

Media Release

Cargolux launches aerial firefighting unit

Luxembourg, 12 January 2024 – Cargolux is pleased to announce that it has launched a new business unit, Aquarius Aerial Firefighting (Aquarius AFF). This new venture marks a new chapter in Cargolux' history.

The aerial firefighting unit will operate a fleet of 12 Air Tractor AT-802F Fire Boss aircraft which will be acquired over a three-year period. The first 3 aircraft have already been delivered. These three aircraft are expected to be ready for deployment by May 2024. Through its entrance into this activity, Aquarius AFF will alleviate some of the capacity shortfall for aerial firefighting in Europe and further afield.

Extreme weather patterns, global warming and their consequences, such as wildfires, are an increasing issue for global communities.

Aquarius AFF aims to provide assistance in the fight against devastating wildfires that threaten human lives, natural resources and significantly contributes to global CO₂ emissions. Cargolux is strongly committed to sustainability and this new venture will enable the company to lead a solution-oriented project, tackling one of the root causes of CO₂ emissions.

Aquarius AFF will build on Cargolux' experience and high safety standards to develop its aerial firefighting activity. True to its pioneering spirit, Cargolux is venturing into new territory for an all-cargo airline.

"The inauguration of Aquarius Aerial Firefighting as a new business unit of Cargolux is an exciting new chapter in the company's history. Over the past years, we have witnessed wildfires becoming a growing global issue that requires a rapid response. Not only do such fires emit significant amounts of CO₂ but they pose a significant danger to lives and livelihoods. As a responsible corporate citizen I see it as our responsibility to help tackle this problem. I look forward to Aquarius Aerial Firefighting becoming an integral part of the solution.", says Richard Forson, President & CEO of Cargolux.

About Cargolux Airlines International

Cargolux, based in Luxembourg, is Europe's leading all-cargo airline operating a fleet of 30 Boeing 747-8 freighters and Boeing 747-400 freighters. As a future-gearred airline, Cargolux also has 10 efficient Boeing 777-8F on order to replace its ageing 747-400 aircraft. The Cargolux worldwide network covers over 75 destinations on scheduled all-cargo flights and offers full and part-charter services. The company has more than 85 offices in over 50 countries and operates an extensive global trucking network to more than 250 destinations. With 50 years of experience in the air cargo industry and an extensive product portfolio, Cargolux provides tailored transport solutions for all types of shipments. The Cargolux Group also offers aerial firefighting services through its dedicated unit Aquarius Aerial Firefighting. As a responsible cargo carrier, Cargolux has developed a solid Sustainability & CSR program encompassing Environmental, Social, and Governance principles. The Cargolux Group employs close to 2,500 staff members worldwide.

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