

European Network of Cleaning Stations

Among the most common products of the chemical industry are liquids and powders that are transported in tanks/tank containers, either by road, rail or waterways. Whenever these vessels are used for transporting different products, they must undergo a cleaning process, in order to prevent product contamination. Hence there is a great importance of cleaning stations in the chemical logistic chain.

Along the Pan-European corridor V, in Northern Italy, the hearth of Italian chemistry, there are no intermodal hubs provided with a bimodal cleaning station for truck- and train tanks/tank containers. Furthermore, according to Trenitalia, there is only one cleaning station for train tanks/tank containers, near Venice. Furthermore discussion with Partners from Hungary, Slovakia and the Czech Republic have shown that there is a clear lack of available cleaning stations alongside the Corridor V, which is a clear disadvantage for chemical transports to Eastern

Europe. This situation cannot clearly be longer tolerated both by chemical industries and by logistic service providers.

The ChemLog Project partners have analysed this problem in their feasibility study and came to the conclusion to start a discussion for the development of European Network of Cleaning Stations alongside the PEC V. For this purpose a Sub-Group has been founded, which brings together interested partners, companies and logistic service providers. 35 experts have met in the sub-group for the first time on 9th and 10th of March in Soporna (Slovakia) to present ongoing activities and plans for the development of cleaning stations in Italy, Slovakia, Czech Republic and Hungary. The meeting gave also the possibility to visit operating tank cleaning station of Duslo to see practical examples. The partners have agreed to continue exchange of experience about technical solutions and develop a joint approach for the planning of sufficient tank cleaning capacities alongside the whole corridor.

