

Press Release

Temperature-controlled logistics for pharmaceuticals: trans-o-flex extends ambient network

- *In November, the 7th hub for actively temperature-controlled shipments at temperatures of between 15 and 25 °C is put into operation in Alzenau*
- *New semi-trailers, lorries and delivery vans: vehicle fleet for actively temperature-controlled shipments is extended to approximately 2,000 vehicles*

Weinheim, 26th October 2015. Due to the continuously rising demand for the actively temperature-controlled transportation of pharmaceuticals, trans-o-flex Schnell-Lieferdienst is going to extend its nation-wide network for shipments in a temperature range of between 15 and 25 °C. In November, the trans-o-flex ambient network is extended by an additional hub in Alzenau near Aschaffenburg. In the future, it will be possible to use seven, instead of six, locations to feed the temperature-controlled shipments into the express delivery service's ambient network. As recently as in last March, trans-o-flex extended its ambient network, which had been started in October 2014, from a central-hub system to a six-hub system. "In addition to the capacity adjustment, the new hub in Alzenau will help us shorten the ways especially for goods coming from the Rhine-Main area, thus making it possible for us to offer later deadlines for the collection", says Christian Knoblich, Managing Director Sales & Marketing of the trans-o-flex Logistics Group. The background of the continuously growing volumes of actively temperature-controlled shipments at temperatures of between 15 and 25 °C is the introduction of the new EU regulations (EU-GDP = Good Distribution Practice), which require a controlled and documented transportation of pharmaceuticals.

In order to facilitate the extension of the network, trans-o-flex not only invests in real estate but also in its vehicle fleet: additional vehicles have already been

ordered and will then be used for collection purposes as well as in regular traffic and for the delivery of ambient goods. By the end of the year, the trans-o-flex ambient network will operate a total of 190 actively temperature-controlled semi-trailers, 85 temperature-controlled lorries, 1,650 thermos boxes and up to 100 temperature-controlled delivery vans. With respect to the buildings of the additional ambient hub in Alzenau, it must, for example, be made sure that, during loading and waiting times, the temperature-controlled vehicles can switch to a temperature control based on an external power supply system, that the temperature data taken in the location can be correctly fed into the systems and that the necessary temperature control devices are installed on site.

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 2014, annual sales of the Group, which has a workforce of approximately 1,900 employees, amounted to ca. € 500 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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