

STEF strengthens its operations in German-speaking Switzerland with the construction of an 8,500 m² site in Kölliken

The foundation stone of the new dual-temperature STEF site in Kölliken was laid on Friday December 16 by Michel Christe, Chairman of the Board of STEF Switzerland, Stanislas Lemor, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of STEF Group and Fredy Gut, Mayor the city of Kölliken. The Kölliken site will enable STEF to support the development of its Swiss and European clients, with storage and distribution services for their refrigerated and frozen products. Commissioning is scheduled for September 2017.



From the left to the right: Michel Christe, Chairman of the Board of STEF Switzerland, Fredy Gut, Mayor the city of Kölliken Stanislas Lemor, Deputy Chief Executive Officer of STEF Group and

With its strategic geographical location at the heart of the German-speaking food production and consumers' areas, the new infrastructure will meet the needs of Swiss food manufacturers and serve mass retailers and wholesalers' platforms across the whole territory. As part of its clients, the site will count on EMMI, the leading Swiss dairy group which announced in December the setting of a joint distribution logistics network for Switzerland with STEF Group.

The site will help all European clients of the Group develop their operations in Switzerland and will offer its Swiss clients an easy access to markets in Western and Southern Europe.

The investment in the Kölliken site is part of the STEF strategy to develop a solid footprint in Switzerland, where it has operated since 1927. With its current 100 employees, STEF Switzerland offers a range of transport and logistics services dedicated to frozen food products, with four sites spread over the territory: two in French-speaking Switzerland (Bussigny and Satigny), one in German-speaking Switzerland (Kriens) and one in Italian-speaking Switzerland (Cadenazzo). With the development of the Kölliken site, STEF Switzerland will also be positioned to offer consolidation logistics services for refrigerated products with a network of distribution platforms under +2°C / +4°C.

Stanislas Lemor, STEF Deputy Executive Officer said: « *Switzerland is a key country for the development of our transport and logistics services for food in Europe. With this €35 million major investment, STEF believes in the economic momentum and logistics advantages of the country, and of its German-speaking part specifically* ».

He added: « *The new Kölliken site materializes our development ambitions in Switzerland. It will help us reach the critical size necessary to broaden our range of services and to fully leverage our network, especially with Italy and Germany.*

The opening of the Kölliken site is expected to create 40 jobs, followed with 100 more jobs by end of 2018.

The STEF Kölliken site is designed on the model developed by the Group, combining performance in completion deadlines and up-to-date solutions in refrigeration, isolation and energy savings.

Work started a few weeks ago in Kölliken – a municipality in the Canton of Aargau, district of Zofingue, in German-speaking Switzerland – along the A1/E25 Zurich / Bern motorway, 50 kms from the German border.

Built on a 2.5 hectares plot, the site offers a total 8,500 m² surface area, consisting of a section for activities dedicated to refrigerated products (4,000 m² and 6,000 pallet positions) and a second zone for frozen products (4 500 m², corresponding to 60,000 m³, and 12,000 pallet positions).

Staff will carry out services such as receiving goods, order-picking, co-packing and vehicle loading. The site offers a possibility for extension for services in ambient temperatures.

The project for the construction of this new site was conducted with the services of the municipality. The €35 million cost is totally financed by STEF Group, which owns more than 90% of its real estate across Europe.

About STEF - www.stef.com

STEF is the European specialist for cold logistics (-25°C to +18°C). STEF masters and brings together all transport, logistics and I.T. skills dedicated to raw and transformed food products. STEF has a multi-service offer of logistics solutions well suited to the business and specific requirements of its clients: food manufacturers, retailers and out-of-home catering. STEF has 16,000 employees in 7 European countries: Belgium, France, Holland, Italy, Portugal, Spain and Switzerland. STEF can rely on a specialized infrastructure: 219 platforms and warehouses, 1,900 vehicles and 1,950 refrigerated trailers. Group income for 2015 reached €2,826 million.

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