

Press Release

Österreichische Post uses trans-o-flex' know-how as hotline for hazardous goods

Successful competence centre for all questions concerning the shipment of hazardous goods

Weinheim, 28th April 2014. Since January 2014, Österreichische Post AG (Austrian Post) has been using its German subsidiary trans-o-flex as a competence centre for hazardous goods. A specific hotline has been established for the corporate business areas of Parcel Logistics, Letter Mail and Branch Network, which is based in the Hazardous Goods department of trans-o-flex in Weinheim. Using a free international phone number, not only employees of post offices and partners but also sales staff, employees in parcel and letter sorting centres as well as private customers are given the opportunity to ask any question they might have with respect to hazardous goods. The service is offered from Mondays to Fridays, 24 hours a day. "The transportation and storage of hazardous substances is one of the core competences of trans-o-flex and the relevant department is continuously manned. So, it was logical to provide other Group companies with this know-how as well", explains Max Moser, Chief Executive Officer of the trans-o-flex Logistics Group. "From January to March 2014, the Hazardous Goods team processed not less than 200 enquiries coming from Austria."

Most callers want to know whether or not it is possible to transport certain shipment contents using the post system. In cases where "doubtful" shipments have already entered the post system, the hazardous goods experts in Weinheim also take over the clarification directly with the sender. As is usual for post and parcel service providers, Österreichische Post forwards hazardous goods within the scope of letter and parcel logistics only if these may be forwarded under alleviated conditions ("limited quantities" - LQ), have been declared as excepted packages or if they are classified as biological substances of category B (UN 3373). Basically,

the cross-border shipment of hazardous goods is excluded or limited to certain products such as lithium-ion batteries or excepted medical samples.

trans-o-flex, however, has aligned its entire organisation to its capability to transport hazardous goods and exclusively employs drivers who have passed a hazardous goods training and hold a valid ADR licence. All of its vehicles in the company's line operations as well as for the final mile have the necessary equipment with warning signs, documentations and safety equipment. The company excludes only few classes of hazardous goods from its transport services and does not limit itself to small quantities.

About the trans-o-flex Logistics Group:

The success of the Europe-wide operating trans-o-flex Logistic Group is based on three pillars, the services of which can be perfectly combined with each other: 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. In addition to this, ThermoMed, with its EUROTEMP network, also provides actively temperature-controlled transportation services in 15 countries in Europe. 3. Comprehensive 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 2013, annual sales of the Group, which has a workforce of approximately 1,800 employees, amounted to ca. € 505 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.

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