

## **TALKE completes its first Gulf SQAS Warehouse assessments in Dubai and Qatar**

- **TALKE is one of the first specialist logistics providers to complete a new Gulf SQAS Warehouse assessment in the Gulf region**
- **High quality and safety standards confirmed at the Dubai and Qatar sites**
- **The first pilot assessments of the Gulf SQAS initiative from the GPCA aim to establish industry standards in the Arab Gulf**

**Hürth/Doha/Dubai, 18 March 2015. The TALKE Group is one of the fore-runners in SQAS assessments in the Gulf region. At the company's Dubai and Qatar sites, the chemical logistics specialists have now successfully participated in the GPCA's pilot Gulf SQAS initiative. The RSA-TALKE Dubai site scored 83%, while TALKE Qatar was awarded a score of 92%.**



Safe and reliable special logistics on the Arabian Peninsula: The TALKE site in Qatar (picture) and the Dubai site of the RSA-TALKE joint venture have successfully participated in GPCA's SQAS Warehouse pilot assessments.

At the beginning of 2015, the TALKE Group was one of the first logistics service providers for the chemical and petrochemical industry to successfully complete a Gulf SQAS Warehouse assessment in the region. RSA-TALKE's hazardous goods warehouse in the Dubai World Central Logistics City scored 83%, while TALKE's Qatar site achieved a score of 92%. Room for improvement was identified in the area of environmental considerations. The two companies

will now examine and implement the proposed changes.

The assessments were carried out as part of a pilot for the GPCA's Gulf SQAS initiative. The aim of the initiative is to create a unified benchmark for the evaluation of health, safety, security, environment and quality (HSSEQ) for logistics service providers in the Gulf region. "With the continued expansion in the chemical and petrochemical industry, there is a growing number of service providers in the Gulf," explains Alan Izzard, SQAS Programme Director at the GPCA. "SQAS provides a platform for service providers to determine their strengths and weaknesses, and gives them the chance to transparently turn weaknesses into strengths through a structured framework of improvements."

The first pilot project – which took place early in 2014 – included five SQAS Transport assessments at regional transport companies. The Transport Services Module was subsequently launched in August 2014. At the beginning of 2015, the second SQAS pilot followed with four SQAS Warehouse assessments, two of which were conducted at TALKE sites. "We felt it was vital for our

sites be part of the pilot project,” says Richard Heath, TALKE’s Director for the Middle East & Asia. In his work at the GPCA, he actively contributed to the introduction of Gulf SQAS assessments in the Gulf region. “Systems like SQAS provide an important reference point concerning how we can improve on our high HSSEQ standards,” says Heath, explaining his commitment to the program. “This also applies to the Gulf region, where there are sometimes limited legal frameworks in place for the storage and transport of hazardous goods. Specific regulations such as the European ADR are still not implemented here. For us, compliance with these high standards is simply a given and equally pertinent to our operations in the Gulf region. By participating in the pilot project, we hope to help raise awareness of HSSEQ standards among other industry stakeholders and customers.”

**To the editors:**

The **TALKE Group** is a leading international logistics service provider for the chemical and petrochemical industry in Europe, the Middle East, India and China. Founded in 1947, the company’s core competencies include the transport, storage and handling of liquid and solid hazardous substances of almost all classes. It also provides these services for non-hazardous chemicals, polymer granulate and food and feed additives. In addition, the logistics expert offers logistics consulting, and plans and manages the construction of specialist logistics facilities.

The TALKE Group boasts more than 2,400 employees at 39 sites in Europe, the Middle East, India and China. It deploys over 2,300 tank and silo vehicles and containers – plus a wide range of specialist equipment – to meet individual customer requirements and to provide reliable transport and logistics solutions for both road and intermodal transport.

In 2004, the company was awarded the German Hazardous Goods Prize for its safe handling of sensitive goods and continual improvements in transport safety. The prize is awarded annually by the editors of the specialist transport magazine *Gefährliche Ladung*.

ALFRED TALKE Logistic Services is a member of the Responsible Care Programme and was one of the first logistics service providers in Germany to join the initiative in 2009.

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