

PRESS INFO

Kuehne+Nagel Group

Kuehne+Nagel inaugurates largest-ever logistics hub

- **Highly automated and sustainable distribution centre for adidas for Southern and Eastern Europe in Mantova, Northern Italy**
- **130,000 sqm of surface, up to 500,000 shipments per day, more than 700 new jobs**
- **Blueprint for the next generation of omnichannel distribution hubs**

Mantova/IT, September 20, 2024 – Kuehne+Nagel has officially opened its new adidas distribution centre in Mantova, Northern Italy. The logistics hub combines growth opportunities, next-level digitalisation and sustainability. With this €350 million financial commitment, the company's single largest investment to date, Kuehne+Nagel demonstrates its commitment to more efficient and environmentally friendly logistics solutions. Additionally, more than 700 new jobs will be created, with a focus on technical and digital skills.

The distribution centre will service a geographical range including 19 countries in Southern and Eastern Europe. The logistics hub uses state-of-the-art, digital technologies that transform contract logistics management, making it faster, more accurate and environmentally friendly. More than 700 robots and further automation will support every step of the logistics process, from inventory tracking to product distribution.

The 130,000 sqm area is equipped with 20 km of conveyor belts and a shuttle system handling 25 storage lanes with a capacity of 440,000 units. Thanks to these systems, the logistics hub can process up to 500,000 shipments per day in support of every retail channel – from single e-commerce parcels to bulk orders for large retailers.

Stefan Paul, CEO of Kuehne+Nagel International AG, said: "The opening of the adidas logistics hub represents the largest and most innovative implementation in our company to date. It is the blueprint for the next generation of omnichannel distribution centres, combining next-level digitalisation and sustainable solutions. As such, it is a testament to our corporate strategy Roadmap 2026, which focuses on outstanding customer and employee experience. We are proud to take our long-term partnership with adidas to the next level."

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Real-time monitoring allows for greatly improved efficiency and reduction in error margins, optimising resources and also reducing delivery times. Through the integration of data and predictive algorithms, Kuehne+Nagel can anticipate maximum demand moments and adapt workflows.

Sustainability is another fundamental pillar of the adidas distribution centre, with the aim of reducing energy consumption and CO2 emissions. The centre is LEED Gold certified and uses only renewable energy. It is equipped with an LED lighting system, daylight and motion sensors and a photovoltaic system capable of generating 13,555 MWh per year. The environmental impact is constantly monitored, and an efficient waste reduction programme is in place, using sustainable materials for packaging and minimising plastics.

Mantova was selected as the location for this ambitious project due to its strategic position with excellent road and rail connections. This facilitates integration with last-mile suppliers and reduces operating costs and CO2 emissions. Additionally, the site selection has strong support from the local community.

The grand opening ceremony, held today, is being attended by representatives of adidas and Kuehne+Nagel, the Italian Minister of Enterprise and Made in Italy Adolfo Urso, Alessandro Beduschi, Regional Councillor, and the Mayor of Mantova, Mattia Palazzi. At the event, these representatives emphasise the strategic importance of the project for the region and the global logistics industry.

About Kuehne+Nagel

With over 80,000 employees at almost 1,300 sites in close to 100 countries, the Kuehne+Nagel Group is one of the world's leading logistics providers. Headquartered in Switzerland, Kuehne+Nagel is listed in the Swiss blue-chip stock market index, the SMI. The Group is the global number one in air and sea logistics and has strong market positions in road and contract logistics.

Kuehne+Nagel is the logistics partner of choice for 400,000 customers worldwide. Using its global network, logistics expertise and data-based insights, the Group provides end-to-end supply chain solutions for global companies and industries. As a member of the Science Based Target Initiative (SBTi), Kuehne+Nagel is committed to sustainable logistics by reducing its own environmental footprint and by supporting its customers with low-carbon logistics solutions.