

Competec secures long-term growth

Competec logistics is planning the largest electronics dispatch centre in Switzerland

Mägenwil, 05.01.2011 – The Competec Group will deliver its goods from Willisau LU as from the spring of 2012. The former LEGO works which the Group has now acquired will serve as its logistics centre. This has been announced today by the IT trade group whose ranks also include www.brack.ch, one of Switzerland's leading online retailers.

"Ordered today, delivered tomorrow": This motto is the driving maxim at Competec. Rapid next-day deliveries are part of the success formula of the 400-employee-strong Competec Group which had its beginnings in a one-man business 16 years ago. The growing product range and an increasing order volume have taken the logistics in their present locations to the limits of their capacity and repeatedly led to delivery delays. Thanks to a major investment, Competec customers will soon be able to breathe easy: by acquiring the former LEGO site in Willisau in the canton of Lucerne, Competec is seeking to massively increase long-term capacities on behalf of its customers. "The new location offers sufficient reserves to be able to quadruple our package volume over the next few years" enthuses Roland Brack, owner the Competec Group.

Newly acquired scope for development and an eco-friendly infrastructure

The modularly designed complex in Willisau, which boasts a total operating area of 55,000 square metres, offers an automated high-bay warehouse for up to 16,000 pallets as well as a modern administration building with a canteen, under-cover car parking, changing rooms and training rooms – sufficient space to allow the company to develop well into the future. Ten lorry ramps provide for fast goods handling. The building was constructed in 1991 in accordance with the latest energy-conserving techniques and practices. Sustainability is ensured means of passive roof cooling via rain-water tanks and sophisticated concepts for heat recovery and ventilation.



New home for Competec logistics: the "modular house" in Willisau

Consolidation of Competec's entire logistics

From the spring of 2012, the entirety of the logistics of the Competec Group will be carried out in Willisau. Both the logistics operations housed at the head office in the Mägenwil business park and the automated small-parts warehouse commissioned in Birr last year plus other external sites will move to the canton of Lucerne. Collections from Mägenwil will however continue to be possible. The logistics operations will continue to be carried out by the public limited company "Competec Logistik AG".

No easy change for the employees

"The decision to proceed with this building was indeed a hard one for us, since the new location would represent a big change for our employees in the logistics section", asserts Roland Brack, CEO and owner of Competec Holding AG. The Group management however remained convinced that pursuing this route was the only feasible option in the current economic climate. Undeniably the new building in Willisau brings with it excellent opportunities for the further development of the company. The relocation means that the majority of the 150 employees working in the Competec logistics section will be forced to undertake longer journeys to reach their place of work. Competec will take on the responsibility for this with a comprehensive employee support plan.

A new building nearby would not have been a solution

During the course of 2010 the logistics of the Competec Group increasingly reached the limits of its capabilities. Services which set the Competec Group apart such as its high delivery quality and the promptness of its deliveries were at stake. A continually changing range of currently over 34,000 stocked items and a high volume of orders prompted the management of the Competec Group to undertake a comprehensive site evaluation. As part of this evaluation, extensions to the existing building were examined and various building plots in the vicinity were appraised. A new build was also contemplated. The Group management however dismissed the idea since a new building of the size required to accommodate sufficient order picking space would only have been ready for occupancy in around three to five years. The purchase of the former LEGO works represents the best option. Over the coming months, the Competec Group management intends to plan and implement the next steps in extensive consultation with the workforce.

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Formed in 2007, **Competec Holding AG** is the holding company of the Mägenwil AG-based Competec Group, comprising the IT resellers Brack Electronics AG, Alltron AG, Wyscha Computers AG and Phonet Suisse SA. The Group has approximately 379 employees and generated a turnover of around 340 million Swiss francs in 2010.

<http://www.competec.ch>

Information about the building: <http://www.modularhouse.ch>

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