

Press release

Rittal GmbH & Co. KG



Rittal and Eplan open new administrative and logistics centre in New Songdo City

Enclosure manufacturer committed to growth in South Korea

Enclosure and systems provider Rittal continues to invest in East Asia: Rittal owner and CEO, Friedhelm Loh, has now unveiled the new administration and logistics building in South Korea's free-trade zone of Incheon Songdo. With this €10 million investment, the family-owned company is aiming to pave the way for further growth in South Korea. Eplan, a leading provider of CAE software for electrical design and – like Rittal – member of the Friedhelm Loh Group shares this new site.

Herborn/Songdo, 23 November 2014 – The new Rittal headquarters and logistics centre have now been ceremonially opened in downtown New Songdo City, South Korea's metropolis of the future. More than 200 customers from industry and trade such as Kia, Hyundai, Samsung and LG attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony. Owner and CEO Friedhelm Loh cut the red ribbon in front of the building: "Anyone who is interested in what the future holds needs to fly to South Korea," said the company's head: "That's why we are here. We are investing in New Songdo City to help boost the competitiveness of our Korean customers. With this investment, we are showing that we can also implement our "Faster - better – everywhere" promise worldwide. The new building will be used by Rittal in conjunction with Eplan over an area of 10,000 m². It will provide space for 3,200 pallets and 110 employees.

In future, however, not only the Korean headquarters will be located in New Songdo City, it will also be the site of a modern delivery centre. There is also a modification

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centre, in which customer requests will be processed in a project-related way. Customer care and training are also covered.

“This investment in South Korea represents a major commitment to the Korean market,” Hans Sondermann, Managing Director Sales and Marketing, stressed: “South Korea’s economy has been growing and growing – for years. Rittal is highly regarded here thanks to its products, technologies and high quality standards – we are very grateful for the trust we have received.”

South Korea has now become Asia’s third largest market for German companies. Around 80% of all automobiles exported to South Korea come from Germany. The South Korean auto and electrical industries in particular, as well as steel and shipbuilding, are strong forces in the world economy. Friedhelm Loh added: “We are already very well positioned in these industries – and intend to increase this advantage even further”.

Equipped with the latest Rittal technology

The new building’s architects have paid special attention to energy efficiency: In addition to good thermal insulation, energy-saving water cooling from Rittal is used, while the technology for the power supply in the building is also from us. “We are not only using Rittal technology to cut operating costs and up-front investment,” says Martin Rotermund, Managing Director of Rittal Korea. “Instead, we want to show our customers the benefits of our products during running operation. Our new building is thus a huge showroom for visitors. The new infrastructure is perfectly adapted to the internal processes and to customer requirements. It will enable Rittal to serve its clients better and even more quickly. And the 15-metre-high warehouse, with over 3,200 pallet positions, will make a major contribution toward this goal”, he adds.

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Paving the way for further growth

Rittal's new administration and logistics building in South Korea is located in Incheon, around 50 kilometres southwest of Seoul. A city of the future is evolving in one of the world's largest metropolitan areas in the form of New Songdo City with its international business park. This is incorporated in the Incheon Free Economic Zone (IFEZ).

The premises at the new site will also be used by Eplan, Eplan is a leading provider of engineering services for industry and, like Rittal, a member of the Friedhelm Loh Group. This way, the synergies between the two companies can be utilised optimally in South Korea.

Since the founding of Rittal's South Korean subsidiary in 1996, the company can look back on very successful growth.

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Captions

fri152034000.jpg: Friedhelm Loh together with his colleagues from Rittal and Eplan opened the Korean Headquarters of Rittal in New Songdo City. Rittal customers can experience the advantages of the products while production processes are running in the completely new building complex.

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About Rittal

Rittal, headquartered in Herborn, Germany, is a leading global provider of solutions for industrial enclosures, power distribution, climate control and IT infrastructure, as well as software and services. Systems made by Rittal are deployed across a variety of industrial and IT applications, including vertical sectors such as the transport industry, power generation, mechanical and plant engineering, IT and telecommunications. Rittal is active worldwide with 10,000 employees and 58 subsidiaries.

Its broad product range includes infrastructure solutions for modular and energy-efficient data centres with innovative concepts for the security of physical data and systems. Leading software providers Eplan and Cideon complement the value chain, providing interdisciplinary engineering solutions, while Kiesling Maschinentechnik offers automation systems for switchgear construction.

Founded in Herborn in 1961 and still run by its owner, Rittal is the largest company in the Friedhelm Loh Group. The Friedhelm Loh Group operates worldwide with 18 production sites and 78 international subsidiaries. The entire group employs more than 11,500 people and generated revenues of around €2.2 billion in 2014. In 2015, it was named one of Germany's leading employers by the Top Employers Institute, for the seventh year running.

For more information, visit www.rittal.com and www.friedhelm-loh-group.com.