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From the Pacific Business News:

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/news/2018/03/15/pacific-air-cargo-ceo-beti-ward-dies.html>

Pacific Air Cargo CEO Beti Ward dies

Mar 15, 2018, 7:49am HST

Beti Ward, CEO of Pacific Air Cargo, has died. A spokesperson for the company told Pacific Business News, the 30-year veteran of the cargo industry passed away on March 9.

Ward launched American International Cargo 1981 and grew its staff to 150. In its last year, the company grossed \$65 million.

In 2000, Ward formed Pacific Air Cargo, which provides express air cargo service between Los Angeles and Honolulu with Boeing 747 freighter aircraft.

In addition to serving the Hawaii market daily, PAC provides weekly service to Pago Pago, American Samoa and Guam. The company said it carried over 100 million pounds of cargo in 2017.

Ward purchased Aloha Contract Services in 2008, a division previously owned by Aloha Airlines, and integrated 600 jobs that would have been lost with the now defunct airline.



A spokesperson for the company told Pacific Business News, the 30-year veteran of the cargo industry passed away on March 9.

“Over the past few years Beti’s leadership and mentoring allowed her to throttle back and successfully transition operations to her handpicked management team of over 25 years,” Pacific Air Cargo said in a statement. “The company will miss her presence and is committed to continuing her legacy and vision for the visitors and people of Hawaii.”

Ward was one of Pacific Business News’ Women Who Mean Business honorees for 2017 in the Industry Leader category.

“Beti’s love for the air cargo industry was unmatched, spanning 30 years,” Tanja Janfruechte, president and CEO of Pacific Air Cargo, said in a statement. “She embraced her employees, partners, and the communities of Hawaii and American Samoa as if they were her own family. The industry has lost an incredible supporting icon. The values and culture she developed at PAC will remain her legacy for years to come. We would like to thank our partners for their overwhelming support in this difficult time.”

Anna Hrushka

Reporter

Pacific Business News

