

## **DPD and Hermes Germany shut down parcel locker venture ParcelLock**

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Hermes and DPD Germany have decided to discontinue the activities of their joint venture ParcelLock, specialising in IT solutions for locker systems, as the project fell short of expectations.

The operational activities of the providerneutral locker system will be gradually scaled back and terminated in the course of this year. In the future, both companies want to push ahead with alternative solutions in the field of parcel lockers.

The universally usable ParcelLock system was officially launched in 2016. Since then, the locker systems, which were accessible to all service providers, have been integrated into apartment buildings and individual houses or, for example, tested at public transport stops as part of the HamburgBox pilot project, which will expire at the end of February 2022. All in all, various use cases were tested and a wide range of findings in the field of parcel lockers were collected.

The conclusion was that the basic idea of a system that is open to various service providers was perceived as consumer-friendly by users, as it offers the possibility of using the services of both online and bricks-and-mortar retailers in equal measure and is not limited to a single transport service provider.

However, both the user numbers and the market development of the ParcelLock project fell short of overall expectations. Until now, the development of the ParcelLock system has not yet resulted in sufficient coverage. The joint venture was dependent on cooperating manufacturers and distribution partners.

Source: CEP-Research