

## EUROPE

### Down to earth and a team player

On 15 August **Barbara Schwarzott** is set to take charge as the head of **Austrian Airlines'** ground services. Her title will be Austrian Airlines' senior director of ground and cargo operations as well as nominated person for ground operations. In this function she'll be in charge of ensuring the worldwide handling of aircraft for the airline where she started her career in 1996, and of managing all customer lines at Vienna airport, with a staff of 650. In this function she will succeed Susanne Svejda, who's moving to the public transport company Wiener Linien as the corporation's operations manager.



### First female president of an international specialists' association



**Elisabeth Cosmatos** was recently appointed as the first female president of **The Heavy Lift Group (THLG)**. The international association of specialised heavylift enterprises, founded in 1987, elected Cosmatos as its group managing director, to succeed Murilo Caldana, Fox Brasil. The new board also includes Natalya Kulagina and Marianne Blechinberg, as well as Colin d'Abreo and Alessio Bianchi.

### Rebranding reflects change in business focus

The Deutsche Post DHL Group is now called the DHL Group, to reflect its focus on national and international logistics activities "as a driver of future growth."

### New driver at the wheel in Czechia

**Andreas Dick** is set to head **Škoda Auto's** production and logistics division from 1 September. He joined the Volkswagen Group in 1988 and is now its technical vice-president in charge of production, logistics and technical development of FAW-Volkswagen in Changchun (China), amongst other things.



### Promoted to second managing director

In July this year **Neele Wesseln** started work as the second managing director of the association called 'Die Güterbahnen' (the freight railways). Wesseln, who was previously the body's deputy managing director, will now represent the alliance vis-à-vis politicians, the administration and the DB infrastructure companies, on an equal footing and with a division of labour with Peter Westenberger. The logistics graduate began her work in 2019 as a technical officer at the association, which works to increase the market share of railfreight transport in Germany to at least 25% by 2030.



Photos: Austrian Airlines; THLG; Škoda; Die Güterbahnen/NEE

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## 30 years of VNL, 15th awards

### SPECIAL ADD-ON



Photo: VNL

The pleasure for a prize logistics project was all theirs in Linz.

As part of the 30th anniversary celebrations of the association Verein Netzwerk Logistik (VNL), this year's Austrian Logistics Award was presented to Raiffeisen Ware Austria (RWA) at a party in the Design Center in Linz. The prize, awarded for the 15th time, recognises achievements in the field of innovative logistics projects and is awarded after evaluation by a jury of experts.

This year, RWA's performance in optimising the logistics processes in the Traun warehouse convinced the jury. Jury chairman and VNL managing director Veit Kohnhauser said that "RWA has realised excellent logistics processes in the warehouse in a short time and in an impressive manner. The way in which these innovations were combined into a well thought-out logistics concept that was optimised down to the last detail was good work."

RWA's logistics division manager Ingrid Peraus was pleased "because we all put our hearts and blood into this project. It fills me with pride that we have moved up from a manual warehouse into the digital world."

### SPECIAL ADD-ON

## Staying on track in Vienna

ÖBB has made some important staffing decisions recently, with the railway enterprise's supervisory bodies relying on continuity. Andreas Matthä, CEO of ÖBB since 2016, was confirmed in office until 2026 at the ÖBB Holding's supervisory board meeting on 28 June.

Manuela Waldner succeeded Arnold Schiefer as CFO on 1 July. Waldner, most recently a partner and managing director at with the Boston Consulting Group, was appointed for five years (to 2028). At ÖBB Infrastruktur Johann Pluy, board member for operations, market and digitalisation since 2019, was reappointed for another five years (to 2028). *ab*

**Manuela Waldner** is ÖBB's new CFO.



Photo: ÖBB