

V-News

15/9/2013

LATEST LOGISTICS AND FORWARDING NEWS

FRANCE

- Three weekly flights from Paris to Shanghai by Air France by Airbus A 380
- Uncertain future for My Ferry Link
- Air France-KLM Cargo fight to cut down losses

INDIA

- Coca-Cola will continue with its US \$ 5 billion investment plans
- Green light obtained for Mylan Inc. to invest in India
- Walmart Stores may end joint venture with Bharti Group

MADAGASCAR

- Project to build 705 safe water points
- New tax on second-hand vehicles
- Value of exports from Madagascar to India on the up



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MAURITIUS

- A second film shot under the Rebate Scheme
- Government wants to encourage high profile weddings
- Emirates will use an Airbus A380 for its flights between Dubai and Mauritius

MOZAMBIQUE

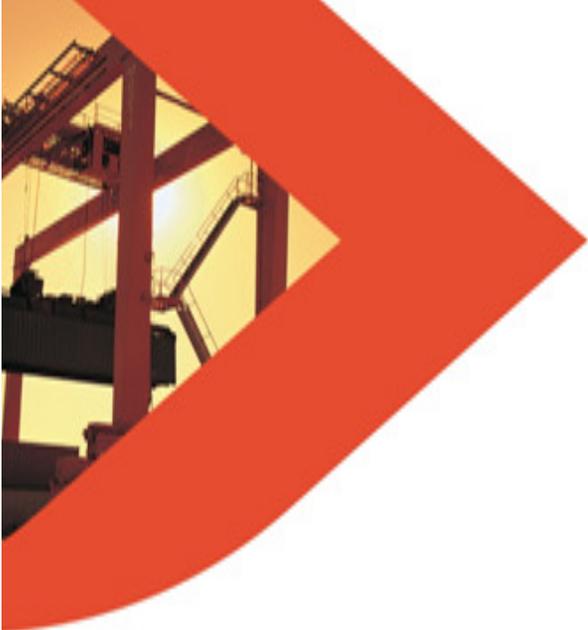
- Indian company buys stake in an offshore gas field
- Drones may be assembled in Mozambique
- New developments expected near the Rovuma Basin

REUNION ISLAND

- A delegation from China has visited Reunion Island
- The price of unleaded fuel goes down
- Launching of air carrier Ewa Air by Air Austral

OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD

- Expected increase in the volume of containers from Asia to Europe up to October
- Court sentences for profiting from the use of false trademarks
- The United States on the road to sustained recovery



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LATEST LOGISTICS AND FORWARDING NEWS

FRANCE

Three weekly flights from Paris to Shanghai by Air France by Airbus A 380

Since the 2nd September, Air France is operating three weekly flights to Shanghai with its biggest aircraft, the Airbus A380 from its Paris-Charles de Gaulle hub. The Company's plane also services 5 other destinations: Johannesburg, Los Angeles, New York-JFK, Washington DC and Tokyo-Narita.

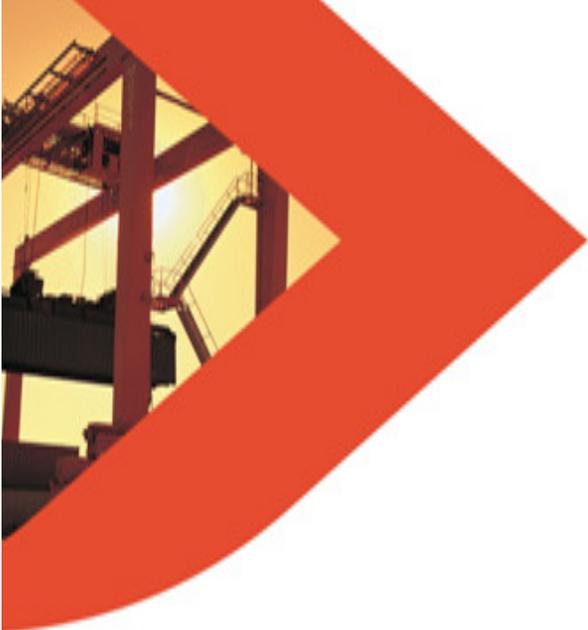
The Airbus A 380 is a double deck plane which has a maximum cargo capacity of 184 metres cube.

Uncertain future for My Ferry Link

After one year of operations, My Ferry Link (MFL) holds 10% of the freight market on the Calais-Dover crossing. Nevertheless, its future is uncertain because of the threat of its closure due to a recent decision of the Competition Commission. MFL belongs to Eurotunnel and the regulatory body said that Eurotunnel would increase its market share and prices might rise, causing prejudice to fair market competition.

Air France-KLM Cargo fight to cut down losses

To cut down its losses, Air France-KLM Cargo will keep its freight capacity under control, reduce the size of its fleet of freighters and try to optimize its revenue through strict management.



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INDIA

Coca-Cola will continue with its US \$ 5 billion investment plans

Company Coca-Cola announced that it will continue with its US \$ 5 billion investment plans in India up to year 2020 in spite of the current economic slowdown.

The Atlanta-based soft drinks company expects that India which is now its seventh largest market, will become one of its top five markets throughout the world during the next seven years. However, due to problems associated with land acquisition, Coca-Cola will have to look for other options to build its new plant which was to be located in Karnataka.

Green light obtained for Mylan Inc. to invest in India

The United-States company Mylan Inc. has obtained the approval of India's Prime Minister to make a foreign direct investment of US \$ 1.6 billion.

Mylan Inc. will purchase from Bangalore-based Strides, the laboratories of Arcolab Agila Specialties which operate in the injectible medicine business.

Walmart Stores may end joint venture with Bharti Group

According to the press, the US-based Walmart Stores Inc may end its six-year-old wholesale joint venture with Bharti Group. Walmart has already initiated talks with other companies in India.

MADAGASCAR

Project to build 705 safe water points

Medair is planning to build 705 safe water points and increase water coverage to 85 percent of the population. The project will unfold over the next 42 months in the 10 townships of the Analanjirofo region in the northeast of Madagascar. This region was chosen because of its remoteness with one million inhabitants depending on agricultural activities.

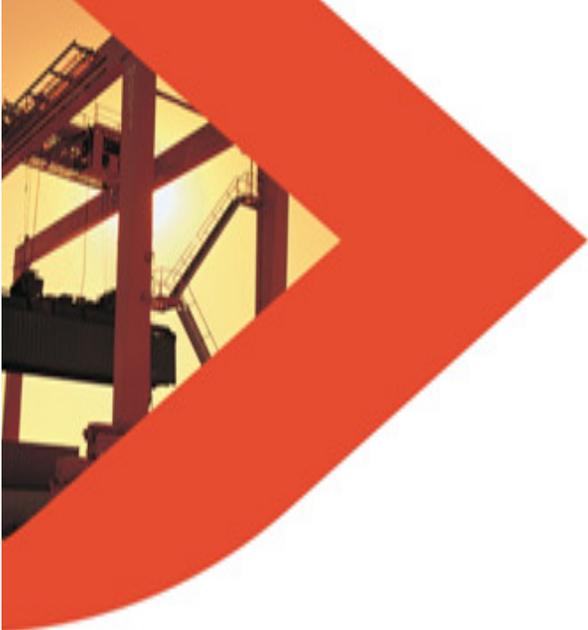
More than 125 000 people will have access to safe drinking water. The funds have been provided by the European Community Directorate General for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection, Swiss Solidarity and private donors.

New tax on second-hand vehicles

Importers of second-hand vehicles are imposed since the beginning of September, a new tax equivalent to 5% of the CIF of the vehicle. This new levy has a direct impact on the price of vehicles as it comes in addition to the Value Added Tax (VAT).

Value of exports from Madagascar to India on the up

Due to the preferential access that India gives to a series of products originating from the least developed countries, the value of exported products from Madagascar to India has increased from 40 billion ariary in 2008 to 149 billion ariary last year.



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MAURITIUS

A second film shot under the Rebate Scheme

A second film entitled Souten 2 with a team from India, is being shot in Mauritius under the Rebate Scheme. That scheme was launched last year to promote the development of the film industry but also, TV serials and commercials as well as post-production activities in the island. It offers a 30% rebate for qualified production expenditure. The scheme covers costs related to transport, accommodation, manpower, catering, hiring of equipment and premises in Mauritius.

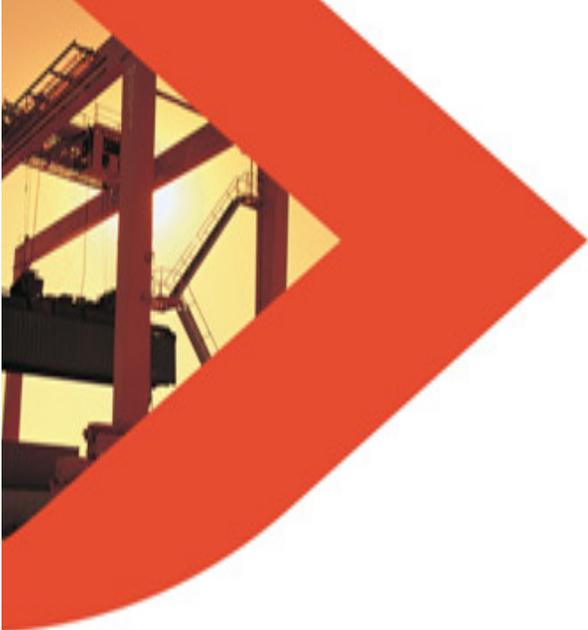
To qualify for the Film Rebate Scheme, the minimum expenses incurred in Mauritius should be for feature films Rs 100 000, television series Rs 50 000, television documentary Rs 50 000 and commercials Rs 30 000.

Government wants to encourage high profile weddings

The government will offer special facilities such as very fast clearance of imported materials for weddings at the airport to encourage wedding planners from India to choose Mauritius as a venue to celebrate high profile Indian weddings and compete against other destinations such as Malaysia, Thailand and Singapore.

Emirates will use an Airbus A380 for its flights between Dubai and Mauritius

Following the opening of the new airport terminal and the new runway, Emirates will use as from the 16th December, a wide body Airbus A380 to ensure the daily flight between Dubai and Mauritius.



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MOZAMBIQUE

Indian company buys stake in an offshore gas field

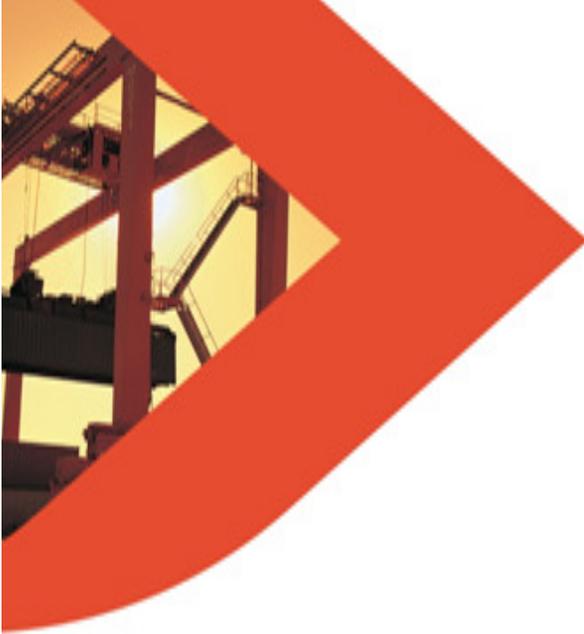
The United-States based oil company, Anadarko Petroleum Corporation has agreed to sell a 10% stake in a gas field located off the shore of Mozambique to a unit of Oil & Natural Gas Corporation of India for US \$ 2.64 billion in cash. The deal will be completed around the end of this year.

Drones may be assembled in Mozambique

A laboratory for the assembly of unmanned aircraft, commonly known as drones, will be built in Mozambique, under the collaboration of the United States National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Engineering Faculty of the University of Oporto in Portugal, and Maputo's Eduardo Mondlane University. These drones will be used for the surveillance of maritime or road traffic and transmission of information as well as to monitor the environment, evaluate the level of pollution and the acidification of the sea.

New developments expected near the Rovuma Basin

The reserves of natural gas discovered in the region of the Rovuma Basin place Mozambique among the top 10 countries in the world having the largest reserves. The Minister of Mineral Resources of Mozambique, Esperanca Bias said that in the future, a series of new activities will be developed around Rovuma Basin such as factories for the production of fertilizers or synthetic fuels which use natural gas as a raw material.



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REUNION ISLAND

A delegation from China has visited Reunion Island

A delegation from China led by the economic and commercial adviser of the Chinese Embassy in France, Wu Xilin has established fruitful relationships with the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Reunion Island to promote economic cooperation between the two countries.

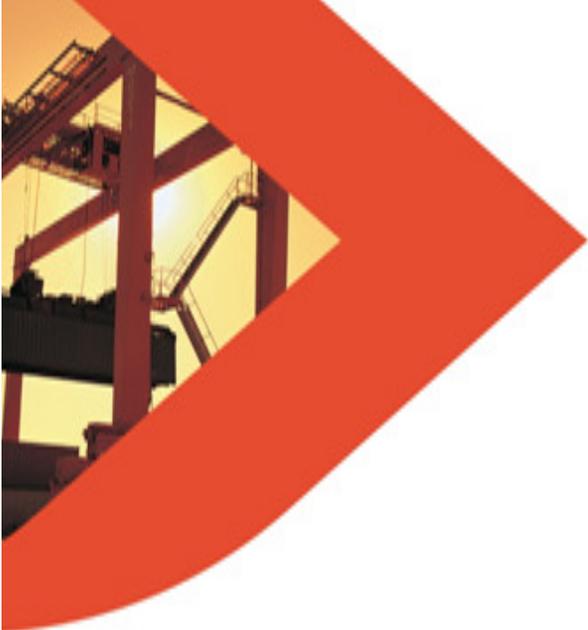
Tourism, information and communication technologies, renewable energies and food-related industries have raised the interest of the Chinese delegation. Reunion Island imported last year 260 million euros of products from China while it exported for only 4 million euros, mainly fishes. "The market of China is opened to products from Reunion Island", stated Wu Xilin.

The price of unleaded fuel goes down

For the month of September, the price of a litre of unleaded petrol has dropped by 7 cents compared to the previous month to 1.58 euros and that of a litre of diesel has remained stable at 1.25 euros.

Launching of air carrier Ewa Air by Air Austral

The air carrier of Reunion Island, Air Austral has launched an aviation company in the island of Mayotte. The chairman of Ewa Air and of Air Austral, Marie-Joseph Malé said that Ewa Air will play a strategic role in the development of Mayotte.



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OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD

Expected increase in the volume of containers from Asia to Europe up to October

Shipping companies are expecting a relatively high increase in the volume of containers on the Asia to Europe route in the coming weeks leading up to October.

Exports from China will surge due to the holidays from the 1st to the 7th October, linked to the celebrations of the National Day in China.

Court sentences for profiting from the use of false trademarks

Members of a gang have been sentenced up to 9 months in the United Kingdom for marketing through the UK and in Europe and beyond, more than 17 000 handbags, belts, purses, clothing and cosmetics, bearing fake luxury brands. They were found guilty of profiting from the use of false trademarks of leading international luxury goods suppliers, in violation of Section 92 of the Trade Marks Act 1994. The goods were sourced from China and their potential retail value amounted to nearly £4 million.

The United States on the road to sustained recovery

According to forecasts by the US-based National Retail Federation and Hackett Associates, the United States economy is on the road to sustained recovery.

They expect the volume of imported containers to grow by 5.1% in September 2013 compared to last year, to reach nearly 1.5 million TEU.