

## **Press Release**

# **trans-o-flex Logistik-Service with a new location for pharmaceutical contract logistics**

***Logistic centre in Alzenau creates 80 new jobs – Central location in Germany and close proximity to Frankfurt Airport as an ideal basis for the implementation of international distribution concepts – Official opening ceremony with expert presentations on European pharmaceutical logistics***

**Weinheim, 19<sup>th</sup> February 2013.** Today, the trans-o-flex Logistics Group has opened a new logistic centre in Alzenau, in the north of Lower Franconia, which has been especially designed to meet the requirements of the pharmaceutical and healthcare industries. The warehouse, which creates 80 new jobs, is operated by trans-o-flex Logistik-Service GmbH. Within the trans-o-flex Logistics Group, the company specialises in offering contract logistic services and develops tailored solutions with a focus on procurement, distribution, storage and a wide range of value-added services from one single source. “Our new logistic centre in Alzenau will allow us to enhance our capacities again and, thanks to the excellent location, also use this as an ideal basis for the implementation of international logistic concepts”, says Oliver Rupps, Spokesman of the Board of Managing Directors of the trans-o-flex Logistics Group, during the official opening ceremony in his speech to numerous representatives from politics and business. “This construction project emphasises the focus of trans-o-flex Logistik-Service and the entire trans-o-flex Logistics Group on offering the pharmaceutical industry holistically high-value logistic solutions.”

From the logistic centre with its direct connection to the A 45 motorway, it is only a 30-minute drive to Frankfurt Airport. In addition to this, the new building is situated directly next to the transshipment point of trans-o-flex's Alzenau-based system partner and the warehouse of trans-o-flex's subsidiary ThermoMed with its focus on the transportation of actively temperature-controlled goods. Thus, even those shipments that reach the warehouse very late can be delivered throughout Germany on the subsequent day – either via the national and international road network for standard combi-freight (parcels and pallets) or, where temperature sensitive pharmaceuticals are concerned, making use of ThermoMed's network. In addition to this, the cross-docking procedure also makes it possible to integrate international air-freight shipments in the processes.

**Fully suitable for the pharmaceutical industry: compatible with all of the GMP standards**

The construction of the new warehouse is the result of a co-operation with the international real-estate developer Panattoni Europe on a 20,000-m<sup>2</sup> large property with additional extension areas. The first stage includes the construction of a 10,000-m<sup>2</sup> high-bay warehouse with 12,000 storing positions and 10,600 lower-shelf spaces, which, in order to increase the plant's efficiency and to facilitate the picking and packing, have partly been installed on a mezzanine floor in the 10-m high hall.

In order to meet all of the required GMP standards applicable in the pharmaceutical industry, trans-o-flex has invested approximately € 2 million in the interior work alone. For example, the logistic centre is fully air-conditioned and has also been equipped with temperature control and monitoring systems to document compliance with the requested temperature range and pest control standards.

In addition to fast and reliable shipment processes using a conveying and picking & packing unit, security also played an important part in the design, which includes

not only a burglar alarm system with connection to a security service team but also a camera-surveillance system to monitor and control access via a specific turnstile.

trans-o-flex Logistik-Service already operates its own logistic centres in Kerpen and Frechen near Köln, as well as in Weinheim, Heidelberg and Roth near Nuremberg. The range of services offered includes product-specific storage, inventory management, packaging management, order management, picking, packing, shipment, returns management, IT services, technical services, trade fair services and customs clearance for import and export.

### **Expert presentations: opening ceremony highlights pharmaceutical competence**

The opening ceremony was attended by more than 100 trade visitors from the logistic and pharmaceutical industries. In addition to the welcome speeches by Alzenau's Lord Mayor Dr Alexander Legler as well as Dr Georg Pölzl, CEO of trans-o-flex' parent company Österreichische Post AG (ÖP), several presentations by internal and external experts rounded the event off. Peter Umundum, member of ÖP's Management Board and Director Parcel & Logistics, spoke about trans-o-flex' strategic importance for his company, Oliver Rupps explained trans-o-flex' pharmaceutical competence as a central pillar of the corporate strategy, Markus O'Sullivan, Head of the trans-o-flex Group's Pharma & Healthcare competence centre, gave an overview of the consequences of the new EU-GDP for pharmaceutical logistics and Dr Klaus-Peter Jung, member of the Board of Frankfurt-based Miebach Consulting, dealt with the challenges of outsourcing in the pharmaceutical logistics sector in Europe.

### **About trans-o-flex Logistics Group:**

The success of the Europe-wide operating trans-o-flex Logistic Group is based on three pillars: 1. trans-o-flex Schnell-Lieferdienst offers a full-coverage network for the efficient and safe transportation of parcels and pallets (combi-freight) all over Germany. This also includes numerous additional services, such as the transportation of hazardous goods without being limited to small quantities. At the same time trans-o-flex, in its capacity as shareholder and partner of the Eurodis network, provides full-coverage combi-freight services in 34 European countries. The company has developed a large

number of tailor-made solutions for specific sectors, e.g. for the pharmaceutical and home entertainment / consumer goods industries. 2. With a special network for active temperature control in the temperature ranges of between 2 and 8 °C as well as 15 and 25 °C, trans-o-flex ThermoMed takes over the transportation of temperature-sensitive goods for the pharmaceutical industry. ThermoMed provides multinational pharmaceutical distribution in Europe with daily deliveries to 7 countries including Germany, Austria, Belgium, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Denmark, and France via the ThermoMed European Network. 3. Additional logistic services from storage and picking/packing to value-added services, such as the set-up service for sales displays or electrical appliances, up to customer-specific transport networks are developed and implemented under the umbrella of trans-o-flex Logistik Service. In 2011, annual sales of the Group, which has a workforce of approximately 1,600 employees, amounted to ca. € 550 million. Since June 2008, trans-o-flex has been a 100-% subsidiary of Österreichische Post. For more information, go to [www.trans-o-flex.com](http://www.trans-o-flex.com).

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