

New Gebrüder Weiss terminal for integrated logistics opens in Maria Lanzendorf

Together with CEO Wolfgang Niessner, Regional Director Jürgen Bauer and Governor Dr. Erwin Pröll, more than 850 invited guests from all around the world celebrated the completion of the monumental logistics centre at the southern tip of Vienna on Friday. At a cost of over 55 million Euro, the new facility is the largest single investment in the company's entire history. The modern terminal will begin operations on 3 July. The technical heart of the terminal is its 800-metre long electrical hanging conveyor system for pallets – one of the first of its kind in Europe to be used in such an application. Digital video monitoring and access controls to the individual areas will ensure maximum security.

“The Maria Lanzendorf terminal is a clear nod to Eastern Austria as a logistics location. This region has all the advantages in place to play a central role in the commercial networking of Europe. With this facility, Gebrüder Weiss will capitalise on these advantages over the long term,” ventured GW CEO Wolfgang Niessner in his commemorative speech. “When a highly successful and renowned international enterprise such as Gebrüder Weiss chooses Lower Austria as the location for its new logistics terminal, that speaks absolute volumes about the qualities of our federal province,” emphasised Governor Dr. Erwin Pröll. “With its 470 employees, the company will become one of the region's major employers.” Regional Director Jürgen Bauer accentuated the operative advantages of the new facility: “Concentrating activities at one central location means there will be thousands of connecting runs less between the previous locations. The design and the technical configuration of the facility will yield operations of the highest efficiency. We'll be able to offer our customers a truly optimum service here.”

The new terminal will handle all facets of the logistics business. From national distribution of goods, European surface transport and seafreight/airfreight up to complex warehousing services and integrated logistics solutions. Parcel service is also right at hand; the DPD Leopoldsdorf depot run by the GW parcel service is located less than 500 metres from the new terminal. Maria Lanzendorf replaces the St. Marx, Erdberg, Inzersdorf, Leopoldsdorf and Vienna Airport locations. The tectraxx high-tech logistics locations in Strebersdorf and Neudorf/Vienna will remain in operation.

Pallets to float through the terminal

The technical centrepiece of the terminal is one of the first electrical hanging conveyor systems for pallets in all of Europe. This system will quickly, efficiently and safely move pallets of goods along 800 metres within the facility at a height of three-and-a-half metres. Having the pallets literally float overhead yields the advantage of not interfering whatsoever with the activity going on below on the terminal floor. Conventional technology of the latest standards prevails throughout the warehouse including inductive, manually-operated forklifts.

Digital video monitoring

The new terminal embraces a modern security concept built around digital video monitoring and special access controls to individual work areas. The facility is TAPA certified, meaning all aspects of security have been officially tested by an external certification body in line with the strict guidelines of the Technology Asset Protection Association. The terminal will operate in shifts around the clock and is ideally located for rail and road transport access (direct connection to the S1 motorway). With 85,000 shipments handled per month, the Lower Austria location is one of Gebrüder Weiss' most important hubs for Eastern Austria as well as for the logistical handling in the countries of Southeast Europe.

The Gebrüder Weiss organisation

The Gebrüder Weiss organisation, headquartered in Lauterach (Vorarlberg, Austria), employs nearly 3,900 people at 134 locations around the world. In fiscal year 2005, the logistics company recorded sales of 789 million Euro.

Photo caption:

Official opening of the 55 million Euro terminal (left to right): Lanzendorf mayor Peter Komarek, Director of GW Vienna Jürgen Bauer, GW CEO Wolfgang Niessner, Governor Dr. Erwin Pröll, Maria Lanzendorf mayor Sissy Roth-Halwax.

Maria Lanzendorf Terminal: Quick Facts

Construction began March 2005

Official start-up: 1 July 2006

Investment: more than 50 million Euro

Number of employees at new terminal: 470

Total acreage: 105,000 m² (35,500 m² built up)

Dimensions: 300 metres x 215 metres

Office space: 7,500 m²

Total useable warehouse space: 42,700 m²

of the above:	Handling space	11,700 m ²
	Cross docking	6,200 m ²
	Warehouse	15,900 m ²
	Small parts and block storage	8,900 m ²
	Pallet spaces in high-bay racking store	34,000
	Pallet spaces in block storage area	5,000

State-of-the-art warehouse and conveyance technology:

Pallets transported through the facility via an electrical hanging conveyor system.

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