



Introduction

by **Nathan De Valck**

As we are coming to the end of 2020, we would like to look back at the year which was full of unprecedented challenges but at the same time, it presented us with opportunities and achievements as well.

This year, we have onboarded 14 new members across our different membership categories. You will find the list of all our new members in 2020 in the Members Section. At the same time, we would like to update you on the newly released white papers in the Projects Update section.

You will also read about Pharma.Aero's latest developments including the reinforcement of the back-office to improve on our project coordination and delivery. The recruitment for a new Project Coordinator position is underway.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy 2021!

Nathan De Valck

Chairman of Pharma.Aero

Looking back at 2020

As 2020 comes to a close, we would like to take the moment to reflect upon this unprecedented eventful year. Like most businesses, the COVID-19 pandemic has also impacted our organization in different aspects. In March, we responded quickly with a cost reduction plan, allowing the organisation to sustain financially throughout this challenging period.

Instead of a physical gathering where we could meet and network, our General Assemblies had to be hosted virtually. However, digital platforms have also led to more opportunities for member and industry engagement. Pharma.Aero initiated 3 successful pharma webinars in May and June on the initial impact of COVID-19 on the Life Science and MedTec air cargo industry .

In August, as COVID-19 vaccines entered into the later phases of clinical trials, Pharma.Aero joined forces with TIACA on Project Sunrays to help the air cargo industry get ready for this unprecedented logistics challenge. The joint project drew attention and interest of many stakeholders in the global pharmaceuticals and air cargo industries.

In terms of membership, through new projects and active membership engagement, Pharma.Aero enlarged its membership base with 14 new members across the different membership categories: Strategic Pharma Shippers, Full Members as well as Associate Partners, representing a 47% year-on-year growth. This was an achievement, especially in this uncertain time.

New members in 2020

Project Sunrays: Joint project between Pharma.Aero and TIACA on Useful Guidelines for Optimal COVID-19 Vaccine Transportation

Air India SATS



AirBridge Cargo Airlines



Airbus



Astral Aviation



BDP International



Bombelli Airport Equipment



Dallas Fort Worth International Airport



dnata



First Priority Cargo



GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals



Guarulhos Airport



Ivemar



Polar Air Cargo



SAASA



Projects Updates

In 2020, Pharma.Aero together with our members and project managers, have successfully embarked on the following projects:

Completed Projects in 2020

Three Webinars Project: Impact of COVID-19 on the Airfreight LifeScience and MedTech Industry

Pharma.Aero, in collaboration with STAT Trade Times, organised a series of three webinars over the period from May to June 2020, with the aim of bringing the respective stakeholders across the pharma supply chain industry to understand the challenges they face and how the industry can support each other to tide through this challenging period while emerging stronger from the pandemic. The series of webinars engaged supply chain leaders of global pharmaceutical companies, as well as key stakeholders across the air cargo industry.

Airport to Airport Pharma Corridor 1.0: White Paper

Pharma.Aero's strategic airport members Brussels Airport Company and Hong Kong International Airport finalized both the project technical and white paper.

This pilot corridor project has concluded with the corridor mapping protocols. The set of protocols will serve as the basis for any new corridor projects currently being deployed between other airports. The white paper is available [via this link](#) and can be found on our website as well.

Published White Papers (in alphabetical order)

Airside Transportation Survey – White Paper (January 2020)

CEIV Validation by the Shippers – White Paper (February 2020)

Impact of COVID-19 on the Airfreight LifeScience and MedTech Industry – White Paper (August 2020)

Airport to Airport Pharma Corridor – White Paper (December 2020)

Project Sunrays: Shining Light on COVID-19 Vaccines Transport Requirements and Global Airfreight Readiness – White Paper (December 2020)

Find them all on one page on our website by clicking [HERE](#)

Ongoing Projects

Project Airport-to-Airport Corridor 2.0

Over the past month, Miami International Airport and Brussels Airport Company have kick-started the Airport-to-Airport Corridor project 2.0. Based on the feedback of the Project Expert, Pharma.Aero has decided to reinforce this project by appointing an additional project manager in order to enhance the deliverables of the project. The project aims to validate and improve upon the earlier set of corridor mapping protocols. Other airport-to-airport pharma corridors will also be examined and initiated during 2021.

Project Sunrays: Shining Light on COVID-19 Vaccines Transport Requirements and Global Airfreight Readiness

Earlier this week, a special report ([White Paper](#)) was released for the entire air cargo industry detailing the supply chain requirements of vaccines manufacturers and the air cargo industry readiness for the vaccines distribution.

While the first COVID-19 vaccines are ready to be distributed and administered to the first patients, TIACA and Pharma.Aero applaud the current readiness progress and exceptional industry collaboration. In September, we had concerns about the lack of preparedness sentiment within the global air cargo industry. Two months later, it is encouraging to see higher readiness with 46% of the respondents feeling well prepared and an industry average improving to 6.92 out of 10.

Following the publication of the first white paper, Project Sunrays will embark on the final Work Package 4. In Jan 2021, we aim to publish a set of useful guidelines for the global air cargo industry to get ready to handle, store, transport and deliver the COVID-19 vaccines.

Looking forward to 2021

Together with our Strategic and Full members, we deliberated on the strategic course of Pharma.Aero in the coming years. We thank our members who attended our virtual Strategy Update Meeting on December 16 and contributed to this meeting. We highly value all your insights and feedback. In January, we will send you our organisation's next course of actions.

From the previous membership satisfaction survey and the Strategy Update Meeting, the greatest value-add by Pharma.Aero has been the content creation and delivery of relevant projects for our industry. To this end, we would require more resources in order to champion more topical projects and enhance their quality. In this regard, the Board of Directors has decided to reinforce the back-office structure significantly through introducing a new position for a Project Coordinator. This person will be mainly involved in the permanent co-ordination of our projects, as well as a central point of contact on project development within the organization. Over the next few weeks, we will kick-off our recruitment exercise and we will keep you updated on the new headcount in our back office.