

# **BROKERS**

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# **WORLDWIDE**

## **International Postal Services**

### **WORLDWIDE NEWSFLASH**

#### **Volcano Effect on Mail Delivery, Update**

*April 21, 2010*

The USPS has reported that it is using all available airlift, rerouting mail through alternate airports and booking available ground transportation to move international mail in response to the ongoing closure of airports throughout Europe. However, there is still a significant backlog of international mail being held up at US gateways. Below is a brief update on several of the countries that have been affected by the volcano:

#### **Afghanistan**

The ash cloud is affecting civilian and military air travel to and from Afghanistan.

#### **Australia**

Qantas Airways will resume services between Europe and Australia, and Europe via Asia will resume Thursday.

#### **Belgium**

About 15 flights arrived Wednesday morning at Brussels Airport. By the afternoon there will be 200 total flights.

#### **China**

Cathay Pacific Airways, based in Hong Kong, had seven flights to Europe scheduled for Wednesday. It planned to resume its normal schedule from Thursday.

#### **Denmark**

The airspace in Copenhagen has been open since this very morning and flights operate to different airports in Europe and in US.

#### **Finland**

The airport in Helsinki, Finland, closed Wednesday until 9 p.m. at the earliest because the volcanic ash cloud has returned.

#### **France**

Paris airports are resuming operations and carriers are starting to resolve backlogs. La Poste has shipped Priority mail by ground using their Economy network. All long-haul flights are leaving from Paris airports, along with 60 percent of short-haul flights.

#### **Germany**

The following airports are open and accepting flights on Wednesday: Hamburg, Hanover, Bremen, Hamburg, all Berlin airports, Cologne, Frankfurt/main and Frankfurt Hahn, Saarbrücken, Nuremberg, Stuttgart, and Munich. Lufthansa has started flights to Munich and Amsterdam from New Delhi.

#### **Hong Kong**

Cathay Pacific Airways had seven flights to Europe scheduled for Wednesday. It planned to resume its normal schedule from Thursday.

#### **Iceland**

Volcanologists estimate the ash output from Iceland's Eyjafjallajökull has dropped by 80 percent, compared to the first day of eruption on April 14. Current output was described as "insignificant". Iceland Air will resume all of its suspended service to and from all European destinations, including London, on Wednesday. European service will also resume from the airport in Reykjavik. A northerly wind was blowing the ash south, but at a higher altitude, a more easterly wind was blowing the ash toward the United Kingdom and the rest of Europe.

#### **India**

Air India has resumed daily flights to Paris, Frankfurt, New York, and Chicago. Flights from New Delhi to London and Frankfurt are expected to depart on Thursday. Jet Airways resumed flights to London from New Delhi and Mumbai.

**Norway**

No restrictions exist in Norwegian airspace. At 2 p.m. Wednesday officials will reassess but do not expect anything to change until early Thursday.

**Poland**

Polish airspace has reopened.

**Singapore**

Singapore Airlines has resumed flights to Europe from Singapore and from Australia, except into Frankfurt and Munich.

**Sweden**

Posten Sweden reports that Stockholm Arlanda airport (ARN) will open from 16:00 today.

**United Arab Emirates**

Emirates airline is operating all but two of its scheduled flights to Europe on Wednesday. Thirty-seven flights departed from Dubai, including 12 to the United Kingdom and seven to Germany.

**United Kingdom**

Most of the airspace over the United Kingdom is now available with the exception of an area over northwest Scotland, where there is a dense concentration of ash. The ash is forecast to stay over the area and may extend farther south into Scottish airspace later Wednesday. Virgin Atlantic announced plans to resume operating its normal flight schedule Wednesday into and out of London's Heathrow and Gatwick airports.

**Brokers Worldwide Customers**

Brokers Worldwide has been investigating alternate routes for mail wherever possible. We will continue to collect all mail bound for the affected countries from our customers; however, delivery delays can be expected as a result of some existing closures and the resulting backlog. We will continue to monitor this situation, and will provide our customers with updates as they become available.

Regards,

Brokers Worldwide

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