Press Release

January 06, 2015

# AIR FRANCE KLM MARTINAIR Cargo looks at theory and practice at the GDP Conference focused on Aviation Industry

A recent conference on GDP Practice in the Aviation Industry, organized by AIR FRANCE KLM MARTINAIR Cargo's Product Market Group Pharmaceutical Logistics in close cooperation with Amsterdam Airport Schiphol (host) and DARQA (Dutch Association of Research Quality Assurance Professionals), underscored the importance of data integrity for quality managers, highlighted the lack of data quality at some airports and concluded that correct bookings, comprehensive checking of shipments at export acceptance, and performance measurement are all essential in the pharma supply chain. The conference was attended by high-ranking delegates from DARQA, IATA, the Dutch Healthcare Inspectorate, Dutch Customs, pharmaceutical shippers, Schiphol Cargo and AIR FRANCE KLM-MARTINAIR Cargo.

The event examined GDP Guidelines both in theory and practice, highlighting anomalies such as the lack of a clear definition of storage, and the fact that the Healthcare Inspectorate is only responsible for inspection of parties holding a wholesale-license, so airlines and airports are not subject to its scrutiny.

AIR FRANCE KLM MARTINAIR Cargo took the opportunity to outline its current initiatives for pharma traffic, including a feasibility study on cooled dollies for ramp transportation; re-mapping of cool cells to GDP requirements; evaluating and updating its training programs; updating its existing Quality Management System and audit programs to satisfy all GDP requirements; the development of a separate GDP-specific SLE appendix for sub-contractors; and a Quality Agreement to be signed with forwarders setting out roles and responsibilities in the transportation of pharmaceutical goods. It also revealed its plan to develop a state of the art Pharma hub at Schiphol within the next three years.

DARQA stressed the strong need for validation of IT systems as performed by its members, and recommended that carriers should consider data quality. The need to measure performance was agreed, while the fact that airfreight capacity is not always dedicated for healthcare was flagged as a potential concern. Speakers also underlined the importance of correct bookings, and comprehensive checking of shipments at acceptance.

Three workshops took place:

- In terms of 'segregation' it was concluded that physical separation is not necessary, as long as cross contamination is avoided. Pharma must be kept clean and dry throughout the supply chain, and always in an odourless environment.

- Concerning ‘risk mitigation’ the main challenge identified was the risk of temperature excursions arising from the number of hand-overs in the air cargo supply chain.

- As for ‘warehousing’ AIR FRANCE KLM MARTINAIR Cargo received valuable pointers from pharma quality managers about the design of its proposed new pharma facility.

Says AIR FRANCE KLM MARTINAIR Cargo’s Pharmaceutical Logistics Director, Renate de Walle “Based on the feedback the event was very valuable to all parties involved. Moreover it became apparent that AIR FRANCE KLM MARTINAIR Cargo efforts towards GDP implementations to improve the overall quality of the transportation of healthcare products is in line with customer demand”.

For further information on our Cargo business, please contact AIR FRANCE KLM MARTINAIR Cargo Press Relations, Jean-Claude Raynaud, tel. +33 (0)1 4156 6308.