



press release

DHL Global Forwarding Belgium expands its temperature controlled facilities at Brussels Airport

- **DHL Global Forwarding Belgium, part of the Deutsche Post Group, has announced the extension of its temperature controlled facilities at Brussels Airport. The existing GDP licensed three-zone temperature controlled area of 1750sqm was extended to a total 5300 sqm area.**

Brucargo, May 8th 2017: “This extension confirms our ambition to remain a leading provider of logistics services to the life science and healthcare industry,” **CEO Luc Jacobs** says, “our growth in that particular market segment proves we have been growing our expertise and delivering value to our customers. As the market leader we are expected to have the proper infrastructure in place in order to deliver service excellence”.

The temperature controlled warehouse area will now have 2700 pallet positions split over three temperature zones, the largest being for goods to be handled between +15°C to + 25°C degrees.

“We have seen a growing demand for pharmaceutical goods and devices which previously were handled as general cargo but now demand a strict temperature handling. We needed to respond quickly. We are proud we managed to build this extension in only 3 months’ time meanwhile ensuring business continuity”, says **Charles De Vuyst**, Physical Operations Director.

DHL Global Forwarding Belgium was also the first station worldwide to be **Thermonet certified**. Thermonet is the official DGF standard for handling temperature controlled movements. Since then, DHL Global Forwarding Belgium remained a leading life science and healthcare competence center within the DGF network offering not only transportation but also specific packaging services to its customers.

The facility also allows **in-house screening** through X-ray or EDD ensuring cargo is secured without additional external handling.

The extension is now under process of licensing by the official health authorities. A process which requires quite some preparation, certainly taking into account the narrow time span in which the project was handled. As states **Alexandra Davin**, LS& H Compliance Manager,

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“It was a very challenging project. Compliance to GDP is not just a license you hang on the wall, it is common attitude to look in the same direction and strive for excellence. Quality and Compliance is part of our DNA. “

DHL Global Forwarding is already **IATA-CEIV certified**, operates as Regulated Agent and has **AEO/TAPA** accreditations.

“This is a major step for our company”, states David Bellon, Brussels Airfreight Product Station Director, “we have quickly responded to our customers’ needs ensuring we have a great facility supported by robust processes and highly skilled and trained staff. It also shows our commitment towards Brussels Airport in its ambition to grow as large pharma hub in Brussels.”

“Brussels Airport welcomes this initiative, which increases and pushes forward industry standards. This investment is completely aligned with the strategic focus of Brussels Airport on offering a best in class service for pharmaceutical shipments”, says **Steven Polmans**, Head of cargo at Brussels Airport. “The expansion of DHL GF pharma & life sciences infrastructure confirms the leading position of Brussels Airport as the preferred European Life Sciences gateway. The consolidation of time & temperature sensitive shipments at BRUcargo, will lead to an additional push for direct online connectivity offered by airlines operating from Brussels Airport.”

“Brussels airport was the first airport to implement the CEIV community certification and until today remains the airport with the largest certified cargo community. DHL Global Forwarding has successfully obtained the CEIV pharma certification. This guarantees an unbroken cool chain through the airport, standardized handling procedures, bigger transparency and results in a reduced risk for temperature deviations”, explains **Nathan De Valck**, Cargo & Product Development Manager at Brussels Airport. “Even the transport on the tarmac is included in this coolchain with the deployment of the Airside Pharma Transporters, making Brussels Airport the only fully integrated airport pharma platform.”

In collaboration with pharmaceutical shippers and other leading airports, Brussels Airport launched Pharma.Aero last year. This cross-industry collaboration group aims to achieve reliable end-to-end air transport for pharmaceutical cargo, by fostering collaboration between CEIV pharma certified airport communities dedicated to developing and leading when it comes to handling pharmaceuticals. DHL Global Forwarding was one of the first global logistics service providers to join as a full member, confirming their passion for product integrity and patient safety.

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DHL is part of Deutsche Post DHL Group. The Group generated revenues of more than 57 billion euros in 2016.