

Press release

## **GLS Netherlands opens new depot in Drachten**

*Large, modern location with automated sorting system*



Utrecht, 6 November 2023 - GLS Netherlands opened its new depot at Azeven business park in Drachten on 1 November. The new location replaces the depot in Groningen after 20 years. The depot in Drachten is larger, has a convenient location and a fully automated sorting system, allowing the company to better serve customers in the region.

Sietse Rienewerf, District Manager East at GLS Netherlands, says: "We are very happy with the opening of our new depot in Drachten. In addition to its central location, it is also a lot bigger and more modern thanks to the automated sorting system. This gives us double the capacity and allows us to process more parcels. We are also expanding the number of routes, allowing us to serve new customers as well."

The new depot in Drachten has a central and convenient location in the North-East region of the Netherlands. The location has 80 doors where delivery vans can load their parcels, providing twice the capacity as compared to the Groningen depot. In addition, the new depot is also equipped with a fully automated sorting system. With this, parcels are automatically brought in, sorted, weighed and measured, allowing more to be processed in less time. So from the Frisian city, the organisation can now process parcels faster and more efficiently in less time. This means the new location is ready in time for peak season: the busiest period of the year for the company.

### **Employees from Groningen move along to new location**

All employees already working at the old depot in Groningen will move to the new depot in Drachten. In addition, GLS will hire 30 to 40 extra employees, who can be deployed on a flexible basis at the new location. This amounts to around 80 to 90 employees in total.

Last month, employees already had a tour of the new depot in Drachten and also attended training sessions. For example, on how the automated sorting system works. "Last month, we also organised a family day for employees, so that they could already check out the new depot together with their families. The attendance was great, around 140 people, because many employees and delivery staff came with their children and even grandchildren to see where they will be working. The reactions were very positive!" said Rienewerf.

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### **About GLS Netherlands**

GLS Netherlands is one of the largest logistics companies in Europe, with strong local representation in all markets across the continent. This allows GLS to seamlessly connect its customers with millions of parcels and stories every day. GLS is proactive in network management, bringing its market closer in a flexible and agile way to always respond effectively to their rapidly changing dynamics. The company is proud to serve customers in more than 40 European countries, 8 U.S. states and Canada, with service of the highest quality that best meets their needs. The GLS network includes more than 120 hubs and 1,600 depots, and is supported by a fleet of 4,700 linehaul trucks and some 37,000 delivery vehicles. This provides high European coverage, superior flexibility and tremendous reach. In 2022/23, GLS generated record sales of 5.4 billion euros and delivered 862 million parcels. Learn more at [www.gls.nl](http://www.gls.nl).