IATA WORLD CARGO SYMPOSIUM

Calgary, Canada
9 – 11 March 2027

SPECIAL CARGO STREAM AGENDA



Host Airport

YYC Calgary Airport

Host Airline

WESTJET

IATA

IATA WORLD CARGO SYMPOSIUM

Special Cargo Stream

Wednesday, 10 March 2027

09h00 – 09h10 **Opening Remarks**
Valentina Abplanalp, Head of Special Cargo, IATA

09h10 – 09h45 **Is Air Cargo ready for Personalized Medicine**
By 2027, advanced therapies will move from niche treatments into more routine commercial distribution. What Airports, Airlines and Freight Forwarders need to do to be prepared

09h45 – 10h30 **Special Cargo Convergence: When Pharma, Live Animals and Perishables demand different operational priorities**
Panel: Disruptions can affect special cargo shipments in very different ways. While pharmaceutical products may be constrained by strict temperature requirements, live animals may be subject to welfare considerations and perishables may face rapid product deterioration. What operational, regulatory, quality and welfare factors influence decision-making during disruptions?

10h30 – 11h30 **NETWORKING BREAK – WCS Exhibition Hall**

11h30 – 12h30 **Spotlight 1: Operations – New handling requirements for Special Cargo**
What is special about special cargo? What do airlines and GHA need to consider when moving Pharma, Live Animals and Perishables? And what is coming next?

12h30 – 14h00 **LUNCH BREAK – WCS Exhibition Hall**

14h00 – 15h00 **Spotlight 2: ULD and the Cool Corridors**
ULDs play a critical role in protecting the integrity of pharmaceutical products, perishables, and live animal shipments throughout the air cargo journey. From active and passive temperature-controlled solutions to innovative loading systems and airport handling processes, this session will explore how equipment, infrastructure, and collaboration contribute to a resilient cool corridor and improve shipment quality, visibility, and compliance.

15h00 – 16h00 **NETWORKING BREAK – WCS Exhibition Hall**

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16h00 – 16h30 **Canada's Opportunity in Life Sciences and Precision Medicine**
Canada is rapidly expanding its role in biotechnology, clinical research, and advanced therapies. With growing investments in life sciences, precision medicine, and pharmaceutical innovation, what opportunities exist for Canadian airports and air cargo stakeholders to develop specialized healthcare logistics capabilities?

16h30 – 17h00 **Live Animals in the Seafood Supply Chain - The Race Against Time**
Are we treating live seafood as a commodity or as a specialized live animal shipment? Cold chain integrity; Delays and spoilage risk; Airport-perishable center connectivity; Sustainability requirements

17h00 – 17h25 **Building Climate-Resilient Special Cargo Supply Chains**
Can special cargo continue growing without significantly increasing its environmental footprint?

17h25 – 17h30 **Closing Remarks**

18h30 – 22h00 **WCS GALA DINNER**