

15 December 2022

HGK Shipping strengthens its Dry Shipping activities by acquiring BeKa HGK GmbH

HGK Shipping has been the sole shareholder of BeKa HGK GmbH since 14 December 2022. Thanks to this strategic decision to also take over the remaining 60 percent of the company's shares, Europe's leading inland waterway shipping company can significantly intensify its business activities on the Upper Rhine, Danube and Mosel rivers in its Dry Shipping division. The previous co-shareholder, Monique Hezel-Reyntjens, will continue to manage the business of BeKa HGK, together with her reliable team.

BeKa HGK is assigned to the Dry Shipping corporate division within HGK Shipping. "We're particularly strengthening our position for transporting fertilisers and agricultural products along the Upper Rhine, Danube and Mosel rivers through this takeover. This will especially have a significant effect within the network with our French subsidiary, HGK Logistics Sàrl, which has its headquarters in Metz," says Steffen Bauer, the CEO of HGK Shipping.

The BeKa HGK Managing Director, Monique Hezel-Reyntjens, adds her voice by saying, "The transfer of all the shares will further consolidate the existing relationship between BeKa HGK and HGK Shipping. At the same time, it's opening up new opportunities and potential for the future of the company. I'm convinced that BeKa HGK is being moved forward, strengthened and developed on its sustainable and successful course."

BeKa HGK transports about 500,000 tonnes of goods along waterways in Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Austria and Hungary every year. In addition to chartering inland waterway vessels, the services offered by the company include transshipment and storage as well as the pick-up and final delivery operations for combined traffic operations. The company was founded in 1982 and has its headquarters in Kehl am Rhein.

As part of the strategic restructuring of the company's Dry Shipping division HGK Shipping sold its minority shareholding of 33.25 percent in Gommers Internationaal Bevrachtings- en Scheepvaartkantoor B.V. with effect from 18 October 2022.

Contact details:

Would you like some more information? You can contact the HGK press spokesperson, Christian Lorenz, on +49 221 / 390 11 90 or send an e-mail to: lorenz@hgk.de.

About the HGK Group:

Häfen und Güterverkehr Köln AG (HGK) is the logistics company within the City of Cologne's public utilities group. Formerly just a port operator, HGK has developed into a group that provides integrated transport and logistics services with operations across Europe. Structured in five divisions, Logistics & Intermodal, Shipping, Rail Operations, Infrastructure & Maintenance and Real Estate, the HGK Group operates the largest inland waterway port network in Germany, one of the largest private railway companies for transporting cargo, specialist logistics firms and terminals as well as its own railway network and workshops for railway goods traffic through its subsidiaries and holding companies. HGK Shipping GmbH is the largest inland waterway shipping company in Europe.

About the HGK Shipping division:

HGK Shipping is part of Häfen und Güterverkehr Köln AG. Its fleet comprises about 350 vessels, including owner-operated ships. The spectrum of goods transported ranges from liquid chemical products and liquefied gases to dry goods and even break bulk cargo.