









Aerosol particles play an important role in spreading SARS-CoV-2 viruses. Stationary and mobile air purification units can reduce a significant proportion of the viral load, particularly inside buildings where the ventilation possibilities are poor or restricted. Rhenus High Tech has been ensuring that the air is pure in sensitive institutions such as schools and nursery schools since September 2021; it is performing this work on behalf of Trotec, one of the leading international manufacturers of air treatment machines. Using 2-person handling, the high-tech logistics specialist transports the Trotec air purifiers to their place of use and assembles them there – and the units can weigh as much as 85 kilograms.

Keeping your distance, regularly washing your hands, wearing a face mask: many measures are helping to reduce the spread of the Covid-19 virus in enclosed areas. However, despite taking all the precautions, if a fairly large number of people meet in a room inside a building, the risk of becoming infected increases significantly. Air purifiers with special HEPA filters such as those produced by the Trotec Group reduce the threat of contagion.

THE CHALLENGE

Reducing the red tape and acting quickly can save lives during a pandemic. The demand for mobile air purifiers rose dramatically during the winter of 2020. At this time, Trotec was looking for a service provider, which had a network across Germany, could handle the logistics in a flexible and fast way and also meet all the quality requirements. As the world's leading producer of machines for treating air, Trotec, which has its headquarters in Heinsberg not far from the river Rhine, has several production sites, branches and sales offices.

"In the past, we delivered the machines free to the door of the facility in question. However, we had to use our own employees for the assembly work and other services such as maintenance. In order to tie up fewer resources, we were looking for a high-tech logistics specialist as our partner, which has a network across Germany and is not only able to reliably handle the transport operations, but also commission the units, instruct personnel and perform servicing and maintenance work. After examining the options very carefully, we decided to place an order with Rhenus High Tech," says Carl Sieben, the Supply Chain Manager at Trotec.

Since that time, the Rhenus High Tech team has been planning the installation of the machines, notifying organisations about the dates through its customer service department, delivering the units, commissioning the air purifiers, instructing customers and performing the checks on operating materials.

MOBILE AIR FILTER SYSTEMS

Whether TAC V+, TAC M, TAC Basic



THE BENEFITS

Rhenus High Tech stands out from the crowd as the market leader for technical value-added logistics in Europe because of its strong network, its special expertise in delivering top-quality high-tech equipment and its comprehensive capacity, which enables rapid scaling, even if the demand for a product is high. Selecting Rhenus High Tech is also an excellent idea because the logistics specialist offers servicing and maintenance work for the air purification systems too.

Mobile air purifiers have to be checked regularly and the installed filters have to be replaced so that they do not become contaminated and then emit any harmful substances into the air. Rhenus High Tech has been keeping its eye on the necessary servicing dates ever since the start of the cooperation arrangement and ensures that the machines are serviced and maintained on behalf of Trotec. The high-tech logistics specialist replaces the filters installed in the machines once a year, because skilled personnel, who are familiar with the necessary protective measures when handling harmful microbial substances, should perform the maintenance work on air purifiers.

The combination of logistics and technology creates unquestionable value added for our customers. Thanks to our network of business sites and technicians, we're able to respond to customers' requirements in a fast and flexible manner – whether in Germany or in Europe."

Sven Haltermann Key Account Manager Rhenus High Tech



THE IMPLEMENTATION

In the light of the rising Covid-19 infection figures, speed was of the essence when ramping up the project in September 2021. Rhenus High Tech set up an anchor team at its branch in Halle and it has been managing everything and handling the general coordination work since that time. As a result, the deliveries take place smoothly using Rhenus High Tech's German network with its 14 business sites. "This provides a major benefit for the customer: we provide Trotec with a set contact partner, who is constantly in contact with the units involved in order to plan and coordinate the current and future deliveries," says Sven Haltermann.

The Rhenus High Tech coordination team initially drew up an extensive roll-out plan to make it possible to organise all the resources in the best possible way. As Rhenus High Tech maintained close contact with its customer, Trotec was involved in the processes from the outset and informed about all the upcoming projects. Experienced trainers from the high-tech logistics specialist prepared handling instructions in conjunction with Trotec and trained the employees commissioned to make the deliveries. As a result, it was possible to install a large number of air purifiers at the various facilities in a short time.

Installing units involves challenges on a daily basis. Long distances, a large number of stairs and training work that is taking place at the same time make it even more complicated to set up the machines. The installation work is also usually performed at extremely

short notice. "We coordinate matters with the town and the caretakers at the schools in advance. However, as we often don't have any detailed information about the circumstances at the site beforehand, we have to act in a very flexible manner," says Haltermann.

In addition to planning skills, experience is essential when installing heavy technical machines. This is the only way of completing the projects in question, which are often connected to tender procedure deadlines, within just a few weeks from the planning stage to connecting the units. Rhenus High Tech has a huge advantage here: the company also has special equipment such as stair climbers because it is a logistics company that specialises in technical installation work.

If individual orders involve a fairly large number of machines, they are directly loaded at Trotec's premises and transported to the final customer; smaller quantities are handled by the Rhenus High Tech depots, which then perform the delivery to include the last mile. The high-tech logistics specialist can make use of its special vehicle fleet for major projects, so that direct journeys can be completed. The vehicles, which can accommodate goods weighing up to twelve tonnes, have air suspension so that the air purifiers are protected in the best possible way in transit. They also have tail lifts to make it easier to load and unload the units.



TROTEC

The Trotec corporate group focuses on everything related to treating air and purifying air in industry, the leisure sector and the construction sector in the best possible way. The air purification systems can either be purchased or rented at low cost. Trotec, a company with international operations and offering mobile and stationary units in the air treatment sector, is now making available its 25 years of expertise as a market leader with innovative technical solutions in the battle against pandemics.

Whether this involves prevention through air humidification, decontamination with ozone or hot air, hygienic, aerosol virus air filtering or detecting people with an abnormal body temperature: Trotec not only develops the professional products, but also provides the suitable measuring equipment to determine needs, analyse situations and check the success of the measures.

RHENUS HIGH TECH

Rhenus High Tech is the specialist unit for distributing, installing and maintaining high-tech products and medical devices. Working in close cooperation with its customers, the logistics specialist develops tailor-made customer solutions to provide value added in the high-tech segment.

Rhenus High Tech is part of the Rhenus Group, one of the leading logistics specialists in the world with annual turnover of EUR 5.4 billion. 33,500 employees work at 820 business sites and develop innovative solutions along the complete supply chain.

Whether providing transport, warehousing, customs clearance or value-added services, the family business pools its operations in various business units where the needs of customers are the major focus at all times.



THE RESULT

Rhenus High Tech has already been able to deliver several thousand air purifiers for Trotec during the first few months after receiving the order and install them in schools and nursery schools. The air purifier manufacturer summarises the cooperation arrangement in this way. "Rhenus High Tech has completely fulfilled our expectations on the basis of its experience, speed and flexibility. The partnership has been extremely professional from the outset. Thanks to Rhenus High Tech, we've been able to streamline our processes and we can now use our technical employees productively for other projects. We're also very satisfied with the communications through a central interface. This simplifies our cooperation enormously."

AIR PURIFIERS INSTALLED

2.700 IN 3 MONTHS

200

SCHOOLS & NURSERY SCHOOLS SUPPLIED

50 TOWNS

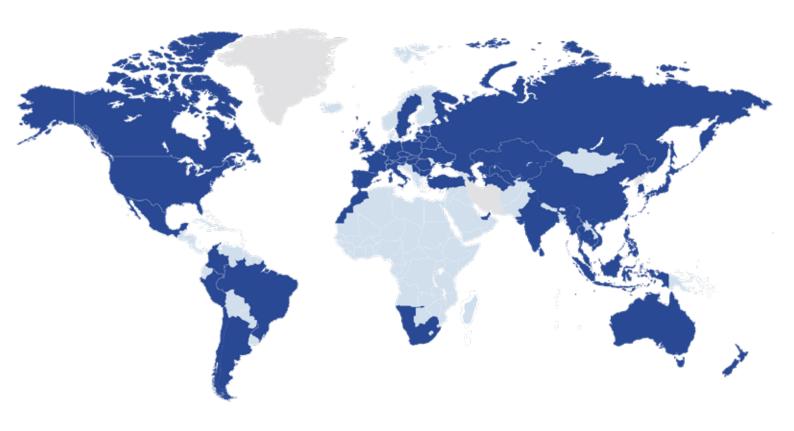
99,995
PERCENT VIRUS REMOVAL

DIFFERENT MODELS

2 - 3

DELIVERY TEAMS PER PROJECT

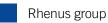
THE RHENUS GROUP IS A LEADING LOGISTICS SERVICE PROVIDER WITH GLOBAL BUSINESS OPERATIONS AND AN ANNUAL TURNOVER OF EUR 5.4 BILLION.



AT A GLANCE

With an annual turnover of EUR 5.4 billion, the Rhenus Group is one of the leading global logistics service providers. Rhenus has 33,500 employees across 820 sites.

The Rhenus Group offers solutions for a wide range of industries along the entire supply chain, including multimodal transport, warehousing, customs clearance and innovative value-added services.







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