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Heavy-duty intralogistics for assembling railway carriages in Russia

Vollert manufactures transfer cars for coating 13,000 carriages annually

The Tikhvin Railway Car Building Plant (TVSZ) is currently building a state-of-the-art plant for assembling open- and closed-top freight carriages in the Russian town of Tikhvin. To this end, Vollert Anlagenbau from Weinsberg was commissioned to manufacture four transfer cars with payloads of between 70 and 100 tons. A heated enclosure installed on top of the cars provides optimal protection against the elements.

The Tikhvin Railway Car Building Plant (TVSZ) was founded in 2005 to design a state-of-the-art production facility for railway carriages. Located 230 km east of St. Petersburg, the new plant is equipped to manufacture 13,000 carriages annually. The four transfer cars provided by Vollert, which are up to 31 metres wide, link the individual production areas. With a loading surface of 250 m² and rated for 100-ton payloads, the cars can bear extremely heavy loads and even move loaded carriages.

Heated Outdoor Transport

The transfer cars not only carry enormous loads, however. Three of the cars are located outside, where the carriages are exposed to the elements. To prevent any undue stress, Vollert equips the cars with a heated enclosure. This protects the carriages, which can re-enter the assembly line when required and be finished on schedule. Two of the transfer cars are used to move carriages from the bodyshell construction area to the painting tunnels, while a third car brings the coated and cured carriages to the final assembly point. Another car is installed in a production area by itself to distribute the carriages and wheelsets to different tracks.

Innovative Technology from Around the World

The Tikhvin Railway Car Building Plant (TVSZ) insists that only the best technology available be used. Vollert was commissioned as a result of its many years of experience in heavy-duty intralogistics and in the railway industry. "Precise manufacturing and fast turnaround times were also very important to the customer", emphasises Andreas Gebhart, Vollert project manager in charge. "All transfer cars are assembled at our headquarters in
Weinsberg, with delivery tentatively scheduled for September 2010. More than 30 companies from around the world are involved in the project.

About Vollert Anlagenbau GmbH

As specialists for heavy loads and large parts, Vollert Anlagenbau GmbH develops turnkey intralogistic concepts for the aluminum and metal industry. As a general contractor and full-service provider, the service range encompasses state-of-the-art material flow, storage and packaging technology as a stand-alone solution or integrated into a larger logistics environment.

Whether fully automated mega-high bay systems for aluminum coils, intelligent material flow systems for the leading aluminum extrusion press manufacturers, the world’s most efficient storage and retrieval machines for the storage of sheet metal plates, automatic crane systems for 50 tons and more or the most modern surface coating systems – Vollert is everywhere.

Vollert’s plant and machine solutions are used in more than 80 countries worldwide. Its subsidiaries in Asia and South America also strengthen the sales activities. Vollert employs 250 people at its company headquarters in Weinsberg. www.vollert.de

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Heavy-duty transfer cars from Vollert, with heated, full enclosures, optimally protect the railway carriages from the elements so that they can be coated efficiently in TVSZ's new plant in Russia.