



## **DHL Express says “Servus Austria!” - Inauguration flight of new cargo airline DHL Air Austria**

- Austrian cargo airline DHL Air Austria creates 54 new jobs at Vienna Airport
- Preparing for further growth and serving high demand for express deliveries
- First Austrian airline of DHL Express strengthens European air freight network
- Record speed in completing procedures confirms high quality of aviation authorities in Austria

**Wien/Schwechat, 9 November 2021:** As the world's leading express service provider, DHL Express celebrated the launch of its newly established cargo airline DHL Air Austria yesterday, which is now headquartered at Vienna Airport. The inauguration flight of the first registered Boeing 757 under Austrian flag also took place in the presence of key partners from the responsible aviation authorities such as the Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology and Austro Control.

The founding of DHL Air Austria is an important milestone for DHL Express in Austria, which began 41 years ago: “With this important step, we are making our air freight network in Europe more flexible and stable, while at the same time continuing to meet our customers' high demand for cross-border express deliveries and providing them with sufficient capacity,” says Ralf Schweighöfer, CEO of DHL Express Austria.

In an increasingly globalized world, the importance of exports and imports is growing rapidly, and this trend will continue even after the COVID19 pandemic. The global networking of domestic companies is progressively becoming a decisive competitive factor. By ensuring a resilient and flexible air transport network, DHL Express is thus making an important contribution to the economic recovery of the European economy after the COVID19 pandemic. “The new airline DHL Air Austria is an important boost for our aviation industry and the domestic economy. The location decision for Austria is a strong signal for our country. The new headquarter at Vienna International Airport will also create an important value for the region,” emphasized Dr. Magnus Brunner, State Secretary for Aviation.

### **Sustainable headquarter at Vienna Airport – 54 new employees will manage European cargo air traffic in the future**

The new cargo airline DHL Air Austria will handle European cargo flights in future with eighteen Boeing 757 aircraft and around 176 pilots. The employees at the Vienna International Airport will manage the airline's daily operations, from crew scheduling and flight planning to crew training. They are also responsible for safety, quality, compliance and the planning of aircraft maintenance. In addition, DHL



Air Austria is creating around 54 new and sustainable jobs in Office Park 4 at Vienna Airport, one of the most modern and sustainable office buildings in Vienna.

“The establishment of DHL Express' first Austrian airline and the receipt of all licenses is a historic moment for all of us. The efficient implementation of this important milestone would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of our team and, above all, without the great support of the responsible ministry as well as Austro Control”, says Barbara Achleitner, Managing Director of DHL Air Austria. “It makes us particularly proud that we have managed such enormous achievements together as a team within nine months and that we are creating 54 new jobs at our headquarters at Vienna International Airport.”

### **Austria confirmed as top international location - approval process completed in record time**

After examining several options in various European countries, Austria was chosen as the optimal location for the new cargo airline. In addition to stable political and economic conditions and the excellent global reputation of the domestic aviation authorities, the location also offers the best geographical conditions in the heart of Europe. This is also confirmed by Dr Valerie Hackl, Managing Director of Austro Control: “I am particularly pleased that with DHL Air Austria we can welcome another airline to the Austrian aircraft register. I would like to thank DHL Express for the good and professional cooperation, which has made it possible to complete this process so quickly and efficiently. It is also a sign of the high quality of our aviation authorities and a consequence of the high quality of service we offer our customers every day that more and more renowned airlines are finding their way to Austria. We have earned this excellent international reputation in recent years, and we intend to continue along this path in the future as a modern and service-oriented aviation authority.”

After initial talks with the Austrian authorities in February of this year, the AOC (Air Operator Certificate) required to operate the airline and consequently the OL (Operating License) were issued on 18 October 2021. DHL Air Austria was thus able to prove to the relevant authorities that it had completed all the necessary procedures for operating the new cargo airline in a record time of only nine months. Currently, three of the total of eighteen Boeings are already registered in Austria. The transfer of another fifteen Boeing 757 aircraft to DHL Air Austria is expected to be completed in the first quarter of 2022. By then, the DHL Air Austria team will have moved into the modern Office Park 4 and will be managing operations from there.

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# Press release



## **Media Contact:**

Deutsche Post DHL Group  
Media Relations  
Sabine Hartmann  
Phone: +49 228 182-9944  
E-mail: [pressestelle@dpdhl.com](mailto:pressestelle@dpdhl.com)

On the Internet: [dpdhl.com/press](http://dpdhl.com/press)

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