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The New bilstein group Logistics Centre in Gelsenkirchen Successfully Launched

Last October, the bilstein group's new logistics centre in Gelsenkirchen was ceremoniously inaugurated by Mayor Karin Welge. Meanwhile, another important milestone has been reached: the ramp-up of intralogistics has successfully launched.

As of March 2022, the various logistics departments from goods receiving to order picking and packaging have been gradually ramping up. For this reason, replacement parts for cars and trucks are transported to Gelsenkirchen from the main location in Ennepetal and from the external warehouses that are currently still in operation. "At the moment we are storing up to 750 pallets a day," says Group Managing Director, Jan Siekermann. "The starting point has definitely been achieved and we have successfully cleared an important hurdle. At the same time, we still have a lot to do to ensure that the ramp-up remains stable - and that, in the end, our customers benefit from higher availability and an even better logistics service."

The launch is expected to last until the beginning of 2023. At the same time, day-to-day business is already being conducted at the site: logistics orders for customers have been processed since the end of March.

In addition, the recruitment process is in full swing: 250 new employees have already joined the team in Gelsenkirchen. By the end of the year, there should be around 400 - from commercial logistics staff and office and IT specialists to mechatronics

engineers. After that, the company plans to hire additional staff as part of the further expansion of capacity.

At around 120 million euros, the new logistics centre is the largest single investment in the history of the bilstein group. The facility operated by the world's leading manufacturer and supplier of replacement parts for passenger cars and commercial vehicles is around 45,000 square metres in size. Inside, the emphasis lies on highly automated processes. "In the future, this will enable us to not only achieve a consistently high shipping volume, but it will also allow for more storage of goods and help us also more goods in the same space than in a conventional warehouse," says Siekermann. The logistics centre offers capacities for up to 116,000 pallets and 228,000 containers.

The logistics centre is not only technically state-of-the-art, but also in terms of sustainability: the building meets the KfW standard 55, which means it requires 45% less primary energy than a comparable building. In addition, there is a photovoltaic system of approximately 6,000 square metres and around 15,000 square metres of green roof. "The logistics concept also helps us to handle the processing and distribution of our products as energy efficiently as possible through its mode of operation and the use of low-energy drives and components," says Siekermann. "This allows us not only to operate sustainably at the German location, but also to be economically successful in the long term."

In 2017, the bilstein group acquired a plot of land of approximately 200,000 square metres in Gelsenkirchen. The construction time was around two years. In two further construction stages, the current logistics area could be doubled in total.

Background:

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Publisher

Ferdinand Bilstein GmbH + Co. KG
Wilhelmstrasse 47
58256 Ennepetal / Germany

Contact:

XXYY

Tel.:

Email: