

## Press Release

# GLS now operates 1,500 parcel lockers, with further network growth ahead. Last date for Christmas gifts? 22 December

**Prague, 11 December – GLS continues to expand its network of parcel lockers, which have become the most popular delivery method. The company now operates 1,500 of its own lockers – compared to just 200 two years ago. In total, it delivers to more than 6,500 lockers and pick-up points.**

- **1,500 GLS-owned lockers and ongoing expansion. At least 2,000 lockers by March.**
- **GLS will deliver Christmas parcels handed over to couriers no later than 22 December.**
- **Parcels remain in lockers for 2 days, with the option to extend by another 2 days.**

GLS is rapidly expanding its proprietary locker network. While it had only 200 lockers two years ago, last week it surpassed the 1,500 mark. "We will continue expanding the network. The immediate goal is 2,000 lockers by the end of March, but even that won't be the final number. We will keep building lockers as long as they are economically sustainable — and shared lockers across delivery companies will certainly be part of the future," says Petr Pěcha, Managing Director of GLS in the Czech Republic.

"On average, we commission one new locker every six hours. And we will keep doing so as long as the lockers pay off and we can keep them full," he explained. "Thanks to this rapid expansion, we are fully prepared for Christmas," he added.

Together with pick-up points and shared lockers operated by other companies, GLS currently delivers to more than 6,500 locations. However, the company continues to emphasize home delivery as well. "Even though lockers are the most popular delivery method, home or workplace delivery will remain an integral part of our services and we will continue to develop it," he added.

## **Christmas delivery deadlines: Parcels handed over to GLS couriers by 22 December**

GLS recommends that customers do not leave their online Christmas shopping to the last minute, as e-shops typically need at least one to two days for dispatching goods. GLS will make its final pre-Christmas deliveries on 23 December. "We won't be delivering on Christmas Eve — after a demanding season, our couriers deserve a day off," he added.

If a sender (usually an e-shop) hands over a parcel directly to a courier, the last possible date is Monday, 22 December. When sending via a GLS locker, the last date is Sunday, 21 December. For drop-off at a merchant pick-up point, the deadline is already Friday, 19 December.

### **Parcel stays in a locker for two days, with an option to extend**

GLS reminds customers that the storage period in GLS lockers is set at two days, with the possibility to extend it by another two days. "We clearly see that people pick up their parcels quickly — the vast majority are collected on the first or second day after delivery to the locker," Pěcha concludes.

### **According to a GLS pre-Christmas survey, lockers are now the most popular delivery method**

This year, 48% of all Christmas gifts will be delivered to lockers (compared to just 21% two years ago). The biggest benefits:

- 24/7 pick-up availability – cited as the main advantage by 66% of respondents
- Good accessibility and faster pick-up without waiting – key benefit for 12% of respondents

### **People no longer go to the post office with parcels — lockers are increasingly used for sending as well**

Parcel lockers are not only the most popular way to receive parcels; they have also recently become an important channel for sending them. Most people still take parcels to pick-up points operated by merchants (35%), with lockers close behind (30%). Going to the post office is no longer common. Interest in sending parcels is rising especially among younger people — according to the latest GLS survey, 27% of people plan to send a parcel before Christmas this year, and among those under 35, the figure rises to 33%.

GLS has further simplified parcel sending ahead of Christmas, increasing convenience for C2C (consumer-to-consumer) shipments. Customers simply generate a PIN in the mobile app, then place the parcel in a GLS locker, or request a courier who arrives with a ready-made label. The recipient then picks up the parcel just as easily — either from a selected locker, a pick-up point, or via home delivery. No printing labels or writing addresses is required.

### **About GLS Group**

GLS Group is one of the largest parcel delivery companies in Europe, with a strong presence in nearly every country on the continent. GLS also operates through wholly owned subsidiaries in Canada and on the U.S. West Coast. It provides services to customers in more than 50 countries. The GLS network consists of 120 central and regional hubs and more than 1,600 depots, served by over 36,700 delivery vans and 6,400 trucks. In addition to home delivery, GLS delivers to more than 110,000 pick-up points and 20,000 parcel lockers. In the 2024/25 financial year, GLS achieved revenue of €5.9 billion and delivered 926 million parcels.