

Maximum Service for Maximum Dimensions: The NOSTA Group's Large-capacity, Heavy and Special Transports

As an experienced full-service logistics service provider, the NOSTA Group offers its customers all services relating to the organisation and processing of their large-capacity, heavy and special transports: from detailed route planning and the procurement of all necessary permits to the professional execution of route transport of oversized goods or components. The logistics company's team, headquartered in Osnabrueck, accompanies each order personally and competently along the entire transport chain.

Heavy Transport Adventure

Night closes in slowly. The streets seem empty and deserted. Suddenly, dozens of spotlights illuminate the darkness. Circling warning lights and flickering all-around lights, which are already recognisable from afar, herald a heavy transport. At a snail's pace, the brightly lit procession of trucks, escort vehicles and police cars makes its way through the night. While most people rarely see the sight of a heavy transport, the handling of large-capacity, heavy and special transports is part of the NOSTA Logistics GmbH team's daily business. The team organises and manages an average of 50 heavy transports per year. Thanks to many years of experience and extensive know-how in the field of steel transportation, the employees have become experts in heavy and special transport. Together with Martin Riemann, authorised officer NOSTA Logistics GmbH, they have already handled a large number of transports of heavyweight components for machine and plant construction in the past. The experts for heavy and special transport of the NOSTA Group have to consider many issues. The timely clarification of the transport route is just as important as the handling of customs and insurance modalities. Apart from national and international transport solutions via rail, truck, and ship, the route planning, including liaising with public authorities, obtaining transport permits and the transport-worthy loading of oversized freight are carried out and or monitored by the logistics experts.



Strong Partner for All Requirements

Heavy, large-capacity and special transportation is just one segment of the NOSTA Group's diverse product portfolio. The international family-run company has more than 40 years of experience in national and international land transport, warehousing, contract logistics, time-critical transports and value-added services. With the founding of the subsidiary NOSTA Rail, the company has expanded its rail activities significantly and offers efficient and resource-saving solutions for combined transport. NOSTA Sea & Air in Hamburg, which develops sea and airfreight solutions especially for our customers, also reports constant growth. The NOSTA Group has over 40 locations worldwide, which currently employ approximately 800 people – with an upward trend.



No Transport without a Certificate of Exemption

Should a vehicle, including component part, be too long, too wide or too heavy, an official certificate of exemption must be acquired in advance. An approval application, including sender and receiver addresses, load dimensions, weights, number plates, axle loads, centre distances, number of wheels per axle, gauge and the route description is submitted to the respective authority; in this case the Straßenverkehrsbehörde (Street transport authority). The online system, Vemags („Verfahrensmanagement für Großraum und Schwertransporte“) replaced application by fax. The applicant's data is input and processed in this unified system, which applies to the federation and individual states. The applicant is obliged to specify the exact route. This means that it is first necessary to research which route is suitable for transport and where there are currently road works or route closures. Approval is not issued where a hurdle has been overlooked. Should everything go smoothly, official notice of approval is issued at the end of the process. The approval process normally takes around 2 weeks. However, since each road traffic-authority through whose district the route passes must review and agree to the designated route, the procedure may also take longer. Thanks to our many years of close cooperation with the authorities and police, the team of the NOSTA Group can always react, follow up and solve problems quickly. Whether for exceptional or permanent approvals or permits according to §29, §46 or §70 - the company handles the complete permit application personally and for its customers. In addition, they take care of long-term extensions and obtain the necessary TÜV certificates and other documents.

Hurdles are a Challenge

Heavy transports not only require special measures during the preparation and planning phase. Transportation itself is also often associated with small and large challenges. "It is not easy for our heavy trucks to access all areas. For example, tight crossroads, low bridges or bridges with restricted weight capacity often present a challenge," explains NOSTA Logistics GmbH authorised officer, Martin Riemann. Most hurdles such as bridges, underpasses or tight areas can be avoided with judicious advanced planning and exact route reconnaissance. Nevertheless a number of measures need to be undertaken during transportation in order to negotiate the route. Overhead cables and telephone lines must be raised or traffic lights dismantled in order to facilitate the onward journey. Cutting back trees, raising or lowering high-voltage lines are also recurring measures taken by the NOSTA Group during transport. "We have also had the central motorway barrier cut once in order to reach the opposite lane of the motorway with our team. Both lanes had to be closed several hours for this project," recalls Martin Riemann. The number of obstacles to be overcome illustrates that heavy transport is more likely to be considered an exceptional case than a rule.



Knowledge of circumstances, but also of possible exceptions and peculiarities is crucial in this profession because the organisers must always be able to react to all eventualities and short-term changes. This is only possible due to the high degree of professionalism and experience of the team.

Greater Efficiency through Intermodal Solutions

NOSTA Group also offers intermodal transport solutions in heavy goods transport. The waterway and rail solution has proven most efficient, especially in cases where the given transport infrastructure makes road transport difficult or where long, cross-border distances have to be covered. The company organises the entire route by truck, rail, or ship including pre and post-carriage processes. With our nationwide network of partners and service providers, the experienced team provides the optimum vehicle combinations as well as equipment for loading heavy cargo. Powerful mobile cranes lift and load the heavy freight. The team organises fast onward transport at the respective transshipment points and ports, and thus significantly reduces travel times. As a concrete example of such complete service, Martin Riemann cites the transport of nine compressors, each weighing 200 tons, 18.50 m long and 4.70 m in diameter. These components were first transported by truck from the shipper in Osnabrueck to the nearest inland port, where they were put onto an inland waterway using mobile cranes.



At the port of destination, Antwerp, they were then loaded onto a truck again and driven to the receiver. He adds: „In such an action, no detail is left to chance“. In addition to handling intermodal transport, complex special solutions are also part of our extensive service portfolio. The team will find the optimum, complete solution for every task. „We see ourselves as a permanent point of contact in all matters

relating to heavy and special transport. Due to our many years of experience, our professionalism and our order-processing flexibility, our customers can confidently entrust us with their heavy cargo.”

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NOSTA Group:

More than 800 employees. Over 40 branches worldwide. On the road successfully for more than 40 years in the world of logistics. The NOSTA Group is an international, family-run logistics service provider consisting of the NOSTA Holding GmbH (carriage of goods by all modes of transport, warehousing, contract logistics) and the NOGA GmbH (production of individual load carriers). Apart from optimum planning and carrying out our logistics processes, our company also concentrates on developing individual industry solutions and future-oriented concepts. Quality, dependability and practiced customer-focus are always at the centre of our activities.