For Immediate Release:

Brussels Airport to host Pharma Shippers Forum at AIR CARGO AFRICA 2017

September 26, 2016: Brussels Airport, the preferred gateway in Europe for pharmaceuticals and the cold chain industry, is organising the Pharma Shippers Forum at AIR CARGO AFRICA 2017, the 4th edition of the international biennial air cargo exhibition and networking conference, organised by The STAT Trade Times, the flagship publication from the global multimodal transport media specialist the STAT Media Group.

AIR CARGO AFRICA 2017 is scheduled to be held from February 21-23, 2017 at the Emperor’s Palace, South Africa. The Pharma Shippers Forum, scheduled for the inaugural day, is one of the key highlights of the three-day event that will bring industry heads together to discuss issues related to policy, regulation and identify and solve the issues faced by pharmaceutical shippers in the African continent.

According to a report by McKinsey, the value of Africa’s pharmaceutical industry is continuing at a rapid pace with predictions that the market will be worth $40 billion to $65 billion by 2020. The pharmaceutical market in Africa is currently 70% imported. Africa’s capacity for pharmaceutical research and design (R&D) and local drug production is amongst the lowest in the world. The supply of African pharmaceuticals remains highly dependent on foreign funding and imports. In the absence of a pan-African pharma regulatory body, global pharmaceutical companies need to invest in local partnerships to understand varying regulatory environments. Partnerships with governments is also of prime importance.

The Pharma Shippers Forum by Brussels Airport, in its second edition, will look at leveraging the synergies in the trade lane between Europe and Africa. The session will be attended by logistics and supply chain heads of leading pharmaceutical manufacturing companies, pharma exporters, specialist forwarders, airports, airlines, handlers, truckers, cold chain experts, pharma logisticians, drug controllers and government regulators.

The forum aims to get on board Belgian pharmaceutical exporters and offer them a platform to discuss the key areas of challenges and opportunities in the pharma export and supply chain to the African continent. The forum, one of its kind in the industry and unique in its format, provides an ideal platform for discussion, debate and exchange of views and ideas.
Attendance at Pharma Shippers Forum is free to the shippers, but there are limited seats. To reserve your place or to find more details about the forum or AIR CARGO INDIA 2017 please visit http://www.stattimes.com/aca2017

The commitment of numerous shippers, forwarders, airlines and handlers helps Brussels Airport to maintain its position as a leading hub for the air transport of pharmaceuticals and high-end medical products. “Ends”

About Brussels Airport
With 664,000T of cargo throughput in 2015 Brussels Airport plays an important role in international logistics and in the success of specific industries including the pharmaceutical industry. Brussels Airport connects the capital of Europe to 226 destinations around the globe, served by 77 airlines. (figures 2015). Brussels Airport is the second most important centre of economic growth in Belgium providing direct and indirect employment for 60,000 people. Brussels Airport is operated by Brussels Airport Company. The shareholders are the Belgian State (25 percent) and a consortium of private investors (75 percent).

About the Organiser
The STAT Trade Times (www.stattimes.com), a publication from the STAT Media Group, is a multimodal international transport trade publication in circulation since 1986. The magazine with a special focus on air cargo enjoys worldwide readership among the top leadership of every company in the air cargo industry. Apart from AIR CARGO INDIA, STAT Times also organizes AIR CARGO AFRICA, another popular biennial international event in Africa. Other publications from the group include Indian Transport & Logistics News (www.itln.in), Logistics Update Africa (www.logupdateafrica.com) and ACAAI News (www.acaainews.com).

AIR CARGO AFRICA 2017 Gist of Participants:

Diamond Sponsor: South African Airways Cargo (host airline)

Platinum Sponsor: Swissport / Worldwide Flight Services

Gold Sponsor: Airports Company South Africa (host airport)

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