

# **GEFCO FREIGHT FORWARDING ACTIVITY EXPANDS ITS FOOTPRINT WITH BELGIUM BRANCH**

*The new focus for the branch in Antwerp aligns with the Group's strategy to reinforce its Freight Forwarding activity and aims to strengthen the other Belgian offices as well as the integrated solution offer*

**03 March 2017** – GEFECO, a global player in industrial logistics and a European leader in automotive logistics, has launched its Freight Forwarding office and warehouse facility in Antwerp Belgium. The branch will reinforce the existing network and strengthen GEFECO's footprint in the region.

## **ENHANCING GEFECO FREIGHT FORWARDING ACTIVITY IN A KEY REGION**

The optimisation of overseas (ocean and air) logistics is at the core of GEFECO Freight Forwarding. In accordance with the Group's strategy to further develop its freight forwarding activities in high potential markets, the group is reinforcing its presence in the Benelux region by focusing activity at the Antwerp branch on Air and Ocean services, placing it as the flagship branch for Freight Forwarding in Belgium.

The Benelux region is a key sector for logistics in Europe. Close to Antwerp and Rotterdam ports, Zaventem and Schiphol airports for the import-export operations, and to Brussels, Antwerp and Amsterdam for the distribution, GEFECO has chosen it to create an effective network that meets its industrial partners growing demand.

GEFCO's Freight Forwarding facility will reinforce the synergies with the other Belgian and Netherlands branches.

### **STRONG EXPERTISE IN SPECIALISED CARGO**

The Antwerp Freight Forwarding branch provides warehousing space and is specialised in Industrial Project Cargo by offering integrated solutions dedicated to high and heavy projects as well as out of gauge shipments. Over a third of the shipments from the Antwerp branch consist of Industrial Project cargo.

The branch's core activity of global import & exports via Air and Ocean provide a strong platform for the reinforcement of the import and export opportunities to every single location in the world. A special focus is made on the United-States, Mediterranean and the LATAM area where the GEFCO teams in place have reinforced their branches to bring their full support and expertise. Thanks to this facility, the group intends to increase its export activities in the coming years, offering its existing clients greater business opportunities in these key destinations which will definitely help strengthen and develop customer relationship and acquire new ones.

### **STRONG EXPERTISE IN EXPORT AND TAX REPRESENTATION**

The Antwerp branch includes a dedicated department aimed to secure customs clearance. As an expert in Customs

and Tax presentation, AEO certified, and Tax representative since 1993, GEFCO manages customs operations in more than 100 countries worldwide. The Group offers its clients customised services allowing them to benefit from reliable and robust processes reducing risk levels to zero.

“My team and I are proud to be part of the growing GEFCO family and to take part in the development of its Freight Forwarding activity,” says Dave Minnebach, Overseas Belgium Director, “Our customers will greatly benefit from this evolution, which comes with a state-of-the-art IT system connecting all our offices anywhere in the world. GEFCO is in a perfect position to service our customers with a quality level exceeding industry’s standards.”

**-ENDS-**

## **GEFCO GROUP**

GEFCO offers to design and implement logistics schemes alongside manufacturers, a source of added-value that strengthens their competitiveness. The performance GEFCO delivers to its customers is based on the expertise acquired over the last 65 years, particularly in the automotive industry, one of the most complex and demanding sectors. Present in 150 countries, GEFCO is one of the top 10 European Groups. It achieved a turnover of € 4.2 billion in 2015 and employs 12,000 employees. With over 300 business locations worldwide, GEFCO is developing its activities in Southeast Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, in the Balkans, East Asia and South America.

Website: [www.gefco.net](http://www.gefco.net)

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