

Press Release

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Leipzig/Halle Airport
Dresden International
PortGround

Development of traffic at Leipzig/Halle and Dresden Airports in 2018: passenger numbers grow – freight volumes increase at Leipzig/Halle

Overall, 4,333,294 passengers passed through the two airports of Leipzig/Halle and Dresden, which both belong to Mitteldeutsche Flughafen AG, in 2018. This means that passenger numbers were 6.4 percent higher than in the previous year.

Freight volumes at Leipzig/Halle Airport rose for the fourteenth time in succession and increased to more than 1.2 million tonnes. The number of aircraft movements at the two airports rose by 10.6 percent to 109,491 take-offs and landings.

Mitteldeutsche Flughafen AG
Uwe Schuhart
Konzernpressesprecher
Telefon +49 (0)341 224-1157
Telefax +49 (0)341 224-1161
kommunikation@mdf-ag.com
www.mdf-ag.com

Leipzig/Halle Airport

2,571,119 passengers passed through Leipzig/Halle Airport last year – an increase of 8.7 percent over the figure for 2017. This growth process was supported by developments in both scheduled and tourist traffic. The demand for destinations in Egypt, Greece and Turkey developed in a particularly positive manner.

The number of aircraft movements at Leipzig/Halle Airport increased by 13.5 percent to a figure of 79,218 take-offs and landings.

Further significant growth in freight volumes

Freight volumes at Leipzig/Halle Airport, Europe's fifth largest cargo hub, increased to approx. 1,221,429 tonnes in 2018; this represents growth of 7.3 percent over the figure for the previous year.

Dresden Airport

Passenger numbers at Dresden Airport rose by 3.1 percent in comparison with the previous year's figure to a figure of 1,762,175. The greater number of tourist flights contributed to this positive development. The level of demand for destinations in Egypt, Greece, Turkey and Spain developed in a particularly positive way.

The number of aircraft movements was 3.6 percent higher than in the previous year with 30,273 take-offs and landings.

Saxony's Economic Affairs and Transport Minister, Martin Dulig, comments, "The two airport sites in Saxony offer good jobs to more than 12,000 people. Their daily dedication – whether in handling, services or administration – makes a significant contribution to ensuring that our airports attract more passengers and are able to hold their own in a tough competitive environment. I myself worked as a loader at Leipzig/Halle for one day during the spring of 2018 to launch my "Your work, my work" campaign – incognito and without any special benefits as a politician. Loading heavy holiday suitcases in all weathers and working under time pressure is an extremely challenging job physically and deserves my greatest respect."

With a view to the 14th annual record for freight volumes in succession, Martin Dulig adds, "Leipzig/Halle has consolidated its position as one of the top five cargo hubs in Europe. We want to continue this success story with more international cooperation arrangements and continue to strengthen Saxony as a business centre. The agreement with Hanoi Airport, which was signed recently during my trip to Vietnam, is designed to open up new doors in south-east Asia. Vietnam is one of the dynamically developing markets for e-commerce trade and logistics alongside China and is also generating a constantly increasing source of goods and products."

Götz Ahmelnann, CEO of Mitteldeutsche Flughafen AG and Chairman of the Boards at Leipzig/Halle and Dresden Airports

notes the following in the light of the way that traffic is developing. "The strong growth in the numbers of passengers in 2018 is based on an increase in tourist traffic at both airports. There was particularly increased demand for Turkish, Egyptian and Greek destinations."

In the light of the growing volumes of freight, Götz Ahmelnann continues to emphasise the following. "With an increase of more than seven percent, Leipzig/Halle Airport significantly exceeded the German average figure for volumes of air freight in 2018. Overall, the airport handled more than 1.2 million tonnes of cargo – more than ever before in one year. This growth is particularly based on DHL's express freight business. However, the cargo and special charter services also continued to develop far above average."

About Mitteldeutsche Flughafen AG

Mitteldeutsche Flughafen AG consists of the subsidiaries Leipzig/Halle Airport, Dresden Airport and PortGround.

Leipzig/Halle Airport handled about 2.57 million passengers and approx. 1.22 million tonnes of air freight in 2018. This makes it Germany's second-largest cargo airport. The airport is connected to the A 9 and A 14 motorways and has a railway station that is part of the central terminal. This enables passengers from Central Germany and beyond to reach the airport directly.

About 1.76 million passengers passed through Dresden Airport in 2018. A link to the A 4 motorway and a local railway station ensure that passengers from the catchment areas of Saxony, southern Brandenburg, the north of the Czech Republic and western Poland can arrive at the airport and depart from it in comfort.

PortGround provides ground and passenger handling, cargo and other extensive services around the clock at Leipzig/Halle and Dresden Airports.