



**8th International Trade Fair for Distribution,
Materials Handling and Information Flow
2 to 4 March 2010, Stuttgart Trade Fair Centre**

euroexpo

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Trade fair LogiMAT 2010 in Stuttgart on track for success

From 2 to 4 March 2010 LogiMAT, the International Trade Fair for Distribution, Materials Handling and Information Flow, is taking place in Stuttgart accompanied by an extensive fringe programme. It is the eighth edition of this annual meeting point for the intralogistics industry – the largest in Europe. With over 700 exhibitors from 20 countries and exhibition space of 52,000 square metres in Halls 1, 3, 5 and 7, LogiMAT 2010 is still on the road to success despite the economic crisis.

Seven years constant growth with satisfied exhibitors and visitors is the upbeat assessment of the Trade Fair for Distribution, Materials Handling and Information Flow. After a sharp drop in sales for many suppliers of intralogistics solutions, affecting not only fork-lift manufacturers but many other companies, too, this year, supply and demand for products and services is rising again. An indicator of this is LogiMAT 2010 in Stuttgart. Three months before the fair is due to start, over 90 percent of the exhibitor space is booked and over 130 of the companies participating are represented in Stuttgart for the first time this year. Unlike some other trade fairs LogiMAT, living up to its reputation, is once again offering space to more exhibitors and consequently an even wider range of products to the trade audience.

Marketplace for innovations

"We can feel the innovative power of the exhibitors, who want to demonstrate how they are defying market conditions, which have changed due to the economic crisis," says Peter Kazander, Exhibition Director of Munich-based event organisers Euroexpo GmbH, praising the wealth of ideas and the farsightedness of the exhibiting companies. In difficult times in particular, solutions and technologies which create efficient processes, save money and protect raw materials are in demand. Due to the increasing pressure to streamline, LogiMAT will become even more important as the 'marketplace for innovations'.

At any rate, countercyclical investments in intralogistics have proven to be a remedy to the effects of the crisis for many entrepreneurs. More economic and faster materials handling, storage and loading technology can greatly reduce throughput times in the warehouse and loading and unloading times at the ramp. Information and communications technology offers further potential with modern RFID control systems, efficient order-picking systems and software solutions for warehouse and stock management. Costs can be saved both by cutting personnel and by reducing failure rates. This also benefits other exhibition areas at LogiMAT 2010, such as packaging technology and the Auto-ID systems sector.

Range of topics in the accompanying programme wider than ever

Current developments, trends and strategies for increasing productivity and cutting costs take centre stage in the exhibition, but are also focused on in the wide-ranging LogiMAT 2010 accompanying programme.

In the forum areas, which are integrated into the exhibition, experts will be discussing with participants issues on all aspects of automation in the warehouse and the relevant technologies for goods control as well as the sustainability topics 'Green logistics', 'Logistics real estate' or the perennial subject 'Warehouse Management'. Because a modern logistics system is not possible without identification technology, topics such as identification and data exchange are very important in order to meet the increased demands on transparency for stock in hand and an optimal distribution system. In addition the speakers, from trade and industry and research, deal with intelligent packaging strategies, the shortage of skilled workers and managers in intralogistics, the efficient selection of production software and its operation, load securing, fire prevention and safety technology in the battle against 'shrinkage'.

A special feature is the one day event 'Intralogistics – Future – Technology' presented by Professor Karl-Heinz Wehking, Head of the IFT (Institute of Materials Handling Technology) at the University of Stuttgart and President of the Wissenschaftliche Gesellschaft Technischer Logistik (WGTL). The planning of logistics systems and automated identification, for example in the pharmaceutical industry, material optimization for wheel and castors for forklifts, and in-service training in logistics are topics the speakers will be focusing on.

"We are proud to be able to offer visitors to next year's fair over 22 trade forums plus 51 lectures by exhibitors. These cover the entire spectrum of the current themes and challenges in intralogistics," says Exhibition Director Peter Kazander. "LogiMAT is making an excellent contribution to in-service training here."

Curtain up for the 'Tracking & Tracing Theatre'

In this live scenario, logistics in the automotive sector and the tracking of deliveries from the supplier to a distribution centre and through to production is presented to visitors in a clear and comprehensible way. The focus is on the Just-in-Sequence procedure and internal production material conveyancing using RFID kanban cards.

When the topic of RFID has been fully explored, this presentation will make clear the AutoID technologies that are available and how the individual technologies work well together in a system. The aim is to achieve optimal transparency in the supply chains through the automatic identification of products, packaging and transport tools.

Other daily live events make logistics a real experience

Anyone who likes to be 'hands-on' should head for the special 'Load securing' area. Unstable cargo, such as BigBags or products in plastic buckets, have always posed a challenge for forwarding companies. With the help of many practical examples, demonstrations are given on how to avoid damage during transportation and the resultant fines for the parties responsible.

'Ehrhardt + Partner' is presenting a live demonstration at LogiMAT 2010 to show how interactive voice picking can lead to greater efficiency in the warehouse.

The future of intralogistics is becoming increasingly modular, small-scale and autonomous. In the event 'Karis – working independently in the wider system', the technological consortium Intralogistik BW e.V. is presenting several autonomous elements of material handling technology suitable for a wide range of transportation tasks.

There can only be three prizewinners

As is traditional, the extensive accompanying programme at LogiMAT 2010 will be splendidly rounded off with the awarding of the prize for 'Best Product' to one exhibitor from each of the sectors 'Software, communications, IT', 'Order picking, packaging, protection' and 'Procurement, handling, storage'. The prizes will be awarded to companies whose performance has made a real contribution to streamlining, cost-saving and increasing productivity. The winners will be chosen by an independent seven-strong jury made up of renowned scientists and journalists. The winners will be disclosed at the fair on the opening day of LogiMAT 2010.

LogiMAT has been taking place at the New Stuttgart Trade Fair Centre since 2008. 52 international trade journals are active media partners in this intralogistics highlight.

LogiMAT 2010 is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. A one-day ticket costs €28 including participation in the wide-ranging accompanying programme. A copy of the trade-fair catalogue is also included in the price. A three-day ticket costs €35. For further information go to www.logimat-messe.de.

LogiMAT 2010 – Facts & figures, in brief:

Exhibitors expected: over 700 from 20 countries

Exhibition focus: Includes materials handling and storage technology, warehousing and operational equipment, robotics, packaging, loading systems, ground conveyors, information and communication technology, order-picking systems, labelling and identification, software, waste disposal, logistics facilities and consultancy

Exhibition space: 52,000 square metres in Halls 1, 3, 5 and 7

Dates: 2 to 4 March 2010

Duration: 3 days

Venue: Stuttgart Trade Fair Centre; **Internet:** www.logimat-messe.de

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