

Press Release

29 September 2017

KLM Cargo transport Dutch masterpieces from St Petersburg to Amsterdam

After hundreds of years, they will temporarily be returning home – KLM Cargo will be transporting works by Dutch masters from St Petersburg to Amsterdam. Secure transport will be on hand at Amsterdam Airport Schiphol to bring the works to the Hermitage Museum in Amsterdam on Friday morning, 29 September. The works, including Rembrandt's "Young Woman with Earrings", will be on show at the exhibition "Dutch Masters from the Hermitage. Treasures of the Tsars".

KLM Cargo was entrusted with a number of the masterpieces that will be on show at the Hermitage Amsterdam from 7 October. The works were transported in special, custom-made crates, ensuring that they arrive in perfect condition.

"KLM believes it is important to invest in preserving cultural heritage. This partnership with the Hermitage Amsterdam is one example of this kind of investment. We are proud that KLM Cargo has been entrusted with the transportation of these works, ensuring that they will be temporarily on show in the Netherlands after more than 300 years."

Marcel de Nooijer, Executive Vice President KLM Cargo

"It's a complex operation transporting so many works by Dutch Masters. In the past, the works were usually transported by ship after purchase, but now they will be coming by road and air, which involves all sorts of regulations and security. KLM has a great deal of experience in this regard."

Cathelijne Broers, director of the Hermitage Amsterdam

KLM Cargo is specialised in the secure transportation of art and other valuable and special cargo. In the past, KLM Cargo transported works such as Johannes Vermeer's "Milkmaid" and Damien Hirst's "Shark", which weighs 5,000 kilos. In 2016, KLM Cargo brought the skeleton of a Tyrannosaurus Rex from the United States to the Netherlands, for an exhibition at Naturalis in Leiden. And in April 2017, they transported two pandas from China to the Netherlands, where they found a new home at Ouwehands Dierenpark.

The exhibition "Dutch Masters from the Hermitage. Treasures of the Tsars" will be on at the Hermitage Amsterdam from 7 October through 27 May 2018. It will include a total of 63 works by 50 Dutch Masters of the Golden Age, including six paintings by Rembrandt. The majority of these paintings are permanently on show and have not been exhibited in the Netherlands since they were purchased by the tsars.

For more information related to our Cargo business, please contact:

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About the Air France KLM Group

The Air France KLM Group is a global airline group with a strong European base. Its main areas of business are passenger transport, cargo transport and aeronautical maintenance.

Air France KLM is the leading group in international air traffic from its hubs Paris Charles de Gaulle and Amsterdam Airport Schiphol, which are ranked among the Top Three European cargo hubs. With a fleet of 534 aircraft and 93.4 million passengers carried in 2016, Air France KLM provides service to 320 destinations in 114 countries.

AIR FRANCE KLM MARTINAIR Cargo is the Air France KLM Group's dedicated air cargo business. Our three airlines offer the industry more than a thousand weekly frequencies to 127 destinations. In 2016, AIR FRANCE KLM MARTINAIR Cargo transported 1.1 million tonnes of cargo. In addition to the Group's global network of passenger aircraft, we offer cargo main deck capacity on two Boeing 777 Freighters, four Boeing 747-400 Freighters and nine Boeing 747-400 Combi aircraft.

AFKLMP Cargo offers a wide range of product solutions to cater to demanding customers' needs. In 2016, both hubs – Paris Charles De Gaulle (CDG) and Amsterdam Schiphol (AMS) – obtained the CEIV certification, providing service excellence to the pharmaceutical industry.

For express cargo, Air France Cargo launched a brand new automated hub at CDG, combining proximity to the aircraft parking positions and a sorting capability of 6,000 parcels an hour. A brand new sorter is also due to open at AMS in the course of 2017.

In 2016, AFKLMP cargo also opened a brand new warehouse at New York JFK airport with the capacity to handle all types of cargo, from general to verticals. The facility is located next door to The Ark at JFK, a new terminal entirely dedicated to live animal logistics.

In 2017, AFKLMP Cargo intends to strengthen and expand its digital footprint with a wide range of innovative solutions. Using myCargo, customers will benefit from an innovative online dashboard customised to their specific needs. This goes hand-in-hand with systems allowing online quotes and bookings, multilingual websites and other developments designed to ease the journey for our customers.

Air France KLM Cargo is a member of SkyTeam Cargo (www.skyteamcargo.com) offering an even larger network coverage. Special partnerships include Air Mauritius Cargo, Alitalia Cargo, Delta Cargo, Etihad Cargo and Kenya Airways Cargo.

