

**PRESS RELEASE**

# FRANCE TO BE THE SIL 2010 GUEST COUNTRY

- The Gallic country will offer a large number of exhibiting companies and the participation of important political and business figures.
- SIL 2010 will be the place to discover the keys to the future Mediterranean Axis for goods transport.

**Barcelona, 26 January 2010.** The **International Logistics and Material Handling Exhibition (SIL)** has announced that **France** will be the guest country at its twelfth edition to be held from **25 to 28 May 2010** at the Gran Vía de **Fira de Barcelona** venue. Thus, French participation will be fundamental in debating and providing the future keys to the Mediterranean Axis as related to goods transport.

**France** will offer a good number of companies participating in **SIL 2010** such as Prologis, the Port of Marseille and the Chamber of Commerce of Deux-Sevres, among others. But French participation will not only be significant as regards the number of companies represented, but also on an institutional level. Important political and business figures from the Gallic country will attend the **International Logistics and Material Handling Exhibition** to debate and provide the future keys to the development of transport infrastructures in the Mediterranean Axis.

According to the most recent World Bank study, the Mediterranean country with the highest Logistics Performance Index (LPI) is **France (3.84)**, followed by **Italy (3.64)** and **Spain (3.63)**. The French have ten main ports - the largest of which is Marseille-, 478 airports, a dense highway network that connects them to Andorra, Belgium, Spain, Monaco, Switzerland, Germany and Italy; they are connected to the United Kingdom through the Eurotunnel and have the most extensive railway network in Western Europe with 31,840 kilometres.

So, **France** will replace **Panama** (2009) as guest country of the **International Logistics and Material Handling Exhibition** - the leader in the Mediterranean

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and Southern Europe. **Brazil** and **Mexico** also enjoyed this status in 2008 and 2007, respectively.

**SIL 2010**, which will be held from **25 to 28 May 2010** at the Gran Vía de **Fira** Venue in **Barcelona**, is offering new and useful tools and all types of facilities so that sector businesses may be present at the annual logistics event in Spain.

## NOTE TO THE EDITOR

The **International Logistics and Material Handling Exhibition (SIL)** is the meeting place for all logistics activity in Southern Europe, the heart of the Mediterranean, especially the countries of the Maghreb, Iberoamerica and Southeast Asia.

After eleven years, SIL has become the major logistics and transport trade show in Spain and the Mediterranean Arc and the second in Europe.

SIL 2009 resisted the difficult economic times with 45% participation from international companies and turnover estimated at **2.100 million euros**. At its last edition, logistics executives were able to enjoy a great versatile Exhibition: the quality of the events, the exhibitors, the International Symposium SIL, the Mediterranean Logistics and Transport Forum and the technical conferences consolidated SIL on the international trade show calendar as the top Logistics Trade Show in Southern Europe and the Mediterranean Arc.

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