

Press Release

TALKE opens new chemical logistics centre at Schwarzheide

Five million Euros investment on BASF site – Ten new jobs generated – Plant will begin operations in August

Huerth/Schwarzheide, July 2005. On July 15, 2005, ALFRED TALKE GmbH & Co. KG opened a new chemical logistics centre onsite at BASF in Schwarzheide. With a construction period of almost eight months, the plant was erected precisely in time, and operations will begin in August, according to schedule. TALKE Logistic Services itself, one of the leading providers of transportation and logistic solutions for the chemical industry, has planned and established the plant in cooperation with its Logistic Solutions division. The chemical logistics provider will run the new centre for BASF Schwarzheide GmbH and as a start will create 10 new jobs.

TALKE has invested five million EUR into the plant. The ultramodern logistics centre in Schwarzheide, located between Dresden and Cottbus, covers a surface of approximately 21,000 square meters and has a total area of 9,800 square meters for rack and block storage. It serves as storage and handling facility for raw materials and finished products of BASF Schwarzheide, for example combustible liquids and other chemical products. Beyond that, it is perfectly suitable for temperature-controlled goods. With this new plant, TALKE Logistic Services literally serves as an extended arm of BASF's production. The chemical logistics specialist is responsible both for raw material supply and the disposal of production as well as for the storage and further handling of products.

The production of BASF and the logistics centre of TALKE have closely linked their SAP systems, using a direct connection to all operational procedures and the inventory management. A slim and almost paperless organization has been established, possible sources of error have been minimized. This is the first time BASF has established so intense a collaboration with a service provider.

The operational processes in this plant - and in all other TALKE locations in the future - are managed by ATOS, Alfred Talke Operation System, on the basis of SAP Logistics Execution. All data for the commissioning, storage and stock removal are scanned and then wirelessly transmitted via radio; the fork-lift trucks are directed automatically. A major component of ATOS is the SAP EHS module (Environment, Health & Safety) for the control and handling of dangerous materials, equipped with an integrated, regularly updated data base containing more than 1,500 entries on dangerous materials.

The new chemical logistics centre is fitted with extensive quality and safety devices. The new employees, went through the obligatory TIPS (TALKE's Intensive Personal Training) in order to be excellently prepared for their new tasks.

The partnership between BASF in Schwarzheide and TALKE Logistic Services that started in 1990 will be continued on a new level with this cooperative project that is planned to be operational for at least 25 years.

Armin Talke, CEO of TALKE Logistic Services, states: "We are proud to strengthen the partnership with BASF Schwarzheide to a new dimension with this large project. Our aim is to become the number one provider of complete solutions for the chemical industry, and with this project we've advanced a lot further to this strategic goal."

TALKE Logistic Services, headquartered in Huerth near Cologne, Germany, offers bulk and dry bulk transportation, logistics solutions such as warehousing, packaging and handling, engineering and construction of entire logistics facilities as well as technical services, e. g. tank cleaning and repair services.

The Logistic Solutions business unit is specialised on planning and construction of logistic facilities.

The company, now run by the second and third generation of the family, is committed to become the preferred supplier of logistic solutions for the European chemical industry. This aim shall be reached by geographical expansion, exploration of new business fields and investments, mainly in the training of employees, IT competence and logistic infrastructure.

TALKE employs more than 700 people on 13 locations in Europe and the Gulf States, and reaches revenues of 150 million Euros per year.

Contact and photos:

ALFRED TALKE GmbH & Co. KG
Andreas Riem
Corporate Communications
Max-Planck-Straße 20
50354 Huerth
Tel.: + 49 (0)2233 599-514
Fax: + 49 (0)2233 599-103
E-Mail: a.riem@talke.com
www.talke.com