



Press release from Cargo sous terrain AG

Basel, 06 December 2018

Cargo sous terrain fast-tracks digital logistics solutions, expands Swiss shareholder base

The digital complete logistics system Cargo sous terrain (CST) is launching a fast-track programme for the priority implementation of central system components. Over the next few years, CST AG will be developing the local urban distribution system (City Logistics) and the IT platform for controlling the integrated logistics system. This will see the market-based investors of CST meeting the prerequisite for CST to secure its position in the marketplace even before the tunnel system is opened.

City Logistics and the IT platform, along with the tunnel system, are the central elements for CST to make an impact in the market. CST AG is forging ahead with the fast-tracked implementation of these key components as this will exploit the inherent financial potential and secure successful implementation once the CST legislation has come into force. With its decision to launch a "Programme 2020" in the amount of CHF 10 million, the management board at CST AG is underlining its intention to become one of the country's leading integrated logistics providers in the near future. The relevant sub-projects within the organisation have already been started.

The extraordinary general meeting of CST AG in Basel has enacted a share capital increase to lend further impetus to realising these sub-projects. Representatives from a number of firms that have acquired larger equity stakes were also elected to the Board of Directors. These are the five new Swiss shareholders: insurance company Helvetia Versicherungen, mechatronics firm Antrimon Group/Gotthard 3, planning and consulting firm Pini Swiss Engineers, consulting and engineering firm Pöyry Schweiz AG and tunnel construction specialist Marti Group. European infrastructure developer Meridiam has also acquired an equity stake and has taken a position on the Board of Directors at CST. These firms are contributing their investments and expertise to accelerate the pace of advances at CST. The investment plans at CST will also secure a significant investor majority from Switzerland for the subsequent planning permission phase from 2020.

CST legislation will soon be entering the consultation stage

The next step on the political front is the start of the three-month consultation process for the national CST legislation. The CST Law will set the framework for the construction of underground tunnels and overground hubs, and define the collaboration with the cantons and communities involved. Interested parties will be able to express their views during this consultation process. CST anticipates the start of the process to be announced in the coming weeks, as announced by the Federal Council on 28 September. This legislation is an essential requirement for implementing the new complete logistics system, with construction to start in 2025.



The CST complete logistics system is scheduled to be launched in phases from 2030 onwards, and will provide a network of tunnels spanning 500 kilometres, 80 access points for goods (hubs), and city logistics for around 10 million people in Switzerland. CST will see Switzerland gain an efficient and sustainable complete logistics system for the digital age by 2045.

Further information for the media

Peter Sutterlüti, Chairman of the Administrative Board of CST AG
Tel. +41 79 300 06 79, peter.sutterlueti@cargosousterrain.ch

Patrik Aellig, Communication CST AG
Tel. +41 61 205 10 68, patrik.aellig@cargosousterrain.ch

Website

www.cargosousterrain.ch

Comprehensive logistics solution with CST from 2030 onwards

By 2045, CST can provide Switzerland with an automated, digitally controlled overall logistics system that will promote the competitiveness of the economy and improve quality of life in the long term. CST will ensure a high security of supply and punctual deliveries of pallets, containers and parcels. The system includes underground transport tunnels between the centres north of the Alps and environmentally friendly distribution in cities and industrial areas (city logistics). The first section of the tunnel system will connect the Härkingen-Niederbipp logistics hub with Zurich from 2030 onwards. In the next few years, CST will develop a city logistics service for Swiss cities which can be operated profitably after the opening of the CST tunnel system. The fully automatic network from Geneva to St. Gallen and from Basel to Lucerne, with an additional branch from Berne to Thun at the full state of development, will serve more than 80 hubs for the loading and unloading of goods for industry and commerce as well as for about 10 million people. At the same time, CST will be the largest warehouse in Switzerland with a surface area of one million square metres below ground.

CST will reduce the number of trucks on existing roads, in particular at road bottlenecks by 40%. Freight traffic in cities will be reduced by up to 30% thanks to the systematic and efficient delivery by electric vehicles that are compatible with urban requirements. The system will be operated entirely with renewable energy. Thanks to end-to-end digitalization, the system will operate in an extremely flexible environment, with dynamic deliveries in small units and guaranteed arrival times for goods.