



**PRESS RELEASE** / 14 September 2020

## **New freight railcars in service**

### **Schütz strengthens eco-friendly inter-company logistics**

**Selters (hds).** Sustainable, quieter and visually appealing: Schütz has optimised inter-company rail traffic on the Selters-Siershahn line. Since mid-August, 24 new, ultramodern railcars in the company's striking blue and silver livery have been transporting steel coils and pre-products twice a day on weekdays between the two plants, which are connected via their own rail sidings.

Since the company was founded, Schütz has been processing steel in its own plant and manufacturing the steel components for the products of the Packaging Systems and Energy Systems divisions. To keep pace with the company's needs, the Steel Service Center in Siershahn has recently been substantially expanded and equipped with the latest generation of machinery for slitting and cutting flat steel. As a result, inter-company transportation is set to increase significantly. The company's own high-performance rail logistics system is the ideal solution, ensuring the efficient internal supply of raw materials: coils processed in Siershahn are delivered just-in-time directly by freight railcars to the production facility in Selters.

### **Better for the environment, traffic and roads**

The company's own locomotives pull the freight cars along the approximately nine-kilometer section. It is the first time the company has used this type of railcar. The models have an innovative design where the undercarriage and the carriage are separate. This means that as many as three coils with a total weight of 70 tons can be loaded on to one railcar, thus providing even greater benefits for the environment. By choosing this method of transportation, Schütz is avoiding 47 truck journeys per day. Lined up, the total length of these trucks, which would be driving along the roads every day, would be approximately 800 meters. Shifting from road to rail not only saves fuel and reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, it also eases pressure on the local road network and significantly reduces the risk of traffic congestion. Another important

factor is that having fewer heavily loaded trucks driving on the roads helps to protect road surfaces.

The railcars are equipped with the so-called whisper brakes for freight cars that will be mandatory from 2020, and the advanced design of the railcars also makes them much quieter when they pass by.

Transport by rail combines ecological and economic advantages. Wherever possible, Schütz has always relied on rail. This has allowed the company to shift more than 30,000 truckloads off the road every year, saving tens of thousands of tons of CO<sub>2</sub> and benefitting both the environment and the region equally.

In order to further increase the benefits and cost-effectiveness of this rail section, Schütz will be permitting other companies to pass through the Selters site in Altenkirchen, both towards Altenkirchen and on the return journey. The demand is there, and inquiries have already been received.

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**Caption:** Sustainable logistics at Schütz: the 24 new railcars arrive at the factory in Selters. Photo: SCHÜTZ

**Schütz** is a leading international producer of high-quality transport packaging (Intermediate Bulk Containers, PE and steel drums). The Group's headquarters are in Selters, Germany. Founded in 1958, Schütz employs over 6000 people at more than 50 production and service sites around the world (including licensees). The four Schütz business units, Packaging Systems, Energy Systems, Industrial Services and Composites, each hold leading positions in their respective markets. The family-run enterprise is an important trendsetter and innovator. The Group's turnover in 2019 was 1.8 billion euros. Schütz offers its customers full system solutions that are tailored to their individual supply chain. With the Schütz Ticket Service, a closed-loop cycle of speedy collection and reconditioning for used Schütz IBCs, Schütz provides all of the world's major industrial nations with a service that fully complies with the Group's sustainability philosophy.

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