## FIATA

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Doc. PR09/02 2009-03-17

**Media Information** 

## FIATA announces the Launching of an Expanded Air Cargo Training Programme for Freight Forwarders in association with IATA

This year's FIATA Headquarters' Session 2009, held in Zurich from 13-15 March, was attended by over 200 participants from 54 countries.

At the meeting of the Airfreight Institute attendees were informed that FIATA and IATA have signed an initial five-year agreement to develop training courses for home study, classroom training and e-learning, with primary delivery through FIATA's Association members, who operate in 112 countries and whose total membership exceeds 40'000 freight forwarding companies.

IATA Training & Development Institute (ITDI) and FIATA's Airfreight Institutes (AFI) have cooperated on air cargo training since 1978 providing courses and certification in air cargo operations, rating, dangerous goods and safety. The expanded program will build upon the existing infrastructure. It is expected that within its first 18 months, the expanded program will more than double the number students enrolled per year.

"Air Cargo training is an important area in which FIATA's Airfreight Institute, supported by FIATA's Advisory Body Vocational Training continues to offer its membership the tools to improve professionalism and efficiencies within the global supply chain. We are pleased to continue our long standing relationship with IATA, and work together to improve the educational offerings to the forwarding community" stated FIATA President William Gottlieb.

Aleks Popovich, Global Head of Cargo of IATA said "International air cargo and global logistics is becoming even more complex and must respond to cost and safety pressures. It is essential that the people working in this industry have all the requisite skills and knowledge to get the job done effectively and efficiently, every day."

The International Federation of Freight Forwarders Associations (FIATA) was founded in Vienna in 1926. Today it is the largest and leading non-governmental organization in the field of transportation, representing 40'000 forwarding and logistics companies employing up to 10 million people in 150 countries. FIATA has consultative status with several United Nations bodies and is recognized by many governmental and private organizations worldwide. The Federation's main objectives are to promote and protect the interests of the freight forwarding industry, to improve the quality of freight forwarding services, to assist with vocational training and to familiarize the business world in particular and the public in general with the wide range services rendered by the industry.

