

1 August 2016

## Air Cargo Volume Grows Dynamically at Budapest Airport

(Text prepared by Budapest Airport)

**Air cargo volume passing through Budapest Airport has increased by no less than 11.3% since the beginning of the year. The bulk of this was transported by cargo carriers, but belly cargo volumes grew just as strongly.**

Budapest has handled 6,770 tonnes of air cargo every month so far in 2016, and while the Hungarian capital city's turnover is increasing dynamically, the cargo industry throughout Europe has not seen such development. A growth of only 2.7% was recorded on the continent in May, while cargo volumes declined on the American continent and in Africa. The 11.3% growth rate at Budapest Airport from the beginning of the year is unparalleled just about anywhere; among major international hubs, Hong Kong actually reported -1.1%, Frankfurt -1.7%, and Beijing -5.1%.

A large contributing factor in the growth of cargo volume in Budapest was the re-launch of Qatar Cargo this March. The carrier's Airbus A330F can carry as much as 60 tonnes of goods to Doha on a single flight, and onwards, to almost any point on the globe via the network of Qatar Airways. Additionally, cargo airlines such as Luxembourg-based Cargolux and Turkish Cargo which have been operating in Budapest for a long time, also continued to put in a strong performance.

"Long-haul passenger flights contributed significantly to the volume uplift too, for example the Beijing flight of Air China or the Toronto flight operated by Air Canada Rouge," said József Kossuth, Cargo Development Manager, Budapest Airport. He added: "It is also an indication of the performance of the Hungarian economy that on the Air China flight to Beijing almost the full cargo compartment is booked, which means 10-12 tonnes per flight. According to our forecasts, all conditions are pointing towards Budapest evolving into the air cargo hub of Eastern Europe within a short period of time."

Based on traffic forecasts – as part of the 50-billion-HUF development program BUD 2020 – Budapest Airport has commenced construction of a new logistics base right next to Terminal 1 for one of the major European parcel services. Physical construction is underway; the value of the project is close to HUF three billion. In addition, Budapest is preparing for the construction of a new air cargo base – the so-called Cargo City – in the close proximity of Terminal 2, towards Vecsés, where warehouse and office capacity for handling up to 200,000 tonnes per annum is going to be implemented in the next few years.

Link to plans and photos: <https://goo.gl/n7XiqK>

## Notes for Editors

- Budapest Airport Zrt. is the operator of Budapest Airport. It is owned by an international consortium of investors, led by the privately-owned German company AviAlliance, an independent airport manager holding a 52.66% stake, together with Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (20.17%), Malton Investment Pte Ltd. (22.17%) and KfW IPEX-Bank GmbH (5%).
- Budapest Airport welcomed 10.3 million passengers in 2015, flying on the airport's services to 95 destinations across 36 countries.
- Monthly passenger traffic growth in the period to end-June 2016 has exceeded +9%.
- Budapest Airport's route development for 2016 include:  
Launched since April:
  - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Baku, 24 March 2016;
  - Ryanair, weekly service to Gran Canaria, 3 April 2016;
  - easyJet thrice-weekly service to Lyon, 26 April 2016;
  - Ryanair, weekly service to Corfu, 28 April 2016.
  - Air Canada Rouge, thrice-weekly service to Toronto, 11 June 2016;
  - Wizz Air weekly service to Ibiza, 18 June 2016;
  - Bulgaria Air four-times weekly service to Sofia, 20 June;
  - Asiana Airlines weekly service to Seoul Incheon, 1 July.

### To launch:

- Ryanair daily service to Berlin, starting 2 September 2016;
- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Porto, starting 4 September 2016;
- Air Algerie twice-weekly service to Algeria, starting 15 September 2015;
- Wizz Air four times weekly service to Bucharest, starting 19 September 2016;
- Wizz Air weekly service to Fuerteventura, starting 30 October 2016;
- EasyJet thrice-weekly service to Venice Marco Polo, starting 31 October 2016;
- Ryanair daily service to Nuremburg, starting 1 November 2016;
- Wizz Air weekly service to Lanzarote, starting 2 November 2016;
- Wizz Air thrice-weekly service to Sofia, starting 1 November 2016.

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