



ENROUTE^{#5}

The newsletter of EPC Logistique



Welcome

Welcome to the August edition of En-Route.

In this edition we will update you on the latest developments the EPC Groupe has put in place to achieve compliance with the Identification and Traceability of Explosives Regulations 2013 (ITOER 2013); our continued commitment in meeting the ever growing demands and our dedication to you the customer.

EPC-UK Transport recently attended the Multimodal Exhibition in Birmingham, successfully showcasing our unique services in global logistics. The exhibition offered the opportunity to build relationships within the industry (page 2). I hope you enjoy the read.

Darrell Howard

Head of Supply Chain - EPC Groupe

Safety first

EPC-UK's Transport division continues to grow through 2014. To meet this demand we have taken delivery of a new 13.5 tonne EX111 Rigid (compartmental) Box Van that will operate out of our Rough Close Works plant in Alfreton.

Instant communication

This vehicle will have a state of the art specification including a CCTV camera with a continual recording facility whilst the vehicle is in motion; Incident data analysis incorporating camera integration; door alarms and a driver panic button, which will deliver immediate information to a control centre.

Additional security

Internally, the box compartment has been fitted with side load lock and floor lashing rings that will prevent pallets and/or boxes from moving whilst the vehicle is in motion. This vehicle will join the transport fleet fulfilling both the needs of our internal ' Services ' business and their customers.



Customer satisfaction first

EPC France Explosives Division, located at the headquarters in Saint Martin de Crau, receive many orders for explosives and accessories from EPC Groupe subsidiaries.

Our customer service department handle export orders from all over the world, from quotations to shipment. Managing this, is by no means easy, on a daily basis staff have to deal with the numerous possibilities of transportation modes (air, sea, road, rail), and a variation of products produced either by EPC Groupe subsidiaries and other 3rd party suppliers.

Consideration has to be given to the production cycle time, the different countries involved and their import

regulations, the heavy administrative burden upon export and import at destination and vessel shipments.

Dedicated commitment

To ensure the customer's needs are met a department was formed, headed by Jean Marc Bigouroux, Carine Filly and Cecile Pellegrint. Every shipment is a challenge, but the goal always stays the same "customer satisfaction first" through a dedicated commitment versus the initial scheduled date.



The race to Track & Trace

*Phase 2 of development for **EURO-iTRACE** requires a system that will track every item from the magazine onto the delivery vehicle and onwards to depots and our customer sites.*

It must also be capable of tracking all civil explosives during the importation and exportation process in Europe. The obligation to track each explosives item passes with the custody of the product.

The EPC Track & Trace Steering Committee has validated the selection of Zetes, a pan-European provider, as the partner to support the Track & Trace project for the EPC Groupe.

The project team

The implementation will be coordinated centrally; by Carmen Neira, Head of Project Supply Chain for all of the process and functional issues and by Frédéric Wszolek for IT issues. Local implementation Managers appointed will manage the local roll-out.

En-route caught up with Carmen to find out more about the project.



“ In order to meet our obligations in terms of traceability by the 5th of April 2015, our internal objective is to implement traceability for the whole scope by the 15th of January 2015.

In the short-term, the functional analysis phase, based on a pilot site in France, will take place in July.

This step will enable us to validate settings and customization of the solution and to industrialize the process for the roll-out in every country.”



Bramble Island continues to grow

In 2013, EPC-UK expanded our Transport operation by developing a fleet of tractors and multi modal tankers based at the Bramble Island site near Harwich. In January 2014, Andy Carmichael was appointed as Transport Manager and took responsibility for the drivers and assets assigned to the Island. Andy is currently engaged with a major supplier in heading up our latest project which will see the delivery of two 29 tonne tank loads of raw material to the Bramble Island site at Great Oakley.



Transportation of Oleum

In June 2014, Transport took delivery of three new 29 tonne Road Barrel tanks. These new tanks operate out of EPC-UK's Bramble Island facility and will be used in the transportation of Oleum, a raw material used in the manufacturing of Cetane Improver (2EHN) under EPC-UK's Bramble Island Additives division. In addition to the new tankers, three new drivers will be recruited and trained in the specialist movement of this ADR Class 8 product.

Logistics exhibitions

For the first time EPC-UK exhibited at Multimodal as EPC-UK Transport with the intention of promoting ourselves as a specialist global logistics provider for all Class 1 explosives and other hazardous materials.



Multimodal is the UK's largest transportation expo, in May 2014 over 200 companies exhibited for the 3 days and with over 7000 visitors, it's the industry's leading annual event.

Our unique service offer certainly differentiated us from the majority of other exhibitors and attracted a lot of attention.

We are confident that over the 3 days we were successful in promoting EPC-UK Transport as first choice for transportation, domestically and globally, in this niche and specialist part of the market. A great deal of interest from new and existing customers was generated as a result of the show.

Bonded warehousing

At EPC France's Saint Martin de Crau facility, they have now been granted consent by French Customs to store class 1 bonded goods (in bulk or in a container)

This is an interesting and exciting opportunity to propose to EPC subsidiaries or other companies when they move non EU goods to Marseille/ Fos port under T1 or TIR customs, and they want to store when a boat is postponed in Fos or Marseille. More information on this topic, to follow soon.



EPC Groupe now operates two European bonded warehouses. One in Saint Martin de Crau and one at Bramble Island.



Profile

Didier Humbert is the new Groupe Procurement Manager for EPC Groupe, having taken on this important role since the beginning of May 2014.

“ My main job is to deal with strategic procurement across the entire groupe, sourcing everything from raw materials, such as nitrates and aluminium powder, through to essential equipment including drill rigs and detonators.”

Didier will work with a wide variety of suppliers across the world, striving to achieve the ideal balance between quality (which must be as high as possible) and cost (which, ideally, should be as low as possible!).

Another key task facing Didier will be to develop a group-wide procurement strategy, while still meeting the specific needs of EPC Groupe's various global subsidiaries. "I am currently in the process of travelling around the world, visiting different sites in order to understand their requirements and to forge successful long-term relationships."

His first challenge, however, is to get used to being in procurement, something that will undoubtedly be made easier by Didier's extensive career experience with EPC Groupe. Trained originally as an engineer, he first joined the Groupe in 1993 and spent many years as an Engineering

Manager based in France. One of his most successful projects was to develop a new design of explosives truck in the 1990s, which are still used today.

In 2009, Didier's role changed completely as he moved to Saudi Arabia to co-ordinate a project to build two new explosives factories, which went live earlier this year.

It was at this point that Didier was recruited to his new role as Procurement Manager. "While this represents a real change for me, I believe my experience using many of the materials and products that I am now responsible for procuring, will enable me to bring fresh insight to our strategy."

In his spare time, Didier is a keen chess player, strengthening his sense of strategy. However, spare time may soon be a luxury he doesn't have, as Didier's first grandchild is due in October!



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