

To Verona on the train!

Steel products from South Westphalia take the intermodal route to northern Italy

Neunkirchen/Stuttgart, Blechexpo 2019. The EMW Steel Service Centre was among the first companies to use the container terminal operated by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für kombinierten Güterverkehr mbh & Co. KG (Kombiverkehr KG). The new Kombiverkehr KG non-stop connection will enable businesses and forwarding companies to provide the fast and environmentally friendly transport of goods and commodities between South Westphalia and the metropolitan regions of Stuttgart or Verona inside 38 hours. With this new link, Kombiverkehr KG will increase its services to and from Italy via the Brenner up to a total of 148 train departures per week.

“This service is an important contribution to strengthening North-Rhine Westphalia’s no. 1 industrial region and a massive contribution to environmental protection. Rail transport is considerably more climate friendly than road transport and this will also contribute to relieving the pressure on our chronically congested motorways”, says District Administrator Andreas Müller, supervisory board chairman of the KSW, the rail company operated by the Siegen-Wittgenstein local government. The KSW’s partner in operating the container terminal is the Frankfurt-based Kombiverkehr KG, Europe’s largest provider of intermodal transport projects. Among the first regional companies to use the container terminal are Erndtebrücker Eisenwerken and the EMW Steel Service Centre from Neunkirchen.

“We’re connected to the nationwide rail network through the infrastructure provided by the Freier Grunder rail company. With this container terminal and the direct link, we can now transport shipments by rail in competitive time frames,” says EMW managing director Michael Mockenhaupt. “The fact that every trailer we transport using this rail link reduces CO² emissions by two-thirds compared to continuous road transport is a major advantage of intermodal traffic,” Mockenhaupt continues.

KSW and Kombiverkehr believe they’ll be able to convince other companies of the benefits of combined road and rail transport. “A big point in favour is the higher load weights compared to using trucks only. Total permissible pre-carriage and onward carriage weights to and from the terminal are 44 tons, 10 % more than for pure HGV transport. Apart from that, rail transport is exempt from the Sunday and public holiday driving bans that are in force for lorries,” explains Christian Betchen, managing director of KSW and SWCT (Südwestfalen Container-Terminal GmbH).

About EMW Steel Service Centre (www.emw-stahlservice.de):

As one of Europe’s largest independent Steel Service Centres, EMW supplies coils, slit-strip, cut-to-size formats and circular blanks to the manufacturing industry. In over 42,000 sq. m of storage space, EMW has around 180,000 tons of thin steel sheet permanently in stock. Almost all current market grades are constantly

available for delivery: standard and special grades, mainly hot-dip and electrolytically galvanized, cold-rolled, warm-rolled and hot-dip aluminised. On five slitting and three multi-blanking lines, EMW processes metal sheet in thicknesses of 0.4 to 6 millimetres with coil weights of up to 32 tons. Among the company's specialities are a wide range of high-quality automobile grades, high-tensile steels, grades for enamelling and the highly efficient organisation of transport logistics. At EMW, certification according to DIN ISO 9001:2008, ISO/TS 16949:2009 and ISO 14001:2004 ensures that quality, process reliability and environmental protection are guaranteed. EMW is a division of the internationally successful SCHÄFER WERKE group with its head office in Neunkirchen.

**Information: SCHÄFER Werke GmbH, Julia Niederer, Pfannenbergstraße 1, D-57290 Neunkirchen,
Tel.: +49 2735 787-258, Fax: +49 2735 787-284, E-Mail: jniederer@schaefer-werke.de**

**Press contact: Konzept PR GmbH, Michael Baumann, Proviantbachstraße 1, D-86153 Augsburg,
Tel.: +49 821 34300-0, Fax: +49 821 34300-77, E-Mail: m.baumann@konzept-pr.de**