



April

# PREMIERE EGA





## **Hundreds of Flights Canceled in Germany as Airports Hit by Strikes**

FRANKFURT - Thousands of passengers were left stranded at German airports on Tuesday as more than 60,000 ground staff and other public sector workers staged walkouts across the country to increase the pressure in a pay dispute. Lufthansa had said it was canceling more than 800 of its planned 1,600 flights on Tuesday and Frankfurt airport operator Fraport had warned of disruption. As well as Frankfurt, Germany's busiest hub for airlines, the strikes hit airports in Munich, Cologne and Bremen. The industrial action also affected nurseries, rubbish collection services and swimming pools in several German states.

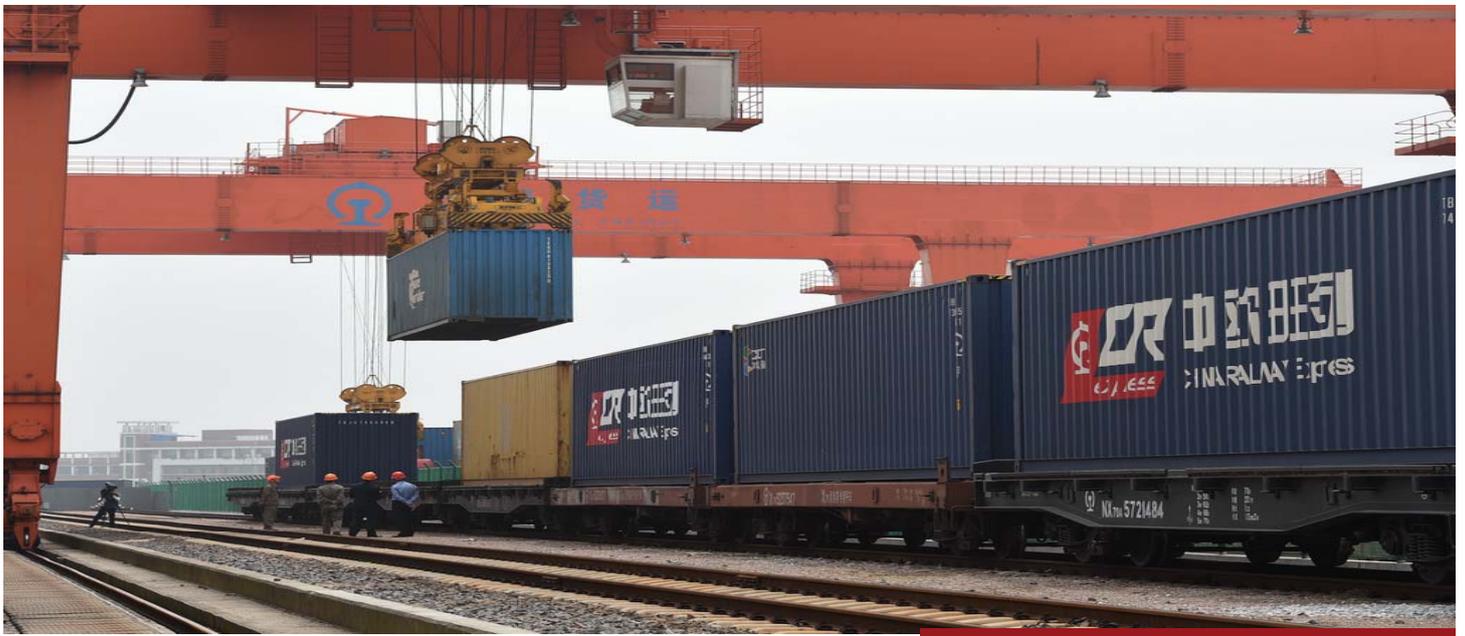
German union Verdi wants a 6 percent pay rise for its 2.3 million public sector employees at the federal and local level. Germany's federal government and municipalities have rejected that, saying such a rise would force them to outsource jobs. The union said more than 60,000 workers in eight German states took part in the strikes, and further walkouts were planned across the country in coming days.

## **Bangladeshi US-Bangla Airlines Announces Flight Operations to China**

DHAKA - Bangladesh's leading premium airline, US-Bangla Airlines, has announced the launch of flight operations to Guangzhou, making it the first Bangladeshi air service to have a route to China.

Beginning on April 26, the flight will run thrice a week according to the spokesman Md. Kamrul Islam of the Dhaka-based leading private carrier. "This is the first time in Bangladesh aviation history, from 26 April 2018, the country's leading premium airline, US-Bangla Airlines will start operations of its eighth international destination by flying beyond the borders of the nation in one of the most important cities of the eastern region, Guangzhou, China," said US-Bangla General Manager Islam on Tuesday.





## China-Europe Railway Network Sparks New Vitality in Germany's Biggest Inland Port

Duisburg, Germany's biggest inland port and one of the important slots of China Railway Express (CRE), has witnessed fruitful results of the Belt and Road Initiative over the past few years and harvested its own urban economic growth.

For centuries, endless river steamers run on the Rhine river, making their whistles as the symbol of the prosperity of German city Duisburg. Today the sirens of trains coming from thousands of miles away and the sound of whistles converge here. Like a cheerful symphony, new vitality is being brought to the city.

### **Witness: From Few To Many**

Amelie Erxleben, of DIT Duisburg Intermodal Terminal, showed us recently around the terminal, where containers labeled with "China Railway Express" were seen everywhere. Large equipment machines were busy loading and unloading.

"About one third of our business now is related to China," Erxleben said, adding that "around 25 west- and eastbound CRE trains are expected here every week."

### **Participation: Unlimited Opportunities**

"Last year, the total volume of our business by rail from Europe to China amounted to 160,000 tonnes, almost equaling the weight of the Cologne Cathedral," said Matthias Magnor, chief operating officer of Rail and Road at Hellmann, during an interview with Xinhua. CRE trains has made a great contribution to that volume. Meanwhile, the business is growing very fast, Magnor added.

### **Win-Win: New Sail For Old Ship**

Johannes Pflug, responsible for China affairs in the Duisburg municipality, said that the volume of the Port of Duisburg grew by 30 percent in 2017, making itself the fastest growing port in Germany. CRE trains play an important role and more than 6,000 jobs in the area of logistics for the city have been created, Pflug told Xinhua, adding "we are the beneficiary of CRE trains."

In Pflug's opinion, CRE trains connect the Europe and Asia more closely, achieving a win-win situation. Not only Chinese goods, but also Chinese capital and companies are attracted to Duisburg. More than 100 Chinese companies have so far settled in the region.

# USD 3 Billion Worth ONE Put To Sea

Japanese trio Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha, Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, and Nippon Yusen Kabushiki Kaisha have completed the investment payment into their new joint venture shipping business Ocean Network Express (ONE). The investment worth USD 3 billion was paid all in cash on April 2, according to a joint press release on the matter. The joint venture, established in July 2017 in Singapore, commenced service on April 1, 2018. "The start of services marked a momentous day that will open a new chapter in the history of MOL, as well as Japan's marine transport industry as a whole.

ONE has about 230 vessels in its fleet totaling 1.44 million TEUs, making it the world's sixth-largest container shipping line.

The network includes a total of 85 services, calling at over 200 ports in 100 countries.



## Ship Trading in Xiamen Sees Fivefold Increase in First Quarter

Twelve second-hand ships, worth a total of 259 million yuan (\$40.52 million), have been traded in the first quarter of 2018, according to the Xiamen Shipping Exchange.

The head of the Xiamen Shipping Exchange said that in the first quarter of this year, they finished their first assessment of chemicals ships, which will hopefully increase the soft power of the Xiamen International Shipping Center, the fourth largest shipping center of its kind in China. Bulk cargo ships, tankships, and containerships are usually the main targets of assessment for the Xiamen Shipping Exchange. A shipping trade service platform is also set to be launched this June, which will offer both cargo and ships, freight payment, financial insurance, ship tracking and other services. This platform will also promote information sharing between shipowners and consignors, as well as improve the efficiency and lower the cost of shipping, thereby increasing Xiamen port's competitiveness and level of informatization, according to the head of the Xiamen Shipping Exchange.

## ABOUT US

**ADD:**

Rm.603&304, Building B, No.28 Xuanhua Rd.  
Changning District, Shanghai, 200050, China

**TEL/FAX:**

86 21 32506989  
86 21 32505989

**E-mail:**

[marketing@sha.premiere-logistics.com](mailto:marketing@sha.premiere-logistics.com)

**Website:**

[www.premiere-logistics.com](http://www.premiere-logistics.com)

