arun Nagdev, Senior Manager JAFZA, and Prashanth Balakrishnan, General Manager, Orient Cargo Agency



“ Holding the award aloft was not just a win for the company, but a validation of a culture built on dedication, precision, and commitment to client success. The award represents the effort and vision of Team Orient. ” - Prashanth Balakrishnan

## Excellence in After Sales Service DIMOS FZCO

Martin Bremen, Managing Director, DIMOS FZCO



“ Winning this award for the second consecutive year is a confirmation of our mission to elevate our service quality. It recognises the hard work and dedication of our team and has given them renewed motivation and strength. ” - Martin Bremen

## Fastest Growing Freight Forwarder—Air Expolanka Freight Dubai LLC

Sathish Babu, Country Manager, UAE, Expolanka Freight Dubai LLC



“ Receiving this award has been motivating for all of us, and this recognition pushes us to do better for the coming year. My advice for everyone in the industry is to work hard and commit yourself to making next year better than this one. ” - Sathish Babu

## Best Cargo Airline—Africa Ethiopian Cargo and Logistics Services

Mazhar Marzook, GSA Cargo Manager, UAE, ATTA Cargo, GSA, Ethiopian Airlines; Solomon Begashaw, Area Manager, and Yamrot Nigussie, Cargo Manager Gulf, Ethiopian Airlines, Cargo



“ It is an honour to win this award for three years in a row. This award means more responsibility, more commitment, and more expectations from customers. I dedicate this award to the ET team, including our customers and agents. ” - Yamrot Nigussie

## Best Global Forwarding Company DHL Global Forwarding

The award was received by Tobias Maier, CEO, Ben Lambert, VP Head of Air Freight and Jessica De Robillars, CFO, DHL Global Forwarding, Freight Middle East and Africa



“ It was a big honour to accept the award on behalf of the team. This recognition reflects our commitment to delivering innovative logistics solutions, customer service, and driving growth across the MEA region. ” - Tobias Maier

## Most Innovative Cargo GSA Air One Cargo FZCO (of Azimi Group)

AS Azimi, Chairman and Managing Director and Mohammed Omar Azimi, Executive Vice President, Azimi Group of Companies



“ It is an honour to be here again for the fourth time. It is not just a celebration for us, but a reflection of the trust and confidence our customers place in us. Their support means the world to us, and motivates us to deliver excellence. ” - AS Azimi

## Special recognition awards presented by DHL Global Forwarding, Freight

The special awards were presented by Tobias Maier, CEO and Ben Lambert, VP, Head of Freight, DHL Global Forwarding, Freight Middle East and Africa

### Schneider Electric



Schneider Electric drives efficiency and sustainability by electrifying, automating, and digitalising industries, businesses, and homes. Their tech enables buildings, data centres, factories, and grids to operate as open, interconnected ecosystems.

### General Motors



This category recognises firms that have delivered exceptional performance in managing automotive solutions, including innovation in logistics solutions tailored for the auto industry, and the ability to maintain reliability amid global supply chain challenges.

### EDGE



**“**We are honoured to win this award, which reflects the progress we have made in digitalisation of logistics and our efforts to reach global trade. While we are not yet 100 per cent there, our achievements so far have been encouraging. **”** - Yann Corvellec

### Most Promising GSA GSA Global Cargo LLC

Anandhu Peedika Kandi, Business Development Manager;  
Wazzatkath Ali, Business Development Executive, GSA Global Cargo LLC



### Fastest Growing Freight Forwarding Company—Qatar Tawfeeq Cargo & Logistics

Hiloor Muhiyadeen, CFO, Tawfeeq Group and Zaid Ulde, Manager,  
Tawfeeq Cargo & Logistics



**“**It is a proud moment for us as we receive the prestigious award. I would like to say a big thank you to our team and trusted partners for making this achievement possible. This recognition inspires us to continue delivering excellence. **”** - Rehan Ali

### Most Innovative Cargo Agency in the UAE Nine Yards Shipping & Logistics Services LLC

Dhyan Ranji, Sales Manager; Krishna Kumar, Business Development Manager and Abdul Razack, General Manager, Nine Yards Shipping & Logistics Services LLC



**“**The award motivates us to keep pushing forward. We started during the pandemic, when business was uncertain. By embracing innovation, today, we are recognised as leaders in cargo tech, warehousing, trucking, and cargo services. **”** - Saleem Sharif

### Best Debut Cargo Airline SolitAir Holding

Cristina Neculcea, Corporate Governance Manager; Goneta Jakurti, Investor Relations Manager; Hamdi Osman, Founder & CEO; and Kinan Al Hasani, Ground Operations Manager, SolitAir Holding



**“**This award is testament to SolitAir's vision of redefining air freight in the region. It reflects our pursuit of excellence and trust from our partners. The journey ahead is bold — expanding strategic corridors and championing sustainability. **”** - Hamdi Osman

## Most Promising Cargo Airline—Africa Kenya Cargo

The award was received by Evelyn Alwino, Cargo Global Manager for Eastern Hemisphere, Kenya Airways and Titus Odidu, Regional Cargo Sales Manager Middle East and Greater India, Kenya Airways



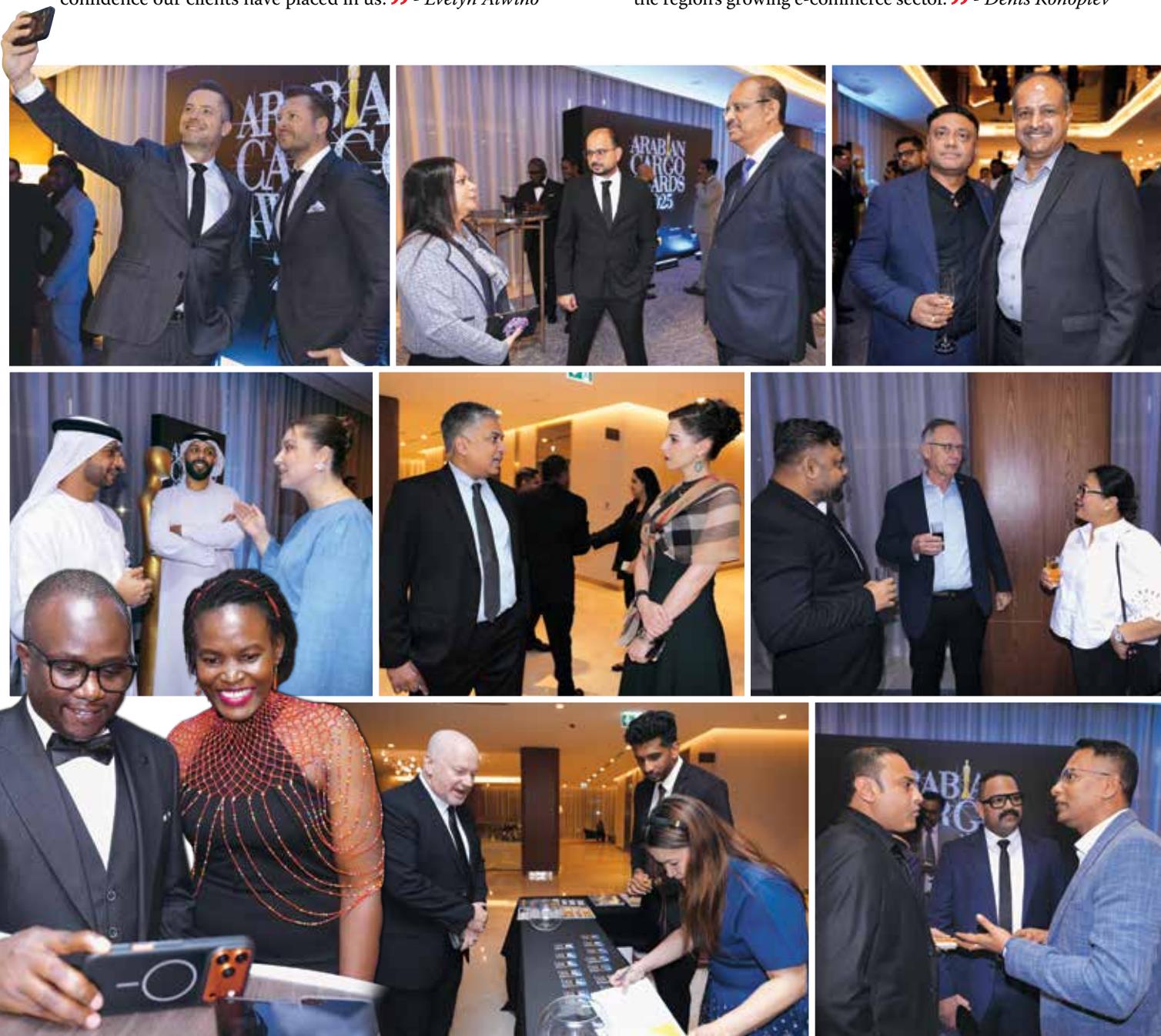
**“**We are honoured to receive this award. First, it strengthens our brand as Kenya Airways. This recognition will make our brand even more prominent. Second, it reinforces the trust and confidence our clients have placed in us. **”** - Evelyn Alwino

## Best Cross-Border E-Commerce Logistics Solution Provider RSA Global

Denis Konoplev, COO, e-commerce, RSA Global



**“**This award highlights the trust our customers place in us and the dedication of our teams. It inspires us to fortify our network, enhancing our digital capabilities and shaping solutions that support the region's growing e-commerce sector. **”** - Denis Konoplev



## Fastest Growing Air Cargo Terminal Operator **Velora**

Mohamed Al Wahedi, Senior Manager Security & Stakeholders, Sankaran Sreekumar, Senior Manager Operations, Naresh Ranganathan, VP, Velora



“ I am just the face of the cargo community in Abu Dhabi, where we all work closely. I accepted this award on behalf of our team. We always remain committed to serving the cargo community with dedication, passion, and zeal. ” - Naresh Ranganathan

## Emerging Cargo GSA **KS Global Logistics FZCO**

Jo Ann Ignacio, Commercial Manager, KS Global Logistics



“ It is a proud moment to win this award. This recognition is an affirmation of the work we have done and the direction we are heading. This win sends a clear message to the industry that KS Global is a trusted partner for airlines. ” - Jo Ann Ignacio

## Emerging Air Cargo Company—Charter **Ascent Air Cargo**

Prem Gangwaani, Managing Director, Ascent Air Cargo



“ This award is testament to our growing footprint in air logistics and the hard work our team puts in. It allows us to reflect on the services we provide in the industry and motivates us to do more of what we aspire to achieve. ”

## Fastest Growing in Freight Forwarder for Personal Effects **Scanwell Logistics LLC**

Razmal Assen, Executive Director, Scanwell Logistics LLC



“ Winning this award reflects the trust our customers place in our work and the commitment that has driven our growth. The recognition elevates our standing in a competitive market and pushes us to keep raising the bar. ” - Razmal Assen

## Excellence in Specialised Supply Chain Solutions **ACI Logistics**

The award was received by Lionel Smith, Managing Director, Nick Heidemann, Commercial Manager, and Aaron Smith, Director, ACI Logistics on stage



“ Getting this award reinforces our position as a trusted partner for high-stakes logistics. It validates the investments we have made in capability, process discipline and service reliability across challenging markets. ” - Aaron Smith

## Best Commercial Vehicle Manufacturers **IVECO**

The award was received by Marco Torta, General Manager and Ali Sheikholmoliki, Area Manager, IVECO Representative Office in Dubai



“ This prestigious award reflects our commitment to innovation and delivering reliable solutions that empower the transport and logistics sector in the GCC and globally. It also celebrates the trust of our partners and customers. ” - Marco Torta

## Best Debut GSA Skylink Cargo Services

Mohammad Reza Qasemi, Managing Partner and Prashant Sivaram, Sales Manager, Skylink Cargo Services



“It is an honour to receive this award, and I would like to take a moment to acknowledge my colleagues. Without their support, this achievement would not have been possible. Their hard work has been the foundation of our success.” - Prashant Sivaram

## Emerging Cargo Airline—Africa Uganda Airlines

The award was graciously received by Eric Nkezabahizi, Representative, Country Manager, Uganda Airlines, UAE



“We look forward to growing our volumes and expanding our ops, while meeting our clients' needs. Our goal is to promote cargo with the same commitment we give to passengers. We aim to deliver service that can only be found with us.” - Eric Nkezabahizi

## Chief Guest Award



(From L-R) SanJeet, Mentor, Arabian Cargo Awards; Nasir Jamal Khan, The Arabian Travel Awards Gallery of Legends winner and Arabian Cargo Awards Trailblazer in 2023; Ute Brunn, Deputy Consul General, The Federal Republic of Germany in Dubai; Nadia Abdul Aziz, President, National Association of Freight and Logistics; Jude Fernandes Arabian Cargo Awards Trailblazer in 2024 and Head Cargo Commercial Partnerships, Dubai Airport and Rohit Thakwani, CEO, Airglow Aviation, and Arabian Cargo Awards Face of the Future in 2024

## Guest of Honour Award



(Left to right) SanJeet, Mentor, Arabian Cargo Awards; Nasir Jamal Khan, Arabian Travel Awards Gallery of Legends winner and Arabian Cargo Awards Trailblazer in 2023; Mohammed Abdulla Al Suwaidi, Director, Dubai Air Customs; Nadia Abdul Aziz, President, National Association of Freight and Logistics; Jude Fernandes Arabian Cargo Awards Trailblazer in 2024 and Head Cargo Commercial Partnerships, Dubai Airport and Rohit Thakwani, CEO, Airglow Aviation and Arabian Cargo Awards Face of the Future in 2024

## Hospitality Partner Award



“At Embassy Suites by Hilton Dubai Business Bay, we believe in aligning ourselves with platforms that embody innovation, excellence, and industry leadership. Partnering with the Arabian Cargo Awards was a natural choice, as the forum recognises the values that define our brand—service, connections, and forward-thinking hospitality.” - Doruk Tuzcu and Shrikant Trivedi

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# Nominations now open for **2026**

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