

Press Release

IMCD Group outsources Benelux distribution to TALKE België

Volume of orders set to exceed 13,000 deliveries per year by 2010 *
TALKE's Antwerp (Zwijndrecht) site extended by 3,000m² * Close IT links ensure high level of service provision

Antwerp, Hürth, 04. November 2009. From the 2nd November 2009 the IMCD Group, a leading international company in marketing, sales and distribution of speciality chemicals, food and pharmaceutical ingredients, will officially transfer its core supply chain activities in the Benelux region to ALFRED TALKE Logistic Services N.V.. The ALFRED TALKE GmbH & Co. KG subsidiary will operate the service from its terminal in Zwijndrecht.

As the IMCD Group continues to successfully grow and develop new business, it is expected that the Zwijndrecht terminal will process and despatch up to 13,000 deliveries a year, to a diverse range of customers throughout the Benelux. In order to handle the increase, the 1,000m² of warehouse space currently allocated to this business will be extended to 4,000m² by the construction of a new 3,000m². The Zwijndrecht dangerous good logistics centre has more than 9,000m² of storage space on a total site area of 30,000m².

TALKE were able to offer a robust supply chain infrastructure that allows for the rationalisation of processes, the complete integration of IT systems and ultimately the consolidation of IMCD supply chain activities in the Benelux. These key factors meant the IMCD tender was successfully awarded to TALKE.

"Reliable on time in full deliveries combined with meeting all HSEQ requirements keep both customers and their suppliers happy. We are handing over our logistics to a carefully selected partner, as in terms of performance we are only as good – or bad as our logistics service provider," says Stan Bijsterveld, Manager Supply Chain Europe at IMCD.

Bijsterveld continues: "We found the tendering process with TALKE refreshing and professional. It was much more than just a matter of agreeing prices. On the basis of the information we provided to TALKE, they, developed a completely new "Total concept" in which the processes, requirements and the level of service we were looking for had been carefully analysed."

One of the ways in which TALKE is establishing IT integration and maintaining its high level of service provision is through the dovetailing of its own SAP-based ATOS (Alfred Talke Operations System) with the People-Soft applications used by IMCD. This has been in operation since 2007 for the existing IMCD business at the Hürth site and includes fully automated order processing and status feedback, as well as the barcode-supported handling of goods.

As full-service logistics provider for IMCD Germany, TALKE has been responsible for such complex tasks as the packaging of chemical and pharmaceutical ingredients at its Hürth site since 1975. At the Köln-Niehl logistics centre belonging to the Hürth site, TALKE handles up to 18,000 small deliveries for IMCD Germany every year. These vary in size from 20kg to LTL or FTL shipments and comprise 2,000 different products belonging to a wide range of food, pharmaceutical and hazardous material classifications.

Even before the consolidation of its supply chain activities in the Benelux, the site in Belgium was already actively packaging a number of key product lines for IMCD. This has supported strategic businesses for IMCD subsidiaries in the United Kingdom, France, Spain and Portugal since 2008.

IMCD Group. IMCD Group is a leading network of companies with a global presence, specialising in the marketing, sales and distribution of specialty chemicals, food and pharmaceutical ingredients. IMCD's international network of selected warehouses and distribution centres operates throughout the whole of Europe, as well as in Morocco, South Africa, Asia, Australia and New Zealand. Transportation and warehousing is managed by logistics experts and carried out in compliance with the highest quality, safety and environmental standards.

TALKE Logistic Services. The TALKE group, established in 1947, is a leading logistics service provider to the chemical and petrochemical industry in Europe, the GCC and Asia. With its origins in the transport and warehousing of chemical products, over the years TALKE developed into an integrated service partner for modern outsourcing and contract logistics solutions. The family owned and operated company presently employs more than 1600 people in a network of 24 locations in Europe, the Middle East and Asia. TALKE also designs constructs and operates on-site logistics centres integrated in the chemical production plants of its clients.

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