

## PRESS RELEASE

### **GLS releases first sustainability report**

**Amsterdam, 18 February 2014. Acting responsibly towards people and the environment is an important principle for GLS. The Europe-wide parcel service provider documents its social involvement, environmental activities and progress in its recently released sustainability report.**

Resource and climate-friendly shipping services, ISO-certified environmental management, or diverse social involvement – the GLS Group’s latest report provides extensive information on the company’s holistic sustainability strategy. Many practical examples illustrate how the various national companies are active in a socially and ecologically conscious manner, while also increasing efficiency and promoting growth.

One of the focuses is on the GLS ThinkGreen environmental initiative. GLS has set itself environmental targets while encouraging and controlling the group-wide environmental activities and measuring their success. The parcel service provider also reports on the ThinkSocial initiative, which covers all GLS activities relating to fair and upright dealings with the public as well as its staff, transport partners and their delivery drivers.

#### **Measurable environmental relief**

In the environmental section the GLS Group presents the first results of its measures. “In the last two financial years, we have been able to reduce total emissions of carbon dioxide and carbon equivalents by four percent – despite an increase in parcel volumes,” says Rico Back, CEO of GLS.

Thanks to new eco-depots, investments in more efficient technologies and energy-saving measures, GLS actually reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from electricity and heating by 22 percent. The number of vehicles complying with the Euro 4 standard or higher also rose by eight percent to over 77 percent.

#### **Taking social responsibility**

In the ThinkSocial section, GLS presents the most important educational and development measures offered to its staff. Another focus area is the supportive

partnership with transport companies and their delivery drivers, in which joint activities and process optimisations play a major role.

“Getting socially involved beyond social standards means thinking about tomorrow,” says Rico Back. The GLS companies thus also take action in their social environment by supporting many fundraising campaigns, sponsoring sporting and cultural events, and providing free transportation services for charity.

### **On a regular basis**

The GLS sustainability report marks the start of regular reporting, providing customers, employees, transport partners and the public with transparency and a basis for ongoing dialogue. The document is available on the GLS website ([gls-group.eu](http://gls-group.eu)).

### ***The GLS Group in Europe***

GLS, General Logistics Systems B.V. (headquartered in Amsterdam), realises reliable, high-quality parcel services for 220,000 customers in Europe, complemented by logistics and express services. “Quality leader in European parcel logistics” is GLS guiding principle. In this context, sustainability is emphasized at GLS: its Europe-wide ThinkGreen Initiative bundles activities aimed at protecting the environment. Through wholly owned and partner companies, the group provides a network coverage of 37 European states and is globally connected via contractual agreements. 37 central transshipment points and 667 depots are at GLS disposal. With its ground based network GLS is one of the leading parcel service providers in Europe. About 14,000 employees handle 380 million parcels per year. Every day around 18,000 vehicles are on route for GLS. In the financial year 2012/13 GLS achieved revenues of 1.84 billion euros.