

TNT Opens First Carbon Neutral Building



TNT opened its first climate neutral building on October 27.

The new depot in Veenendaal, the Netherlands, is said to have a zero carbon footprint resulting from environmentally sustainable heating and lighting systems.

The building faces the sun and has as many windows as possible to let in the maximum daylight. Solar cells and collectors on the roof convert sunlight into energy; water pumped from the ground provides heating and cooling.

The depot is the first in a series of green buildings planned by TNT as part of its Planet Me worldwide environmental programme.

[read more on page 2](#)

Further in this issue

Europe

Study Finds Green Supply Chain Essential

Six Steps to Greener Mailing in Ireland

DHL Sweden's Cars Go Green

DPWN Included in Leadership Index

DHL Offers CO₂ Offset Services in Austria

PostLogistics to Trial EcoDriving

Swiss Post Buys Electric Scooters

Correos' Products Pay to Plant Forests

Poste Italiane Hybrid Vehicle Wins Eco Race

Trans-o-flex Uses Sustainable Energy

La Poste Goes Electric for Mail Delivery

Correos Buys Electric

DPD Promotes Ground Transport

TNT Post to Deliver 80Mn More Green Items

FedEx Introduces Hybrid Trucks

GLS Eco-Depot Reduces Operating Costs

Itella Studies Mail Delivery Routes

Aramex Moves to Protect the Environment

IPC to Address Two European Conferences

Americas

US Postal Service Tests Alternative Fuels

Canada Promotes Eco Benefits of Epost

UPS Signs Up as Climate Leader

FedEx Opens Second Solar Centre

FedEx Moves to Fuel Efficient Boeing 757

Asia-Pacific

NZ Post Publishes CO₂ Reduction Target

Climate to be Big Challenge for International

DHL Introduces GoGreen in 17 Countries

TNT Wins Award for Hybrid Truck

Europe
Americas
Asia-Pacific

Green Issue | 30 October 2008

print | next

TNT Opens First Carbon Neutral Building (continued)

The company achieved the highest scores for a second year running in the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes (DJSI) for both the industrial transportation sector and the industrial goods and services sector, it was announced in September.

To compile the indexes, the sustainability reporting and performance of more than 1,100 companies are assessed. TNT achieved the highest score for the economic, environmental and social dimensions of the indexes to gain an overall rating of 92 out of 100.

The company's customer relationship management, fuel efficiency, codes of conduct/compliance and risk and crisis management all scored 100 percent.



Europe

Study Finds Green Supply Chain Essential

Logistics executives worldwide believe that green supply chain initiatives are essential for future business success, but most are unwilling to invest additional funds in greening their supply chain.

That was one of the key findings in the *13th Annual Third Party Logistics Study* undertaken by Capgemini in cooperation with DHL, Oracle and the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Of the 1,644 executives questioned, 98 percent saw green initiatives as essential. The survey revealed widespread uncertainty, however, about how to move forward with sustainable supply chain operations.

The study report, published this month, reveals that few users of third party logistics rate green capabilities as a deciding factor when choosing partners. In fact, only 46 percent of respondents said they considered the environmental effect of supply chain operations when selecting a third party logistics company (3PL).

"3PLs and their customers must be open about expectations and capabilities if they are to find innovative ways to improve supply chain security and green credentials," said Hans Hickler, chief executive officer of DHL Global Customer Solutions.

More than 75 percent of customers' rate consolidation, routing and mode selection as major ways for their 3PL suppliers to contribute to green strategies, but only 31 percent indicated that their current supplier offers those capabilities.

"The greatest shared challenge is forming and growing successful collaborative relationships between users and providers of logistics services," said Dr John Langley of the Georgia Institute of Technology. "Without a commitment from both sides, little progress can be made in the greening of the supply chain."

Six Steps to Greener Mailing in Ireland

An Post has collaborated with the Irish Direct Marketing Association (IDMA) to produce guidelines for direct marketers on how to make their mailings greener.

Their "*Six Steps to Reduce your Mailings' Carbon Footprint*" provides the basis of website, www.takealeaf.ie, which lists companies already signed up to green mailing and suppliers offering green mailing products and services.

Launching the initiative, Irish minister for enterprise, trade and employment Mary Coughlan welcomed the Six Steps Guidelines. She said: "Working together with industry, we want to see all forms of waste minimised, including that resulting from direct marketing activity. A voluntary approach like this allows the maximum opportunity to develop ways of increasing recycling and reducing waste, which is our collective goal."

The "Six Steps" include: list and data management; minimum use on non-recyclable materials; use of paper from sustainable forests; reduced ink toxicity and communication with customers. Mailers are invited to register with the scheme and to access the "takealeaf" logo.

An Post director of sales and marketing Liam Sheehan commented: "We recognise sustainability as a core business objective and this partnership with the IDMA is a marketplace initiative which can help businesses to manage their costs and their carbon footprint when communicating directly with customers."

six steps
to reduce
your mailings'
carbon footprint



DHL Sweden's Cars Go Green

DHL in Sweden plans to replace all its 439 company cars with environmentally-friendly models within three years as the first project in its contribution to Deutsche Post World Net's global GoGreen programme.

Already 44 percent of the fleet is running on alternative fuels such as ethanol, biogas, natural gas and electricity. The remainder will be replaced as their three-year leases expire.

Green vehicles in the company car fleet include the SAAB BioPower 9-3 and 9-5 and the Volvo V70 Flexifuel.

Leaseplan, DHL Sweden's leasing company, said DHL was one of its first corporate customers to decide in favour of a company fleet comprising entirely clean cars.

The GoGreen initiative aims to improve the company's carbon efficiency by thirty percent in 2020 compared with 2007 levels.

DPWN Included in Leadership Index

Deutsche Post World Net (DPWN) has been added to the Carbon Disclosure Project's (CDP) Global 500 report for 2008.

CDP is a joint initiative by 385 institutional investors with combined investment assets of more than USD 57 trillion.

DPWN is the only transport and logistics service provider to be included in the Carbon Disclosure Leadership Index of 67 companies that stood out for their contributions to climate change.

The index is compiled by PricewaterhouseCoopers from a broad survey that asks companies about their CO₂ emissions and reduction targets and their climate change strategies.

DPWN won inclusion in the index for its contribution to climate protection, its transparent reporting of its carbon footprint and the measures it has adopted. The company's objective is to improve its CO₂ efficiency - including externally sourced transport - by thirty percent by 2020.

DHL Offers CO₂ Offset Services in Austria

DHL has extended its GoGreen carbon neutral services to Austria in order to help customers contribute to CO₂ reduction.

The GoGreen service invites customers to offset their carbon emissions; individual shipments' emissions are calculated by DHL's patented ACCEPT emission calculation tool to give an cash amount to offset them.

"We can provide our customers with detailed information about every shipment in terms of the particular CO₂ emissions released during transportation. For example, a 5 kg package generates 30 kg of carbon dioxide that can be offset with GoGreen," said Dr. Martin Hermes, country manager of DHL Express Austria.

PostLogistics to Trial EcoDriving



Swiss Post's drivers in its PostLogistics division are to receive training in ecological driving techniques following approval of a pilot project by the PostLogistics Board.

Starting in 2009, the effectiveness of the EcoDrive project is to be assessed with selected drivers before a possible roll-out across the whole PostLogistics operation.

The EcoDrive initiative aims to achieve three benefits: fuel-saving and therefore a reduction in CO₂ emitted; more relaxed, safer driving; and a reduction in vehicle wear.

Since 2006, PostLogistics has been operating double-deck 40-tonne articulated trucks in order to increase capacity on journeys between parcel centres and distribution hubs. The company claims to have saved 40,000 litres of diesel to date.

Europe
Americas
Asia-Pacific

Green Issue | 30 October 2008

print | next

Swiss Post Buys Electric Scooters

Swiss Post has purchased 250 electric scooters for mail delivery in large towns as part of a programme to increase significantly the proportion of low-pollution vehicles in its operations.

About 100 delivery vans will be replaced during 2009 by gas-powered vehicles which Swiss Post says will halve the emissions of current diesel vans.

Swiss Post has set itself a target to reduce its carbon footprint to ten percent below 1990 levels by 2010. It is well on the way, having already reduced its CO₂ emissions by 7.8 percent.



Correos' Products Pay to Plant Forests

Correos of Spain is planning its fifth forest having already planted 19,000 trees as a result of its Linea Verde project to encourage use of sustainable stationery.

Since 1999, Correos has been promoting the sale in post offices of packaging materials and envelopes made from recycled material. It donates some of the money raised from the sale of these products to reforestation in collaboration with the Spanish foundation, Bosques de la Tierra.

The next project will be in the island of Gran Canaria where more than seventy local Correos employees will help to plant 8,000 trees in a protected landscape of laurisilva forest that was devastated by fire last year.

Europe
Americas
Asia-Pacific

Green Issue | 30 October 2008

print | next

Poste Italiane Hybrid Vehicle Wins Eco Race

“Free Duck”, a hybrid traction quad-bike developed by Poste Italiane and Ducati Energia, won the Mediterranean Eco Challenge Green Prix earlier this month.

The competition was coordinated by Poste Italiane and falls within the Green Post Project approved and financed by the Intelligent Energy for Europe Programme (IEE), an agency of the European Commission. This project has also been joined by the De Post/La Poste and Magyar Posta, as well as by PostEurop, which is in charge of the Green Post Project dissemination at international level.

The Free Duck dual fuel petrol/electric quad bike is on trial with Poste Italiane in Perugia. Over a 30-month period, 57 electric and hybrid quad bikes will be trialled on postal deliveries in Perugia.

Poste Italiane has completed the first phase in its programme to replace its 45,000-strong fleet with environmentally sustainable vehicles. It has increased the number of transport and delivery vehicles powered by methane gas to more than 1,600, while ninety percent of the fleet meets Euro4 emission standards.



Trans-o-flex Uses Sustainable Energy

Trans-o-flex, the Österreichische Post-owned express parcels company, has switched to eco-power for electricity supply to all its buildings in Germany and has opened an environmentally friendly sorting centre in Baden-Wuerttemberg.

The new EUR 8 million centre replaces two previous sites. It is using geothermal energy for heating and cooling and hydroelectric power for all other energy requirements. The company says that the main functions of the energy intensive sorting operation are carbon neutral.

At other centres, Trans-o-flex is using electric power exclusively from renewable sources such as solar, water and wind power. The move, it says, will reduce CO₂ emissions by four to five percent. "This year we are going to reduce our CO₂ output by a total of about 10,000 tonnes," said Wolfgang Weber, head of operations.

La Poste Goes Electric for Mail Delivery

Groupe La Poste is adding 500 electric vehicles to its mail and parcel delivery fleet and a further 9,500 will join its fleet over five years.

During the summer it conducted trials on two models, a prototype Fiat Professional from Micro-Vett/Newteon and a Citroën Berlingo First from Venturi Automobiles and Peugeot Citroën.

Correos Buys Electric

Correos is conducting trials on two prototype electric delivery vehicles designed to its own specification by the Spanish engineering society COMARTH.

It already uses electric vans and bikes for mail delivery in historic and pedestrian city centres.

The company is also training drivers in fuel economy techniques following its decision to join the European Road Safety Charter. It believes that good driving practice will save one litre of fuel per 100 km.



DPD Promotes Ground Transport

Parcels operator DPD is promoting its overland DPD Classic service under the slogan: "Why Fly Parcels in Europe," and is committing itself to sustainable development.

It has launched an "eco-calculator" on the internet. This calculates for customers the CO₂ equivalent emissions produced by consignments shipped by road and by air.

In Switzerland, DPD has put an ecological depot into operation in Buchs. This has been constructed in a U form to minimise land use. Its energy supply is produced through heat recovery from ground water and about 1,000sq metres of solar cells that produce 125,000 kWh of energy a year.

DPD's major shareholder, GeoPost, is currently defining its sustainable energy strategy.

TNT Post to Deliver 80Mn More Green Items

TNT Post says it delivered more than 100 million green mail items in the first nine months of 2008.

The number is due to increase significantly with the announcement by the Dutch company KPN that it will use TNT Post's climate neutral Groene Post service for more than eighty million letters and parcels a year.

Groene Post uses an internet-based tool that allows customers to calculate the carbon impact of their postal items and consignments. The customer offsets the carbon; TNT Post doubles the amount paid and the proceeds go to develop a wind farm in India.

The Groene Post service is one initiative in TNT's group-wide Planet Me carbon reduction programme.

FedEx Introduces Hybrid Trucks

FedEx Express has introduced ten hybrid vehicles on trial in Italy and France. The Iveco vans are designed to cut fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions by up to thirty percent through systems such as Stop & Start and regenerative braking.

FedEx says that its fleet of more than 100 hybrid trucks worldwide surpassed 3.2 million kilometres of service this summer. The trucks improve fuel economy by 42 percent and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about thirty percent.



Europe
Americas
Asia-Pacific

Green Issue | 30 October 2008

print | next

GLS Eco-Depot Reduces Operating Costs

Royal Mail-owned parcels operator GLS is to invest EUR 12.3 million in the construction of its first ecological depot which will be in Vaihingen-Enz, Germany.

The depot is part of the company's "Think Green" programme and will provide a standard for future new depots.

GLS says much of the initial investment will be recouped in the long term through operating costs estimated to be forty percent lower than in other facilities.

Environmental measures include a heat pump heating system and a photovoltaic installation.

Itella Studies Mail Delivery Routes

Itella has conducted a study into mail delivery routes to conclude that the frequent stops increase fuel consumption considerably.

The study, undertaken with VVT Technical Research Centre of Finland, found that doubling the intervals between stops would reduce fuel consumption and CO₂ emissions by 13 to 14 percent.

Aramex Moves to Protect the Environment

Middle-East based express and freight company Aramex has introduced four hybrid vehicles to its ground fleet and an eco-friendly courier bag across its whole network.

The hybrid vehicles are said to reduce fuel costs and CO₂ emissions by fifty percent, not only helping the environment, but providing a cost-effective solution to soaring fuel costs.

The new courier bag is biodegradable. It is made from recycled polythene which includes an additive that reduces its molecular weight and accelerates disintegration without affecting durability.



IPC to Address Two European Conferences

Representatives from IPC will address the success of their Environmental Measurement and Monitoring System (EMMS) at the Sustainable Supply Chain Conference in London on December 2-3 and at the International Association for Business Communicators, Social Responsibility Conference in Brussels on November 12-13. This best-practice conference features Europe's leaders in CSR communication and authentic case studies that demonstrate companies conducting business responsibly to better the planet, their communities and their employees' work environments.

Valoree Vargo, head of communication at IPC, will be part of a panel that looks at building and communicating collaborative and cooperative industry initiatives such as IPC's EMMS, which was endorsed by 24 of the world's leading postal administrations. Ms. Vargo will discuss IPC's global carbon measurement tool and how all of its members worked together to agree on common research, terms, and indicators to ensure that the postal industry remains a leader in effectively reducing their carbon usage. You can find out more at: www.iabc.com.

The International Quality and Productivity Centre is hosting the Sustainable Supply Chain 2008 Conference in London in December. This conference addresses the benefits that a sustainable supply chain can bring to any organization or company. Topics include transportation efficiency, recycling programs, water usage reduction plans, product lifecycle management, transparency with customers and suppliers, cross-company collaboration, and achieving operational excellence through a sustainable supply chain. Mark Harrison, head of markets at IPC will address cross-company collaboration and the building of the IPC EMMS by building consensus among IPC's 24 member posts. For more information visit: www.iqpc.co.uk.



>>In Brief - Europe

Swiss Post to Implement Wake on LAN

Swiss Post has decided that improvements to peripheral systems now make it feasible to implement a Wake on LAN project to save energy generated by approximately 10,000 computers. Wake on LAN technology uses a network card to start up a PC that has been powered down in order to carry out maintenance tasks.

UPS Trials an Electric Delivery Van

United Parcel Service is testing a zero-emission electric delivery vehicle in London. The vehicle has high energy batteries and uses only 25 percent of its battery capacity on an 18-mile route incorporating 49 stops.

TNT Wins UK Environmental Award

TNT has won the environment award given by United Kingdom transport newspaper Motor Transport. The award recognised TNT's Planet Me carbon reduction programme including initiatives to operate the world's largest electric vehicle fleet and incentives for company car drivers to switch to green models.

FedEx Builds Solar-Powered Centre in Germany

FedEx Express is developing a solar-powered facility at Cologne/Bonn airport, its new gateway for central and eastern Europe. Solar panels fitted to the roof of the ramp and sorting facilities will cover a total surface area of 16,000sq metres.

Americas

US Postal Service Tests Alternative Fuels

The United States Postal Service plans to replace 195,000 of its 220,000 neighborhood vehicles with fuel that is less dependent on petroleum.

It is testing a Chevrolet Equinox fuel cell electric vehicle produced by General Motors. It is also supporting Project Driveway, which publicised the need for a refuelling infrastructure for hydrogen vehicles.

"We are very encouraged by GM's fuel cell technology," said Walter O'Tormey, vice president engineering at the Postal Service. "We also want to explore other options, such as hybrid electric, plug-in hybrid and other 'green' vehicles that will help us continue to provide our customers with reliable service while protecting the environment."

Canada Promotes Eco Benefits of Epost

Canada Post has encouraged Canadians to switch to its online bill delivery service, epost, by donating CAD 1 to climate change projects for each of the first 150,000 new registrations.

The money raised goes to the World Wide Fund for Nature's online community for people who want to take steps to help fight climate change. Called "The Good Life", the website promotes positive action by individuals. That, says Canada Post, is the link to epost, which reduces the amount of paper mailed to households.

Epost provides a secure environment where individuals can view and store their regular household bills and statements online. More than 100 organisations have signed up to send their bills and statements by epost to those who register.



UPS Signs Up as Climate Leader

United Parcel Service (UPS) is participating in the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Climate Leaders' programme, an industry/government partnership that works with companies to develop comprehensive climate change strategies.

As a partner, UPS has committed to reducing its impact on the global environment by completing a company-wide inventory of greenhouse gas emissions, setting aggressive reduction goals and reporting progress annually to the EPA.

The company claims to have the largest private fleet of alternative fuel vehicles in the transportation industry. This year it has purchased 500 additional hybrid electric and compressed natural gas vehicles. It has also optimised its US delivery routes to minimise left-hand turns, saving three million gallons of fuel in one year.

In September, UPS published its sixth Corporate Sustainability Report. This includes a new Climate Change Statement.

Europe
Americas
Asia-Pacific

Green Issue | 30 October 2008

print | next

FedEx Opens Second Solar Centre

FedEx Freight has completed its second solar-powered facility in California. The new centre, in Fontana, is equipped with a 269 kW rooftop solar system incorporating 1,377 solar modules. These are capable of generating 370,551 kWh amounting to half the facility's energy needs.

The first solar centre opened in Whittier, CA earlier this year. Both centres have been developed in cooperation with BP Solar whose commercial projects team helps companies such as FedEx to lower their energy costs and lessen their impact on the environment.

FedEx Moves to Fuel Efficient Boeing 757

FedEx Express has switched from a Boeing 727 to a 757 freighter on its route between Memphis and Washington to achieve the environmental benefits of better fuel efficiency and reduced noise level.

It plans to phase in 757s to replace its existing fleet of 727s as a key component of its plan to reduce its carbon footprint. The company says the 757 cuts greenhouse gas emissions and fuel consumption by up to 36 percent; it also provides twenty percent more freight capacity.

>>In Brief - Americas

UPS Supports Environmental Programmes

The UPS Foundation has announced five grants totalling more than USD one million to support environmental programmes and organisations worldwide.





Europe
Americas
Asia-Pacific

Green Issue | 30 October 2008

print | next

Asia-Pacific

NZ Post Publishes CO₂ Reduction Target

New Zealand Post has included corporate responsibility targets for the first time in its annual statement of corporate intent to the government, its shareholder.

The targets will be monitored and measured as closely as financial performance. They commit New Zealand Post to a twelve percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2012.

Climate to be Big Challenge for International

Australia Post managing director Graeme John has told fellow members of the Kahala Posts Group that he foresees a shift away from air transport towards sea and rail.

"One of the challenges in international logistics is going to be greenhouse emissions," he said and predicted that worsening economic conditions could prompt a trend to slower, deferred delivery services.

DHL Introduces GoGreen in 17 Countries

DHL is introducing its carbon neutral GoGreen express service in seventeen Asia-Pacific countries including China.

To use the service, customers pay an additional "green premium" on top of the standard delivery charge; DHL calculates the carbon emissions of the shipment and offsets them by reinvesting in certified carbon management programmes such as alternative fuel vehicle technology, solar panels and reforestation projects.





Europe
Americas
Asia-Pacific

Green Issue | 30 October 2008

print | next

TNT Wins Award for Hybrid Truck

TNT Express Australia has won the *2008 Technology and Innovation Award* for its Hino hybrid truck at the country's annual transport awards.

In April, TNT introduced ten Hino hybrid trucks becoming the first express company in Australia to operate a fleet of diesel-electric hybrids. The trucks emit fourteen percent less CO₂ and fifty percent less nitrous oxide than conventional diesel trucks of equivalent size.

TNT expects to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 1,600 kg of CO₂ a year per vehicle.

>>In Brief - *Asia Pacific*

10,000 km and Still Going

DHL Japan has been trialling Daimler AG's F-Cell fuel cell vehicle since 2006, logging up 10,000 km of emission-free operation.

Volunteer Day Attracts 15,000

DHL Asia Pacific conducted its community outreach program 'DHL Volunteer Day' in more than twenty countries to encourage the spirit of volunteering among employees. Fifteen thousand DHL employees took part.





Europe
Americas
Asia-Pacific

Green Issue | 30 October 2008

print | home

Message from the Editor

We hope you enjoy this special issue of *IPC Market Flash*. This is the second of four Green Issues planned for 2008. The next Green Issue is scheduled for February 2009.

The purpose of the special issue is to share the many successful environmental sustainability initiatives being undertaken by IPC member posts and participants. The next Green issue is scheduled for September. Please highlight your post's programs by submitting your articles and photographs to: publications@ipc.be.

Valoree Vargo
Head of Communication, IPC

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