

Press release

TALKE opens container terminal in Hürth

Storage area available for more than 1,000 containers * €4 million investment improves productivity at TALKE's headquarters * Emphasis on handling dangerous goods containers * New terminal concept focused on customer needs along the entire supply chain *

Hürth, Germany / 6 June 2008. On 5 June, together with more than 200 guests from the world of business and local authorities, TALKE Logistic Services officially opened and launched operation of its new €4 million container terminal at the company's Hürth head office. The terminal was designed first and foremost to increase the company's capabilities when it comes to container-based logistics concepts and expand terminal capacity at Hürth.

With a total surface area of 25,000 m², the facility has space for 800 loaded containers and 200 empties. It will take over from the present depot, which can barely cover the company's own needs due to rapidly increasing demand. With a gantry crane running in six-day, two-shift operation, TALKE expects an annual handling volume of 34,000 movements at the new terminal.

In addition to harmless products, the terminal was designed primarily to store marine pollutant materials up to and including water hazard class III according to Germany's WHG (Federal Water Act), as well as ADR class 3, 8 and 9 dangerous goods (VCI / German chemical industry association storage class 3a & 3b and 8-13). Total storage capacity for loaded containers is 18,200 metric tons, 11,200 metric tons of which are earmarked for dangerous goods and marine pollutants. Water/glycol, electronic and steam systems are also available for temperature-controlled container storage.

TALKE's comprehensive safety concept ensures that no harm comes to people or the environment. To meet its lofty safety standards, the company has installed early fire detection equipment, automatic extinguisher canons and generously-sized retention basins for spilled product and fire-fighting water. It even has its very own company fire brigade.

On top of connections to the road network, the terminal also has its own rail link for shipping and receiving containers. Together with the neighbouring Cologne-Eifeltor rail container terminal (Europe's largest), the Cologne ring motorway and regional inland ports, it eases modal transportation while enabling the best possible use of intermodal shipping.

As TALKE group CEO Armin Talke highlighted in his opening speech, integrated services along the entire supply chain are the main focus of TALKE's new terminal concept.

"We want to harness synergy effects for you with this container terminal, thereby enhancing your flexibility and your efficiency," he declared.

By providing customised pre- and post transport legs, filling, refilling and storage facilities, and a shuttle service to the nearby rail terminal and inland ports, the facility delivers a great deal more than merely the use of containers for transport-related activities.

TALKE supplements these offerings with comprehensive services specially tailored to the needs of transporters and container agents. They cover everything to do with containers, including repairs, maintenance, inspection and cleaning.

TALKE's Logistic Solutions unit was responsible for the project. In addition to developing holistic logistics concepts, Logistic Solutions is also in charge of planning and carrying out all building projects.

Photographs available at: www.talke.com

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