

IATA WORLD CARGO SYMPOSIUM

Lima, Peru
10 – 12 March 2026

ULD FORUM AGENDA

Host Airline



ULD Forum Agenda

IATA WORLD CARGO SYMPOSIUM

Thursday, 12 March

09h00 – 09h05

Welcome

Tom Brodowski, Manager, Continuous Improvement, United Airlines

09h05 – 09h50

Presentation and Panel Discussion:

Breaking the Barrier: Why Automation Stops at the ULD—and How We Can Fix It

Automation is revolutionizing industries worldwide, yet air cargo remains stuck in manual mode. Why? The ULD—built for strength, not flexibility—may be the biggest roadblock. This session will explore lessons learned from real-world automated loading trials and discuss what fundamental changes are needed to unlock automation's full potential. Join us to explore disruptive ideas, challenge conventional designs, rethink cargo handling processes, and shape the future of ULD operations.

Re-Engineering the ULD: Opening the Door to Fully Automated ULD Build-Up

Manuel Wehner, R&D Airport Automation, Fraunhofer IML

Moderator:

Manuel Wehner, R&D Airport Automation, Fraunhofer IML

Panelists:

Claudia Weidenbusch, Vice President Cargo, Flughafen München GmbH

Floris Kleijn, Director, Digital Solutions, AviusULD

Oliver Ditz, Project Manager, Digital Air Cargo, Fraunhofer IML

09h50– 10h10

Presentation

Beyond the ULD ID Code: Building the Next-Generation ULD Identity for a Dynamic Cargo World

A future-ready air cargo system demands a future-ready ULD identity—one that enables automation, strengthens safety, supports full digital visibility, and ensures global interoperability across airlines, handlers, asset management providers, and IT platforms. This presentation will explore what a next-generation ULD identification framework must deliver to meet the needs of an increasingly dynamic operating environment.

Liao Zhi Yong, Senior Manager, Cargo Safety & ULD, IATA

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Thursday, 12 March

10h10 – 10h55

Presentation and Panel Discussion

600 Cells, 60% State of Charge, 6 Hours: Preparing Air Cargo for the Next Generation of Fire-Resistant Containers

With lithium battery risks intensifying, FRC/FCC performance standards are about to jump to a new level. This panel brings together fire testing experts, regulators, and airlines to outline what's changing, what regulators expect, and what it means for operations and safety risk assessments—and how the industry can prepare for next-generation fire-protection solutions.

Advancing FRC/FCC Fire Testing Requirements: Technical Updates for 2026

Scott Miller, Chief Engineer, Satco

Moderator:

Scott Miller, Chief Engineer, Satco

Panelists:

Frank Steinert, Senior Director, Global Network Equipment, DHL Express

Bob McClelland, Senior Program Manager, Transportation Safety, UL Standards & Engagement

Rishani Dissanayake, Programme Manager, AMSAFE BRIDPORT

10h55 – 11h00

Closing Remarks

Tom Brodowski, Manager, Continuous Improvement, United Airlines

11h00 – 11h30

NETWORKING BREAK – WCS EXHIBITION HALL

11h30 – 13h00

WCS 2026 Closing Plenary

13h00 – 14h00

NETWORKING LUNCH BREAK – WCS EXHIBITION HALL