

Laying of the cornerstone for the distribution center in Sacalaz (Romania)

A partnership consisting of Continental AG, air cargo specialist Dietrich-Logistics, based in Germaringen, Germany, and the Honold Logistik Gruppe, with headquarters in Neu-Ulm, Germany, is investing 5 million euros in the construction of the distribution center. Sacalaz will be able to handle 14,000 tires a day. On the order of 30,000 tonnes of tires are to be shipped each year from the center to points in Romania, Bulgaria, Ukraine, Serbia, Bosnia, Croatia, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan.

„Our investment in the logistics center is the natural response to the gratifying development in the East European tire market,” said Andreas Huck, CFO of Continental Automotive Products in Timișoara. „We aim to continually expedite the processing of inquiries and orders from our customers and partners. This also explains why we decided in favor of Sacalaz for the new logistics center,” added Huck.

In Dietrich and Honold, Continental AG has settled on two experienced logistics companies to oversee planning, logistics, distribution and financial operations at the tire distribution center. „As the fulcrum of international tire distribution handling, Sacalaz will interlink the countries of Eastern Europe,” declared Heiner Honold, owner and managing director of Honold Logistik Gruppe. Ultramodern IT technology and the latest SAP R/3 system will integrate the center tightly into Continental's European flow of goods. It will, moreover, be directly connected to Honold's IT center in Neu-Ulm. „Sacalaz satisfies the key requirements for a logistics center. It has good rail connections and an excellent hookup to international highways. It is situated in convenient proximity to the Continental tire plant in Timișoara. Furthermore, the open-minded cooperation of local authorities was instrumental in the expeditious preparation of the project,” notes Matthias Vogel, regional distribution manager at Continental.

The cornerstone laying ceremonies are being attended by Timis County's prefect, Ovidiu Draganescu, and the mayor of Sacalaz, Ilie Todasca, as well as the German consul in Timișoara, Rolf Maruhn, and other honored guests. The distribution center creates fifty new jobs.



Laying of the cornerstone for the distribution center, 29.06.2006, from r. to l.: Heiner Matthias Honold, Honold Logistik, Hanns-Ulrich Dietrich, Dietrich Logistik, Ilie Todasca, mayor of Sacalaz