



## **DHL celebrates the 25th anniversary of its Benelux Hub in Brussels**

- *Strong regional DHL Express hub operations at BRU*
- *DHL remains committed to Belgium as important market for European exports and imports*

**Brussels, August 9th, 2010** - DHL, the world's number one logistics company, commemorates the 25th anniversary of its Brussels hub (BRU hub) in Zaventem. The hub was inaugurated in July 1985, employing 32 people to process around eleven thousand parcels a day. Over the years activities at BRU hub grew tremendously and were instrumental for expanding DHL Express' regional Benelux and European operations.

Today, DHL's BRU hub employs around 600 people and processes sixty to seventy thousand parcels a day. More than 20 aircraft and hundreds of trucks are loaded and unloaded every day. The hub has an air transport capacity of more than 300 tonnes per day, which amounts to more than 75,000 tonnes per year. Combined daily air and ground transport capacity is around 800 tonnes per day. The BRU hub is one of the most important regional hubs for DHL in Europe and is connected, through DHL Express' European and global network, to over 200 countries around the world. The BRU Hub has direct flights to East Midlands and Luton (UK), Vitoria (Spain), Bergamo (Italy), Lagos (Nigeria), Nantes (France) and of course, Leipzig (Germany). DHL is the only logistics company located at Zaventem airport itself, which enables easy and efficient loading and unloading of planes.

Belgium is an important import and export market, with good access to the heart of Europe. The company remains committed to the Belgian market and will continue to strengthen its position as market leader in international express shipments. Says Koen Gouweloose, Managing Director Benelux Hubs & Gateways: "Our Brussels hub is an important center for the distribution of express shipments leaving and entering the Benelux region. We will continue to utilize the hub's potential within the greater European network, as we are constantly looking for ways to provide a better service to our customers".



### **Life at BRU BRU HUB**

All activity at DHL BRU HUB is all set in and around the warehouse, the “belly” of the hub. Here all shipments are weighed, sorted and shipped. The route of a shipment starts on the ‘ramp’ where the aircrafts land or on the quays where the trucks are unloaded. DHL BRU HUB in Zaventem daily counts about 240 truck movements, with peaks of 300 movements. Once the shipments enter the warehouse, they are sorted and further processed. Inside the warehouse long rows of containers are waiting to be filled. Stacking the shipments in the container is not easy as the staff must ensure that there is no space lost and that shipments are transported in a stable way, thus avoiding shipments damaging each other.

Each container has also a specific shape depending on the type of aircraft for which it is used and the place in the plane where it is loaded. There are several hectic activity peaks during the day and night. From 21 to 23 hours is very busy, same as between 3 and 4 hours at night. After four o’clock the activity slows down a bit and as of five o’clock in the morning everything and everyone is back full in swing...

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## About DHL

### **DHL – The Logistics company for the world**

DHL is the global market leader in the logistics industry and “The Logistics company for the world”. DHL commits its expertise in international express, air and ocean freight, road and rail transportation, contract logistics and international mail services to its customers. A global network composed of more than 220 countries and territories and 310,000 employees worldwide offers customers superior service quality and local knowledge to satisfy their supply chain requirements. DHL accepts its social responsibility by supporting climate protection, disaster management and education.

DHL is part of Deutsche Post DHL. The Group generated revenue of more than 46 billion euros in 2009.