

Press Release

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HGK Shipping launches a digital offensive: Cooperation with neuland.ai accelerates digital transformation in inland waterway shipping

Duisburg. Europe's largest inland waterway shipping company is providing new impetus in the process of digital transformation: it is launching the introduction of its own in-house AI application in November. HGK Shipping has been able to gain the AI platform, neuland.ai HUB, as its partner for this project. The cooperation arrangement with the Cologne-based firm, which has specialised in meeting small and medium-sized customers' requirements for using AI with its AI solutions, is a clear expression of HGK Shipping's long-term future strategy. This is enabling the company to underline its role as a leading innovator within the inland waterway shipping sector.

Thanks to the new corporate AI solution, HGK Shipping will be able to increase the efficiency of its operating activities for its customers and develop new data-driven services for them. "The introduction of our own AI solution marks a significant milestone along our journey towards becoming a digital shipping company. We're particularly delighted to have found a strong partner from the region in the form of neuland.ai based in Cologne – this is evidence of the innovative strength that exists in the Rhine-based economy," says Steffen Bauer, the CEO of HGK AG and Chairman of the Managing Board of HGK Shipping.

"Using AI, we want to intelligently network our internal processes, accelerate data-based decisions and enable new services for our customers," adds Kevin Stepan, the Head of IT Business Partner Management at HGK Shipping.

Many examples of a high level of innovative capabilities

HGK Shipping has already proven its ability to use a high degree of innovative energy in many projects during the past few years. They include the introduction of remote operations for inland waterway vessels, which is currently in the advanced stages of gaining official

approval, as well as revolutionary, award-winning designs for vessels for more sustainable and resource-saving transport logistics on inland waterways.

Karl-Heinz Land, the CEO and founder of neuland.ai, mentions the benefits of the partnership. “We’re supporting HGK Shipping to enable it to become an AI-first company that is not only optimising its customer services but is also increasing its employees’ satisfaction levels. It’s our goal to consistently analyse processes and improve them using modern AI solutions – by constantly focusing on people, who receive better support for their work through these technologies.”

Notes on the attached photo:

1. f.l.: Karl-Heinz Land, CEO and Founder of neuland.ai; Kevin Stepan, Head of IT Business Partner Management at HGK Shipping; Katja Tibbe, Head of Customer Success at neuland.ai; Steffen Bauer, CEO of HGK AG and Chairman of the Managing Board of HGK Shipping
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About the HGK Group:

Häfen und Güterverkehr Köln AG (HGK) is the logistics company within the City of Cologne’s public utilities group. Formerly just a port operator, HGK has developed into a group that provides integrated transport and logistics services with operations across Europe. Structured in five divisions, Logistics & Intermodal, Shipping, Rail Operations, Infrastructure & Maintenance and Real Estate, the HGK Group operates the largest inland waterway port network in Germany, one of the largest private railway companies for transporting cargo, specialist logistics firms and terminals as well as its own railway network and workshops for railway goods traffic through its subsidiaries and holding companies. HGK Shipping GmbH is the largest inland waterway shipping company in Europe.

About the HGK Shipping division:

HGK Shipping is part of Häfen und Güterverkehr Köln AG. Its fleet comprises about 300 vessels, including owner-operated ships. The spectrum of goods transported ranges from liquid chemical products and liquefied gases to dry goods and even break-bulk cargo.

About neuland.ai:

neuland.ai is a leading German AI technology company with its headquarters in Cologne; it has developed a secure and scalable AI platform in the form of its neuland.ai HUB. Thanks to its extensive expertise in AI projects and digital transformation, neuland.ai offers reliable and trustworthy AI solutions that are individually tailored to the needs of its customers. The AI platform is already being successfully used in thousands of applications across different sectors and is enabling customers to achieve increases in productivity, employ automated processes and use AI in a reliable manner. Its customers include, among others, abcbank, the German Economic Institute, Rödl & Partner, SKW Schwarz, SCT and Thyssenkrupp. With more than 50 employees, neuland.ai is pursuing the goal of making available AI that is “Made in Germany” and strengthening the digital competitiveness of business and administration in the long term. For more information, go to: www.neuland.ai