

The ACW A-List of airfreight's most influential



1 Jeff Bezos
The most influential man in airfreight. The test? Try thinking of the future of airfreight without mentioning Amazon. His multi-billion dollar business, with its own branded airfreight operation, is going to drive airfreight well into the coming decades.

2 Donald J Trump
His trade wars and tariff-setting can only hurt airfreight globally.

3 Fred Smith
FedEx founder and still the ultimate disruptor, Smith's company is now old-school airfreight but that does not mean the influence of man still at its helm is going away. Retirement does not seem an option for this man.

4 Natilus
In developing the next-generation large freighter for the air cargo industry, a fully autonomous commercial UAS with versions ranging from 3.5-ton payload to 130 tons., for some, this is the future of airfreight delivery.

5 Aleksey Matyushev
The CEO of Natilus, the work he and his team are undertaking could well steer much of airfreight in the coming decades.

6 HACTL
This ground handler has been described as the most innovative handling agent in the world for 40+ years. HACTL is set to influence air cargo in China and the wider region for many years.

7 Jack Ma
As yet, Ma's creation Alibaba remains centred on China but if, or when, it is unleashed on the world, it may be bigger than Amazon. There is already talk of him setting up an airline if that should happen.

8 Schiphol Cargo
The airport cargo operation has been nominated for its Smart Cargo Mainport Program.

9 TIACA
Its mission to represent, support, inform and connect every element of the global air freight supply chain, gives it major influence in the industry and corridors of power.



10 Ram Menen
For years he was simply the powerhouse of Emirates Cargo. He took the carrier from the belly of EQ's early A310s to a top league global air cargo player. His interest in airfreight continues with drones and current work as an airfreight influencer means retirement is off the agenda.

11 Sebastiaan Scholte
As TIACA chairman, Scholte is steering the association through the arrival of AI and blockchain while navigating the changes being brought by Amazon.

12 IATA
The influence of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) for airfreight comes for its work for all aviation at the global and regional levels.

13 Stan Wraight
Stan has been engaged in the air cargo industry for over four decades yet he and three partners created an internationally accredited workshop for the next generation of managers in the air cargo industry.

14 Nick Platts
The current head of cargo at Heathrow wields great opportunities to influence – not only from his championing of paperless transactions in airfreight but from being at the helm as Britain leaves the EU.



15 Martin Kraemer
With the Jettainer Think-A-Thon at t!China he initiated a project that reaches far beyond the interest of his own company but which is seriously beneficial to the entire industry.

16 Gerry Burgin
Burgin who has provided leadership in the forwarding and the overall air cargo since 1960 and still is going very strong in the fields of e-AWB and airfreight consultancy.

17 Stephen Dawkins
Dawkins has lead changes in the GSA sector through Air Logistics Group for nearly 25 years through work on total cargo management solutions, compliance programmes and data capture services.

18 Steve Townes
The implementation of Bluetooth tracking technology in ULDs, an industry-first, is among other innovations under Townes' leadership of ACXL Airshop.

19 Adrien Thominet
A man described as being "born in the freight industry" he has steered Paris-based ECS to a global dominance in the GSA sector.



20 Neil Hansford
The architect of TNT Airways, the person who specified the Bae 146 QT freighter as its workhorse.

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