

GROWTH OF AIR CARGO BUSINESS

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1.1 Introduction:

The air cargo business is getting tougher in the present day scenario. Even years the air cargo business was having severe competition, with the available resources, and infrastructure. Every airline operating in air cargo business run it's show by creating the best of flight schedules, increase revenue, and using the appropriate Technology. The airlines operating cargo send the cargos in the passenger airlines (the cargo is kept in the lower decks) and in a specially designed air craft's operates purely for cargo. From the yester years to the present age many business development strategies, Research and Development activities has been created only for improving airline (passengers) but not for cargo (Grabtree et al, 2016). It is the need of the hour to adopt various technologies which will boost up the operation and sales.

1.2 Problem in Air Cargo:

The major problem faced by the airline is loading the cargo in the aircraft. In the initial days, loading cargo in the aircraft was considered to be an activity. But in the present day, loading up of cargo gains predominance importance. This is so because that every aircraft has different dimensions and the cargo dimensions also get varies. The aircraft owners and the air freight forwarders has to plan delicate for accommodating cargo in order to ensure revenue and safety. Because of the complicated planning and process the cargo handling by airlines and aircraft has got reduced (Murray 2016). In order to earn adequate profit, the airlines and the aircraft has to be fully utilized. By utilizing the fullest capacity the airlines / aircraft can reduce the operational cost for successful business. The air cargo operating has various problems viz, selection of carrier and container, selection and enhancing the balancing of fuel efficiency.(Paquay et al 2016), (Mongean and Bes,2003). (Lurkin & Schyns 2015). In the traditional period, loading and planning of cargo was performed by experienced load planners (Amade us 2015). The process took a lot of clerical works which were almost a trial and a error, and the complexity of the problem is very high. The same process cannot be continued further in the highly competitive Scenario. Thus a technology which could support the planning and process would be a boon for the airline dealing in cargo operation.

Basically the air cargo business is the one dealt between two airlines performing the operation of receiving, delivering of cargo at a place, time specified by the buyer and seller. The business of passenger service provided by the airline is very similar to that of the business operated for cargo too. The air cargo operations are carried over by freight forwarder who is specifically appointed by the consigner and consignee. The original shipper (Consigner) is a hidden figure in the operation and the forwarders gains a lot of importance in the course of action.(Burnson 2013).

1.3 Business models adopted by the Airlines:

There are numerous ways in which the air cargo operations are carried over. Among all, the following are the stupendous. The passenger airline operates as a passenger carrier, leave or utilizes the down portion of the airline for transporting cargo, which are not used for keeping the passengers baggage. The portion which was used in the lower deck was termed themselves as integrated carriers; carry on the activity of freight forwarding. They perform the operation of networking the devices required for stuffing and un stuffing and co-coordinating the transition points. These Carriers provide various services to handle small shipments and documents and combination carriers operate both passenger and cargo. These carriers handle the cargo with the schedule flights specifically designed for carrying cargo. These Carriers utilize the fullest space by accommodating cargo with varied dimensions cargo only carriers are those carriers have a wide net work to carry their cargo to worldwide covering the developing countries. Charter carriers are the most flexible, adoptable and an expensive transporter carry cargo with their own delivery schedules. These carriers carry voluminised cargo viz., machines and equipments.

1.4 Conclusion:

Transporting cargo involves extensive procedures. Using necessary equipments right from the consigners place requires various equipment and measures. The equipments viz., ULD occupies a major role and place in the air cargo handling by airlines.

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