

THE LOGISTICS OF THE FUTURE

The new NORDWEST Handel AG
logistics centre





WHY ARE WE BUILDING, AND WHY IN ALSFELD?

Since 2005, NORDWEST has rented space in a multi-user warehouse in Gießen. Although NORDWEST is now the sole tenant there, we have exhausted the capacity of the space. NORDWEST is building a new central warehouse in the Hessen city of Alsfeld, around 35 km from Gießen, that meets all state-of-the-art logistics standards and will integrate ideally into the surrounding area. When determining the optimal location (centre of gravity analysis), the aspects of number and length of transport routes, transportation costs, and CO₂ emissions were optimally developed, with Alsfeld and its new commercial park proving the perfect site. NORDWEST will be the first company to settle at the new "Am Weißen Weg" industrial centre.

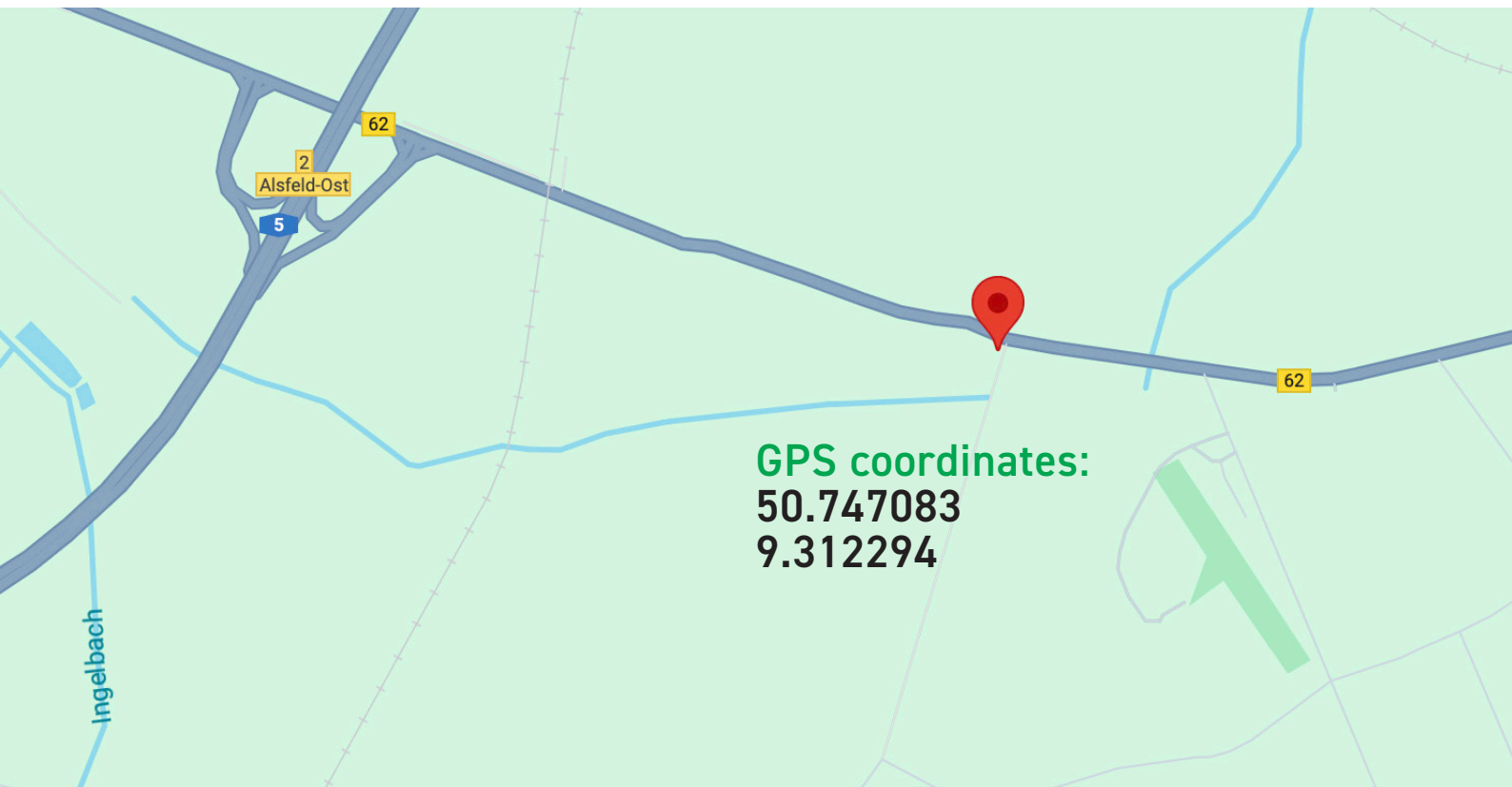
With the new central warehouse, we are supporting future growth and offering an even higher level of service. Our logistics, in the form of our new central warehouse in Gießen, represents an outstanding advantage for our specialist trade partners in the construction, trade, industry & building services areas. This underscores the development of financials in the warehouse area: warehouse volume has grown from 115 million euros in 2012 to 245.7 million euros in 2023.





Key facts & figures for the new NORDWEST central warehouse in Alsfeld

- + 135,000 square metre property size
- + 72,000 square metres of warehouse space
- + 12 metre warehouse height
- + 20 metre building height in the automatic small parts warehouse area
- + 212 vehicle parking spaces
- + 50 truck ramps
- + 50,000 Euro pallet spaces incl. handling of hazardous materials
- + 35 level small parts warehouse
- + 170,000 spaces in the automatic small parts warehouse
- + 210 shuttle lift systems
- + 6 double lift systems
- + 14 manual packing stations with carton erector
- + 10,000 order containers per day



GPS coordinates:
50.747083
9.312294

“We are planning to start productive use as of 2026. The location is expected to create more than 200 jobs”.

**THORSTEN SEGA, MEMBER OF THE
MANAGEMENT BOARD AT NORDWEST**



HIGH-PERFORMING DEVELOPMENT OF LOGISTICS PROCESSES

In addition to our product assortment, our customers attach fundamental importance to our high product availability, which generally reaches up to 98 %, a minimal error rate, and the fact that they can place orders 24 hours a day. This, and three other objectives of the new warehouse building are: High-performing and partially automated logistics processes, in order to further improve quality and quantity so that specialist trade partners profit directly. This includes aspects like error avoidance through fully digitalised processes, quick and highly efficient handling of small parts shipping structures, extremely fast order processing, and even shorter lead times for better shipping quality.

Together with the Fraunhofer Institute, NORDWEST has initiated a research project with the goal of optimising our cardboard packaging system with respect to shipping structures and our assortment. Based on an IT-supported volume calculation, we will be able to select the optimal packaging materials and reduce shipment packaging to a minimum.

Furthermore, additional value added services will be possible, like set formation, labelling, equipping mobile workshops, or special outer packaging to address individual customer needs to the greatest extent

possible. This also includes handling and storage of hazardous substances in accordance with the law and ever more complex hazardous materials requirements.

The third objective is expanding individual direct deliveries to end customers on behalf of our specialist trade partners, to handle and optimise their logistics work and warehousing costs in a centralised manner.

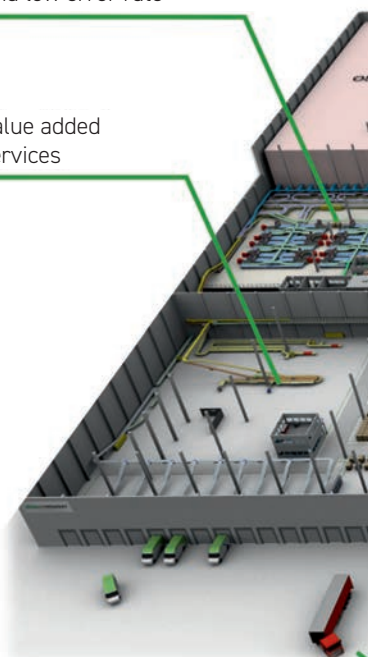
ATTRACTIVE FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS FOR SHIPPING

Thanks to long order acceptance times, we guarantee rapid and comprehensive product availability with same-day shipping. We offer affordable freight conditions under our framework agreements with different package and pallet shipping service providers. These are a clear competitive advantage for our specialist trade partners. Each year, NORDWEST ships over a million packages from Gießen throughout Germany and Europe. Shipping is climate neutral with our courier express shipping service providers. In addition, we make it possible to securely process hazardous materials for package shipping which could previously only be transported by a freight forwarder.



+ improved packaging quality and low error rate

+ Value added services



“Creating new networks, initiating partnerships, and combining strengths are NORDWEST's core areas of competence. Increasingly, we are utilising these on the European level – this is strategically important to our growth targets. With our new central warehouse, we are creating the logistics basis we need to do so”.

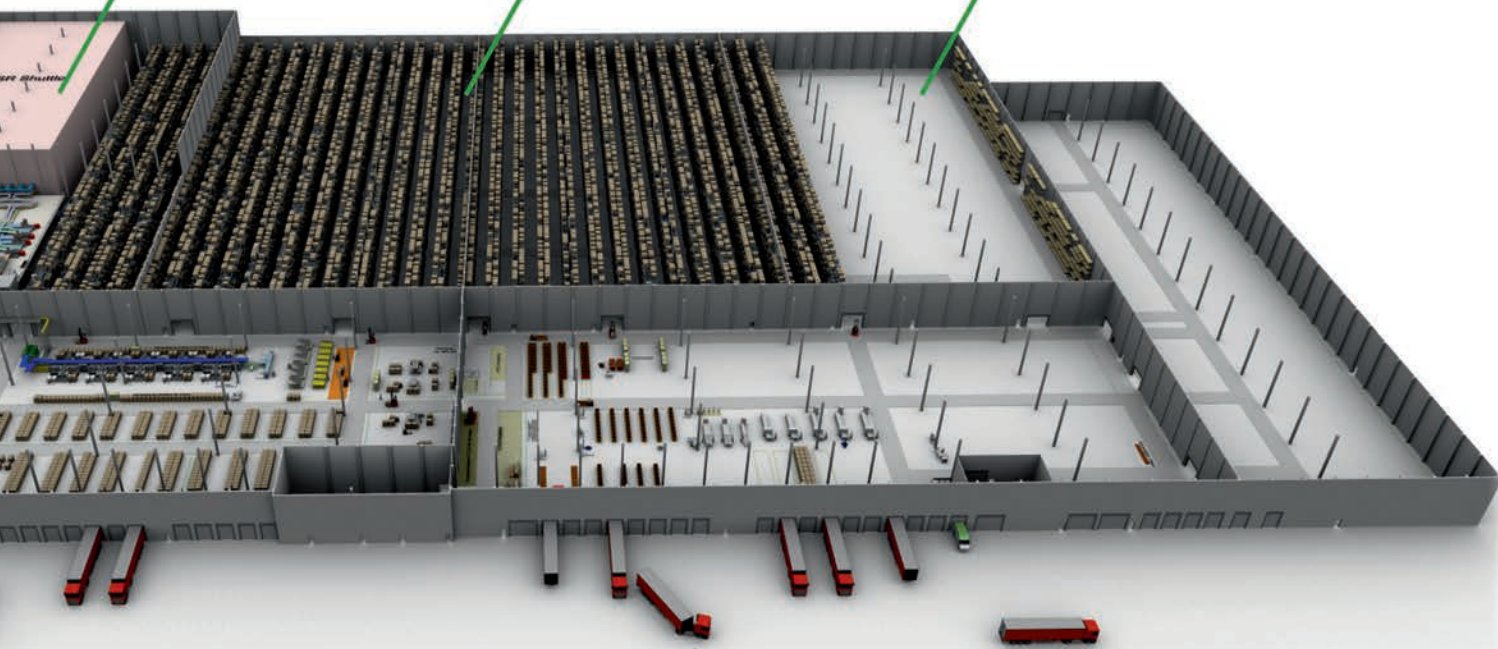
MICHAEL ROLF
MEMBER OF THE MANAGEMENT BOARD AT NORDWEST



+ Efficient processing of small parts shipping structures

+ Fully integrated hazardous materials handling

+ Customised logistics and projects



+ Integration of a wide variety of shipping service providers

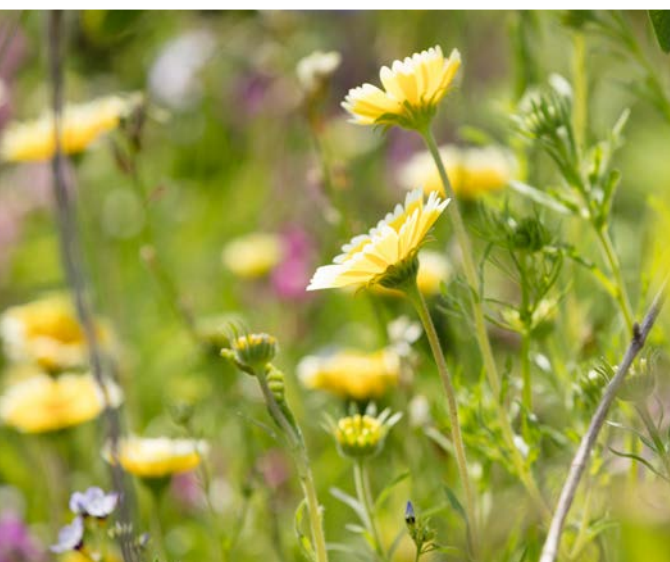
+ Delivery within 24 h

+ Tracking & tracing

SUSTAINABILITY AND THE NEW LOGISTICS BUILDING

NORDWEST is focusing specifically on the ecological aspects of its new building. The wide variety of requirements, which are in some cases extensive, have been taken into consideration in planning and in some cases exceeded. Planned measures include:

- + Photovoltaic system covering min. 50 % of the roof surface
- + Use of air heat pumps
- + High-quality insulation to reduce energy requirements
- + Landscaped strips on the façade to optimally integrate the building into the landscape
- + Co2-savings measures such as LED lighting, intelligent lighting control via presence detectors, start-on-demand solutions
- + Alignment of the building and exterior lighting on the loading area side (only insect-friendly emergency lighting on the side facing the forest and farmland)
- + Use of rainwater to water landscaping and for sanitary facilities
- + Outdoor facilities adapted to the natural environment, with a large number of trees planted, insect hotels, flower beds, water-permeable parking lots, charging columns for electric cars and e-bikes for employees
- + DGNB certification for sustainable building: The new NORDWEST logistics centre meets the gold standard



“We will be able to further increase the level of service we offer with extended order acceptance times, tracking and tracing according to the highest current standards, and additional logistics services.

**BASTIAN WOLFGARTEN,
HEAD OF LOGISTICS AT NORDWEST**



MILESTONES



2021

Selection of the Alsfeld site



2022

Detailed building planning



10/2021 - 04/2023

Building plan design



07/2023

Final construction plan issued



04/2024

Sand lizard relocation



07/2024

Preliminary building permit issued



08/2024

Start of excavations



09/2024

Groundbreaking ceremony





Get in touch with us!



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