

DFW Airport Partners Earn IATA Center of Excellence for Independent Validators



Pictured left to right: Glyn Hughes, IATA; Milton De La Paz, DFW; Nick Careen, IATA; John Ackerman, DFW; Ronald Schaefer, IATA

(DFW AIRPORT, Texas – March 14, 2019) – Key strategic logistics service providers within the community at Dallas Fort Worth (DFW) International Airport have been awarded the Center of Excellence for Independent Validators (CEIV) certification from the International Airport Transport Association (IATA), the trade association for the world’s airlines. The distinction recognizes companies that successfully complete a rigorous process and meet global standards set by IATA for handling pharmaceuticals at airports. DFW is one of only two airports in North America with a CEIV Pharma Community covering all links in the airport supply chain.

“The collective efforts of our partners to earn the CEIV Community certification demonstrates DFW’s level of commitment to a world-class pharmaceutical handling operation that provides pharma manufacturers and shippers with confidence that their high-value products will be handled with quality, care and efficiency,” said John Ackerman, Executive Vice President of Global Strategy and Development at DFW Airport. “The certification brings DFW one step closer to establishing a pharma gateway where manufacturers, shippers, and other stakeholders can

send their premium shipments and be assured that our processes will maintain product integrity.”

DFW adopted a community approach for the certification process by assembling logistics partners specialized in ground handling, trucking, cold storage/warehousing, and freight forwarding, which represent essential links of the air cargo supply chain. The following partners are founding members of DFW’s CEIV community:

- dnata cargo USA (ground handling and cold chain solutions)
- SCL Cold Chain (refrigerated trucking)
- B.I.G. Logistics (warehousing and distribution)
- Expeditors (international freight forwarding)

The certification process for DFW’s logistics partners involved training, pre-validation assessment, audit and validation.

DFW’s cold chain facility operates 24/7 with capabilities to provide quality care for pharmaceutical freight, which consists of temperature- and time-sensitive products. The 37,000-sq. foot space has two

dedicated pharma chambers, three multi-temperature zones and a 15,000-sq. foot area for airside refrigeration. Additional features include a refrigerated dock with truck doors, dry cargo space to handle a variety of customer needs and a certified customs screening facility for imports and exports.

“We applaud DFW for its commitment to building a CEIV Pharma community through which it has met the industry’s global quality standards that ensure pharma products will be handled in a safe and reliable manner,” said Glyn Hughes, Global Head of Cargo at IATA. “By DFW’s community obtaining CEIV Pharma certification, the number of organizations worldwide that are contributing to improve pharma handling across the aviation sector has increased, this is very positive.”

DFW’s certification is significant because its mid-continent location is accessible by every major U.S. market within four hours or less by air. This can greatly help with air transport of pharma products that are time- and temperature-sensitive.

Air cargo comprises more than half of the \$37 billion economic impact that DFW Airport delivers to the North Texas region. DFW’s cargo tonnage has grown more than 45 percent in the last 10 years. In 2018 alone, DFW handled more than 911,000 U.S. tons of air freight.

About Dallas Fort Worth International Airport:

Dallas Fort Worth International (DFW) Airport warmly welcomes more than 69 million customers along their journey every year, elevating DFW to a status as one of the most frequently visited superhub airports in the world. Customers can choose among 187 domestic and 62 international nonstop destinations worldwide. DFW is elevating the customer experience with modernized facilities and updated amenities. Centered between its owner cities of Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas, DFW Airport also serves as a major economic generator for the North Texas region, producing over \$37 billion in economic impact each year by connecting people through business and leisure travel. In 2019, DFW Airport earned the prestigious Airport of the Year award from Air Transport World. For more information, visit the DFW [website](#) or download the DFW Mobile App for [iOS](#) and [Android](#) devices.

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