

Press release

Boxes are becoming more and more popular, only a quarter of people do not use them. They want them mainly in smaller municipalities, GLS is dealing with the placement with municipalities and the public and is opening the 1000th box

Prague, April 7, 2025 – Lockers are becoming the most popular way to deliver parcels. The network of lockers will continue to expand, especially in smaller municipalities. GLS will significantly expand its network this year as well, this week it launched box number 1000. When building its network of boxes, it emphasizes ecology and a suitable location, which is usually negotiated with local governments.

- **Only 24% of online shoppers do not use lockers at all**
- **Most often these are seniors and residents of small villages where the box is missing**
- **GLS has 1000 boxes, recently expanded the network fourfold**
- **From the beginning, GLS has been negotiating with the public and municipalities about the location, so the public and municipalities can easily design places where people would welcome the installation of additional boxes on the <https://solarnibox.gls-czech.com/>.**
- **Boxes and ecology: solar power, couriers drive less km**

GLS already operates 1000 lockers. At the end of 2023, it still had 4 times fewer GLS Parcel Boxes. In total, GLS delivers parcels to almost 5000 locations throughout the Czech Republic.

"Boxes are by far the most popular mode of transport for clients and the demand for new places from households and cities and municipalities is not waning. Our network is one of the fastest growing on the market, and we will continue to expand it significantly. At the same time, we perceive that with the growing number of boxes, the discussion about their appropriate location is intensifying. That is why we have been actively involving the public and municipalities from the very beginning and we are dealing with the location of the boxes together, when their users and municipalities can suggest where the additional boxes should be located," explains Petr Pěcha, Director of GLS in the Czech Republic.



Municipalities and the public can propose the location of the box themselves

The public and municipalities can easily design places on the <https://solarnibox.gls-czech.com/> where people would welcome the installation of additional GLS Parcel Boxes. GLS then cooperates with individual municipalities when placing the box.

"I am thrilled that we have a GLS Parcel Box in our village. Our citizens are extremely satisfied with the new service, it was the least I could do for them," says the mayor of Žižkovo Pole, Dagmar Bačkovská.

According to a recent survey by Behavio, 90% of people receive a package at least several times a year. And almost half (45%) receive a parcel several times a month.

Two-thirds of people (66%) use boxes at least sometimes, and for 43% the box is the main place to receive a parcel. The survey also shows that only a quarter (24%) of online shoppers do not use the boxes at all. Most often these are seniors and people in small villages with up to 10,000 inhabitants where there is no box. From the beginning, GLS has emphasized cooperation with municipalities when placing boxes, and the suitability of the location of the boxes is important for municipalities.

If the recipients of the parcel have a choice of all possible modes of transport, they most often choose the parcel box (38%), followed by delivery to an address or a pick-up point.

According to Petr Pěcha, the ideal situation is for every citizen of the Czech Republic to have a locker within a 5-minute walk or drive from home, work or school. At the same time, he adds that when building a box, it is always necessary to consider all aspects - the appropriate location must not only be visually friendly, but also the box must be easily accessible to users and couriers.

Boxes and ecology: solar power, couriers drive less km

The vast majority of newly built GLS Parcel Boxes are powered exclusively by solar panels. Thanks to their energy independence, these boxes are also suitable for residential buildings or rural areas, and thanks to their discreet design, they do not disturb the surroundings.

A wider network of boxes can also bring another environmental aspect. "We will be able to coordinate our deliveries even better, so we will need fewer cars that will drive fewer kilometres," explains Petr Pěcha, adding that GLS will continue to increase the share of electric cars in its fleet this year. *"At the same time, with a larger box, clients also drive fewer kilometers for their shipments,"* he adds.

GLS grew by 15% last year, delivering to almost 5,000 locations

GLS recorded a record year last year, when it delivered the most parcels in history, the number of parcels delivered increased by 15% year-on-year. In addition to the growing purchasing power of households, the significant expansion of GLS's distribution network contributed to the increased number of parcels delivered.

In addition to a thousand of its own boxes, GLS also delivers to about 1600 brick-and-mortar



pick-up points. Together with shared Alzaboxes, GLS customers can benefit from delivery to almost 5,000 delivery points, compared to 2,100 locations at the end of 2023.

About GLS Group

The GLS Group is a leading provider of international parcel transport. The company provides its customers across 40 countries with reliable and quality parcel services, complemented by freight and express services. With an extensive international network and strong local market knowledge, customers can expect a seamless, flexible and personal service across Europe and beyond. GLS also operates through wholly-owned subsidiaries in Canada and on the West Coast of the USA. The GLS network consists of 120 central and regional transshipment points and 1,600 depots, which use around 37,000 vans and 6,500 freight wagons. GLS employs around 23,000 people. In 2023/24, GLS achieved a record turnover of €5.6 billion and delivered 905 million parcels despite global challenges.