



**Press release**

**October 28, 2004**

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## **Thiel Logistik sells stake in DPD Austria to GeoPost**

**Aschaffenburg/Grevenmacher** (Luxembourg) – Today GeoPost International Management & Development Holding GmbH and Thiel Logistik AG agreed that GeoPost will acquire the shares in DPD Austria held by Thiel Logistik. These shares, representing 25.5% of DPD Austria's capital, were originally held by non-depository partner companies Birkart, Dachser and Nathe & Quehenberger, with each holding equal stakes. The share purchase price has not been disclosed.

The transaction is currently awaiting approval from Austrian anti-trust authorities. All parties expect the acquisition to be finalised by the end of this year. After this, GeoPost will be DPD Austria's second largest shareholder. GeoPost holds about 85% in the DPD franchisor organization.

“This successful disinvestment means another step forward towards focussing on our core business,” says Klaus Eierhoff, CEO of Thiel Logistik.

Claude Béglié, CEO of GeoPost International Management & Development Holding and CEO of DPD, states: “I am delighted with the positive outcome of our negotiations with Thiel Logistik. DPD Austria is an extraordinarily efficient and successful company in its domestic market and also forms an important link in our cross-border, pan-European DPD network.”



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### About GeoPost

GeoPost is a leading player in the global Parcels & Express market, operating in more than 30 countries under brand names such as DPD, Chronopost, Parceline, Masterlink Express. GeoPost is Europe's third largest provider of express and deferred parcels services, recording a global turnover of EUR 2.3 billion in 2003. GeoPost is wholly owned by France's national postal service Groupe La Poste.

### About Thiel Logistik AG

Thiel Logistik AG of Grevenmacher, Luxembourg, develops complete logistics and service solutions as an external partner for industry and commerce. In 2003, Thiel Group achieved sales of €1.7 billion and currently employs more than 9,300 people in 44 countries. With more than 350 locations on all continents, Thiel Logistik is present in the major European markets and in every important procurement and sales market worldwide. The Group's three business segments are Industry Solutions, Air & Ocean and Regional Logistics Services. Industry Solutions include Thiel Automotive, Thiel FashionLifestyle, Thiel Media and Thiel Furniture. The Air & Ocean segment focuses on air and sea freight. Regional Logistics Services extend from Germany and Benelux via Austria and Switzerland to the countries of East and Central Europe. In these business segments, Thiel Logistik AG ranks among the market leaders. Thiel Logistik AG is listed on the MDAX segment of the German Stock Exchange. The majority shareholder is DELTON AG of Bad Homburg, Germany, with 50.26 percent of the share capital.

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