



HCS GROUP AND AGILITY: A STRONG STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

BACKGROUND OVERVIEW

HCS Group combines chemistry and petrochemicals expertise, offering tailor-made hydrocarbon and solvent solutions to local and global blue chip companies in Mobility, Energy, Industrial and Life Science.

Founded in 2011, the company has grown from a small European-focused organisation to a mid-sized global player serving a variety of industries with very specific supply chain demands.

“ As a mid-size company, we are using all modes of transportation from bulk shipping, tank truck deliveries, rail, intermodal transports and of course air freight for some smaller but very urgent deliveries. Our customer requirements vary significantly. Whether large or small, our key focus remains the same: to offer optimised customer-focused supply chain solutions.

To meet our high standards and customer quality promise while our organisation is growing we have chosen to take the road with Agility. From our long-term business relationship, we were aware of their expertise, their services and their global reach. The Agility Chemical Logistics team has accompanied us through our transformation process and helped us to find the right balance between in-house logistics and external support. **”**

Florenz Treschau

Senior Vice President Supply Chain at HCS Group

REDESIGNED SUPPLY CHAIN STRATEGY

ADAPTING IN PARTNERSHIP

As HCS Group internally grew its logistics and developed its workforce and expertise, the question arose on how to align and best manage the supply chain operations.

"Agility worked closely with us to adjust the required services. For instance, they advised us on the benefits for chartering vs. spot rates for short and deep sea bulk vessel shipping which accounts for a majority of our logistics spend. Agility supported us with challenging models, new markets and introduced new transportation companies into our portfolio where needed and provided us with first-class market insights, which was of utmost value for us during the Covid-19 pandemic.", adds Treschau.

"Business needs and logistics solutions have to evolve in line with market dynamics and technological change, so relationships that are flexible and ready to adapt to the next opportunity will succeed and continue to thrive.", explains VP, Howard Sellers at Agility.

EXPLORING NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Together with HCS Group Agility defined relevant tools and processes to enhance efficiency and performance overview.

"Digitalisation brings new opportunities and with Agility we will explore new ways to meet and exceed customer requirements and increase our efficiency", explains Treschau and adds: "Agility introduced a tendering platform for road transportations where a high number of bids needed to be analysed on different planning scenarios.

This digital tool improved our tender efficiency and enabled us to keep the optimum between service levels and cost.

Data integration for oversea container shipping is another example, which allows for easy track and trace of our products."

THE VALUE



Agility Chemical Logistics has played an important role in supporting HCS Group to establish a modern and optimised supply chain operation.

"The strategic business relationship with Agility has proved extremely significant to us. Their in-depth understanding of our business, chemical supply chain expertise and can-do attitude to new challenges has always been appreciated by us and highly contributes to our success of today. On top of that, their professional approach and technology capabilities have resulted in keeping the balance between service and costs", explains Treschau and adds: "We deliver high-quality products and services and pride ourselves on our quality promise to our customers. Agility has proven to be a trustful partner in achieving these goals and we highly appreciate the flexible and cooperative strategic partnership."