IATA WORLD CARGO SYMPOSIUM

Calgary, Canada
9 – 11 March 2027

OPENING PLENARY AGENDA



Host Airport

YYC Calgary Airport

Host Airline

WESTJET

IATA

IATA WORLD CARGO SYMPOSIUM

Opening Plenary

Tuesday, 9 March 2027

09h00 – 09h10	**Official WCS 2027 Opening**
09h10 – 09h30	**Welcome to Calgary & Canada Executive Keynotes**
09h30 – 09h45	**20 Years of WCS: From Freight to Digital Global Trade**
09h45 – 10h00	**Global Trade and Air Cargo Outlook**
10h00 – 10h30	**Executive Round Table** What does global trade need from air cargo now?
10h30 – 11h30	**NETWORKING BREAK – WCS EXHIBITION HALL** **IATA Media Briefing – Room TBC**
11h30 – 11h45	**The State of Air Cargo: Progress, Gals and the Road to 2030** Air cargo stands at a pivotal moment. While the industry has made significant progress in digitalization, sustainability, and supply chain resilience, critical gaps remain. This keynote will explore the current state of air cargo, the forces reshaping global trade, and how digital transformation is evolving from basic adoption to predictive intelligence. Looking ahead to 2030 and beyond, industry leaders will examine the strategies, technologies, and partnerships needed to ensure air cargo remains a catalyst for global commerce.
11h45 – 12h30	**Leadership Panel** As global trade patterns evolve and technology reshapes supply chains, what will the air cargo industry look like in 2030 and beyond? This leadership panel brings together CEOs and senior executives to discuss the long-term outlook for trade, the role of digital intelligence, and the strategic decisions that will define the industry's future competitiveness.
12h30 – 14h00	**NETWORKING LUNCH BREAK – WCS EXHIBITION HALL**

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14h00 – 14h30 **Digital Cargo at Scale From Adoption to Intelligence**

As digital standards become widely adopted across the air cargo industry, the focus is shifting from implementation to value creation. This session explores how data, automation, and artificial intelligence are transforming cargo operations, enabling greater visibility, smarter decision-making, and more resilient supply chains. Industry leaders will discuss the journey from digitization to intelligence and the actions needed to unlock the full potential of a connected cargo ecosystem.

14h30 – 15h00 **Trusting the Digital Supply Chain**

Trust is essential to realizing the benefits of digitalization. This session explores how secure data sharing, transparency, and industry standards can strengthen collaboration, improve resilience, and enable a more connected air cargo supply chain.

15h00 – 16h00 **NETWORKING BREAK – WCS EXHIBITION HALL**

16h00 – 16h30 **Safety & Security: Protecting Global Trade**

Discussing strategies for managing disruption, strengthening supply chain resilience, enhancing cargo security and compliance, and addressing infrastructure and capacity constraints in an increasingly complex trade environment.

16h30 – 17h00 **The Resilient Cargo Supply Chain**

Explore how geopolitical change, trade policy shifts, and evolving supply chains are reshaping global commerce, and the critical role air cargo plays in maintaining resilience and connectivity. How regulatory modernization, partnerships and industry collaboration are crucial to progress.

17h00 – 17h25 **Talent development**

Industry leadership examples to prepare the next generation of air cargo professionals. Exploring how the industry can attract, develop, and retain future talent through skills development, leadership programs, and career pathways to support innovation, digital transformation, and sustainable growth.

17h25 – 17h30 **Closing Remarks**

17h30 – 19h30 **WCS WELCOME RECEPTION – WCS EXHIBITION HALL**