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Lufthansa to station five A380 widebody jets in Munich:

## **Bavaria's gateway to the world moves up to stand alongside Europe's major hubs**

Lufthansa announced plans to station five Airbus A380 widebody airliners at its Munich hub in the summer of next year. By deploying the world's largest passenger aircraft, Lufthansa will not only substantially boost its capacity on long-haul routes to and from Munich, but will also establish a new premium service for passengers using Munich Airport.

Munich Airport's CEO Dr. Michael Kerkloh welcomed Lufthansa's decision, calling it a "future-defining move". He added: "This is a big day for Munich's competitiveness in the aviation industry. This now firmly anchors our status as one of the major hubs in Europe."

For Michael Kerkloh, the plans to station the gigantic Airbus is a logical consequence of the joint efforts of the airport and airline in recent years to build up the Munich hub. "We are now reaping the rewards of the very successful partnership of Lufthansa and Munich Airport in the joint operation of Terminal 2 and the new satellite facility. The fact that Terminal 2 was honored as the world's best terminal in this year's World Airport Awards, hosted by the Skytrax Institute in London, shows that it is above all the passengers who benefit from our close cooperation. With the previously announced decision to station 15 Airbus A350 long-haul aircraft and the additional five Airbus A380s, Lufthansa has now

ensured that the state of Bavaria will have even better links to the global air transportation networks in the future."

FMG (Flughafen München GmbH), incorporated in 1949, operates Munich Airport, which opened at its present site on May 17, 1992. It is jointly owned by the Free State of Bavaria (51 percent), the Federal Republic of Germany (26 percent) and the city of Munich (23 percent). The FMG corporate group, with its 15 subsidiaries, employs more than 9,000 people. With a total workforce of about 35,000, employed by about 550 companies, Munich Airport is one of Bavaria's largest workplaces. Within just a few years of opening, Munich Airport developed into a major air transportation hub and was firmly established as one of Europe's 10 busiest airports. Munich Airport now offers connections to more than 250 destinations all over the world. In 2016 Bavaria's gateway to the world has handled approximately 400,000 flights with over 42 million passengers. Bavaria's gateway to the world became the first – and is so far the only – airport in Europe to be honored with the prestigious title of "5-Star Airport" by the London-based Skytrax Institute.



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