

## NEWSLETTER

### LOGISTICS & TRANSPORTATION

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#### **China Eastern launches world's longest flight**

On December 14, 2025, China Eastern Airline launched the world's longest one-way commercial flight, a 20,000-kilometer route from Shanghai to Buenos Aires via Auckland. This direct connection between the eastern and western hemispheres spans 20,000 kilometers and, for the first time, cuts the travel time between the two cities to about 25 hours. **(China Daily)**

#### **Unmanned transport plane makes maiden flight in Shaanxi**

The Tianma 1000 unmanned transport plane debuted in Shaanxi, capable of short takeoffs, long-range flights, and precise airdrops. Developed by Xi'an Aisheng Technology Group, a subsidiary of the State-owned defense conglomerate, it's designed for cargo, rescue, and operates in tough conditions, enhancing efficiency and reliability. **(China Daily)**

#### **City eyes electric Vertical Take-off and Landing aircraft dominance positioning**

Shanghai aims to become the world capital of electric Vertical Take-off and Landing aircraft (eVTOL) by 2028, targeting an 80-billion-yuan (\$11.5 billion) industry by 2028, thanks to advantages of Shanghai including super supply chain, one-stop airworthiness resources to shorten the certification cycle, etc. Measures include supporting key enterprises and establishing a national-level experimental platform. **(China Daily)**

#### **China air travel recovers with '25 seeing record flights**

China's civil aviation sector logged a record number of passenger flights in 2025. According to a 2025 development report released by aviation data provider VariFlight, Chinese mainland airlines operated 5.37 million flights last year, a 2.96% increase from 2024. Total booked seat numbers also climbed to a historic high of 935.8 million, up 2.48% year-on-year. **(China Daily)**

#### **Chinese airlines make flurry of Airbus orders**

China's national flag carrier, Air China, led a flurry of year-end aircraft orders from Chinese airlines, with four carriers committing to buy a combined 118 Airbus jets in order to meet demand in the world's second-largest aviation market. The carrier expects to take delivery of the jets in batches between 2028 and 2032, pending shareholder and government approval. **(China Daily)**