2020
The Impressive Rise Of Turkish Airlines Cargo Operations

by Joanna Bailey · July 17, 2020 · 3 minute read

Turkish Cargo is an integral part of the Turkish Airlines operations. Since the slump in cargo capacity earlier this year, Turkish cargo has risen to become a significant cargo mover worldwide. Now, with 5% of the market handled by Turkish Cargo and the introduction of new and exciting technology to its operations, Turkish is solidifying its position as a major shipping business.

Turkish Cargo now moves one in every 20 shipments. Photo: Turkish Cargo
Now 5% of the world market

The rapid rise of Turkish Airlines' cargo business has seen it take a prime position in the world's air shipping market. Today, one in every 20 air shipments is moved by Turkish Airlines, representing a 5% share of the global market. That's pretty impressive when you take into account all of the world's biggest cargo-only airlines who are also competing for share.

When the COVID pandemic hit, the worldwide air cargo market slumped. With fewer passenger planes flying cargo in their bellies, the market shrank by 18% between January and May. However, Turkish Cargo did not see any loss of tonnage on a year-on-year basis, and acted as a global bridge, preventing the interruption of the international supply chain.

Service was maintained to 90 direct cargo destinations using freighters with high tonnage capacity. In addition to this, Turkish Cargo utilized 32 widebody passenger aircraft from Turkish Airlines to boost its network and capacity. More than 60 destinations were incorporated in the network, including London, Moscow, Oslo, Shanghai, Bangkok, Doha, New York and Casablanca.
More than 21 tons of medicine has been moved by Turkish to help in the fight against COVID. Photo: Turkish Cargo

Turkish Cargo also carried 21,547 tons of medicine and some 7,000 tons of medical equipment between February and June. Its air cargo operations span more than 300 destinations, 90 of which are cargo destinations, in 127 countries around the world. Turkish Cargo operates with its fleet of 361 aircraft, 25 of which are freighters, from its hub in Istanbul.

It has recently become the first airline to receive all three CEIV certifications from IATA, which includes CEIV Pharma, CEIV Fresh, and CEIV Live Animals.
Turkish Cargo achieves “CEIV Pharma, Fresh, & Live Animals” certifications

POSTED ON 28TH APRIL 2020 BY EDDIE SAUNDERS

Pursuing the air cargo services as based on the vision created by Turkish Airlines, its master brand, Turkish Cargo carries out the transportation of drugs/medical products, live animals and perishable products in compliance with international and industry standards.

Having satisfied the requirements for the certifications in the wake of the training, assessment and validation processes created by IATA, the International Air Transport Association, with the objective of raising the bar in performance and operations related to the transport of special cargo products, to ensure compliance with the highest standards and ensuring continuous improvement, Turkish Cargo became a holder of the CEIV certificates which represent its approach based on excellence for the special cargo operations. The certifications have a validity period of three years.

Turhan Ozen, the Chief Cargo Officer of Turkish Airlines remarked as follows; “We are passing through the days pointing how vital the air cargo industry is for trade across the world as well as transportation. We really make much of the IATA CEIV certificates that prove that we meet the international standards at our special cargo operations, during such a vulnerable and critical period”.

Glyn Hughes, the Global Head of Cargo at IATA commented; “Turkish Cargo deserves to be praised for becoming not only the world’s first air cargo airline to concurrently hold all three CEIV certificates, but also the first air cargo airline in Europe to have obtained the CEIV Live Animals certificate. The air cargo industry now enters a period whereby the vulnerability at the special cargo services is augmented, and the CEIV program intends to ensure that the sensitive cargo is transported and delivered at the highest standards, meticulously and punctiliously, as much as possible.”

https://www.caasint.com/turkish-cargo-achieves-ceiv-pharma-fresh-live-animals-certifications/
Turkish Cargo, the fastest growing air cargo airline in the world with continuously prospering operations, became the first air cargo airline to concurrently achieve all three “CEIV Pharma, CEIV Fresh, and CEIV Live Animals” certifications under the IATA CEIV (Center of Excellence for Independent Validators) program.

Thus, compliance with global standards set by the global air cargo association is key and is also proven since it has obtained the “CEIV Pharma, CEIV Fresh and CEIV Live Animals” certificates. It responsibly handles and treats the shipments such as drugs, lifescience products, organs and medical equipment that are of vital importance, and which carries out shipments of time-sensitive goods in accordance with the directives as specified in the IATA TCR (Temperature Control Regulations). It also transports live animals safely, ensuring its welfare as these are our best friends and in a healthy and peaceful environment as per the CITES and IATA regulations...

Maintaining its Dual Hub operations successfully, Turkish Cargo strictly implements the complete handling procedures together with its specialized teams at the special cargo warehouses and operational sites at the cargo facilities equipped with the state of the art technology available at the Istanbul and Ataturk airports.

https://www.caasint.com/turkish-cargo-achieves-ceiv-pharma-fresh-live-animals-certifications/
AIR TRANSPORT

Watch: Turkish Cargo First to Achieve 3 IATA CEIV Certifications

Now holds CEIV Pharma, Fresh, and Live Animals certifications concurrently

TLME News Service
May 6, 2020, 7:31 PM

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Turkish Cargo scores all three CEIV certifications

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Turkish Cargo, which performs its operations meticulously on 7/24 basis by acting with such awareness during these days where maintenance of the flow of air cargo is of too critical and life-saving nature, not only continues to serve as a bridge between 127 countries worldwide, but also meets the internationally-recognised quality standards and proceeds to raise the bar for the achievement in a sustainable manner.
Hactl scores CEIV hat-trick with Live Animals certification

27 March 2020, Hong Kong

Hong Kong Air Cargo Terminals Limited (Hactl) – Hong Kong's major independent handler – has achieved certification under IATA CEIV Live Animals. As a result, Hactl becomes one of the very first companies to have achieved all three CEIV standards.

IATA CEIV Live Animals is a voluntary programme designed to improve competency, infrastructure and equipment, quality management and training for the handling and transportation of live animals by air. Achieving and maintaining certification involves training, assessment and validation; re-validation audits are conducted every three years.

In preparation for auditing, Hactl’s quality assurance auditors and trainers attended IATA’s 3-day “Live Animals Cargo Logistics Management” course. Hactl also modified its audit checklists and training materials to comply with the new, higher standards. Its Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) were reviewed and revised after detailed internal discussion with its operations teams and other supporting departments. Finally, numerous training and briefing sessions were held to ensure all relevant staff were aware of every change.

Although Hactl has operated state-of-the-art facilities for live animals handling for many years, the process of applying for formal accreditation led to the creation of Hactl’s “Paws Track” which includes six Critical Control Points (CCPs): the Live Animals Inspection Area; South Live Animals Handling Centre, North Live Animals Handling Centre, Horse Handling Centre 1; Horse Handling Centre 2; and its Live Animals Containers.

A number of further enhancements were then made to these, including re-locating the Live Animals Inspection Area next to the Live Animal Handling Centre to improve efficiency; the modification of North- and South Live Animals Handling Centres (including storage racks, flooring and markings, and incorporating dedicated areas for venomous, dangerous and poisonous animals); and the renovation of Hactl’s Horse Handling Centre 1 (including provision of new rest facilities for veterinary staff and grooms post-flight). Horse Handling Centre 2 was reconfigured to enable it to provide instant extra capacity in the event of sudden peaks in traffic, and new fans were installed to protect horses in transit from the risk of heat stroke during Hong Kong’s hot and humid summer climate.

In addition, Hactl’s ramp animal transfer containers (re-named and labelled “Live Animals Containers” for instant recognition) were upgraded with improved ventilation and transparent viewing panels at both ends; its hygiene regimes were further tightened; and extensive refurbishment and upgrading of all its other animal handling facilities was undertaken.

Says Hactl Senior Manager - Safety, Sustainability and Quality Assurance, Benny Siu: “Hactl has always been very confident of its live animals handling capabilities; CEIV Live Animals certification has inspired us to re-visit all aspects of our services to support our drive for continuous improvement. Adopting many enhanced measures in our new certification demonstrates our ongoing commitment to providing first-class services.”

Says Glyn Hughes, Global Head Cargo, IATA: “I would like to congratulate Hactl for their successful attainment of their third CEIV certification and for being one of the first ground handlers to receive the CEIV certification in the area of Live Animals transportation. Coupled with their CEIV certifications for Fresh and Pharmaceutical products, this demonstrates Hactl’s commitment to the highest standards of handling excellence for such important commodities transported. These most sensitive of cargos require the highest quality possible to handle them in a safe, secure and comfortable fashion. Well done to the entire Hactl team for such dedicated activity and the successful completion of the three CEIV programs.”
Adds Hactl Chief Executive Wilson Kwong: "We are honoured that Hactl is one of the first in the world to obtain all three IATA CEIV certifications. This recognition by such a respected external party is the best possible evidence of service quality, inspiring even greater confidence in shipping live animals through Hactl.

"People love their animals, and rightly have the highest expectations about how they should travel. Hactl’s live animals handling is about providing the best possible welfare for the animals, and it’s also about providing peace of mind to their owners."

Hactl Chief Executive Wilson Kwong (right) receives the IATA CEIV Live Animals certificate from Yvonne Ho, IATA General Manager, Hong Kong and Macau

Final check before ramp transfer and loading.
Cathay Pacific Services Limited Awarded CEIV Live Animals Certification

27 March 2020

Cathay Pacific Services Limited (CPSL) is pleased to announce the receipt of the Center of Excellence for Independent Validators in Live Animals (CEIV Live Animals) Certification from the International Air Transport Association (IATA). CPSL is one of the first air cargo terminals in the world to be accredited all three IATA’s CEIV trade lane certifications of Pharma, Fresh and Live Animals. The accreditation also elevates Hong Kong air cargo hub positioning in the transportation and handling of special cargo.

The CEIV Live Animals Certification is a globally recognised certificate that acknowledges companies that excel in logistics handling of live animals, from pets to zoo animals and from aquatic species to reptiles. The application for the CEIV Live Animals Certification is subject to a detailed and rigorous auditing process to ensure all facilities, equipment, operation procedures and staffs are fully compliant with industry standards and the Live Animals Regulations (LAR).

To further enhance our operational competencies, we also made a step forward to design the Quick Reference Handbook (QRH) with a set of in-house procedures and key performance indicators for all responsible staffs. Besides, to secure the five freedoms of animal welfare, a specific route is designated for transporting the animal inside the warehouse to minimise any discomfort during transportation.

Mrs. Jenny Lam, Chief Executive Officer of CPSL, received the Certificate from Ms. Yvonne Ho, IATA General Manager Hong Kong and Macau today. Jenny shared: "In the handling of live animals, their comfort, safety and welfare are always our top priority. CPSL is committed to deliver the highest standards of care to ensure the consignees’ and shippers' experience is satisfied and hassle free. Obtaining our third CEIV certification is an important milestone for CPSL. It is the result of our continued focus on exceeding our customers’ expectation through operational excellence."

Mr. Glyn Hughes, IATA Global Head of Cargo, added: "It gives me great pleasure to recognize the tremendous efforts and investments made by CPSL in attaining their latest CEIV certification with the award of the CEIV Live Animals certificate. This is the third CEIV certification earned by CPSL, one of the first ground handlers to receive the CEIV certification in the area of Live Animals transportation, demonstrating their professionalism and commitment to the highest standards of cargo handling for such important and special cargo. Shippers have increasingly more sophisticated demands and expectations and CPSL is on the frontline meeting and exceeding these expectations which is most urgent and necessary when shipping live animals. I congratulate the entire CPSL team with this latest achievement and the successful completion of the three CEIV programs.

CPSL acquired the CEIV Pharma Certification in 2017 (with recertification in Mar 2020) and CEIV Fresh Certification in 2019. With our vision to be the world's best air cargo terminal, CPSL keeps enhancing own value proposition with an industry-leading set of standards and focus on innovation to drive excellence.

https://www.aircargonews.net/people/instoneair-the-mane-man/
(From left) Ms. Yvonne Ho, IATA General Manager Hong Kong and Macau; Mrs. Jenny Lam, Chief Executive Officer of CPSL.
InstoneAir: The mane man

11 / 02 / 2020
By Roger Hailey
A 1970s meeting in a London pub was the starting gate for InstoneAir, an airfreight company that today specialises in equine transport and the movement of around 6,000 horses per year.

The original Instone Airlines was formed in 1919 and began by flying customs documents across the English Channel for the parent company’s shipping arm — a revolutionary concept that 40 years later would set the foundations for the DHL courier empire.

The Instone airline — later to carry passengers — has long since disappeared, becoming part of Imperial Airways in the 1920s, the forerunner of today’s British Airways.

The Instone offices today still have black and white pictures of those early pioneering days hanging on the walls.

Today, Jeremy Instone is managing director of InstoneAir, a company that builds and leases a fleet of specialist horse stalls for airfreight, but also arranges aircraft charters for equines, livestock and zoo animals involved in breeding or conservation programmes.

“We appeared on the scene in about 1979 after meeting a friend in a London pub who was transporting horses to Australia and was not happy with the British freighter companies he was using.

“He was probably paying a bit too much and we knew some people at Cargolux, so we phoned them and asked if they fancied flying horses from Heathrow to Sydney.

“They said ‘yes, we will give it a go on a DC8-63 freighter’. We got a price from them which was significantly less than what our friend was paying.”

Instone built some basic wooden walk-on, walk-off horseboxes for the flight, which was successful and resulted in Instone becoming Cargolux’s horse transport GSA.

Other GSA appointments would follow in the years ahead, including Flying Tigers (later taken over by FedEx), Burlington Air Express and ATI.

It was “quite tricky” for the start-up because the established horse transport airlines contested the flying rights applications by Instone.

“Fifth freedom traffic rights in those days allowed us to operate a certain number of flights between two city points, something like five per year between Heathrow and Sydney.

“Beyond that number of flights, there must be ‘no objections’ from the other airlines which, of course, were not forthcoming. So, we said ‘okay we will now operate between Heathrow and Melbourne’, and so it went on with the fun and games.”

https://www.aircargonews.net/people/instoneair-the-mane-man/
The 1970s flight from London to Sydney could take up to 30 hours or more due to quarantine rules which meant the aircraft had to fly via Toronto and across to Calgary or Vancouver, then down to Honolulu and on to Fiji, and from there to Australia.

“It was a pretty long flight for the horses, but we had about 12 grooms on those flights in the good old days of the DC8, which had sufficient seats at the back of the aircraft.”

The backhaul flight would quite often take horses from Australia to Kuala Lumpur, Bangkok or Hong Kong “and then sometimes from those points we would wend our way with freight to Europe”.

**Equine market**

Official statistics are hard to come by for the total equine market but Instone estimates that around 60,000 horses are air transported every year, helped by the emergence of the Middle East cargo carriers with large freighter fleets on scheduled services, and the wealthy region’s fascination with horse racing, show jumping and eventing.

The “well-loved DC8 freighter is no more” and has been replaced by the Boeing 747F or Boeing B777F, but one issue with chartering modern freighters is having enough seats for the grooms.

“If you’ve got 100 horses on a B747F, you need quite a lot of seats for the grooms, but some of them can carry a maximum of just five grooms.

“Some B777Fs will take up to nine or in some cases 11 grooms and so, on more modern aircraft, by using better horse stalls and better qualified grooms, you can fly with quite a lot of horses.”

Instone would like to see grooms trained for internationally recognised qualifications when flying with horses.

He adds: “There is a pool of professional flying grooms that we use as much as possible, who have been trained not only to look after horses but also in airline procedures and safety.

“But often, shippers want to put their own grooms on board, which is an issue because, due to the lack of seats, you really want top-class people on the aircraft at all times, but sometimes it is not possible to have every seat filled by the most qualified people.

“A few airlines will allow pretty well anyone to fly with a horse, and the groom might not have flown with a horse before and may not be aware of safety issues on a freighter. It is not something we would recommend, but it happens.”

Instone is working with the Animal Transport Association (ATA) in a programme that will train ‘flying’ grooms and issue a certificate to show that they know the fundamentals.

“It is basic, but better than nothing, and yet we still get some resistance because people are asking why should we do it and who is going to pay for it?

https://www.aircargonews.net/people/instoneair-the-mane-man/
“Our attitude is to put a programme in place, get the grooms trained and qualified before there is an incident and it is forced on the industry in a knee-jerk reaction with arbitrary regulations.”

IATA has launched its CEIV Live Animals certification, following on from the highly successful programme for pharmaceuticals.

While Instone welcomes CEIV Live Animals and would like to be part of the certification process, along with shippers, handling companies and airlines, he points out that it is broad in scope and may not include groom training.

“The programme probably needs to be divided up because there are equine agents who deal only with horses and are not interested in the other elements of live animals transport.”

He would like to see a separate qualification for grooms as a subset of the CEIV qualification, adding: “There are the pet shippers who transport cats and dogs and are not involved in any of the things we are, such as livestock and zoo animals. For us, the overall programme will be pretty useful and for others it will not.”

Instone’s own fleet of specialist horse stalls, around 500 at present, are either leased out to carriers or employed in the company’s charter broker business, as well as being used on scheduled services.

**Collapsible stalls**
The company has a wide variety of horse stalls available, including its new fully-collapsible Airstable with a solid roof which can be easily transported when empty in an aircraft’s bellyhold, reducing positioning or return costs.

InstoneAir’s collapsible Airstable was launched at the start of 2020 having received European Technical Standard Order authorisation by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA).

All new container types require design and manufacturing approval, and have to comply with FAA, CAA and EASA regulations, including stress-testing: “It is a lengthy, time-consuming and expensive procedure. The mantra is traceability and that means every nut and bolt has to be recorded with copious amounts of paperwork and documentation.”

Asked if these stalls are business class for horses, Instone does not hesitate with a riposte: “More first class, I would say.”

He adds: “There are still uncertified stalls around and you can still get away with using them if you have got a net over them, but that is likely to change because it has proven to be pretty inadequate. More and more airlines are demanding certified equipment and that is why we’ve invested to develop the certified range.”

https://www.aircargonews.net/people/instoneair-the-mane-man/
Man’s best friend flies safely Down Under

IATA recently certified Jetpets in Melbourne, Australia with CEIV Live Animals status. According to Sandy Matheson, managing director, Jetpets Animal Transport, the process to obtain the certification, was “the safety and comfort of our travelling animals.”

Matheson said: “We felt the IATA CEIV Live Animals certification aligned with our Jetpets vision, and the certification has allowed us to feel extremely proud and confident that our processes and procedures ensure we are setting the highest standards of care for all of our animals in transit.”

The company transports over 50,000 animals per year. “During the CEIV validation process Jetpets had the opportunity to review its framework, processes, procedures, and training for all of our employees,” Matheson said. “This enabled us to excel in our professionalism and enhance the quality of our service. We feel throughout the audit process we have been able to raise the bar in the industry and the certification is so rewarding as it solidifies our confidence that we are leading the way when it comes to ensuring animal safety and welfare throughout travel.

“Whilst we had processes and procedures in place, the work involved in documenting and cross referencing each step was involved and quite complex. However this has enabled us to have clear definition in our pet handling procedures.”

Matheson considers that CEIV certification will positively affect operations and the business moving forward. He said: “We understand the importance of the role we play in taking care of peoples precious family members as they travel across Australia and the world. We encourage everyone in the animal transport industry undertake the CEIV Live Animals certification. We highly recommend the programme to all. The CEIV Live Animals certification can only enhance the practices within our industry and ensure that animal safety is of paramount importance 100% of the time.”
ANIMAL TRANSPORTATION

Digitisation has no presence in animal transport

Every day, some 200 horses are being transported by air; this equates to some 73,000 a year. Many of these horses are loved, some are worth up to $10 million. Yet in terms of digitisation, they might as well be invisible.

That is the thought of Arnaud Lambert, CEO, CHAMP Cargosystems, who considers that digitisation in live animal shipments is on a par with the wider airfreight industry: “Pretty basic,” he says.

“What exists in digital form is off-line as soon as the animal is on the aircraft.”

He contrasts that with what happens to pharma traffic where digital information is available in real-time to the nth degree throughout the supply chain.

High value goods

The two main reasons for moving animals by air are for work, such as racing horses, or breeding purposes. While there is an “emotional bond with animal owners” throughout the supply chain, there is a more pressing concern arising from the high value of many of these creatures. Health and safety is important but insurance costs are as important.

One aspect of animal transport that the Internet of Things (IoT) could improve if digitisation was to further penetrate animal transport could come on the land when the animal is taken off the aircraft.

Lambert explains: “At the moment, all animals are checked by a vet on landing. However, without digitisation, the first thing the vet will know about the animal is when it is landed. If there was the IoT on the aircraft, they would be prepared for the animal.”

An animal as large as a horse can also pose a danger if startled or panicked during the flight. Handlers must prevent damage to the fight stable, the cargo hold, the skin of the aircraft and damage and injury to the groom and aircraft crew.

Digitisation would also assist the stakeholders in the animal supply chain in giving them greater knowledge of the conditions faced by the animals in transit. These include the animal’s owners, insurance provider, airline, animal handler and consignee.

Driven by industry standards, the Center of Excellence for Independent Validators (CEIV) for Live Animals Logistics has established baseline standards to improve the level of competency, infrastructure and quality management in the handling and transportation of live animals throughout the supply chain.

The recent inaugural Air Cargo Week (ACW) webinar in association with IATA was on the topic of live animal transportation.

Lambert considers that digitisation is a “perfect fit” with the intent of CEIV Live Animals. It will be an essential element in overseeing and recording journeys to give a full transparency to animal movements in the air.

Lambert talks with passion on the topic of live animal transportation as he has skin in the game. He is the owner of a Rhodesian Ridgeback named Mugi (below). If his companion was ever to be sent by airfreight, Lambert wishes that digitised coverage of the journey will make it safer for Mugi.
Jetpets Leads the Way in Achieving CEIV Certification for the Safe Transportation of Live Animals

Jetpets Melbourne has become the first pet transport company in the Asia Pacific Region to be awarded The Centre of Excellence for Live Animals Logistics (CEIV) Certification, and is one of only five companies in the world to have received the honour.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) awarded Jetpets with the certification following the successful completion of the training and validation of its processes at its headquarters in Melbourne in November.

The CEIV Live Animals Certification aims to improve the handling and transport of live animals by air with the industry stakeholders.

"Jetpets is extremely proud to receive the CEIV Certification for Live Animals. We have been in operation for 28 years and achieving the certification is a testament to our ongoing vision since day one, to set the highest standards of care for all travelling animals. We understand the importance of the role we play in taking care of peoples precious family members as they travel across Australia and the world, and we hope our certification allows our customers to feel confident that their pets will be always be in excellent care when travelling with Jetpets," said Sandy Matheson, Managing Director, Jetpets.

https://www.jetpets.com.au/iata-ceiv-certification-for-live-animals/?fbclid=IwAR2XjLYFkC06KTbrdEIfcehnbXYkzpN60yFpLGm8bp4uSC1TzuQgc0ykOY
“During the CEIV assessment and validation process Jetpets had the opportunity to review its processes, procedures, and training for all of our employees. This enabled us to excel in our professionalism and enhance the quality of our service. We feel throughout the audit process we have been able to raise the bar in the industry and the certification is so rewarding as it solidifies our confidence that we are leading the way when it comes to ensuring animal safety and welfare throughout travel,” continued Sandy.

The CEIV Live Animals Certification process ensures compliance with the Live Animals Regulations (LAR), as well as with animal health and welfare requirements, through training and an independent audit program.

https://www.jetpets.com.au/iata-ceiv-certification-for-live-animals/?fbclid=IwAR2xjLYFkLC06KTbrdElFtcehnbXYkzpN60yFpLGm8bp4uSC1TzuOgcoykOY
“We congratulate Jetpets on becoming the first company in Asia-Pacific to achieve CEIV Live Animals certification. Having one of the region’s dedicated animal transport companies achieve certification is a big step forward in our efforts to ensure that standards and best practices are in place around the world to protect the welfare of animals travelling by air. Jetpets customers can be confident that their precious animals are traveling in safe and healthy conditions”

said Glyn Hughes, IATA Global Head of Cargo

To date, twelve companies globally have either achieved or are in the process of completing their certification.

https://www.jetpets.com.au/iata-ceiv-certification-for-live-animals/?fbclid=IwAR2XjLYFkC06KTbrdEIftehnbXYkzpN60yFpLGm8bp4uSC1TzuQgc0ykOY
ACW/IATA CEIV Live Animal webinar ‘great success’

By James Graham - Oct 4, 2019
Air Cargo Week has hosted its first webinar, in conjunction with IATA. The highly successful event, which looked at CEIV Live Animals certification, was an hour-long production. Participants from around the globe joined in to hear James Graham, ACW editor, lead a panel consisting of Andrea Gruber, IATA head of special cargo, Maria Jitomirski, IATA project manager CEIV Live Animals and Tristan Bradfield, deputy manager of Heathrow Animal Reception Centre (HARC), a CEIV-certified entity.

Graham said: "The webinar was a great success. The hour went off effortlessly and was very enjoyable to head. I pay tribute to the panellists for their very high standard of presentation and industry knowledge.

"We had some 45 questions from the large number of participants and these were of a very high quality. I am sure those listening and taking part came away with a much deeper understanding of the issues and challenges surrounding the movement of live animals."

To listen to the webinar, click here

Managers at Air Cargo Week were pleased that around 500 participants registered for the event.

Kim Smith, ACW Operations Director, said: "This was our first webinar but it won’t be our last! The experience widened our expertise in this form of media event and I know that those who took part were very pleased with the experience and the questions that were asked of them by the audience.

"This is a big step forward for Air Cargo Week as it takes us into new opportunities to expand our profile as the world’s only weekly airfreight newspaper."
From A to Z: How animals get to aquariums and zoos, and everywhere in between
If you are ever on an airplane and see a dog crate in a seat near you, how do you know what is inside? Is it a dog? A cat? How about a sloth? That innocent-looking dog crate may contain something a passenger may not be prepared for, but it may generate a great story about that time they sat next to a sloth on an airplane. It sounds like the opening line of a bad party joke, but the possibility is quite real.

“We had an import of two sloths from Panama and they did not want them to be stressed because these were hand-raised animals used to being carried around by people,” explained Rachel Watkins Rogers, registrar and records coordinator for Zoo Miami. “We had special permission from the airline and had six seats – we had to buy two seats [for personnel] and four seats for the sloths.”

The sloths declined the free peanuts.

Watkins Rogers is responsible for securing the permits necessary for domestic or international shipping of animals for the zoo. She is also the course administrator for the AZA Animal Transport for Animal Care Professionals (ATACP). She tells FreightWaves that the safe transport of live animals requires constant planning that can take up to a year or more and cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

“It can take as much as a year [to transport an animal], depending on whether you need a permit,” she said, and the detailed process involves dozens of people, including veterinarians, shipping coordinators, trainers, supervisors and more. “Everybody has some part to play in that process, and until everything is done in the correct order, you can’t move forward.”

Zoo Miami transports hundreds of animals annually and participates in international release projects such as the Puerto Rican Crested Toads project in Puerto Rico and various bird species release projects. Watkins Rogers, who has been involved in transporting animals since 2001 and has worked at zoos since the 1970s, said Zoo Miami ships mostly birds, but has been involved in sending frogs to France and bringing an elephant to Miami from Australia.

It’s better to fly

“The preferred method is air because that is the quickest and most humane way to ship animals because they spent less time in the crate,” she said. “However, some animals are difficult to transport by air.” These would include venomous animals or rhinos, which require specialized shipping services.

Animals require specialized containers, few larger than that required to transport a giraffe. (Photo: APL Shipping)

“Increasingly, [we are moving] more shipments ourselves because a lot of people in the zoo industry are concerned because some of the policies are making it more difficult to ship animals,” Watkins Rogers said.
The International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the Animal Transport Association (ATA) have recently joined forces to encourage industry adoption of The Center of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animals Logistics (CEIV Live Animals). This certification, which Air Canada (OTC: ACDVF) is the first to have achieved, dictates safe and humane standards for transporting animals.

“Information, education and training of people involved in animal shipping is an absolute requirement,” Filip Vande Cappelle, president of ATA, said in the June 2019 announcement. “To secure the highest possible welfare of animals in transport, one needs high standards all along the logistics chain. Thanks to IATA, these standards are available and, rather than reinventing the wheel, ATA has chosen to collaborate with IATA to get these standards implemented as widely as possible amongst our members through encouraging adoption of CEIV Live Animals.”

Watkins Rogers said that many animals require custom crates, and trainers may travel with the animals if necessary. In most cases, trainers will work with the animals before shipping to ensure they are comfortable being inside their crates.

“If the animal starts getting stressed out, its core body temperature can increase [and put it in danger],” she explained.

One of the biggest challenges is not moving the animal, it is securing the necessary permits and other steps
“The elephant that came from Australia was actually the first time any zoo in Australia had ever exported an elephant,” Watkins Rogers said. “And there are a lot of groups that monitor what you do.”

Prior to the Melbourne Zoo even approving the transfer of Ongard, the elephant, Zoo Miami had to renovate enclosures. Delays in permitting resulted in a rescheduling of the cargo plane and a loss of over $500,000. There was also the design of a protocol in case the elephant escaped. That cost was on the extreme end, but moving animals is not cheap.

“If we ship an animal it doesn't matter how big or small, it could be $2,000, so if you ship a lot of animals, it can get awful expensive,” Watkins Rogers said. “There are commercial land transporters that work just with zoos. Not as many [that work] with the airlines, but there are some shippers that have a pilot's license that do some air shipments.”

**A trusted transport partner**

Having trusted partners is important, and both Zoo Miami and Mystic Aquarium in Connecticut spoke glowingly of the important role FedEx (NYSE: FDX) plays in the transport of live animals.

“FedEx is really great to work with; we've been working with them for a long time,” Dale Wolbrink, senior director of media relations for Mystic Aquarium, which moves mostly aquatic animals. “The animals are the first to go on to the plane and ... are first off the plane and loaded onto trucks right away.”
“FedEx has a long history of providing safe travel for some of the world’s most delicate cargo, and we’ve worked closely with zoos and aquariums in the past to safely and securely deliver animals to their destinations,” FedEx spokesperson Rae Lyn Rushing told FreightWaves. “We have experienced teams of FedEx employees around the globe working collaboratively on these special shipments. Animal care experts are also granted special flight privileges to ensure the animals are well cared for.”

In some cases, FedEx donates the shipment costs as part of its FedEx Cares Delivering for Good Initiative. It did just that with Kali, an 800-pound female polar bear, who was orphaned in Alaska after her mother was killed by a hunter. Kali ended up at the Buffalo Zoo, but needed transport to the St. Louis Zoo in 2015, which FedEx provided at no cost.

The company also provided special chartered service for 19 penguins and two sea otters from their temporary home in California, where they settled following their displacement from the Audubon Aquarium of the Americas in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. FedEx brought them home.

FedEx has also transported from Texas to California a 2½-year-old dolphin that was unable to swim due to injuries, a sea lion from Hawaii to Houston, and a pair of grizzly bears and two brown bear cubs from Anchorage, Alaska, to Oakland, California.

To transport Bao Bao, a giant panda from the Smithsonian National Zoo in Washington, DC, to China, FedEx did a special wrap of a FedEx Express 777F airplane. (Video: FedEx)

Perhaps the most famous FedEx animal transport came in 2017. Aboard a special FedEx Express 777F plane, Bao Bao, a 3½-year-old giant panda, made the 16-hour, 8,600-mile trip from Dulles International Airport in Washington, D.C., to Chengdu, China. Bao Bao was born at the Smithsonian National Zoo, and she was accompanied on her journey to China by Marty Dearie, one of the keepers who had cared for Bao Bao since her birth, and Katharine Hope, a veterinarian at the Zoo.

Bao Bao traveled in a specially made 800-pound steel crate and her human companions brought with them 50 pounds of bamboo, two pounds of apples, two bags of leaf-eater biscuits, cooked sweet potatoes and water for the trip to ensure Bao Bao’s comfort.

The panda is now a permanent resident of China’s Conservation and Research Center’s Nature Reserve.

**Seals take to the skies**

The majority of Mystic’s shipments are pinnipeds like walruses and seals, and pilots are often able to lower the cargo hold’s temperature to help maintain a safe environment for the animals.

“We follow all of the IATA regulations and within the guidelines they have what is an appropriate carrier to move a specific animal,” Wolbrink said. “We have pre-made carriers for all our animals, so they are watertight. Pinnipeds need to remain cool. They have a layer of blubber that helps keep them cool in the water and we are able to keep them safe within these containers. They have airflow, but they also have to be watertight. But most importantly, we keep them cool by including water. We put ice on the top of the containers that drips down on them.”

Like Zoo Miami, Mystic’s trainers work with the animals prior to transport to get them comfortable with containers. In most cases, both an animal expert and veterinarian travel with the animal and tend to it during transport, monitoring vital signs and general condition and well-being.

“They know the species very well, so they can [ensure it is safe],” Wolbrink said.
"[TRANSPORTING ANIMALS IS] A BIG DEAL FOR US; IT’S A HUGE UNDERTAKING. A TEAM GOES OUT PRIOR TO TRANSPORT TO SEE THE ANIMAL AND LEARN ABOUT THE ANIMAL. AN ARRIVAL TEAM IS WAITING, AND WE CONDUCT A 24-HOUR TRANSPORT CALL BEFORE TRANSPORT OF THE ANIMAL. WE MAKE SURE EVERY ‘I’ IS DOTTED AND EVERY ‘T’ IS DOTTED TO MAKE SURE EVERY SAFETY ASPECT IS ACCOUNTED FOR."

DALE WOLBRINK, SENIOR DIRECTOR OF MEDIA RELATIONS FOR MYSTIC AQUARIUM

Laurie Macha, curator of marine mammals & birds for Mystic, noted that the aquarium does not sedate animals during transport. Instead, cabin pressures are set at appropriate levels so the animals are not affected by higher altitudes. Most animals are transported in the forward holds of cargo bays that are heated and cooled and maintain pressures similar to the flight deck.

"[Transporting animals is] a big deal for us; it’s a huge undertaking," Wolbrink said. "A team goes out prior to transport to see the animal and learn about the animal. An arrival team is waiting, and we conduct a 24-hour transport call before transport of the animal. We make sure every ‘I’ is dotted and every ‘T’ is dotted to make sure every safety aspect is accounted for."

Due to high costs and the impact on the animals, zoos and aquariums will try to work together on transport when possible, but "we will only transport marine mammals that are part of our accreditation," Macha said. "There is no mixing of animals. You won’t find a transport that has marine mammals and horses."

Like zoos, each animal species requires specialized transport. Fish may require only a rigid container that can hold water, but other animals require different types of containers. "Pretty much everything is custom-made," Macha said.
The containers used to transport animals must be able to fly, but also be loaded onto various types of equipment, including straight box vans, flatbeds and specialized equipment at airports for transport from the hanger to the airplanes. (Photo: AirBridgeCargo Airlines)

While most of Mystic’s transports are conducted by air, airplanes don’t land at the aquarium, meaning truck service is required for the final leg of the trip.

“When the animals get off the plane, it’s all done by scissor lifts,” Wolbrink said. “The animal is lowered down to the ground area and there is a truck backed up to a loading bay and loaded with a forklift and the cage is strapped down. There is a camera in back to watch the animal and thermometers to measure the temperature inside the truck.”

Some animals are transported in a box truck while others move on a flatbed, depending on the size of the cage. Mystic also has a specialized refrigerated pickup to handle rescues in the Northeast as part of its First Responder system.

One trick to keeping animals safe, though, is timing. “Generally, our transports are done outside of the summer months,” Wolbrink said. “We try to do them prior to the summer or over the fall when you are not dealing with the heat.”

Ready to run

Sometimes, the transported animal must perform upon its arrival at its new destination. This is true of racehorses which, like any finely tuned athlete are more attuned to stress that affects performance. Because of that, extra care is needed when transporting this type of cargo. AirBridgeCargo Airlines specializes in the transportation of live animals. It recently transported nine racehorses from Moscow, Russia, to Amsterdam, Netherlands, onboard a Boeing 747-8F cargo plane.

“Equine transportation stands apart from other animal transportation as we are dealing with precious animals whose well-being and comfort influence sports success,” explained Fedor Novikov, deputy general director, special products and services for AirBridgeCargo Airlines. “We are honored to be entrusted with the delivery of these horses. Our dedicated ‘ABC care’ team with well-set operational processes in place guaranteed safe journey of animals which partially facilitated their sports results.”
Ready to run

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Two more companies receive IATA’s CEIV Live Animals certification

Two additional companies – U.S.-based logistics company Biotrans and French pet transportation specialist Goldenway International Pets – received the Center of Excellence for Independent Validators (CEIV) for Live Animals Logistics certification from the International Air Transport Association. The new additions bring the total number of companies certified under CEIV Live Animals to four.

IATA launched the CEIV Live Animals certification last year, with launch companies Air Canada Cargo and the London Heathrow Animal Reception Centre (HARC). At the time, CEIV Pharma was the only CEIV certification, but IATA has since also launched CEIV Fresh for perishables transport.

In a statement on the certification process, Biotrans said working closely with the CEIV team during the process has improved their handling of live animals. "Depending on a company’s level of quality management, there could be a lot of work to achieve compliance. In such an instance, having a team behind you every step of the way is invaluable.”

"In terms of a specific organizational benefit, we believe that our process deviation management controls have been greatly improved and our clients have immediately taken notice," Biotrans added.

In other instances when CEIV-certified companies discussed the benefits of the certification, such as with Cathay Pacific's more recent CEIV Fresh certification, the company has touted the ongoing commitment to the certified standard as one of the biggest advantages of certification. Biotrans echoed that sentiment, stating that with its certification, "we expect to ingrain a culture of continuous improvement and self-evaluation.”

"Additionally, we expect to drive our delivery success rate from 99.5 to 99.8%, while developing systems for demand planning of future growth in a much more structured, quality-centric environment,” the company said.
STAT Trade Times - July 2019 Issue

In the July issue of STAT Trade Times, our Cover Story talks on how airlines are opting for new pet transportation strategies to ensure animal safety, comfort and security during transit.

The issue also carries a Regional Report on North America’s optimism on cross-border demand for e-commerce, business facilitation, among others, through uncongested airports in mid-west US proximate to state’s market.

Our Industry Report on just-in-time shipment highlights on companies adopting new technologies and how digitisation plays a vital role in customer interaction for such shipments.

The Special Report focuses on Qatar Airways’s journey of dependency to self-sufficiency, despite the economic and diplomatic embargo by some of its Arab neighbouring countries.

Read the Interview of Evgeny Solodilin, CEO of Zhukovsky International Airport, on the airport’s cargo plans and how it intends to provide reliable means of air transport for Russian & foreign airlines and operators.

Also, don’t miss out on our regulars—news roundup from air cargo, aviation, shipping, transport and tourism sectors; and Executive in Focus.
Big cats fly with LATAM Cargo

M\[lina and Tika the lions were the first of five big cats transported by LATAM Cargo from Argentina to their new home in South Africa.

The big cats – two lions, one lioness and two tigresses - lived in a decommissioned zoo in Santiago del Estero before local authorities arranged their rescue and obtained the permits required for relocation.

The journey to Johannesburg, including land portions lasted approximately 70 hours on the way to their new homes at Ubuntu Wildlife Sanctuary and Drakenstein Lion Park.

Esteban Bojanich, operations manager at LATAM Cargo says the airline ensured it was in full compliance with IATA and LATAM Cargo’s safety live animal standards.

The animals were given regular access to water and measures were taken to reduce their exposure to heat and noise sources.

He says: “This difficult task is especially hard to achieve in a cargo warehouse and air freighter environment but is nonetheless crucial to making their journey as stress-free as possible. And we certainly delivered.”

The transportation was co-ordinated by freight forwarder New
Turkish Cargo flies horses to Istanbul and Dubai

Jan 21, 2019: Turkish Cargo, the cargo division of Turkey’s flag carrier Turkish Airlines, recently completed two different special cargo operations on January 14 to safely transport 17 horses to Istanbul and Dubai.

The first operation involved transporting a total of 15 foals and horses from Chicago to Istanbul with the assurance of Turkish Cargo in order to contribute to horse breeding in Turkey. To ensure comfortable journey, the horses were carried in five stalls, designed with a nonslip ground and oval edges and were safely brought to their new home with the help of special loading doors, enabling easy movement.

Purebreds named “Good Curry” and “Peri Lina” flew aboard Turkish Cargo from Istanbul, Turkey to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, completing its second horse transportation operation. The horses were flown to Dubai for the Dubai World Cup, an annual event organised since 1996 and one of the world’s most important horse racing festivals.

Turkish Cargo recently became a member to the Animal Transportation Association.

It also abides by the IATA LAR (IATA Live Animals Regulations) in all its acceptance, storage and transportation processes for the live animal transportation service it provides to its customers.

The carrier is committed to implementing any and all rules to ensure documentation, packaging, labeling and marking, specified under the said regulations, strictly during live animal transportation processes.
Turkish Cargo joins the Animal Transportation Association

Turkish Cargo has joined the Animal Transportation Association (ATA), which promotes the transport of live animals in secure and ideal conditions.

ATA’s membership includes airlines, freight forwarders, marine companies, public institutions, universities, research agencies, animal breeders and veterinarians. It supports regulations on the international transportation requirements for live animals.

The airline also applies IATA’s Live Animals Regulations (LAR) in all its acceptance, storage and transportation processes for the live animal transportation service it provides to its customers.

Said an airline spokesperson for the carrier: “Turkish Cargo is committed to implement any and all rules to ensure documentation, packaging, labeling and marking, specified under the said regulations, strictly during the live animal transportation process.”

Parent group Turkish Airlines adopted the United for Wildlife Buckingham Palace Declaration (UFW) in 2017, “showing the importance it attaches to prevention of illegal wildlife trade, and animal rights to raise the level of awareness”.

Release Date: 14.01.2019

Turkish Cargo builds trust in 'Live Animal' transportation operations

Turkish Cargo has become a member to the Animal Transportation Association, one of the international organizations which aims to transport live animals at secure and ideal conditions.
Turkish Cargo, the fastest growing air cargo brand around the world, has become a member to the Animal Transportation Association, one of the international organizations which aims to transport live animals at secure and ideal conditions. Including many various members such as airlines, freight forwarders, marine companies, public institutions, universities, research agencies, animal breeders and veterinarians, the organization supports regulations on the international transportation requirements for live animals, as well as any and all initiatives taken to that end.

This non-profit organization offers the below-listed opportunities to its members:

- More than 200 requests for transportation on annual basis;

- Assistance in finding reliable and reputable animal carriers;

- Sending weekly and current news, besides electronic delivery of migration;

- Sharing Best Practices Manual;

- Making the ultimate care, taken in live animal transportation operations, public;

- Opportunity to establish contact with the institutions and organizations such as CITES, OIE, the concerned Ministries and customs offices.

Turkish Airlines adopted the ‘United for Wildlife Buckingham Palace Declaration (UFW)’ in 2017, showing the importance it attaches to prevention of illegal wildlife trade, and animal rights to raise the level of awareness.

The accomplished air cargo brand Turkish Cargo not only became a member to the Animal Transportation Association, but also takes the IATA LAR (IATA Live Animals Regulations) in all its acceptance, storage and transportation processes for the live animal transportation service it provides to its customers in 124 countries around the world. Turkish Cargo is committed to implement any and all rules to ensure documentation, packaging, labeling and marking, specified under the said regulations, strictly during the live animal transportation process.
Transporting live animals safely

Earlier this month, City of London's Heathrow Animal Reception Centre (HARC) achieved CEIV Live Animals certification for their facility. This concludes the successful pilot program undertaken by both HARC and Air Canada Cargo for their facility in YUL. After taking into account both airline and regulator feedback, the CEIV Live Animals program is now fully rolled out.

Congratulations to HARC for being a forerunner in this important initiative to continuously ensure the safety and welfare of animals being transported by air.
Delta Cargo: Innovating pet air travel safety and comfort

New standard of first-class safety and care for pet air travel

By Debbie Egerton - October 2, 2018

Delta Cargo has entered into an exclusive long-term partnership with CarePod, a pet technology start-up that has developed a new standard of first-class safety and care for pet air travel.

Through this partnership, Delta Cargo will launch a new pet transportation strategy. With a new range of smart, pet travel products and services, CarePod will help Delta better carry and monitor pets throughout the network, with real-time updates for customers. This is alongside the recent introduction of a staff veterinarian to the Delta Cargo team who will review policies and procedures to ensure safe and comfortable pet travel.

“Demand for pet shipments is strong and we are always looking for ways to create a best-in-class travel experience for pets and their owners,” said Shawn Cole, Vice President — Delta Cargo. “Working with a start-up like CarePod allows Delta the flexibility to enhance our service in new and innovative ways. We are able to think big, start small and learn fast to solve specific customer needs.”

“Our innovative use of technology and breakthrough engineering solutions are matched by our passion for pet safety, comfort and security. Our goal is to transform the future of pet travel, and to be able to work with Delta in delivering a better experience for its customers is an exciting step,” said Jenny Pan, Founder and CEO of CarePod.

Delta’s team of specialists constantly review processes and policies to identify areas of improvement to ensure the safety and health of pets. The airline has specially trained ground handlers who take care of pets at every step of their journey. Delta also has temperature-controlled holding areas and vehicles in numerous locations, overnight kenneling services, and real-time GPS tracking service for pet shipments. The new Cargo Control Center in Atlanta also gives the airline 24/7/365 visibility into all shipments, including pets.

Delta Cargo’s relationship with CarePod is the latest example of seeking out innovative start-up partnerships to streamline and improve the customer experience. Delta Cargo has invested in a number of customer solutions with the full product range now bookable on deltacargo.com, reliable shipping services with GPS and real-time tracking options. Plus an industry-leading Cargo Control Center for 24/7 proactive shipment monitoring and IATA’s CEIV Pharma certification.

Air Canada Cargo has become the first airline to receive certification under IATA’s new Center of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animal Logistics (CEIV Live Animals).

The new standardised global certification programme to improve and reinforce the safety and welfare of animals travelling by air earlier this year, with Air Canada Cargo being chosen to undergo a pilot for the programme.

Over several months from January to July, IATA specialists reviewed Air Canada Cargo’s live animal transport policies and procedures in its Montreal facility, with Canadian Food Inspection Agency compliance was fully reviewed with protocols including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora.

Air Canada vice president cargo, Tim Strauss says: “Air Canada Cargo is a trusted carrier for thousands of animal shippers worldwide and has followed the IATA Live Animal Regulations (LAR). We expertly handle complex shipments, from rescued dogs, endangered animals travelling between zoos for conservation efforts and of course family pets.

“We are honoured to have been selected to participate in the CEIV Live Certification program and are proud of the team at Air Canada Cargo for achieving the industry’s first ever certification, which reinforces our position as an industry leader.”

IATA senior vice president airport, passenger, cargo and security, Nick Careen says: “I want to congratulate Air Canada for their great leadership in achieving the first CEIV Live Animals certification in the world. Proper handling and transporting of live animals is a very important aspect of the cargo supply chain, with many unique complexities. Global standards and expertise are key to the safe and humane transportation by air of this precious cargo.”
Emirates SkyCargo launches pet transportation program

Nina Chamlou  August 16, 2018  Carriers

Today, Emirates SkyCargo has launched a dedicated pet transportation arm to its cargo services called “Emirates Pets,” building on its existing animal transportation operation, which the carrier said saw the safe transport of 11,000 pets over the last two years.

The carrier is employing the services of a leading Dubai-based pet relocation service provider, called Snoopy Pets, to manage required documentation and transportation of pets to and from the airport. This service will be available in various locations in Western Europe, South Africa, Brazil and the United Arab Emirates.

This year, carriers have been paying more attention to the safety of live animals onboard, following a disappointing year for animal travel in 2017, in which 25 pets died in transit, worldwide. The International Air Transport Association (IATA) released the CEIV-Live Animal certification in April to provide guidelines for industry leaders interested in strengthening their regulations in this area of operations.

http://aircargoworld.com/allposts/emirates-skycargo-launches-pet-transportation-program/?goal=0_1711f92e66-3b027b4362-39621625
Transporting Live Animals: Air Canada Cargo's Position As An Industry Leader Reinforced With IATA Certification

MONTREAL, Aug. 9, 2018 /CNW Telbec/ - Air Canada Cargo has become the first airline to receive a new global certification for the safe transport of live animals. The International Air Transport Association (IATA) awarded Air Canada Cargo with the Center of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animals Logistics (CEIV Live Animals) Certification following successful completion of the verification process in its Montreal facility. This certification reinforces that Air Canada Cargo is operating to the highest standards in the transport of live animals, be it exotic species or household pets.
Air Canada Cargo becomes the first to gain IATA CEIV Live Animals certification

Aug 10, 2018: Air Canada Cargo has received the first Center of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animals Logistics (CEIV Live Animals) certification from industry body IATA.

The airline successfully completed the pilot programme launched in March. This certification reinforces that Air Canada Cargo is operating to the highest standards in the transport of live animals, be it exotic species or household pets.

“Air Canada Cargo is a trusted carrier for thousands of animal shippers worldwide and has always complied with the IATA Live Animal Regulations. We expertly handle complex shipments, from rescued dogs, livestock, endangered animals travelling between zoos for conservation efforts and of course family pets,” said Tim Strauss, vice president, Cargo.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) launched IATA CEIV certification for live animals in order to improve the safety and welfare of animals travelling by air earlier this year.

Air Canada Cargo and London Heathrow Animal Reception Center (HARC) were chosen to undergo a pilot for the programme.

Over several weeks in May and June, as part of a thorough audit, IATA’s specialists reviewed the airline’s policies and procedures for transporting live animals. All aspects of animal handling were included in the review, from booking to acceptance, customer service, training, physical handling, transport to and from the ramp and conditions in our Montreal facility, and consideration for animal safety and well-being. Compliance with Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) was fully reviewed as was compliance with protocols like the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) CITES, whose aim is to deter illegal wildlife trade.

“Proper handling and transporting of live animals is a very important aspect of the cargo supply chain, with many unique complexities. Global standards and expertise are key to the safe and humane transportation by air of this precious cargo,” said Nick Careen, IATA’s SVP, Airport, Passenger, Cargo and Security.
Air Canada first with IATA CEIV Live Animals certification

Today Air Canada Cargo received the first ever certification as a Center of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animals Logistics under a new International Air Transport Association (IATA) programme. The full-freighter operator successfully completed a pilot programme, launched in March (pictured). This certification reinforces the airline operations to the highest standards when transporting live animals, be it exotic species or household pets.

“We’re honoured to have been selected to participate in the CEIV Live Certification pilot programme, and are proud of the team at Air Canada Cargo for achieving the industry’s first-ever certification. This reinforces our position as an industry leader,” said Tim Strauss, vice-president for cargo.

Earlier this year IATA launched this new standardised global certification programme to improve the safety and welfare of animals travelling by air – four years after handing over the first CEIV Pharma certifications. Air Canada Cargo and London Heathrow Animal Reception Center (HARC) joined the pilot programme. (ah)

www.aircanadacargo.com

www.iata.org
Air Canada Cargo becomes the first to achieve CEIV Live Animals

09 / 08 / 2018

Air Canada Cargo has become the first airline to receive IATA’s new CEIV Live Animals certification.

The Montreal-based airline received the certificate today after successfully completing the pilot programme, which was launched in April.

“This certification reinforces that Air Canada Cargo is operating to the highest standards in the transport of live animals, be it exotic species or household pets,” the airline said.

The Live Animals certification is the second CEIV programme launched by the airline group, following on from Pharma.

Air Canada Cargo vice president Tim Strauss said: “Air Canada Cargo is a trusted carrier for thousands of animal shippers worldwide and has always complied with the IATA Live Animal Regulations.

“We expertly handle complex shipments, from rescued dogs, livestock, endangered animals travelling between zoos for conversation efforts and of course family pets.

“We are honoured to have been selected to participate in the CEIV Live Certification pilot and are proud of the team at Air Canada Cargo for achieving the industry’s first ever certification, which reinforces our position as an industry leader.”

IATA launched the new standard to improve the safety and welfare of animals travelling by air earlier this year.

Air Canada Cargo and London Heathrow Animal Reception Centre were chosen to undergo a pilot for the programme.

Over several weeks in May and June, as part of a thorough audit, IATA’s specialists reviewed Air Canada Cargo’s policies and procedures for transporting live animals.

All aspects of animal handling were included in the review, from booking to acceptance, customer service, training, physical handling, transport to and from the ramp and conditions in our Montreal facility, and consideration for animal safety and well-being.
Transporting Live Animals: Air Canada Cargo's Position As An Industry Leader Reinforced With IATA Certification

- First airline to receive the new Center of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animals Logistics (CEIV Live Animals) Certification
- In 2017, Air Canada Cargo handled over 18,000 different animal shipments across its network

MONTREAL, Aug. 9, 2018 /CNW Telbec/ - Air Canada Cargo has become the first airline to receive a new global certification for the safe transport of live animals. The International Air Transport Association (IATA) awarded Air Canada Cargo with the Center of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animals Logistics (CEIV Live Animals) Certification following successful completion of the verification process in its Montreal facility. This certification reinforces that Air Canada Cargo is operating to the highest standards in the transport of live animals, be it exotic species or household pets.
“Air Canada Cargo is a trusted carrier for thousands of animal shippers worldwide and has followed the IATA Live Animal Regulations (LAR). We expertly handle complex shipments, from rescued dogs, endangered animals travelling between zoos for conservation efforts and of course family pets. We are honoured to have been selected to participate in the CEIV Live Certification program and are proud of the team at Air Canada Cargo for achieving the industry’s first ever certification, which reinforces our position as an industry leader,” said Tim Strauss, Vice President, Cargo.

“I want to congratulate Air Canada for their great leadership in achieving the first CEIV Live Animals certification in the world,” said Nick Careen, IATA’s Senior Vice President, Airport, Passenger, Cargo and Security. “Proper handling and transporting of live animals is a very important aspect of the cargo supply chain, with many unique complexities. Global standards and expertise are key to the safe and humane transportation by air of this precious cargo.”

For more information on Air Canada Cargo’s transportation of live animals, visit Air Canada Cargo’s website.

IATA launched the new standardized global certification program to improve and reinforce the safety and welfare of animals travelling by air earlier this year. Air Canada Cargo was chosen to undergo a pilot for the program.

Over several months from January to July, as part of a thorough audit, IATA’s specialists reviewed Air Canada Cargo’s live animal transport policies and procedures in its Montreal facility. Compliance with Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) was fully reviewed as was compliance with protocols like the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Air Canada achieves CEIV-Live Animal Certification

Latest News
Monday, 13 August 2018
Air Canada Cargo has become the first company to obtain IATA's CEIV-Live Animal certification.
IATA’s CEIV certifications provide standardisation for the movement of sensitive cargo – the most widely known being the CEIV-Pharma cert for the safe transport of temperature-sensitive pharmaceuticals.

Launched in April this year, the CEIV-Live Animal certification aims to bring more transparency and procedural guidelines to the handling of live animals, from pets to zoo animals.
Air Canada Cargo first to obtain CEIV-Live Animal cert

Nina Chamlo - August 10, 2018 - Carriers, Compliance

Yesterday, Air Canada Cargo became the first to obtain IATA’s CEIV-Live Animal certification – the newest denomination within IATA’s Center of Excellence for Independent Validators (CEIV) portfolio of cargo-handling frameworks, a project that the airline “played a key role in helping to pilot.”

IATA’s CEIV certifications provide standardization for the movement of sensitive cargo – the most widely known being the CEIV-Pharma cert for the safe transport of temperature-sensitive pharmaceuticals.

“Global standards and expertise are key to the safe and humane transportation by air of this precious cargo,” said Nick Careen, senior vice president of airport, passenger, cargo and security at IATA.

The introduction of CEIV-Live Animal came after a bad year for jet-setting animals. Over 2017, the Transportation Department tallied 24 fatalities, 15 injuries and one pet that was “lost.”

Launched in April, the CEIV-Live Animal certification aims to bring more transparency and procedural guidelines to the handling of live animals, from pets to zoo animals.
75th Anniversary Snapshot: Veterans of veterinary service

Since the earliest days of the air cargo industry, the transport of animals has evolved right along with the precious-but-nonliving goods secured in the cargo holds. In most of the issues of Air Transportation magazine, which later became today’s Air Cargo World, there is at least one mention of an exotic animal hitching a ride, whether it’s for food production – like the baby chicks in this 1953 ad (below, left) for Douglas Aircraft Co. – high-value racehorses being shipped to international equine shows or endangered species being moved between zoos for conservation efforts.

In a regular photo essay called “The Animal Corner,” Air Transportation provided a showcase of the various cuddly creatures and growling beasts that were ferried through the air in the previous month – sort of a precursor to our monthly UpFront section. This Animal Corner essay from February 1954 (above right) shows a couple of bear cubs being sent via Northwest Orient from South Korea to a Washington, D.C., zoo; some British pigs destined for a breeding program in Belgrade by way of Sabena Belgian Airlines; a pygmy hippopotamus from Libera enjoying a food stop in New York’s Idlewild Airport on her way via Swissair to a zoon in Boston; and an image of Henry Bush, a pilot for Linea Aeropostal Venezolana, showing off a “tigrito” and a marmoset that he caught in the Amazon jungle as a personal hobby.
Today, with biodiversity threatened all around the world, there are few people like Capt. Bush who can so cavalierly capture wild animals for personal collections. Animal trafficking is tightly controlled by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) that ensure the animals have room to move around, abundant water and food, temperature controls, and access to veterinary treatment along the way.

In April of this year, IATA further strengthened these controls by releasing its long-awaited CEIV-Live Animals certification program for the safest-possible handling of this precious and adorable airfreight. Like the organization’s CEIV-Pharma cert, CEIV-Live Animals aims to bring more transparency to the shipment of flora and fauna, plus a quality benchmark that can be seen as a worldwide standard. For more information, visit IATA’s CEIV-Live Animals page.

https://aircargoworld.com/allposts/75th-anniversary-snapshot-veterans-of-veterinary-service/
Setting standards for animal safety

Air Canada Cargo joins Centre of Excellence for Live Animals

At Air Canada Cargo, the passengers tend to be furry, feathered or even still swimming. To improve their comfort and safety as they travel the globe, Cargo has been working with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and the City of London’s Heathrow Animal Reception Centre on a pilot project to set new quality certification standards for the cargo industry, known as the Centre of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animals Logistics (CEIV Live Animals).

“The philosophy behind this program fits seamlessly into our values,” said Tomal Soherab, Cargo Product Business Development Manager. “We put safety first in all that we do, so we want to be the first airline to certify our commitment to animals. Live shipments are unique, and this program shows the industry that we are willing to reach the highest standards in the world for their care during transport.”

The transportation of animals is regulated by IATA’s Live Animals Regulations (LAR), the worldwide standard for internal policies and procedures by its 280 member airlines. CEIV Live Animals certification aims to improve transport and handling conditions by making them more consistent and recognizing leadership within the industry.

The certification process identifies companies that comply with the LAR, operate to the highest standards in all countries they serve, and are proactive in how they review and implement changes to their internal standards. CEIV Live Animals follows an approach that was initially applied in the security environment in 2013 and later for pharmaceutical logistics (CEIV Pharma).

CEIV works with independent auditors from various sectors to evaluate applicants. Its program for live animals examines their level of competency, infrastructure and approach to maintain quality in the handling and transportation of live animals at all times.
“Air Canada Cargo was selected for the pilot project because we already go above and beyond the requirements of the IAR and we’re confident that we could achieve the certification,” Tomal pointed out. “Animals are the only thing in the cargo hold with a heartbeat, and for pet owners in particular, we’re handling their most precious cargo.”

In future, CEIV Live Animals will be extended to freight forwarders, ground transportation providers and warehouse facilities. Farmers, breeders and other shippers will be able to map an entire certified supply chain that consistently meets the level of physical and emotional care that animals need.

The program was unveiled at this year’s World Cargo Symposium in Dallas, Texas, where Air Canada Cargo received a certificate of recognition for our valuable contribution to the CEIV Live Animals pilot program. Tomal was also part of an expert panel speaking at IATA’s breakout sessions for logistics professionals who want to improve or specialize in live animal handling.

“This program is a response to the industry, and certification is an opportunity to identify companies like Air Canada Cargo that provide a positive experience for thousands of animals every year. Both professional shippers and pet parents want to know who takes the best care of the animals they’re entrusted with,” said Tomal.

**Strong team in place**

CEIV Live Animals involves an in-depth training course and exam for staff, accompanied by a follow-up assessment for the facilities and operations.

Five of our employees were among the first in the industry to pass the CEIV Live Animals exam. Tomal and Cheryl Morigado, Manager, Cargo Quality Assurance, are both based in Toronto. Alain Jean, General Manager, Cargo Service – Quebec and Atlantic Canada; Michel Normand, Manager, Cargo Services – YUL; and Matthew White, Manager, Cargo Procedures, are based in Montréal.

The team also answered more than 300 questions from CEIV auditors in preparation for next steps in the certification process. Air Canada Cargo will be certified at the headquarters level as part of the review of regulatory requirements, welfare considerations and critical control points. YUL will be the first station certified under the new program. Alain and Michel have both played a key role in meeting the demanding requirements.

Animals have been transported by air since the early 1930s, and air freight is considered the most humane and expedient method of transporting pets, livestock and exotic species over long distances. CEIV Live Animals will help harmonize air freight standards with those for non-air transport of animals, including endangered species. This is especially important when handling large mammals or reptiles that may be transported by truck or rail to reach an accredited zoo or wildlife preserve.

“Over the years, Air Canada has shipped almost any animal that you can find at a zoo, aquarium, farm or pet store,” Tomal explained. “Whether it’s to reunite families with their pets or help with conservation efforts, all animals that fly with us are treated with the same level of care and consideration.”
Crocs on a plane! Fifty live crocodiles seized at Heathrow Airport

Customs officials at Heathrow Airport have seized boxes containing 50 live crocodiles bound for a farm in Cambridgeshire.

The crocodiles had been packed into five small boxes and were fighting with each other because of the lack of adequate space.

Animal welfare staff from City of London Corporation came across the year-old juvenile saltwater crocodiles on Friday, during routine checks on shipments, after they had arrived on a cargo flight from Malaysia.

They found that the animals, which had been destined to be bred for their meat at the farm near Cambridge, were not packed in accordance with regulations and reported the matter to specialist officers from the Border Force Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

One of the crocodile has since died and the remaining animals will now have to be rehomed.
Grant Miller, head of the national Border Force CITES team at Heathrow, said: "It is just not acceptable for reptiles to be transported in this way.

"The crocodiles had started to fight each other during the flight as space was limited, so little attention had been paid to their welfare.

"We will seize anything that contravenes CITES regulations, so this should serve as a warning to those thinking about transporting wildlife in such conditions."

Although a CITES permit allowing the movement of live animals was in place it had been invalidated because of the way the crocodiles were transported.

Each box had enough room for only four crocodiles but 10, foot long crocodiles had been packed into each one.

Furthermore the animals had not been separated from each other, as required by IATA regulations.

Andrea Gruber, International Air Transport Association’s head of Special Cargo, said: "The IATA Live Animals Regulations are the worldwide standard for transporting live animals by air and have been established to ensure all animals are transported safely and humanely. Industry must comply with the Regulations, which are enforced by government authorities.

“Any failure to meet with the existing requirements can impact animal safety and welfare."
Global standard for airfreight of animals launched

April 12 - The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has recently launched a new standardised global certification programme to improve the safety and welfare of animals travelling by air.

The Center of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animal Logistics (CEIV Live Animals) provides stakeholders across the air cargo supply chain with the assurance that any CEIV Live Animals-certified companies operate to the highest standards in the transportation of animals.

The CEIV Live Animals programme is based on the IATA Live Animals Regulations (LAR), the worldwide standard for transporting animals by air. The scheme aims to increase the level of competency, operations, quality management, and professionalism in this field, as well as reinforce training and compliance across the supply chain.

"Just as CEIV Pharma helped to provide quality standards for temperature-sensitive healthcare shipments, the new programme extends that expertise to the field of transporting and handling of animals," explained Nick Careen, IATA’s senior vice president of airport, passenger, cargo, and security.

HLPFI readers will recall that in our November/December 2017 issue, we spoke to industry experts about the issues associated with moving animals by airfreight, and IATA’s work on the development of this certification.

CEIV programme extended to cover live animal shipments

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has launched a new global certification programme to improve the safety and welfare of animals, including horses, travelling by air.

The Center of Excellence for Independent Validators in Live Animals Logistics (CEIV Live Animals) programme is designed to increase the level of competency, operations, quality management and professionalism in the handling and transportation of live animals in the airfreight industry while reinforcing training and compliance across the supply chain. Independent validators will conduct training and on-site audits to ensure the animals’ safety and welfare when travelling by air across the world.

IATA senior vice president of airport, passenger, cargo and security, Nick Careen says animal owners and shippers rely heavily on airlines to carry the precious cargo, and the air cargo industry has a duty of care to ensure that standards are in place to protect the welfare of animals.

He says: “For those shipping live animals the CEIV Live Animals programme will provide a reliable quality benchmark. Just as CEIV Pharma helped provide quality standards for temperature sensitive healthcare shipments, the new programme extends that expertise to the important field of transporting and handling of animals.”

Understanding the needs of stakeholders involved in the handling and transportation of animals was key to developing the programme, with Air Canada Cargo and the Heathrow Animal Reception Centre (HARC) playing a key role in the pilot programme.

In 2017 400 horses, 16,000 dogs and cats, 200,000 reptiles, 2,000 birds and 28 million fish travelled through the HARC.

HARC assistant director for port health and public protection, Robert Quest says: “Ensuring the safety and welfare of these animals is our main priority. So partnering with IATA to develop the CEIV Live Animals program was important to us. We look forward to continuing to work closely with IATA to further enhance the programme and support its worldwide adoption by companies across the supply chain in the pursuit of operational excellence in the handling and transport of live animals by air.” Air Canada Cargo vice president, Tim Strauss says: “Ensuring that animals travel in safe, healthy and humane conditions requires coordination across the supply chain. Air Canada Cargo is delighted to be part of the CEIV Live Animals programme.”
Major airline association rolls out new certification program for handling live animals

By BENJAMIN SIU  Apr 9, 2018, 5:25 PM ET

The International Air Transport Association (IATA), a leading trade group that represents 280 airlines worldwide, recently announced a new certification program designed to ensure the well-being of animals traveling by air.

The voluntary certification program called the Center of Excellence for Independent Validators (CEIV) for Live Animals Logistics builds on IATA’s current set of animal transportation rules -- widely regarded as the industry standard -- with input from air transport and animal experts to improve service quality throughout the supply chain.

“As an industry, we have a duty of care to ensure that standards and best practices are in place around the world to protect the welfare of these animals,” said Nick Careen, IATA’s senior vice president of the airport, passenger, cargo, and security. “For those shipping live animals, the CEIV Live Animals program will provide a reliable quality benchmark.”

The certification program, which was announced April 5, involves training personnel to account for the physical and emotional health of animals across a variety of species.

CEIV certification is intended for airlines, airports, ground handling, freight, and animal shipping companies, according to IATA. Companies who obtain the certification will be listed in a registry on IATA’s website.

IATA’s new certification comes after a series of recent headlines involving United Airlines’ mishandling of live animals, including the death of a dog after stowing the animal in an overhead bin and loading other dogs onto the wrong flights.

The certification program was developed over the course of at least a year and was not a direct response to the United incidents, IATA spokesperson Perry Flint said. He added that the program was inspired by the success of CEIV Pharma, another IATA certification program for transporting environment-sensitive pharmaceuticals.

Global Certification Program Promises Increased Safety of Pets on Planes

A new certification program promises to improve the safety and welfare of animals traveling by air.

Amanda Carrozza
Published: April 08, 2018

In the wake of numerous accounts of animal deaths and other mishaps on major airlines, many questions have been raised about what carriers plan to do to ensure the safety of their four-legged passengers. United Airlines has even gone so far as to suspend its PetSafe program pending a thorough review of its processes.

In response, on Thursday, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) — the trade association for the world’s airlines — announced the launch of a new standardized global certification program to improve the safety and welfare of animals traveling by air. IATA members include 280 airlines that account for 83 percent of total air traffic.

Called the Center of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animals Logistics (CEIV Live Animals), the program will create benchmarks and certify best practices for transporting animals.

"As an industry, we have a duty of care to ensure that standards and best practices are in place around the world to protect the welfare of these animals," Nick Careen, IATA’s senior vice president of airport, passenger, cargo and security said. "For those shipping live animals, the CEIV Live Animals program will provide a reliable quality benchmark."

RELATED:

- Best Airlines of 2018: Which Is Best for Pets?
- Update: New Report Reveals Animal Incidents on Airlines in 2017

The IATA previously created a similar program, CEIV Pharma, to provide quality standards for temperature-sensitive health care shipments, Careen explained, and CEIV Live Animals extends that expertise. Developed with veterinarians, animal-welfare advocates and government officials, the program is open to every part of the industry that works with animals, including airlines, airports and ground handlers.

Upon successful completion of and compliance with the program, which covers quality management systems and operational procedures, organizations will receive a certification from IATA and be listed in a registry on the association’s website. According to the IATA, there are eight key benefits of participating in the program:

1. Improve animal welfare and safety through appropriate quality and risk management.
2. Enhance standardization in the handling and transportation of live animals.
3. Enforce compliance with the Live Animal Regulations.
4. Elevate staff competency through efficient and robust training programs.
5. Raise professionalism in the industry as well as quality of services.
6. Enable increased collaboration among stakeholders and certified trade lanes.
7. Promote a uniform approach in a multimodal environment for the transportation of live animals.
8. Reinforce customer trust through transparency and communication.

CEIV Live Animals certification will be valid for three years. Recertification will include refresher training and a revalidation to ensure continued compliance with the program’s objectives.

In addition to companion animals, CEIV Live Animals also focuses on complying with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) requirements. An international agreement between 183 governments, CITES’ focus is to ensure that international trade in more than 36,000 specimens of wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival. According to the group, levels of exploitation of some animal and plant species are high and trade is capable of heavily depleting populations. It can even bring some species close to extinction.

"Whether it is a family relocating with their pet, a flock of sheep relocating overseas or zoo animals travelling to support conservation efforts, transporting animals by air is a complex and highly planned operation," said Air Canada Cargo Vice President Tim Strauss, whose company was instrumental in helping to pilot the CEIV Live Animals program. "Ensuring that animals travel in safe, healthy and humane conditions requires coordination across the supply chain."

IATA outlines plan for transportation of live animals by air

Posted By: STAT Times

Handling and transporting live animals is quite challenging. Every animal has its specific requirements. Hence, it's critical to take into consideration the emotional response of the animals when placed in a special-purpose, if unfamiliar, environment by trained professionals. These were some of the prerequisites for the development of the CEIV Live Animals program, which is based on the IATA Live Animals Regulations (LAR), the worldwide standard for transporting animals by air.

The IATA LAR are based on professional and operational input from industry experts, which include veterinarians, animal welfare experts, as well as government agencies involved in the regulation of animal transportation, and non-governmental organisations with an interest in animal transportation.

The CEIV Live Animals program is expected to increases the level of competency, operations, quality management and professionalism in the handling and transportation of live animals in the air freight industry. Besides, it will reinforce training and compliance across the supply chain.

As a usual practice, independent validators conduct training and onsite audits to ensure the safety and welfare of animals while travelling by air across the world.

LIVE PILOTS
Understanding complex needs of stakeholders involved in the handling and transportation of animals by air was the key in developing the program. London's Heathrow Animal Reception Centre (HARC), and Air Canada Cargo played a pivotal role in piloting the CEIV Live Animal program.

Robert Quest, assistant director, port health and public protection, HARC said, “Last year, about 16,000 dogs and cats, 400 horses, 200,000 reptiles, 2,000 birds and 28 million fish travelled through HARC. Safety and welfare of these animals was our main priority. So partnering with IATA to develop the CEIV Live Animals program was important to us. We look forward to continuing to work closely with IATA to further enhance the program, and support its worldwide adoption by companies across the supply chain, in the pursuit of operational excellence in the handling and transport of live animals by air.”

Tim Strauss, vice president, Air Canada Cargo said: “Whether it is a family relocating with their pet, a flock of sheep relocating overseas, or zoo animals travelling to support conservation efforts, transporting animals by air is a complex and highly planned operation. Ensuring that animals travel in safe, healthy and humane conditions requires coordination across the supply chain. Air Canada Cargo is delighted to be part of the CEIV Live Animals program.”

PROTECTING ENDANGERED SPECIES
CEIV Live Animals also focuses on the importance to comply with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) requirements, which includes CITES Guidelines for the Non-Air Transport of Live Wild Animals and Plants available in the LAR. CITES is the legally-binding agreement with 183 Parties (182 States and the EU) that regulates international trade of more than 36,000 species of animals and plants.

"Worldwide international standards and regulations govern the safety and welfare of animals being transport by air. The CEIV Live Animals program helps to ensure that any legitimately traded wildlife adheres to the IATA standards and CITES requirements and we welcome its development. It is through industry working cooperatively together that can we can most effectively implement these agreed standards and requirements, and also identify and tackle illegal trade in wildlife," said John E Scanlon, secretary general, CITES.
IATA launches new global certification programme to prevent more animal deaths on planes

2018-04-06 08:43 - Saara Mowlana

Cape Town - From the death of a 10-month-old puppy placed in an overhead luggage bin by a flight attendant during a United Airlines flight to another dog being flown to the wrong country entirely by United Airlines as well - these tragic in-flight doggy tales have led to a call of action by IATA.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has launched a new standardised global certification programme to improve the safety and welfare of animals travelling by air. The Centre of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animals Logistics (CEIV Live Animals) provides stakeholders across the air cargo supply chain with the assurance that CEIV Live Animals certified companies are operating to the highest standards in the transport of live animals.

READ: Family traumatised as puppy dies after flight attendant orders it be put into overhead bin

Nick Careen, IATA's Senior Vice President of Airport, Passenger, Cargo and Security said that last year millions of animals were transported and travelled safely and securely by air. He added that animal owners and shippers tend to rely heavily on airlines to carry their precious cargo and that as an industry they have a duty to ensure that standards and best practices are in place globally to protect the animals' welfare on flights.

"For those shipping live animals the CEIV Live Animals programme will provide a reliable quality benchmark. Just as CEIV Pharma helped provide quality standards for temperature sensitive healthcare shipments, the new programme extends that expertise to the important field of transporting and handling of animals," said Careen.

**SEE: Airline mistakenly sends woman's dog to Japan, gives her Great Dane instead**

However, handling and transporting live animals poses its own challenges as well. Each animal has its own specific requirements - not just physically, but emotionally as well depending on their temperaments and personalities. It is vital to consider the emotional response of animals being placed in these special-purpose and unfamiliar environment and territory by trained professionals.

These were prerequisites that were taken into consideration when constructing the CEIV Live Animals programme - which is based on the IATA Live Animals Regulations (LAR), the worldwide standard for transporting animals by air. The IATA LAR, according to IATA's press release, are based on "professional and operational input from industry experts, including veterinarians, animal welfare experts as well as government agencies involved in the regulation of animal transportation and non-governmental organizations with an interest in animal transportation."

The CEIV Live Animals programme aims to increase the level of competency, operations, quality management and professionalism in the handling and transportation of live animals in the air freight industry while simultaneously reinforcing training and compliance across the supply chain. The release added that independent validators also conduct training and onsite audits to ensure the animals' safety and welfare when travelling by air across the world.
Live pilots

Understanding the complex needs of stakeholders involved in the handling and transportation of animals by air also played a key part in the development of the programme. In helping to pilot the CEIV Live Animal programme, the City of London’s Heathrow Animal Reception Centre (HARC) and Air Canada Cargo played an important role.

Robert Quest, Assistant Director, Port Health and Public Protection, HARC said, "Last year some 16,000 dogs and cats, 400 horses, 200,000 reptiles, 2,000 birds and 26 million fish travelled through HARC."

Quest added that ensuring the safety and welfare of these animals is the HARC’s main priority. He elaborated that partnering with IATA to develop the CEIV Live Animals programme was important to their company and vision.

ALSO READ: UPDATE: Dog accidentally sent overseas returns to Kansas family

"We look forward to continuing to work closely with IATA to further enhance the program and support its worldwide adoption by companies across the supply chain in the pursuit of operational excellence in the handling and transportation of live animals by air," Quest concluded.

Air Canada Cargo, Vice President Tim Strauss said that whether it is a family relocating with their pet or a flock of sheep being transported or zoo animals travelling to support conservation efforts - the transportation of animals by air is a highly complex and strategised operation.

"Ensuring that animals travel in safe, healthy and humane conditions requires coordination across the supply chain. Air Canada Cargo is delighted to be part of the CEIV Live Animals program," Strauss added.

ALSO SEE: UPDATE: United to issue special pet carrier tags after dog’s death

Endangered species also addressed

CEIV Live Animals also looks to focus on the importance to comply with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) requirements. This includes the CITES ‘Guidelines for the Non-Air Transport of Live Wild Animals and Plants’ available in the IATA LAR.

CITES is the legally-binding agreement with 183 Parties (182 States and the EU) that regulates international trade in more than 36 000 species of animals and plants.

ALSO CHECK OUT: Airline forced Florida woman to flush pet hamster

John E Scanlon, the Secretary-General of CITES has said that the worldwide International standards and regulations help to govern the safety and welfare of animals transported via air. He elaborated that the CEIV Live Animals programme helps to ensure that any legitimately traded wildlife adheres to the IATA standards as well as CITES requirements. Scanlon added that CITES welcomes the development of this programme.

“It is through industry working cooperatively together that can we can most effectively implement these agreed standards and requirements, and also identify and tackle illegal trade in wildlife,” Scanlon said.

SEE: What you need to know about planning a flight with your cat or dog in SA
IATA Launches New Global Certification Program to Improve Safety and Welfare of Animals Travelling by Air

April 9, 2018

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has launched a new standardized global certification program to improve the safety and welfare of animals travelling by air. The Center of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animals Logistics (CEIV Live Animals) provides stakeholders across the air cargo supply chain with the assurance that CEIV Live Animals certified companies are operating to the highest standards in the transport of live animals.

“Last year millions of animals travelled safely and securely by air. Animal owners and shippers rely heavily on airlines to carry their precious cargo. As an industry, we have a duty of care to ensure that standards and best practices are in place around the world to protect the welfare of these animals. For those shipping live animals the CEIV Live Animals program will provide a reliable quality benchmark. Just as CEIV Pharma helped provide quality standards for temperature sensitive healthcare shipments, the new program extends that expertise to the important field of transporting and handling of animals,” said Nick Careen IATA’s Senior Vice President of Airport, Passenger, Cargo and Security.

Handling and transporting live animals is challenging. Each type of animal has its specific requirements—not limited to the physical. It is critical to take into consideration the emotional response of the animals when placed in a special-purpose, if unfamiliar, environment by trained professionals. These were prerequisites for the development of the CEIV Live Animals program which is based on the IATA Live Animals Regulations (LAR), the worldwide standard for transporting animals by air. The IATA LAR are based on professional and operational input from industry experts, including veterinarians, animal welfare experts as well as government agencies involved in the regulation of animal transportation and non-governmental organizations with an interest in animal transportation.

The CEIV Live Animals program increases the level of competency, operations, quality management and professionalism in the handling and transportation of live animals in the air freight industry while reinforcing training and compliance across the supply chain. Independent validators conduct training and onsite audits to ensure the animals’ safety and welfare when travelling by air across the world.

Live Pilots

Understanding the complex needs of stakeholders involved in the handling and transportation of animals by air was also key in developing the program. The City of London’s Heathrow Animal Reception Centre (HARC) and Air Canada Cargo played a key role in helping to pilot the CEIV Live Animal program.

Robert Quest, Assistant Director, Port Health and Public Protection, HARC said, “Last year some 16,000 dogs and cats, 400 horses, 200,000 reptiles, 2,000 birds and 28 million fish travelled through HARC. Ensuring the safety and welfare of these animals is our main priority. So partnering with IATA to develop the CEIV Live Animals program was important to us. We look forward to continuing to work closely with IATA to further enhance the program and support its worldwide adoption by companies across the supply chain in the pursuit of operational excellence in the handling and transport of live animals by air.”

Air Canada Cargo, Vice President Tim Strauss said, “Whether it is a family relocating with their pet, a flock of sheep relocating overseas or zoo animals travelling to support conservation efforts, transporting animals by air is a complex and highly planned operation. Ensuring that animals travel in safe, healthy and humane conditions requires coordination across the supply chain. Air Canada Cargo is delighted to be part of the CEIV Live Animals program.”

Endangered Species Also Addressed

CEIV Live Animals also focuses on the importance to comply with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) requirements including the CITES Guidelines for the Non-Air Transport of Live Wild Animals and Plants available in the LAR. CITES is the legally-binding agreement with 183 Parties (182 States and the EU), regulating international trade in more than 36,000 species of animals and plants.

“Worldwide international standards and regulations govern the safety and welfare of animals being transport by air. The CEIV Live Animals program helps to ensure that any legitimately traded wildlife adheres to the IATA standards and CITES requirements and we welcome its development. It is through industry working cooperatively together that can we can most effectively implement these agreed standards and requirements, and also identify and tackle illegal trade in wildlife” said John E Scanlon, the Secretary General of CITES.
IATA launches certification program to improve welfare of animals traveling by air

2018-04-06 14:06   Xinhua   Editor: Feng Shuang

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) said Thursday it had launched a new standardized global certification program to improve the safety and welfare of animals traveling by air.

"Last year millions of animals traveled safely and securely by air. Animal owners and shippers rely heavily on airlines to carry their precious cargo," said Nick Careen, IATA’s senior vice president of airport, passenger, cargo, and security, in a statement released here.

IATA said the program -- Center of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animals Logistics (CEIV Live Animals) -- provides everyone involved in the air cargo supply chain with the assurance that certified companies are operating to the highest standards in the transport of live animals.

"As an industry, we have a duty of care to ensure that standards and best practices are in place around the world to protect the welfare of these animals," said Careen.

He noted that for those shipping live animals through the program will be provided with a reliable quality benchmark.

He said the new certification is like CEIV Pharma which helped provide quality standards for temperature sensitive health care shipments.

It extends that expertise to the field of transporting and handling animals, which is challenging, IATA said.

Each type of animal has specific requirements, and this is not limited to the physical.

It is critical to take into consideration the emotional response of the animals when placed in a special-purpose, if unfamiliar, environment by trained professionals.

The City of London’s Heathrow Animal Reception Centre (HARC) and Air Canada Cargo played a key role in helping to pilot the CEIV Live Animal program, said IATA.

According to Robert Quest of HARC, "Last year some 16,000 dogs and cats, 400 horses, 200,000 reptiles, 2,000 birds and 28 million fish traveled through HARC."
IATA Launches New Global Certification Program to Improve Safety and Welfare of Animals Travelling by Air

China Aviation Daily | Apr. 05, 2018

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Handling and transporting live animals is challenging. Each type of animal has its specific requirements—not limited to the physical. It is critical to take into consideration the emotional response of the animals when placed in a special-purpose, if unfamiliar, environment by trained professionals. These were prerequisites for the development of the CEIV Live Animals program which is based on the IATA Live Animals Regulations (LAR), the worldwide standard for transporting animals by air. The IATA LAR are based on professional and operational input from industry experts, including veterinarians, animal welfare experts as well as government agencies involved in the regulation of animal transportation and non-governmental organizations with an interest in animal transportation.

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**Live Pilots**

Understanding the complex needs of stakeholders involved in the handling and transportation of animals by air was also key in developing the program. The City of London's Heathrow Animal Reception Centre (HARC) and Air Canada Cargo played a key role in helping to pilot the CEIV Live Animal program.

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Air Canada Cargo, Vice President Tim Strauss said, "Whether it is a family relocating with their pet, a flock of sheep relocating overseas or zoo animals travelling to support conservation efforts, transporting animals by air is a complex and highly planned operation. Ensuring that animals travel in safe, healthy and humane conditions requires coordination across the supply chain. Air Canada Cargo is delighted to be part of the CEIV Live Animals program."

**Endangered Species Also Addressed**

CEIV Live Animals also focuses on the importance to comply with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) requirements including the CITES Guidelines for the Non-Air Transport of Live Wild Animals and Plants available in the LAR. CITES is the legally-binding agreement with 183 Parties (182 States and the EU), regulating international trade in more than 36,000 species of animals and plants.

"Worldwide international standards and regulations govern the safety and welfare of animals being transport by air. The CEIV Live Animals program helps to ensure that any legitimately traded wildlife adheres to the IATA standards and CITES requirements and we welcome its development. It is through industry working cooperatively together that can we can most effectively implement these agreed standards and requirements, and also identify and tackle illegal trade in wildlife" said John E Scanlon, the Secretary General of CITES.

*Contributed by IATA*
IATA launches new program to improve safety of animals traveling by air

By Chief Assignment Editor - April 5, 2018

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has launched a new standardized global certification program to improve the safety and welfare of animals traveling by air. The Center of Excellence for Independent Validators for Live Animals Logistics (CEIV Live Animals) provides stakeholders across the air cargo supply chain with the assurance that CEIV Live Animals certified companies are operating to the highest standards in the transport of live animals.

"Last year millions of animals travelled safely and securely by air. Animal owners and shippers rely heavily on airlines to carry their precious cargo. As an industry, we have a duty of care to ensure that standards and best practices are in place around the world to protect the welfare of these animals. For those shipping live animals the CEIV Live Animals program will provide a reliable quality benchmark. Just as CEIV Pharma helped provide quality standards for temperature sensitive healthcare shipments, the new program extends that expertise to the important field of transporting and handling of animals," said Nick Careen IATA's Senior Vice President of Airport, Passenger, Cargo and Security.

Handling and transporting live animals is challenging. Each type of animal has its specific requirements—not limited to the physical. It is critical to take into consideration the emotional response of the animals when placed in a special-purpose, if unfamiliar, environment by trained professionals. These were prerequisites for the development of the CEIV Live Animals program which is based on the IATA Live Animals Regulations (LAR), the worldwide standard for transporting animals by air. The IATA LAR are based on professional and operational input from industry experts, including veterinarians, animal welfare experts as well as government agencies involved in the regulation of animal transportation and non-governmental organizations with an interest in animal transportation.
The CEIV Live Animals program increases the level of competency, operations, quality management and professionalism in the handling and transportation of live animals in the air freight industry while reinforcing training and compliance across the supply chain. Independent validators conduct training and onsite audits to ensure the animals’ safety and welfare when travelling by air across the world.

Live Pilots

Understanding the complex needs of stakeholders involved in the handling and transportation of animals by air was also key in developing the program. The City of London’s Heathrow Animal Reception Centre (HARC) and Air Canada Cargo played a key role in helping to pilot the CEIV Live Animal program.

Robert Guest, Assistant Director, Port Health and Public Protection, HARC said, “Last year some 16,000 dogs and cats, 400 horses, 200,000 reptiles, 2,000 birds and 28 million fish travelled through HARC. Ensuring the safety and welfare of these animals is our main priority. So partnering with IATA to develop the CEIV Live Animals program was important to us. We look forward to continuing to work closely with IATA to further enhance the program and support its worldwide adoption by companies across the supply chain in the pursuit of operational excellence in the handling and transport of live animals by air.”

Air Canada Cargo, Vice President Tim Strauss said, “Whether it is a family relocating with their pet, a flock of sheep relocating overseas or zoo animals travelling to support conservation efforts, transporting animals by air is a complex and highly planned operation. Ensuring that animals travel in safe, healthy and humane conditions requires coordination across the supply chain. Air Canada Cargo is delighted to be part of the CEIV Live Animals program.”

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“Worldwide international standards and regulations govern the safety and welfare of animals being transport by air. The CEIV Live Animals program helps to ensure that any legitimately traded wildlife adheres to the IATA standards and CITES requirements and we welcome its development. It is through industry working cooperatively together that can we can most effectively implement these agreed standards and requirements, and also identify and tackle illegal trade in wildlife” said John E Scanlon, the Secretary General of CITES.
IATA has confirmed the launch of its new CEIV programme for the transport of Live Animals to help improve the safety and welfare of animals travelling by air.

CEIV Live Animals, which Air Cargo News reported was being developed last year, is based on the IATA Live Animals Regulations (LAR) and input from industry experts, including veterinarians, animal welfare experts, government agencies and non-governmental organisations with an interest in animal transportation.

IATA’s senior vice president of airport, passenger, cargo and security Nick Careen said: “Animal owners and shippers rely heavily on airlines to carry their precious cargo.
“As an industry, we have a duty of care to ensure that standards and best practices are in place around the world to protect the welfare of these animals.

“For those shipping live animals the CEIV Live Animals programme will provide a reliable quality benchmark.

“Just as CEIV Pharma helped provide quality standards for temperature sensitive healthcare shipments, the new program extends that expertise to the important field of transporting and handling of animals.”

Before the launch of the programme, a live pilot was carried out with the help of The City of London’s Heathrow Animal Reception Centre (HARC) and Air Canada Cargo.

“Partnering with IATA to develop the CEIV Live Animals programme was important to us,” said HARC assistant director, port health and public protection Robert Quest.

“We look forward to continuing to work closely with IATA to further enhance the programme and support its worldwide adoption by companies across the supply chain in the pursuit of operational excellence in the handling and transport of live animals by air.”

Air Canada Cargo, vice president Tim Strauss added: “Transporting animals by air is a complex and highly planned operation.

“Ensuring that animals travel in safe, healthy and humane conditions requires coordination across the supply chain. Air Canada Cargo is delighted to be part of the CEIV Live Animals programme.”

CEIV Live Animals also focuses on the importance to comply with the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) requirements including the CITES Guidelines for the Non-Air Transport of Live Wild Animals and Plants available in the LAR.
IATA expands CEIV certification program with live-animal version

Today, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) has launched a new certification program called CEIV-Live Animals, that provides an industry standard for the safe handling of animals being transported in the cargo hold of aircraft. The launch is an expansion of IATA's Center of Excellence for Independent Validators (CEIV) program that ensures compliance to handling standards across the entire supply chain.

Like the organization's CEIV-Pharma certification, which connects parties through the supply chain to ensure the careful handling of temperature-sensitive pharmaceuticals, the new CEIV-Live Animals certification aims to bring more transparency and procedural guidelines to the handling of the precious cargo.

"For those shipping live animals, the CEIV-Live Animals program will provide a reliable quality benchmark," said Nick Careen, IATA's senior vice president of airport, passenger, cargo and security. "Just as CEIV-Pharma helped provide quality standards for temperature-sensitive healthcare shipments, the new program extends that expertise to the important field of transporting and handling of animals."

IATA worked with the London Heathrow Animal Reception Centre (HARC) and Air Canada Cargo to turn its existing IATA Live Animal Regulations (LAR) into an attainable certification. The program also abides by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) requirements, which aims prevent international trade from endangering thousands of animal and plant species survival in the wild.

The program is available for airports, carriers and logistics industry members that are interested in gaining the certification.

Following peacock fiasco, United Airlines tightens policy for comfort animals

United Airlines updated its policy Thursday dealing with emotional-support animals, echoing Delta Air Lines in requiring documentation about the animal’s health and training.

United had been reviewing its policy since late last year after a 75% increase in emotional-support animals on flights and “a significant increase in onboard incidents.” The number of comfort animals flying on the airline jumped from 43,000 in 2016 to 76,000 last year, according to Charlie Hobart, a United spokesman.

United's update coincided with an incident Sunday when the carrier refused to accept a peacock named Dexter aboard a flight from Newark to Los Angeles. The peacock was rejected under the airline’s previous policy for health and safety reasons.

“The old policy was in place and that policy prevented Dexter the peacock from boarding the aircraft. The policy worked as intended,” Hobart said. “With all of the commotion regarding the peacock, that has sort of crystallized to our employees and customers why we need to further enhance this policy.”

https://www.usatoday.com/story/travel/2018/02/01/united-joins-delta-updating-policies-deal-flood-comfort-animals/1086683001/
United's added restrictions take effect on flights starting March 1, the same day as Delta, which announced its update Jan. 19.

Delta, which transported 250,000 trained service or untrained emotional-support animals last year, had a comfort dog bite a passenger in the face in June while boarding a flight from Atlanta to San Diego. American Airlines is also reviewing its policy after seeing a 15% increase in comfort animals last year.

“Unfortunately, untrained animals can lead to safety issues for our team, our passengers and working dogs onboard our aircraft,” American spokesman Ross Feinstein said Wednesday. “We agree with Delta’s efforts and will continue to support the rights of our customers, from veterans to people with disabilities, with legitimate needs.”

More on airlines and emotional-support animals:

An emotional support peacock? Comfort animal or not, some airlines saying no as rules are tightened

Delta tightens leash on comfort animals on flights, with rules for lack of federal regulation

Attention, fliers: You may need to leave your ‘comfort’ animal at home

Each of the three largest airlines requires notification about a comfort animals 48 hours before departure, with a note from a licensed medical professional confirming the passenger's disability and need for the animal.

United joined Delta in requiring notes that confirm the animal’s health from a veterinarian and that confirm the animal’s training to behave in a public setting, to avoid problems with urination or defecation during the flight.

“We’ve been reviewing the policy for some time,” Hobart said. “It’s up to the airlines to take the lead here.”

United consulted with its Accessible Travel Advisory Board and several of its employee groups in developing the policy along with feedback from passengers.
“The airline’s increased requirements for emotional support animals will reduce fraud and protect the legitimate need of animal assistance for passengers with disabilities and veterans,” said Sara Nelson, international president of the Association of Flight Attendants-CWA. “This is about maintaining safety, health and security for passengers and crew, while ensuring accessibility for those who need it.”

Airlines for America, a trade group representing most of the largest carriers, urged the department in a letter Wednesday to revise its policies comprehensively for all carriers.

“During the past several years, but in particular during the recent holidays, airlines have experienced a surge in passengers bringing animals onboard that haven’t been appropriately trained as service animals,” Sharon Pinkerton, the group’s senior vice president for policy, told the department. “This has resulted in our crewmembers and passengers being bitten and subjected to other offensive and injurious behavior.”

Airlines have begun adopting their own changes after months of negotiations in 2016 by a department panel of experts failed to reach a consensus.

The department missed a congressional deadline of July 2017 to release a proposal about possible changes in the animal policy. The department now plans a proposal by July.

Confusion stems from different ways animals are treated on planes. The policy debate isn’t about pets in kennels, but about animals without cages accompanying passengers in plane cabins.

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The Americans with Disabilities Act allows dogs and miniature horses to fly as trained service animals for disabled passengers such as the blind or deaf.

The Air Carrier Access Act calls for a wider variety of animals to assist disabled passengers. Animals such as pigs and monkeys are considered on a case-by-case basis.

Department guidance from 2003 prohibits reptiles, rodents and spiders as emotional-support animals. Other animals that are allowed can’t block aisles or evacuation routes or bother other passengers.

Delta and United have expanded the list of prohibited animals to include hedgehogs, ferrets, possums known as sugar gliders and non-household birds.

But factions on all sides of the debate are calling for a comprehensive update from the department to clarify rules for what is allowed.

“DOT has an opportunity to review service-animal guidance that strikes the right balance between ensuring passengers with a disability are accommodated in air travel and protecting the health and safety of all passengers and crew, and we urge DOT to act expeditiously,” Pinkerton said. “We are committed to finding solutions.”
2017
the International Air Transport Association (IATA) plans to expand the Center of Excellence for Independent Validators (CEIV) programme to cover live animals and perishables.

Speaking at the IATA Cargo Media Day at the IATA Conference Centre in Geneva on 6 December, the association’s head of special cargo, Andrea Gruber (pictured) spoke about how the CEIV has been embraced by the air cargo industry and what are the plans for 2018. She explained there will be a complete CEIV Pharma roll out, with additional requirements from the healthcare industry. There will be Live Animal Pilot programme with industry participants, and it is investigating the possibility of a ‘CEIV Fresh’ for perishables.

She says: “Welfare of animals is critical, it is a niche market that needs constant supervision within the industry. We have responded to calls from the industry to enforce compliance in live animal regulations. The aim is to reduce stress, injury and death, raise professionalism in the industry.”

Describing the programme, Gruber says: “The pilot programme will be rolled out with industry participants. We have started working with CITES. There has been a campaign for regulatory compliance and a lot of discussion with an emphasis on legal trade and compliance. We have seen incidents that emphasise reinforcing compliance.”

IATA’s Live Animal Regulations (LAR) is already the worldwide standard for transporting live animals. All employees who handle animals must be trained according to requirements, and LAR has been adopted by a number of companies and by the European Union as a minimum standard.

She says: “Compliance is critical, companies have transporting live animals for some time. A lot are doing it but not all are doing the right way. We need to improve, providing visibility and transparency.”
IATA lays out plans for Live Animal, ‘Fresh’ CEIV certifications

In a presentation for today’s International Air Transport Association’s (IATA) cargo media day, IATA’s head of special cargo, Andrea Gruber, said that, following the success of the association’s CEIV-Pharma certification, 2018 will likely bring a pilot program for CEIV-Live Animal certification, as well as the potential of “CEIV Fresh” for perishables.

The live-animal CEIV certification would build on IATA’s current Live Animals Regulations (LAR), which require that everyone who transports, accepts, handles or loads animals be familiar with the specific needs of the individual species, ensuring that animals remain safe and healthy in humane conditions. LAR guidelines have been adopted as the national standard by several countries and as the minimum standard by the European Union, as well as their adoption as a reference point by several international organizations and governmental agencies.

However, according to Gruber, discussions with industry members indicate substantial room for improvement in the current LAR guidelines. CEIV certification would target improvement areas, including the reduction of animal stress, injury and death, the improvement of compliance with standards and regulations, and an overall increase in the level of professionalism in the industry.

According to Gruber, IATA plans to launch a pilot program for CEIV-Live Animal certification in cooperation with industry participants during 2018. Also next year, IATA will investigate the potential for launching a similar specialty cargo program called CEIV Fresh, for perishables.
The delicate business of transporting live animals

Transporting animals is an age-old practice and today's modern, tech-savvy world allows them to be transported in the most humane, safe and secure manner. Regulations and global standards such as the IATA Live Animals Regulations (LAR) ensure the transport of animals by air is conducted in a safe, humane and cost-effective way. Emirates Senior Vice President Cargo Operations Henrik Ambak noted, "The transportation of live animals requires expert and sensitive handling with full compliance with the rules laid down in national laws. In 2013, Etihad Airways became a member of the International Pet and Animal Transportation Association to strengthen its position as an accredited airfreight carrier of live animals, which recognizes the airline as a responsible carrier at an international level. According to Emirates Airlines, the following temperatures specifications are mostly derived from IATA's LAR and are followed to the letter when transporting live animals on their aircraft. Air Bridge Cargo's General Director Sergey Lazarev, said, "Aside from our proven expertise in safely transporting live animals, another key reason why customers choose ABC is the quality and capability of our modern Boeing 747 fleet. Our latest 747-8F aircraft provide four independently controlled temperature zones which enable us to create separate environments with a range of +4 to +29°C. This helps us to ensure we create the most comfortable temperature onboard the aircraft for the live animals we are carrying."
N Noah's ark

Airlines and operators with the specialist facilities necessary to handle live animal shipments are reporting strong demand for their services, as Helen Massy-Beresford finds out.

Airlines with the facilities to safely and comfortably ship live animals, in compliance with IATA regulations, are enjoying growing demand for their services – and are investing to ensure they can keep up with the growth. Demand is buoyant for a number of reasons, as reported by live animal transport specialist Intrado Global, part of the Chapman Freeborn Group. “Emerging markets in general are behind the surge in demand for these services. It’s the over-growing middle classes adopting new lifestyles, like equestrian sports, improving their diets – dairy and meat production – or spending more time and money on leisure and entertainment such as safari parks, aquariums and zoos,” says Charlie McMullen, Director at Intrado Global. Equestrian events are on the rise worldwide, as are overseas postings, and expat pet owners are increasingly realising that the cost of taking, for instance, a dog on a transatlantic flight, is not as high as many would imagine, at around £500, according to AIR FRANCE KLM MARTIN AIR Cargo’s (AFKLM Cargo) Gerald Bergkamp, Commercial Director, Live.

From pets travelling with their owners to zoo transfers, the transportation of live animals represents about £60 million per year of business for AIR FRANCE KLM MARTIN AIR Cargo. This may not be a particularly large percentage of the £2.3 billion it records for cargo overall, but demand is strong, and the airline has built something of a name for itself in the sphere of live animal transport, Bergkamp says. The airline’s animal hotel has been integral in cementing this reputation, with around 33 staff and on-call vets at Amsterdam’s Schiphol Airport, where specially trained animal stewards keep watch over its animal passengers.

“Live animals is a mature business for us. It’s growing but with a limited pace,” Bergkamp says. “We were one of the first airlines to have an animal hotel, and we’ve built up a reputation and a skilled staff. For example, we ship about 10,000 horses on a yearly basis. It’s not about being cheap transport – it’s about whether you trust the airline with valuable horses,” he adds.

Intrado Global is also seeing signs that the broader industry is ready to invest in animal facilities. “Many airlines are investing in their animal transportation to improve capabilities, which in turn can create a refreshed competitive environment, but in most cases these investments are actually beneficial for Intrado. As a broker and part of the Chapman Freeborn Group, we have access to the world’s largest network of both established schedule operators and independent ad hoc operators. We have a diverse global client base, and therefore need a truly global selection of aircraft of all sizes and shapes to cater for our clients’ needs. We are able to offer a greater level of flexibility when it comes to capacity and fleet specific requirements, with quick reaction and turn around times, a truly global reach, and cost efficient solutions for every type of shipment,” McMullen says.

About 80% of Intrado Global’s business is equine, with the rest split between transporting livestock and exotic animals. The company has one of the industry’s largest inventories of last generation equipment, such as horse and livestock stalls, and boasts a highly experienced team of expert professional groomers and dedicated flying cattle workers.

In recent times the company has focused efforts on strengthening its presence in the Middle East, as well as China, which it describes as increasingly important for them. “This is predominantly due to changing regulations from the CQI that has allowed for further live animal imports,” McMullen explains. AFKLM Cargo says demand for live animal transport applies across its network, but the airline hit headlines in Europe and China earlier this year with its successful transfer of two pandas, Xing Ya and Wu Wen from Chengdu, China, to the Netherlands. The two giant pandas were symbolically gifted to the Netherlands by China during the state visit of the Dutch royal couple in October 2015, and AFKLM Cargo had the high profile job of flying them over, in bespoke enclosures, to their new home in Ouwehands Zoo.
"When we flew the pandas from Chengdu to Amsterdam we changed the aircraft configuration from full passenger to a Boeing 747 cargo, which allowed staff to be next to the pandas. There was a fully equipped wet on board," says Bergkamp, stressing that it was no easy logistical task. "The planning for that flight took us a few months."

Intradco Global worked with Elhadh Cargo, African Parks and the AgaKhan National Park in May to transport 19 critically endangered black rhinos to the wildlife of Rwanda. The conservation project was a historic step for the East African country, where the species disappeared in 2007 following decades of poaching.

Intradco chartered two Elhadh B777 freighters to transport the 19 black rhinos from Johanneburg, South Africa, to the Rwandan capital, Kigali, from which they were transferred to the AgaKhan National Park in the east of the country.

Ten rhinos – which can weigh up to 2,300kg each – travelled on the first flight, with the remaining nine on the second, along with three vets and two attendants who accompanied them for the duration of their journey from Johanneburg to AgaKhan.

The logistical challenge in this instance is maintaining the fish tanks at the correct temperature and limiting the transportation time to 72 hours.

Day-old baby chicks are also flown out of the US and Europe to the Middle East and Asia, helping agricultural producers refresh shoresides.

AFRILIMP Cargo carried out studies with Wageningen University to ensure the right airflow and temperature for their welfare onboard.

The airline reports that demand for transporting pets is growing steadily across its network, coming in at about 5-6% per year.

“We have acceptance in our animal hotel – the animals stay a night and we take care of them, feed them, give them water, clean their kennels, and we even have walking areas specific for dogs,” Bergkamp explains. “We have a vet always connected to the animal hotel. There’s a separate track for animal transport to the airplane and they are loaded shortly before departure using specific drivers who are animal hotel staff.

They are also picked up quickly afterwards. It’s becoming more and more common to take your pet along, and it has become far more easy, because we are well-equipped and cost-wise it has become more attractive. For a lot of people a pet is part of the family."

Pet owners have to prepare in advance for their furry friend’s flight, making sure it gets health checks at the vet as well as the right health certificates. Bergkamp also points out that the airline refuses to transport snub-nosed dogs, as it is bad for their health.

“We really look at the animals before shipping them, for their welfare,” he explains. "The airline also refuses to transport laboratory animals."

Malaysia Airlines Cargo unit MAHB Cargo Sdn Bhd (MAHLargo) is also hoping to increase its live animal transportation business. Chief Executive Officer Ahmad Lutfan Mohd Zain says, “We carry animals such as cats, dogs, horses and livestock. At the moment, there is a niche for these animals, and we aim to expand this sector of our business as it is part of our revenue stream.”
"A significant part of our business profile in the western Australian air freight market is linked to the export of live lobsters," explains David Wilkins, Forwarding Director/Co-Founder, Tiger. "The western Australian live rock lobster fishery is a $500 million industry, and we currently enjoy a sizeable portion of the 6.4 million kg that are exported live to China and Far East Asia annually. Our client base consists of the export processor companies, who use our services to organise the air freight of these highly perishable crustaceans to get to markets within the acceptable time limits."

The lobsters are packed according to IATA's Live Animal Regulations, with packing designed to ensure the lobsters arrive in the best possible condition, Wilkins says.

One challenge in transporting live lobsters is securing sufficient airspace in order to match market demand for the product with the available stock ready to be exported, he continues. "Should an aircraft be delayed during the journey, this can have a catastrophic effect on the mortality rate of the lobsters so there is a maximum time limit that they can be out of the holding tanks between origin and destination. The advent of the Australia-China Free Trade Agreement has resulted in a greater concentration of product moving into China, and this is where we see the growth coming from."

A small percentage of the lobsters also go to Japan, Wilkins adds.

That Qatar Airways felt the need to patent its specialist live animal transport product QR Live - which aims to provide stress-free and comfortable transport for all of the aforementioned livestock and pets - reflects the importance and potential value of this area of the business.

"Every year the number of animals moving through our network grows, as does the number of charter flights we organise for animal movements, especially horses. In 2016-17, there was a 74% increase in our Avi product compared to 2015-16," says Ulrich Oigarringsen, Chief Officer Cargo, Qatar Airways Cargo.

Last year, Qatar transported a Boeing 777 freighter into a 'Norlux A/S of the Silver' when it transported 65 tonnes of live animals for Flying Animals, South Africa's biggest wildlife export company, from Johannesburg to the island of Phu Quoc in Vietnam. The shipment consisted of a variety of horse animals, including kudus, elands, gemsboks, zebras, swan geese, barn owls, impalas, griffons, exotic birds and smaller exotic species, lambs, chowchows, tigers and rhinos, all of which were transported to the island's Vinpearl Safari Park and Zoo.

"Horse transportation is the most technically demanding type of cargo, as these animals can only be transported in very specific conditions," Oigarringsen says. "While the truck drivers have to respect their drivers, the aircraft cabin crew can ensure that the animals are well-compartmentalised."

"We are aware of the potential risks and are always prepared to act accordingly," Oigarringsen adds. "We have a team of experts who specifically handle animals and provide appropriate care and a high-quality environment. We ensure the animals receive first class treatments all the way to their destination. Every staff member who handles live animals undergoes IATA's Live Animals Regulations training. This equips them with the knowledge of global compliance standards of transporting animals by air, as well as procedures to identify and handle any emergency situation. Qatar Airways Cargo staff are thoroughly trained in the loading, storage and unloading, temperature and humidity control that is required to safely handle live animals, as well as to ensure their wellbeing and a stress-free journey, on the ground and in the air. Our staff pay attention to every detail, from ventilation, container design, documentation, communication, ambient temperature and stacking densities. Qatar Airways Cargo is committed to providing special care, in compliance with IATA’s Live Animals Regulations and Qatar Airways Transportation of Wildlife and Animal Welfare Group Policy."

"Close cooperation is required between freight forwarders, loading and unloading ground crew, animal-handling agents and air traffic services to ensure the animals are transported safely and comfortably."

Ulrich Oigarringsen, Qatar Airways Cargo.
FROM MAGAZINE: Air cargo makes animals feel at home

Posted By: STAT Trade Times

Whether it is grandma’s little dog, protected zoo animals or the most expensive race horses, air cargo carriers drive home these animals safely. Despite many risks involved and the preparations required to ensure the safety of animals, business is booming now for air cargo carriers forwarders and airports meeting the needs of the shippers of this niche segment.

Twinkle Sahita

The air cargo sector is seeing an era where demand is rising for live animal transportation. From pets to wild animals like lions, cheetahs, tigers and rhinos to large animals such as giraffes, all animals enjoy the hospitality of air cargo carriers. To make these special passengers feel at home, high level of preparation goes into the transportation of animals at every stage. There should be close cooperation between flight crew, loading and unloading ground crew, animal-handling agents and air traffic services to ensure the animals are transported safely and comfortably. Also, there are unique challenges when transporting live animals like ensuring ambient temperature during the entire supply chain, animal packaging and stockpiling densities to name a few. Therefore collaboration, dialogue and communication between all stakeholders helps to clarify mutual expectations and to minimise risks.

Analysing the current scenario, Mark Whitehead, chief executive of hactl, mentions factors leading to increasing interest in animal transport among air cargo community. He said, “There are a number of factors at play. For example, there is increasing use of air cargo to transport high-quality breeding stock from developed countries to those where efforts are being made to improve genetic quality. Meanwhile there is a steady increase in the number of equine sporting events and venues around the world, leading to higher levels or horse transportation. There are a number of recent instances of new and expanded animal handling facilities being opened at airports, echoing Hactl’s own major investment in animals handling years ago. The speed and gentleness of air as a transport mode – particularly supported by continuing advances in techniques and equipment, and a better understanding of potential problems and how to avoid them – are bound to lead to increasing volumes of live animal transportation by air. We can regard this as a growth sector for air cargo, but one which will rely on specialist forwarders, and handlers with advanced capabilities, such as Hactl.”

Hong Kong’s leading air cargo handler handles a constant flow of live animal shipments, varying from individual pets to the (now) annual Longines Masters assignment, comprising around 60 competition horses. In between, hactl handles many shipments, often of an interesting nature: like the two sea lions weighing 2041 kilograms which were recently loaded on a Cargolux flight from Hong Kong to Barcelona, they travelled with their own attendant. "We are also being featured on a TV programme about pet emigration, after shipping a pet rabbit weighing just 5 kilograms from Hong Kong to Vancouver on Air Canada,” adds Whitehead.

Fraport, the operator of Frankfurt Airport, also finds the transport of live animals an important business. “As airport operator, we consider it our task to reduce stress for the animals while they are on ground. Thereby, we do not differentiate between grandma’s little dog, protected zoo animals or the most expensive race horses. All animals require and deserve special handling and care. With about 110 million live animals of all types flown via Frankfurt in 2016, we do a good job according to shippers,” explains Dirk Schusdziara, senior vice president Cargo, Fraport. Germany’s major gateway has the most modern animal station at the airport. The Frankfurt Animal Lounge, operated by Lufthansa Cargo, offers state-of the-art infrastructure. It combines handling, coordination, and veterinary services under one roof. 42 large animal stalls, 39 dog kennels, special aviaries, black light areas for examining ornamental fish and individuals temperature-controllable climate chambers provide optimal conditions for all species. The two pandas from Chengdu recently transported to Berlin by Lufthansa Cargo did not get to experience the Frankfurt Animal Lounge, as the scheduled flight from Beijing to Frankfurt was rerouted via Chengdu and Berlin for the two VIP passengers.
Jörg Bodenröder, senior director Handling Specials, Lufthansa Cargo, mentions certain shipments handled recently by the German carrier. He informs, “Last fall, Lufthansa Cargo transported six lions from Europe to a home in South Africa that is appropriate for their species. In March this year, two Mesopotamian fallow deer from the Opel Zoo near Frankfurt became Israelis with help from Lufthansa Cargo. The pair of young animals was transported to Jerusalem, where Lufthansa Cargo collaborated with an animal-shipping company.”

Doha-based carrier Qatar Airways has seen 74 percent increase in the transportation of live animals in 2016-17 over 2015-16. The carrier recently transported 138 horses, all in one day, to multiple destinations via QR Charter services. “52 champion horses were flown comfortably from Amsterdam to Calgary to participate in the Spruce Meadows annual competition and will be flown back to Liege on completion of the event. On the same day, we operated another full horse charter of 80 polo horses from Buenos Aires to Kano in Nigeria and two horse shipments from Houston to Liege and from Stansted to Kuwait on our scheduled freighter services. We support the CHI Al Shaqab equestrian event held in Doha each year, where over 100 multi-million dollars show jumping, dressage and para dressage horses are flown into and out of the State of Qatar,” said Ulrich Ogiermann, chief officer cargo at Qatar Airways.

“Other than horses, we also transport pets, falcons, tropical fish, cattle, day-old chicks and exotic animals for zoo exchange, conservation projects and breeding projects. Our exotic animal shipments include rhinos for conservation project, sharks for aquariums, kangaroos for zoo exchange programme as well as the notable Noah’s Ark charter last year, where our B777 freighter was transformed into “Noah’s Ark of the Skies”. We transported 65 tonnes of live animals for “Flying Animals”, South Africa’s biggest wildlife exporter from Johannesburg to Phu Quoc island in Vietnam. The shipment consisting of kudus, elands, gemsbuck, zebras, swamp geese, barn owls, impalas, giraffes, exotic birds and smaller exotic species like lions, cheetahs, tigers and rhinos were transported to the Vinpearl Safari Park and Zoo in Vietnam,” adds Ogiermann.

Live animals certification

Currently, IATA’s Live Animals Regulations (LAR) is the global standard to transporting animals by air in a safe, humane and in a cost-effective manner. Ulrich Ogiermann of Qatar Airways Cargo believes it would not be so surprising if the International Air Transport Association (IATA) comes up with a certification for live animals similar to CEIV-Pharma. While some consider this certification might add value, others doubt about the certification promoting the standards of handling of live animals.

David Kerr, senior vice president, Etihad Cargo, is confident about the industry body introducing such certification to facilitate the adoption of suitable quality standards in the handling of live animals. “We are confident it will. There have been discussions within the IATA Live Animals and Perishables Board to regulate the transport of live animals in the same way we do for dangerous goods and the industry is certainly moving in that direction, but it is not quite there yet,” said Kerr. The most recent exotic shipments handled by the Abu Dhabi-based carrier were the two carried from Johannesburg to Kigali in Rwanda – 19 rhinos and two lions. They were being reintroduced to Akagera National Park, two hours east of Kigali, after a 10-year period of extinction. The airline worked closely with the agent, Intradco Global, and African Parks for more than a year to finalise the complex logistics involved.

Patrick Silverio, Special Handling manager, Luxair Cargo, said, “As we could recognise, the CEIV-Pharma certification was rather positive initiative amongst the global world of shipping pharmaceutical products. Regulations did strengthened during the last year (GDP etc.) This programme has a certain undeniable success and focuses even more and better on the way pharma goods should be handled and transported. Obviously in terms of animal transport there are already sound regulations Live Animal Regulations - 43rd Edition. And IATA’s Live Animals and Perishables Board is in place to ensure a strong and robust way of doing and performing. Would a kind of CEIV – AVI emphasise or promote this even more? Not sure, as the existing regulations and rules are not new to the business and the marked, and known to all entities in charge of animal transport. Structures and processes are actually already in place for almost all stakeholders.”

Facilities for ‘special passengers’

Human passengers have VIP lounges, wine bars, massage chairs, Duty free to enjoy the travel through the airport. Now pets also have facilities to travel in the lap of luxury.

‘The ARK’ at John F Kennedy International Airport (JFK) clearly meets animals’ need of enjoying their travel. Phase 1 of The ARK at JFK – The ARK Pet Oasis and Equine Export Centre – opened in early January this year. Once at the Oasis, the animals receive full pampered treatment and are fed and groomed.
Commenting on RioGallito Cargo’s new facility, Patrick Fahring, RioGallito Cargo director, said, “RioGallito Cargo has infrastructure for large and small animals. There are 520m² dedicated to large animals, including facilities for companions and veterinarians. In addition, for small animals, we have dedicated refrigerated areas in the Import and Export warehouses. Recently, in order to attend the Olympic Games, a ramp was built to transport the animals directly to the trucks, following the recommendations of a specialized company contracted by the Olympic Committee.”

Last year, RioGallito Cargo participated in the largest live animal operation ever held in Brazil. There were more than 300 horses destined for the Olympics and Paralympics Games, which embarked and disembarked at the Cargo Terminal of Tom Jobim International Airport. The gateway recently received two more aircraft for Aquado’s all new addition of the city with an impressive aquarium.

Lugano Airport for its unique guests opened efficient consolidating & staging area, like a man-made house with the traveling rock in it, called the HORSE INN. Therefore they implemented it right in their first line infrastructures alongside the apron with direct access to the Airside, and in front of the flight positions. The objectives pursued by the airport through the last investment of 2.6 million euros, offers the best tools for the in- and outbound operations towards all economic operators and partners of Liege airport. The gateway opened the state-of-art facility in the beginning of 2018.

We also know that any horse-lover is focused on the best conditions in which the horse prefers to be treated to after their flight or truck trip, in stabilizing them for a few or more hours before or after their long journey, the quality of the quarter is immediately upon arrival, but in a professional, calm and hygienic (even cozy) area. Just to maintain their comfort and their best condition, so that they want to be horses loaded or unloaded as calmly and smoothly in or out of these ‘Flying horse-stalls’, in keeping the stress for the horse to the lowest possible avoiding any injury or discomfort during all phases of the process.

“Therefore, the biggest and most innovative tool of the Horse Inn,” explains Eric, “is that these ‘flying horse-stalls’, once loaded, do not need to be transferred anymore to any other shed or place to place or weighing area while they are completely ready to go and for loading on the aircraft, immediately after the Horse Inn operation, they are quickly weighed after closing them and driven to the airport, straight to the aircraft without any other transfer nor time loss anymore like anywhere else in Europe”, states Eric Gyssens, Cargo Sales Manager at Liege Airport.

Another major Air France-KLM-Martinair Cargo’s Animal Hotel at Amsterdam Airport Schiphol is one of the modern facility designed for animals in transit. “We expanded the pet area for ‘third world’ which are in transit. We also invested in a special walking area for the dogs and have work in progress for a chicken lounge,” stated Gerald Berghaem, director Specials (including Live), AKLMP Cargo. The much in need Penda beers carried onboard AKLMP Cargo is known to everyone. The carrier also handled a crown half sheep and shark shipments recently. “We are a dedicated airline with an own Animal Hotel see various species like flamingoes from Havana, Koi Fish out of Japan, Chickens from the USA, Polo horses out of Buenos Aires and pets all over the world passing by in transit,” adds Berghaem.

Malaysia’s flag-carrier MASkargo animal hotel is conveniently located at Kuala Lumpur International Airport. With over 1,297 sqm of space, animals or pets here have ample roaming space before their flight or upon arrival. There is also a 24-hour veterinarian service in case pets require instant medical attention and professional grooming and spa services. Ahmad Luqman Mohd Azmi, CEO, MAB Kargo (MASkargo), said, “MASkargo has great experience in handling transports of live animals in all shapes and sizes to anywhere around the world. At the moment, there is a need for these animals and aim to expand this sector of our business, as it is part of our revenue stream. We have handled horses for sports events in the past, such as the FEI World Endurance Cup. Recently, we are currently limited to niche movement of horses due to the fleet that we have at the moment.”

Recently, MASkargo carried 12 live exotic animals Kuala Lumpur to Jakarta, which includes live sharks, stingrays, fishes and jellyfishes.

Luxembourg’s Cargo Center for livestock has two newly upgraded areas for import and export (in order to avoid cross-contamination or exchange) with stabling capacities for all kind of animals under various climatic conditions. Horses travels at sufficient number to host 50 horses at one same time, dedicated ventilated and temperature controlled facility for birds and dairy-chickens. Highlighting future plans, Silverio adds, “Future project will be to install a fully equipped Grooming container with all facilities like showers, sanitary rooms, bedding and dayrooms giving our customers the possibility to remain with their beloved animals all over during their stay in Luxembourg.”

Along with the luxury facilities, inspections also remain a priority for the carriers and the terminal operators. “In our Helsinki terminal we have an area for the Border Inspection Veterinary to conduct the air cargo related inspections of live animals or products of animal origin for shipments arriving from outside of the EU. Customers sending such cargo must always pre-order the services of a Border Inspection Veterinary. Similar inspections by Border Inspection Veterinary at destination airport are often required for countries outside of the EU,” informs Milla Hynmik, manager, Marketing & Sustainability at Finnair Cargo. Finnair Cargo as a carrier verifies that all required documents are in order and that packaging complies with IATA Live Animal Regulations (LAR) to make sure that the shipper uses a suitable container for shipping the animal.

“We also need to ensure that transport conditions (e.g. in terms of the weather) are suitable for the animal in question both at departure and destination airport. Before departure the captain of the flight is informed of each animal shipment to ensure that conditions in the cargo hold are adequate for the animal in question,” adds Hynmik. Finland’s major carrier recently carried penguins from a zoo in Norway to a zoo in Shanghai.

What the shipper says

Exchanging his concerns, Tim Dutta, president & CEO, Dutta Corporation, said, “We hope and try to increase cooperation between Customs/airport security/handling Company. If possible, the aircraft operator should allow our team access to the loading area or plane side as the case may be and never leave the horses alone without their grooms or our handlers. The handling company should instruct the lift operator to be gentle as much as possible, noise reduction as much as possible and to make sure loading of the jet stall is quick and efficient without compromising safety and security.” For Dutta Corporation, major horse shipper, the most important criteria to partner with a cargo airline/cargo airline operator is dependability and on time performance. “Time is very critical when flying horses and long delays are not acceptable,” he adds.

Recent happenings such as the enormous rabbit named Simon passing away in a United Airlines flight. Also, the figures released by US Department of Transportation which reports 35 animals died onboard US airlines in 2015 raise a concern to the industry’s reputation of handling such a critical shipment.

The industry needs to realise that transportation of such a high-value cargo can be the difference between profit and loss each quarter, especially when large mammals are involved. If IATA does not look at launching CEIV certification, there is a need for the air cargo industry to assess the approaches in the handling of live animals as the sector is seeing increased live animals shipments compared to the same period last year. So, focusing more on better approaches and enhancing its existing services and facilities with the use of innovating technologies is the way forward.

If the industry can come up with smart ULDS with the best of the features to keep the shippers satisfied, the industry can think of ways to attract live animals shippers who would not like to hear about another sad Simon story.
When pigs (and horses) fly: Demand rises for live animal transport

On April 20 of this year, a special passenger arrived on a United flight from London Heathrow to Chicago O’Hare. He was in good health and spirits the last time someone had checked on him a few hours before wheels up. But when it came time for him to change planes on the second leg of the journey to Iowa, an attendant checked on the passenger and discovered that he had passed away.

His name was Simon, and he was an enormous rabbit, measuring 3 feet in length, from whiskers to cottontail.

The public outcry was instantaneous. While no definite cause of death was determined by press time, the owner of the rabbit, a U.K.-based animal breeder named Anette Edwards, demanded an explanation and later received an undisclosed sum for compensation for loss of the animal. The breed, known as a Continental Giant, can be sold for as much as £3,000. Simon’s father, in fact, is the holder of the world record for length, at more than 4 feet.

Following just days after the infamous incident in which a doctor was injured while being forcibly removed from an earlier, overbooked United flight, also in Chicago, the death of Simon capped a nightmarish month for United. According to U.S. Department of Transportation figures, 35 animals died on board U.S. airlines in 2015. Of those, 14 died on United flights — the highest rate of any U.S. carrier.

The tragedy illustrated the paramount importance of the health of animals that are being transported by air. Whether it is in the baggage compartment of a 707 passenger jet, where Simon was, or a climate-controlled, chartered freighter modified for carrying multiple large animals. Despite the public relations risk and the expense required to ensure the safety of animal transport, business is booming now for forwarders and carriers willing to serve this niche.

In an era where capturing specialty, high-value cargo can be the difference between profit and loss each quarter, the movement of livestock and exotic animal charters is an increasingly attractive option — especially when large mammals are involved.

“The first half of 2017 has seen increased live animal shipments over 2016, and we expect this trend to continue,” said Cindy Brown, manager of air service development and workforce charters, cargo and logistics, for the Calgary Airport Authority at Calgary International Airport (YYC). “Our facility has seen everything, including equestrian horses, alpacas, pigs and deer come through it. We’ve had a few of the larger specialized mammals come through as well because of our closeness to the Calgary Zoo.”

Interest in animal transport is also building not just because of the niche income but because of rumors that International Air Transport Association (IATA) may soon launch a new Center of Excellence for Independent Validators (CEIV) program specially designed for Live Animals. While IATA officials would not comment publicly on a timeline for a CEIV-Live Animals certification, there have been discussions about how the program would work.

Should a CEIV-Live Animals standard emerge in the next few years, the physical proof of certification in safe handling methods could prove to be a lucrative accolade for a forwarder, a ground handler or an entire airport community to attract shippers who never want to hear about another sad Simon story.

http://aircargoworld.com/when-pigs-and-horses-fly-demand-rises-for-live-animal-transport/?goal=0_1711f92e66-a7f4d81871-39621625