

8 December 2016

## Cargo exceeds 100,000 tonnes at Budapest Airport

(Text prepared by Budapest Airport)

**An astonishing amount of cargo is carried right over our heads and in the last days of November, this year's air cargo volume exceeded 100,000 tonnes at Budapest Airport. The results perfectly illustrate the excellent performance of domestic companies, as the volume of export cargo carried by aircraft now exceeds the volume of import cargo.**

The annual record of cargo volume is expected to be broken at the Hungarian gateway this year with more than 100,000 tonnes already handled between January and November. Due not to only a single airline or segment, this promising growth is in addition to conventional cargo carriers; the turnover of integrator companies, as well as the volume of belly cargo (transported in the cargo compartment of passenger aircraft), has also seen a steady increase. Expected to see monthly highs before the Christmas season, the volume of air cargo processed at the airport in November had already exceeded 10,000 tonnes (and almost climbed above 11,000 tonnes), thereby setting the new record for the year.

Budapest's statistics have shown that the ratio of import and export volumes has been balanced up until last year, but 2016 has seen export volumes grow at significantly faster rates, a sign which could conclude that Hungarian companies are holding their ground in global competition. Considerable increased turnover has been produced primarily by the electronic industry, producers of automotive parts, telecommunication technologies, and the pharmaceutical industry. The annual rate of growth of total cargo volume flowing through Budapest (air cargo and road cargo combined) is also outstanding on the regional level – +21.5% versus the previous year.

The role of Budapest as a regional cargo hub has become more and more significant, major Chinese corporations, with products headed for distribution in the European market, are going via Hungary's capital city airport. Budapest offers ideal conditions for this, no less than 20 European countries can be reached within a 1,000km radius, the optimum for road transport and distribution of goods. Through the international route network of major cargo carriers, virtually all important commercial destinations around the globe can be reached from Budapest via Luxembourg, Doha, Dubai and Istanbul.

"We are really proud of the rapid growth of air cargo volume reaching 16.4% this year, a clear sign of the good performance within the Hungarian economy," said René Droese, Property Director, Budapest Airport, who is responsible for cargo. He added: "The needs of increasingly robust cargo traffic will also be catered for by the two major logistic bases currently under construction next to Terminal 1 for DHL Express and TNT. Simultaneously, we started preparations of the development of a brand new air cargo center called Cargo City in the area next to Terminal 2, since it is expected that additional and more modern cargo handling capacities will be required in Budapest within a short time."

Link to the photos of cargo operation at Budapest Airport:  
<https://goo.gl/photos/ZQJLiH2AKmtd2RRq7>



Photo caption: Expecting to smash its annual record of cargo volume in 2016, Budapest Airport has already handled well in-excess of 100,000 tonnes of cargo so far this year.

#### 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 55.438% stake, together with Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec (21.228%), and Malton Investment Pte Ltd. (23.334%).
- 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-October 2016 has exceeded +12.1%.
- Budapest Airport's route development includes:  
Launched since September:
  - Ryanair daily service to Berlin, 2 September 2016;
  - Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Porto, 4 September 2016;
  - Air Algerie twice-weekly service to Algeria, 15 September 2015;
  - Wizz Air four times weekly service to Bucharest, 19 September 2016;
  - Wizz Air weekly service to Fuerteventura, 30 October 2016;
  - easyJet thrice-weekly service to Venice Marco Polo, 31 October 2016;
  - Ryanair daily service to Nuremberg, 1 November 2016;
  - Wizz Air thrice-weekly service to Sofia, 1 November 2016;
  - Wizz Air weekly service to Lanzarote, 2 November 2016.

#### To launch:

- easyJet thrice-weekly service to Amsterdam, starting 6 February 2017;
- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Faro, starting 1 April 2017;
- Wizz Air four times weekly service to Hannover, starting 10 April 2017;
- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Bergen, starting 10 April 2017;
- Wizz Air twice-weekly service to Lamezia Terme, starting 12 April 2017;
- TAP Portugal daily service to Lisbon, starting 1 June 2017.

For more information:

**Kerry Parks, Account Manager, Budapest Airport Aviation Development PR**  
PPS Publications, Media & Events  
(44) 1293 783851/mobile (44) 7808 172723 or [kerry@pps-publications.com](mailto:kerry@pps-publications.com)