

System Alliance Europe looks back on a dynamic first year

Network growing by leaps and bounds

The LCL network founded on 7 June 2005 celebrates its first anniversary with a significantly expanded circle of partners. Gebrüder Weiss was one of the original 16 founding members. Representatives from 37 international mid-sized freight forwarders took part in this year's partner meeting held 30-31 May 2006 in Düsseldorf, Germany.

A vision takes Europe by storm! What the founding partners from five countries began has now evolved into a much larger network of LCL transport companies spanning 18 countries. "Our medium-term goal is to be present in all the European countries," says Jean Schmitt, Chairman of the organisation and owner of Heppner (founding partner). "However, all applicants must invariably meet our network's high standards of quality so that we are able to offer our customers comparable, top-level services in all countries."

Customer Focus – Quality Leadership

System Alliance Europe achieves such lofty goals by developing uniform organisational and IT guidelines. Each partner's services are assessed and made transparent through a system of monthly quality evaluations. This enables every partner to compare their performance against the target goals and to implement immediate measures which are necessary to ensure customer satisfaction. The internet-based tracking and tracing system CargoTrack and the online proofs of delivery are further building blocks subject to constant monitoring and improvement.

As a result of its network expansion, System Alliance Europe anticipates an increased number of shipments along with the corresponding increase in sales.

In fiscal year 2005, the 37 partners employed a total of 28,990 people and generated sales of EUR 5.81 billion.

In European cross-border traffic, the partners handled a total of 9.21 million shipments at a combined weight of 9.8 million tons.

Facts and Figures:

Founding partners: Birkart Systemverkehre GmbH (DE), Wim Bosman Expeditie B.V. (NL), Cordes & Simon GmbH & Co. KG (DE), L.W. Cretschmar GmbH & Co. KG (DE), Wilhelm Diehl GmbH & Co. KG (DE), Elsen GmbH & Co. KG (DE), H. Essers & Zonen NV (BE), Gebrüder Weiss GmbH (AT), Hellmann Worldwide Logistics GmbH & Co. KG (DE), Heppner Société de Transports S.A.S. (FR), Honold International GmbH & Co. KG (DE), IHG Logistics GmbH & Co. KG (DE), G.L. Kayser GmbH & Co. KG (DE), Streck Transportgesellschaft mbH (DE), Transit Transport Flensburg GmbH & Co. KG (DE), Friedrich Zufall GmbH & Co. KG (DE).

Additional partners: Wim Bosman Antwerpen N.V. (BE), Transports Wim Bosman Paris SA (FR), L.W. Cretschmar Española S.A. (ES), Elsen-Transports S.a.r.l. (LU), Gebrüder Weiss AG (CH), Gebrüder Weiss D.O.O. (HR), Gebrüder Weiss GmbH (DE), Gebrüder Weiss GmbH (SI), Gebrüder Weiss KFT (HU), Gebrüder Weiss s.p.o.l. (CZ), Gebrüder Weiss s.r.o. (SK), Gottardo Ruffoni Rondine SI spa (IT), Hellmann Worldwide Logistics Ltd. (GB), Hellmann Worldwide Logistics Sp. z.o.o. (PL), Heppner GmbH & Co. KG (DE), IHG Logistics s.r.o. (CZ), IHG Logistics s.r.o. (SK), Interspe Hamann Group Logistics Ibérica S.A. (ES), Streck Transport AG (CH), Transfargo AB (SE), Varova Oy (FI).

The Gebrüder Weiss organisation

Gebrüder Weiss, headquartered in Lauterach, Vorarlberg (Austria), employs close to 3,900 people at 134 locations worldwide. The logistics company recorded sales of EUR 789 million in fiscal year 2005.

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