

Cainiao Launches New Sino-Europe Freight Train

New milestone to strengthen its global smart logistics network

Zhengzhou and Liège, March 4, 2019 - Cainiao Network, the logistics arm of Alibaba Group, today announced the launch of a Sino-Europe freight train that will connect the central Chinese city of Zhengzhou with the Belgian city of Liège to provide merchants with a more efficient and cost-effective cross-border logistics solution.

Partnering with Zhengzhou International Hub Development and Construction Co., Ltd. and Sinotrans Ltd., Cainiao will run two trains per week between Zhengzhou and Liège. It estimates the train will save 30% in logistics costs compared to its peers.

“Europe is an important market. The freight train will further diversify our logistics offering for small and medium-sized businesses and help them get greater and easier access to cross-border trade opportunities,” said James Zhao, General Manager of Cainiao Global.

“We welcome this important next step in building a world class logistics infrastructure solution in the heart of Europe - here in Liege. This air-rail link will be operated by Belgian logistics players who also offer river barging services from the Port of Antwerp - expanding Liège as an ideal partner to serve Chinese and European e-merchants”, says Michel Kempeneers, COO Overseas of Wallonia Export-Investment Agency of Belgium.

The freight line is Cainiao’s latest development reinforcing its commitment to building its global smart logistics network, with six global hubs around the world – Liège, Dubai, Hangzhou, Kuala Lumpur, Hong Kong and Moscow.

Last December, Cainiao entered an agreement with Liège Airport to build a world-class smart logistics hub at Liège Airport, expected to open in early 2021. Cainiao also launched an intercontinental cargo flight between Hangzhou and Liège to ensure fast delivery of goods in 2018.

The project ultimately contributes to Alibaba Group’s goal to facilitate trade, particularly for accessing the China market, as part of the company’s commitment to serve as the “Gateway to China” and help import US\$200 billion worth of quality goods from the world to China over the next five years.

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About Cainiao Network

Cainiao Network is dedicated to meeting Alibaba Group’s logistics vision of fulfilling consumer orders within 24 hours in China and within 72 hours anywhere else in the world. It has adopted a platform approach to establish a nationwide fulfillment network that leverages the capacities and capabilities of logistics partners to offer domestic and international one-stop-shop logistics services and supply chain management solutions, fulfilling various logistics needs of merchants and consumers at scale. Cainiao Network is a business of Alibaba Group.

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