

IATA CARGO EXPERTS CONFERENCE

**Budapest, Hungary
23-24 September 2026**

DIGITAL CARGO PROGRAM



IATA CARGO EXPERTS CONFERENCE

Three dynamic, specialized tracks

CARGO PHARMA & OPERATIONS

This two-day track will focus on the operational excellence and regulatory requirements of air cargo, with a particular emphasis on the safe, compliant, and efficient transport of pharmaceutical products by air. The program will explore end-to-end cargo operations, including ground handling, temperature-controlled logistics, quality management systems, risk mitigation, and contingency planning. Through expert presentations, case studies, and interactive discussions, participants will gain practical insights into industry standards, emerging operational challenges, and best practices for maintaining product integrity across complex global air cargo supply chains.

SAFETY & SECURITY

The Safety & Security agenda will focus on current and emerging threats, information sharing, and global oversight, to equip participants with actionable insights to strengthen risk assessment across air cargo supply chains. Through expert presentations and interactive discussions, the program will address critical topics such as geopolitical risk, the growing challenges of dangerous goods detection, the need for digital transformation and examining how the industry can further improve data quality, compliance, and efficiency.

DIGITAL CARGO

The Digital Track will explore how the air cargo industry can transform digital ambition into operational execution in an increasingly dynamic and interconnected world. This track will bring together airlines, freight forwarders, ground handlers, technology providers, and regulators to discuss practical implementation of digital solutions that enhance efficiency, transparency, resilience, and collaboration across the cargo supply chain. Through real-world case studies and interactive discussions, sessions will focus on topics such as ONE Record adoption, API-driven connectivity, AI and automation, cargo visibility, data quality, interoperability, and sustainability enabled through digitalization, while highlighting how industry standards and collaboration initiatives such as Cargo iQ are helping move the industry from innovation pilots to scalable operational reality.

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DIGITAL CARGO

09:00 – 09:15	Welcome Address: Keynote Speech Jonathan Parkinson, Head Cargo Digitalization, IATA Opening overview of the digital cargo track, key themes, and operational priorities for the industry.
09:15 – 09:30	Building Scalable Digital Cargo Operations Exploring how digitalization can move beyond pilots into scalable operational deployment.
09:30 – 09:50	Operational Priorities for Cargo Digitalization Industry perspectives on the most important operational and implementation priorities across cargo digitalization. Ali Faddis, Director, Global Aviation Operations, Amazon Air Cargo
09:50 – 10:10	Scaling Digitalization Across Cargo Operations Edward Dorr, VP eCargo Portfolio, CHAMP Cargosystems Presentation on interoperability, collaboration, standards, and scaling implementation across the GHA ecosystem.
10:10 – 10:30	Freight Forwarders Insight into Digitalization Charles Marrales, CEO Exfreight
10:30 – 11:00	NETWORKING BREAK
11:00 – 11:30	ONE Record Orchestration: News and Operational Updates Niclas Scheiber, Business Analyst, CHAMP Cargosystems Marie Koeppen, Executive Director Cargo iQ Latest developments and implementation updates related to ONE Record orchestration and operational deployment.

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11:30 – 12:15	Chapter 2: Scaling ONE Record Adoption Across the Industry Jonathan Parkinson, Head Cargo Digitalization, IATA Discussion on accelerating operational adoption and practical implementation of ONE Record globally.
12:15 – 12:30	EMEA Survey Insights – Shaping Air Cargo Digitalization and Operational Priorities Overview of current industry readiness, adoption trends, and implementation maturity across stakeholders. Alina Fetisova, Regional Cargo Manager, IATA
12:30 – 14:00	NETWORKING LUNCH
14:00 – 15:30	From Adoption to Impact: Real-World ONE Record Benefits and Challenges: 3 Live demonstrations Three separate real-world deployment examples highlighting operational gains, lessons learned, and implementation challenges. Ajith Pancily, Lead Product Manager & Head- Special Initiatives, Cargo & Logistics, IBS Tim Steinebach, Head of Fulfillment Framework, Lufthansa Cargo Emanuel Hille, Director eCargo Solutions, CHAMP Cargosystems TBC, Saudia Cargo Muthu Muthukkumar, Director Product Management, Accelya TBC, Finnair
15:30 – 16:00	NETWORKING BREAK

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16:00 – 16:10

E-CSD overview

Introduction to the fundamental Consignment Security Declaration framework.

Nick Lawrence-Taylor, Senior Manager Air Cargo Security, IATA

16:10 – 16:25

Driving e-CSD adoption

Presentation on the path to enhanced efficiency, data accuracy and compliance with consignment security declarations

Clarence Li, Cargo Security and Compliance Manager, Cathay Pacific

16:25 – 16:45

ONE Record implementation for Customs/Security agencies

Update and lessons learned in the deployment of the current pilot using ONE Record for the Canadian Pre-load Air Cargo Targeting (PACT) Program.

Russel Gauthier, Program Officer, Transport Canada

16:45 – 17:30

Air Cargo: Is digitization lagging behind passenger operations?

This panel will examine the need to advance digitization across the air cargo sector with a focus on safety and security. It will explore the opportunities, challenges, and benefits of digital transformation, and consider what is needed to ensure air cargo remains resilient, efficient, and ready for the future.

Moderator: Charles Marrale, CEO Exfreight

Panelists:

Tanguy Bullier, Director of Security, SATS

Russel Gauthier, Program Officer, Transport Canada

Clarence Li, Cargo Security and Compliance Manager, Cathay Pacific

JOINT SESSION WITH SAFETY & SECURITY

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09:00 – 09:15	Welcome back & key takeaways from day one Jonathan Parkinson, Head of Cargo Digitalization, IATA Summary of key themes, operational insights, and major discussion points from Day One.
09:15 – 09:30	AI in Cargo Operations: From Experimentation to Deployment Examining how AI is evolving from experimentation into practical operational cargo applications.
09:30 – 10:30	AI in Cargo: Two Practical Applications Beyond the Buzzword Two separate use cases demonstrating how AI supports forecasting, automation, operational efficiency, and customer interaction. Lucas Fernandez, VP innovation & Insight, CHAMP Cargosystems Adrian Varez, Enterprise Account Executive, HappyRobot
10:30 – 11:00	NETWORKING BREAK
11:00 – 11:25	Freight Forwarders on ONE Record Robert Pedersen, Director of Product Management, Descartes
11:25 – 12:10	Interoperability in the Digital Cargo space Edward Dorr, VP eCargo Portfolio, CHAMP Cargosystems Christian Riege, CEO, Riege Software
12:10 – 12:30	Airports of the future: the story of HKG Adrian Tirtea, Transport & Logistics Practice lead GS1 & GLS HK
12:30 – 13:30	NETWORKING LUNCH
13:30 – 13:50	Airports as digital enablers Interactive discussion on improving collaboration between operational stakeholders and technology partners. Arun Luykx, Digital Development Manager Cargo, Brussels Airport

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DIGITAL CARGO

13:50 – 14:15

Plugging the gaps: ONE Record for niche cargo players

Venky Pazhyanur, Vice President Digital Experience, SmartKargo

14:15 – 14:45

RFID Meets ONE Record – Bridging Physical and Digital World in eCommerce

Dr Philipp Billion, Senior Manager Data Solutions, Lufthansa Cargo
Oliver Ditz, Project Manager, Fraunhofer IML

Operational examples of RFID and automation technologies deployed within cargo facilities.

14:45 – 15:00

TRANSITION BREAK

15:00 – 15:20

Cargo visibility & real-time data sharing across the supply chain.

This joint session will explore how ONE Record enables enhanced shipment tracking and real-time data exchange across the air cargo supply chain. With pharma as a key use case, experts will examine how improved visibility supports shipment monitoring, operational decision making and coordination among supply chain partners.

Lucas Nisi Alcantara, Head Product Management, Jettainer

15:20 – 15:40

Smart cargo facility, automation & digital handling operations

This session examines how automation and connected technologies are modernizing cargo handling and cargo facility operations.

Cherry Ho, Head of Customer Service, Hactl

15:40 – 16:00

Closing Remarks of Day 2

Valentina Abplanalp, Head of Special Cargo, IATA
Jonathan Parkinson, Head of Cargo Digitalization, IATA

16:00 – 17:00

Farewell coffee

JOINT SESSION WITH PHARMA & OPERATIONS

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