A guide for optimization opportunities in the transport sector

The attention on environmental sustainability is growing by an increasing public interest of consumers, NGOs and regulatory requirements of the legislation.

As a family-owned company, a sustainable value orientation and a long-term ecological strategy have always been of particular importance. A high proportion of recycled products and the distribution of various trademarks makes it crucial for us, to communicate our efforts publicly and to promote “greener” products and services.

Hence, we have joined the Lean & Green initiative and set us the goal to reduce carbon emissions in the area of transport and warehousing by 20 percent within 5 years. Possibilities for CO2 reduction and efficiency improvement will probably be familiar to you.

Nevertheless, as your business partner we would like to provide this guide and show a few ways how you can improve the fuel consumption of your transports and help us for a cleaner and “greener” environment.

Several possibilities for the reduction of CO2 emissions in the transport sector:

- Driver training: With the help of a driving style analysis and trained drivers you can reduce the fuel consumption and abrasion of the trucks (tires, brakes, etc.) considerably by an anticipatory driving style.
- Tire pressure-monitoring system: The systematic monitoring of tire pressure allow you to reduce the rolling resistance and therefore the fuel consumption.
- Low rolling resistance tires: Special tires reduce the heat generation and allow further savings.
- Track setting/Wheel alignment: Uneven tire wear let you know, if you have an incorrect track setting, which brakes the truck continuously. Calibrate regularly the track setting.
- Alternative fuels (bio-fuel, hybrid drive, electric drive, gas, etc): Also from an economicperspective, the use of alternative renewable energy sources is becoming increasingly interesting. In addition, you will be less dependent on price speculation, dubious funding methods (fracking, Deepwater Horizon disaster, etc) and politically unstable regions.
- Route optimization and traffic navigation systems: The shortest route is not always the one with the lowest fuel consumption. Avoiding gradients and traffic delays through a wise and flexible planning offers further potential for optimization.
- Rotary truck routes: Avoiding empty trucks by subsequent and return shipments. An effective way to increase the capacity utilization of the distribution network are horizontal and vertical cooperation between companies.

- Monitoring: The collection of emission and consumption data leads to better control, faster responsiveness and the possibility of benchmarking. In addition, these data have been increasingly requested by the contracting companies and provide a genuine sales argument.
- Optimization of the loading process: Teach your staff in dealing with low-floor vehicles and cargo securing in order to be able to exploit the entire loading area, speed up the processes and prevent from damages during loading and transport.
- Increase load volume: Bigger trucks (t.e. Euro Combi, Jumbo trucks and Gigaliner) are especially for lightweight products more efficient than traditional trucks due to the greater loading volume.
- Modal split and shift: The use of various means of transport such as rail, ship, etc allows the choice of the respective optimum for each route section.
- Coordination of sender and recipient: Grouped procurement, optimized days of delivery and time window extensions through a better planning and coordination.
- Modern fleet: The constant renewal of your fleet let your consumption shrink according to the technical progress (More efficient engine, driver assistance systems, start-stop system, brake energy recovery, etc). ECO-trucks will become an increasing alternative. In addition to CO2 emissions even more climate-damaging emissions can be reduced on vehicles with current emissions classes.