



Information Bulletin

Volcanic ash update

The latest information received from the Icelandic Meteorological Office states that the Eyjafjallajökull volcano eruption is continuing, with the ash plume reaching heights of up to around 18,000 feet. There are no signs that the eruption is about to end.

Over the next few days, winds are expected to blow from a mainly north or north easterly direction with most of the ash cloud likely to stay over the Atlantic Ocean and close to western parts of the British Isles. As a result there are airspace restrictions affecting transatlantic flights. Recent weather patterns mean that the ash cloud has drifted across some parts of central and southern Europe, leading to disruption as all airlines are having to reroute flights to avoid the ash cloud.

Currently all European airports remain open, however, due to a backlog caused by last weekend's airport closures, airshipments to Mexico and South America have allocation problems. Some air routes have their cargo capacity limited due to alternative routes used to bypass the volcano issue. As longer alternative routes use more fuel, there is less capacity allowed on flights for cargo.

As the volcanic activity continues, the dispersion of the volcanic ash will change and air travel restrictions will change in line with the new engine criteria set by the CAA and the aviation industry.

GKN Freight Services are carefully monitoring the situation and are liaising with any customers directly impacted by these circumstances. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further queries.

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