

POSTAL NEWS

No. 20/011

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1. Deutsche Post DHL extends its climate friendly shipping services

Bonn, 12/16/2010, 11:00 AM CET

The "Carbon Footprint Report" takes into account the individual shipment weight, volume and route.

Deutsche Post DHL has launched two new environmentally friendly products. Global Forwarding customers can obtain the new "Carbon Footprint Report" which offers them a detailed overview on the CO2 emissions generated by their shipments per trade lane. Additionally they can compensate the CO2 emissions of their shipments by choosing the "Carbon Offsetting" option.

"We want to give our customers the opportunity to design their own supply chain more environmentally friendly. An important first step in this direction is a reliable calculation of their CO2 emissions throughout the entire supply chain. CO2 will become a new currency and we want to support our customers in creating their own balance sheet," says Hermann Ude, CEO of DHL Global Forwarding, Freight.

Verified methods

The "Carbon Footprint Report" takes into account the individual shipment weight, volume and route. Customers can receive their report monthly, quarterly or annually. In addition they can use their data for their individual carbon reporting, reduction, and offsetting strategy. The calculation methodology of the report follows the principles of the World Resources Institute's Greenhouse Gas Protocol and the World Economic Forum Consignment level carbon reporting. Additionally, Deutsche Post DHL's CO2 emission calculation for the GOGREEN carbon neutral shipments is verified by the external third party Société Générale de Surveillance on an annual basis.

In combination with the "Carbon Footprint Report", customers of DHL Global Forwarding can also order a "Carbon Offsetting" of their shipment. Deutsche Post DHL calculates carbon emissions on shipment level. The generated CO2 emissions

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2. TNT sells its mail activities in Belgium

TNT sells its mail activities in Belgium and its unaddressed mail activities in Italy. TNT has announced that it has signed an agreement to sell its mail business in Belgium, De Belgische Distributiedienst, and its unaddressed mail business in Italy, RSM Italia, to management and NPM Capital. NPM Capital, a leading private equity firm in the Benelux, will provide financing. The businesses will continue to operate under its current management.

De Belgische Distributiedienst has a leading position in the unaddressed mail market in Belgium and handles the distribution of unaddressed mail and daily newspapers along with providing database management services. In 2009, the revenues of De Belgische Distributiedienst were €100 million (US\$136 million). The parcel activities of TNT Post Pakketservice in Belgium are not included in the sale.

RSM Italia generated revenues of €38 million (US\$51 million) in 2009. TNT Post Italy will continue with the addressed mail business and the mailroom activities.

The sale of De Belgische Distributiedienst and RSM Italia is conditional upon approval of the national competition authorities of Belgium and Italy. Completion of the transaction is expected in the first quarter of 2011. The European Works Council has issued a positive opinion.

TNT announced in the framework of its Vision 2015 strategy that it would concentrate its European mail activities on addressed mail in the large countries where TNT Post has strong market positions: Germany, the UK and Italy. In other geographies, the focus is on value realisation through partnerships or sale.

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3. La Poste Draws Up 2011 Postal Charter

23 January 2011 - Franz Groter

French postal operator La Poste, said last week that despite extreme weather conditions over the winter and difficulties which arose from the Icelandic ash cloud, it had achieved a delivery success rate of 83.5% for priority letters in 2010 - close to its best ever performance of 84.7% in 2009.

La Poste said that like all companies, it had been hard hit by climate events of rare magnitude, at times severely hampering its ability to transport and distribute mail and packages.

It said it remained committed to improving delivery performance - aiming to deliver 85% priority the next day in 2011 and a new charter, established after consulting 70,000 individuals and businesses, which sets out the needs and expectations of the mail service and the ways in which La Poste will meet those obligations. It includes

Commitments to improve the postal service, quality standards, research solutions, customer care, and reduction of CO2 emissions.

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Photo courtesy of La Poste

4. Postal Workers To Protest In Kingston On Saturday

20 January 2011 - Press Release

Hundreds of postal workers in the UK are expected to descend on Kingston town centre this Saturday to protest against government plans to privatise Royal Mail which are being pushed through by Kingston MP Ed Davey.

Privatising the Royal Mail will put post offices at risk of closure, undermine the universal postal service and lead to further job losses and price hikes, warns the Communication Workers Union, which represents postal staff.

Speakers from the CWU and Labour party, including local Labour candidate Max Freedman, will speak at a rally in Fairfield recreation ground before hundreds of protesters march through Kingston town centre. Flags, banners, placards and petitions will be on display during the march which will be led by a drumming band.

Ed Davey has received dozens of letters from his constituents asking him to add amendments or completely scrap the Postal Services Bill.

Billy Hayes, CWU general secretary, said: "Privatising the Royal Mail will be disastrous for people who rely on post offices and the mail service. We're taking the message direct to Kingston MP Ed Davey's doorstep so that he hears loud and clear the concern and opposition to his actions.

"The government says privatisation is necessary to safeguard the Royal Mail, but that is blatant spin. If Ed Davey and others were genuinely interested in postal economics, sustainable mail services and value for the taxpayer they would look at regulatory changes before flogging a national asset to profit-hunters."

Date: Saturday 22nd January 2011

Speakers: Billy Hayes, CWU general secretary, Dave Ward, CWU deputy general secretary, Max Freedman, Labour parliamentary candidate for Kingston, Jim Kirwan, CWU London regional secretary, Christine Quigley, London Labour Youth, plus a surprise guest speaker.

The CWU represents 215,000 people in postal, telecoms and financial services industries.

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5. U.S. Postal Service plans deep cuts; extent in Poconos unknown

Jim Mellon, postmaster at the Bartonsville Post Office, empties the mailbox outside the post office on Wednesday afternoon. Adam Richins/Pocono Record

By Christina Tatu

Pocono Record Writer

January 27, 2011

The U.S. Postal Service announced plans this week to close as many as 2,000 post offices, on top of the 491 it said it would close at the end of last year.

Which facilities will be on the chopping block has yet to be determined, though there have been claims that offices in remote communities may be the first to go. Pike County has 19 post offices and Monroe County has 39.

"The economic recession impacted all businesses, including the post office. A lot of businesses, when they were looking to save money, decided to cut costs in their mailings," said Raymond Daitutolo Sr., a U.S. Postal Service spokesman for the central Pennsylvania district, which includes Pike and Monroe counties. "In many situations we have excess facilities, excess equipment, and in some cases, excess employees."

The law currently allows the postal service to close post offices only for maintenance problems, lease expirations and other reasons that do not include profitability.

The postal service has been lobbying Congress to allow it to change the law, so it can close the most unprofitable of its offices.

Daitutolo said before any facility is closed, the service will undertake a lengthy review process, considering how far the post office is from other facilities, how many customers are served and how many pieces of mail come through the facility.

In 2006, the postal service was operating at an all-time high, processing 213 billion pieces of mail annually, but by 2010, that number had dropped to 170 billion, Daitutolo said.

Electronic mail has replaced first-class mail, one of the largest revenue generators for the postal service, Daitutolo said.

"Since that time (2006), with people changing their habits relative to communication, the infrastructure we have now is not really what we need to match up with the work load we are currently faced with," he said.

In addition to the closings, the organization is discussing consolidating some of its mail processing services in Reading with operations in Harrisburg and the Lehigh Valley, Daitutolo said.

The central Pennsylvania branch of the postal service recently completed closures of post offices in York, Reading and Dickson City as part of last year's plan to close 491 offices.

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6. UPS to close D.M. billing center, cut 80 jobs

10:15 AM, Jan 26, 2011 | by David Elbert |

Officials at United Parcel Service Inc. told employees at its Des Moines billing center Tuesday that the center will be shut down in phases during the coming year.

The center is located at 3920 Delaware Ave.

UPS spokesman Norman Black said about 80 full and part-time employees of the Des Moines center and about 110 employees at UPS billing center in Columbia, S.C. will be either absorbed into other UPS operations or provided severance packages based on length of employment.

The shutdowns are part of a UPS plan that was drawn up during the past 18 months to reduce the number of U.S. billing centers from ten to eight, Black said.

None of UPS's other 1,350 employees in the Des Moines area will be effected by the shutdown, Black said.

He said different functions at the billing centers would be closed at different times as UPS moves those functions to its other U.S. centers. He did not have a time-table for how that would occur, but said that the company expects the final closing to occur by March 2012.

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7. FedEx starts Deep Frozen Shipping Solution option

Jan 25, 2011 4:45 AM GMT+0900

By The Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — Shipping company FedEx Corp. said Monday it started a Deep Frozen Shipping Solution to ship temperature-sensitive healthcare products around the world.

The company said it will use the CryoPort Express Dry Shipper and technology that can maintain a temperature below 150 degrees Celsius for up to 10 days. The product uses liquid nitrogen dry vapor and is classified as non-hazardous, unlike dry ice.

FedEx will provide the container and monitor it during shipping. The company said customers involved with clinical trials, diagnostics, biotechnology and drug making will benefit from their new product.

CryoPort said in a separate statement frozen shipping in the life sciences industry is "growing rapidly as clinical studies, diagnostics and drug manufacturing are increasingly being performed on an international basis."

Shares of FedEx climbed 90 cents to \$94.24 in afternoon trading.

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8. TNT Union Pact Over Redundancies Faces Workers' Scrutiny -Union

• JANUARY 24, 2011, 5:19 A.M. ET

AMSTERDAM (Dow Jones)--The initial agreement Dutch mail and express group TNT NV (TNT.AE) has struck with its mail unions over redundancies still faces some scrutiny from its workers, a spokesman for TNT's largest union, FNV, said Monday.

"It's not a settled matter yet," said Peter Wiechmann at FNV. Union members are split and you can see that in the results of the votes so far, he added. While the unions have managed to negotiate lower forced redundancies, many members are still dissatisfied with the situation in the workplace, Wiechmann said.

He expects the result of the vote on the agreement will be announced Thursday.

The company is reorganizing its mail business to offset declining volumes partly due to the liberalization of the Dutch postal market which began in 2009. On top of this traditional mail products are being overtaken by electronic communication.

DHL bolsters trade between China and Germany

Wednesday, January 26th, 2011

DHL has launched its new direct Less than Container Load (LCL) services, connecting Dalian and Shanghai, China to Hamburg, Germany.

Dalian and Shanghai are two major ports along the Chinese coast and both are ranked the world's ten largest ports.

In the past year, Shanghai Port handled 29.07m TEU while Dalian port handled 5.24m TEU, an increase of 16.3% and 15% respectively.

The two newly launched direct LCL services will provide Chinese exporters a faster and more competitive ocean freight option for shipments through the two Chinese ports to Hamburg, largest port of Germany, the company said.

Kelvin Leung, CEO, North Asia Pacific, DHL Global Forwarding, said: "In the highly competitive business landscape, companies are increasingly faced with the challenge of responding more quickly to customer demands. The introduction of these new services provides customers with enhanced LCL offering in the fast-growing North Asia Pacific - Europe market and support the healthy trade between China and Germany."

Germany is China's largest trade partner in the European Union and vice versa. Bilateral trade volume between the two countries totaled \$128.56bn in 2009. China has become first largest import partner of Germany and the eighth largest export partner. DHL said the launch of the new services will further boost the trading activities between Chinese and German businesses, especially small and medium enterprises and industry sectors including automotive, consumer products, electronics and textile will benefit from this new service.

"Bringing these new direct LCL services from China enables us to provide more options for businesses in China to deliver their products to Germany and in the meantime, strengthen our overall capacity of LCL services. It will also help further enhance the competitiveness of Shanghai and Dalian ports in the international shipping market," said Steve Huang, CEO, DHL Global Forwarding China.

Operated by Danmar Lines, DHL's in-house carrier, these new direct LCL services will enable shipments to arrive early and ultimately lead to reduction of CO2 emissions.

The new direct twice-a-week service from Shanghai to Hamburg will offer increased options to satisfy client demand, while exporters using DHL's new direct LCL services from Dalian to Hamburg will see their shipments' transit time reduced by six days. Shipments arriving in Hamburg can then be further delivered to an additional seven destinations in Germany including Frankfurt, Munich and Stuttgart through DHL's inland network.

9. DHL invests \$4.2m in Lebanon

Tuesday, January 25th, 2011

DHL has completed a \$4.2m investment programme in Lebanon - which includes the expansion of the DHL Express Beirut Airport Facility at Rafik Hariri International Airport.

The outlay has also seen the creation a new logistics facility at the Beirut Free Zone, in celebration of the 35th anniversary of DHL Express in Lebanon.

The airside facility is the only logistics facility of its kind in Lebanon and DHL is the sole international express company operating such a capability, it confirmed.

The investment programme also “bolstered DHL’s network capabilities in Lebanon with the addition of three new service points and refurbishment of two locations. DHL customers in Lebanon can better leverage DHL’s Middle East logistics network, and stand to benefit from enhanced service quality and reduced shipment transit times,” a company statement said.

Garry Kemp, managing director, DHL Express Middle East, North Africa and Turkey (MENAT), said: “DHL has invested ahead of the curve to ensure that we are well placed to meet the growing business needs of the Lebanese customer and developing economy. Despite the tough economic landscape, Lebanon has emerged strong and we expect this positive growth trend to continue.

“The Middle East remains a key growth region with strong business opportunities and DHL’s continued investment in Lebanon demonstrates the company’s confidence in the country’s growth potential,” he added.

With a vast increase in capacity, the DHL Express Beirut airport facility has doubled in size and now spans more than 6,000 square metres and serves as a gateway for both air and road shipment.

The facility is fully compliant with TAPA security guidelines, is temperature controlled and operates 24/7 throughout the year. The state of the art facilities and on-site customs clearance provide all the capabilities that allow DHL to ensure customer shipments are handled and delivered with maximum efficiency at the shortest transit timings, the company said.

Given the proximity to the airport taxi way, DHL has a strong advantage in terms of shipment control and cargo processing time. The DHL Express Beirut facility also hosts the ground operations base, customer service centre and will bring together core DHL operations such as customs clearance, sales, finance, IT and human resources under one roof to leverage operational synergies for better reaction times to business needs.

John Chedid, country manager, DHL Express Lebanon, said, “As we celebrate our 35th anniversary in Lebanon, we continue to look at innovative ways to meet the growing needs of our customers in Lebanon while strengthening DHL’s market leading position. The completion of the investment programme is testament to our commitment to expanding our business in tandem with the business community and economic landscape of Lebanon.”

In addition to the expansion of the DHL Express Beirut airport facility, the investment programme has also seen DHL establishing an Express Logistics facility at the Beirut Free Zone. This 1,200 square metre logistics facility provides DHL customers with a platform from which consignments can be stored and reconfigured in a bonded area for redistribution to destinations throughout the Middle East and beyond.

“With its proximity to Europe, Lebanon’s geographical position offers reduced shipping times from Asia to the Arab Gulf states, making it a viable redistribution point. Lebanon is creating a logistics corridor that will greatly enhance the country’s role as a regional logistics center and DHL is building its own infrastructure in parallel to ensure that it is equipped to serve its customers’ requirements,” Chedid added.

DHL was the first international express company to establish a presence in Lebanon in 1975. DHL Express Lebanon currently employs over 170 people and operates in nine locations across the country.

Source: DHL/Post&Parcel

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