

## **VGP ITALY AND GLS ITALY TOGETHER FOR THE NEW INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS HUB OF SORDIO**

*At the start the works for the realization of the logistic hub in the Lodi district: the structure will rise up above an area of approximately 27,000 square metres and will be delivered in January 2022.*

*GLS Italy has planned an investment of 8 million euros to equip the hub with a high standard of technology and automation that will enable it to sort more than 21,000 parcels per hour.*

**Lodi, 1 July 2021** - VGP, a pan-European provider of high-quality logistics and semi-industrial real estate and GLS Italy, one of the leading express courier players in Italy, today kicked off work on the new international logistics hub in Sordio.

This morning, in fact, the laying of the foundation stone was held in the presence of Agostino Emanuele, Country Manager of VGP Italy, Davide Barbagallo, Director International Sales & Operations, and institutional representatives including the Mayor of Sordio, Mr. Salvatore Iesce.

With the new hub GLS Italy aims to acquire an increasingly central role alongside SMEs, supporting them with efficient and quality services in international trade.

The new centre - which, after the initial investment signed by VGP last September, will see the light of day in January 2022, will have a build up area of 12,034 m<sup>2</sup>, divided in offices, warehouse and ancillaries.

GLS Italy has also planned a significant investment of 8 million euros to equip the plant with a high standard of technology and automation that will enable it - thanks to the implementation by MHS of a state-of-the-art sorter - to sort more than 21,000 parcels per hour.

The hub is located in a strategic position, thanks also to the excellent road links: just 500 metres from the Vizzolo Predabissi exit of the A58 motorway, which connects Milan, Brescia and Bergamo, and close to the A1 motorway, one of the main arteries of the Po Valley towards Bologna.

Today we are celebrating an important success for the entire municipal administration," said Salvatore Iesce, Mayor of Sordio. "It is a reason for us to be proud and a continuous boost to quality to have two companies like VGP and GLS in the area. We are confident that the new international hub in Sordio represents an opportunity that will be reflected in new jobs and in the environmental redevelopment of the area thanks to VGP's particular attention to sustainability with its green buildings."

In line with VGP's sustainability commitments and with GLS Italy's Climate Protect programme, the Sordio logistics centre will offer flexible spaces according to the customer's needs with high sustainability standards, including BREEAM "Very Good" (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) certification. The plan is also for the building to be equipped with photovoltaic panels on the entire surface of the roof.

In addition, in line with the objectives of the municipality of Sordio, more than 4,000 m<sup>2</sup> of green space and a project for the planting of various tree species, including around 80 trees. "We are proud to be here today to celebrate another important milestone for VGP Italy with the laying of the foundation stone of the logistics park in Sordio together with GLS Italy," - says Agostino Emanuele, Country Manager VGP Italy – "Thanks to the cooperation with our partner and the support of local institutions, we can consider this project a great success."

VGP Italy currently encompasses four business parks – Valsamoggia (BO), Calcio (BG), Sordio (LO), Padova – and has additional developments in central and northern Italy in the pipeline: "We rely on partnerships with municipalities and tenants to create creative and sustainable solutions for their real estate needs. It is very important to be close to both our tenants and the municipalities where we are present. We look to the future without neglecting the values that have always distinguished our work, made up of people, professionalism and innovative projects," added Agostino Emanuele.

"Today we start a new path, which makes us particularly proud of the contribution we will be able to give to the production fabric of the Lombardy region," - confirms Klaus Schädle, Group Area Managing Director of GLS Italy S.p.A. – "Given the increase in international volumes, we believe that this project can be a key element of our broader strategy of growth and development that aims to position GLS Italy alongside small and medium-sized companies that export Made in Italy products abroad. In recent years we have invested significantly and will continue to do so in order to offer our customers and end users an increasingly widespread, efficient and high-quality standard of service".

## CONTACT DETAILS FOR POTENTIAL TENANTS AND MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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## **ABOUT VGP**

VGP is a pan-European developer, manager and owner of high-quality logistics and semi-industrial real estate. VGP operates a fully integrated business model with capabilities and longstanding expertise across the value chain. The company has a development land bank (owned or committed) of 8.54 million m<sup>2</sup> and the strategic focus is on the development of business parks. Founded in 1998 as a Belgian family-owned real estate developer in the Czech Republic, VGP with a staff of c. 300 employees today owns and operates assets in 11 European countries directly and through several 50:50 joint ventures. As of December 2020, the Gross Asset Value of VGP, including the joint ventures at 100%, amounted to € 3.84 billion and the company had a Net Asset Value (EPRA NAV) of € 1.35 billion. VGP is listed on Euronext Brussels and on the Prague Stock Exchange (ISIN: BE0003878957).

For more information, please visit: <http://www.vgpparks.eu>

## **ABOUT THE GLS GROUP**

GLS, General Logistics Systems B.V. (headquartered in Amsterdam), provides reliable, high-quality shipping services for over 240,000 customers, integrating express and logistics services. GLS's motto is to "Position itself at the forefront of quality in freight forwarding logistics". With its own companies and partners, the GLS Group covers 40 countries and is linked globally through contractual partnerships. Thanks to its road distribution network, GLS is a leading provider of shipping services on the European market. The Group is also present in Canada and on the west coast of the USA. GLS has more than 70 central and regional sorting centres and around 1,400 locations. Every day, around 19,000 employees, around 28,000 vehicles and around 4,000 long-distance trucks are on the road for GLS. In the 2019/20 financial year, GLS transported 667 million parcels and achieved a turnover of EUR 3.6 billion.