

## Delegations welcome: keeping up to speed with automotive expertise in Leipzig



### ⇒ Forum Automotive Logistics 2015

Transparent, intelligent, efficient – these should be the key parameters in the management of global supply chains. Participants at the Forum Automotive Logistics in Leipzig on February 3 and 4 will be able to learn from real-world experts how they can achieve this. Keynote speakers Siegfried Bülow, Managing Director at Porsche Leipzig GmbH, and Harald Krüger, Member of the Board of Management for Production at BMW AG, will generate stimulus for two informative and lively forum days.

learn, among other things, how to ensure transparency in intercontinental flows of goods or find out about optimum packaging in global networks. Sustainability and efficiency will be among the themes of the presentations and discussions. Production topics like the one-piece-flow principle will also be on the agenda. On the evening of day one, the VDA Logistics Award will be presented at Porsche Leipzig.

The presentation sequences on day two will be about intelligent processes and



Stefanie Hegels, Head of Logistics Planning Standards and Regions at Volkswagen, at the Forum Automotive Logistics 2014 in Frankfurt

During the event, logistics experts from companies like Audi, BMW, Opel or VW and both big and small automotive suppliers will use the forum to talk about best practices and their experiences.

The full session of the forum will focus on the challenges facing automotive logisticians in an era when supply chains are becoming increasingly global. One of the major aspects is procurement, and the legal and customs technicalities are also highly complex. In the parallel special-topic sequences, the participants can

solutions in international supplier networks, with particular emphasis on aspects like IT, qualification and knowledge management. The three plant tours from which the participants can choose will provide insights into hands-on operations. The Forum Automotive Logistics is the third such event staged jointly by the German Association of the Automotive Industry (VDA) and BVL. The organisers expect to welcome over 500 attendees and more than 50 exhibitors to the Messe Leipzig trade fair venue.

[more](#)

## EDITORIAL

The 31st International Supply Chain Conference in October in Berlin may be over but its ripples are still being felt: the companies presented with the German Award for SCM let us take a look inside their production halls in November, and will do so once again in January.

In addition, the presentations held by international speakers at the ISCC are now also available for download on the BVL website.

The next highlight event will soon be upon us - the Forum Automotive Logistics in Leipzig in February. High-ranking representatives of the German automotive industry will discuss topical issues in the sector at the event organised jointly by BVL and VDA.

Before all this happens, there are still the days of celebration and public holidays as the new year draws ever closer. BVL International would like to know what's going on in the streets in the locations where our LOG.Letter readers live. You can find more information on page 3.

**The editorial team of the LOG.Letter wishes all readers a happy end to 2014 and a good start to the New Year!**

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## BVL INTERNATIONAL – SELECTED EVENTS IN 2015

**Forum Automotive Logistics**  
February 3-4, 2015, Leipzig, Germany

**Forum Spare Part Logistics**  
March 5, 2015, Nuremberg, Germany

**Supply Chain Day**  
April 16, 2015, globally

**31st Logistics Dialogue of BVL Austria**  
April 16-17, 2015, Vienna, Austria

**BVL topic sequences @ transport logistic**  
May 5-7, 2015, Munich, Germany

## Insights into award-winning projects



“One man, one engine” in the production of Mercedes-AMG

Photo © Daimler AG

➔ **Behind the scenes** With its “Over-The-Shoulder” format, BVL honours the winners of the annually presented German Award for SCM by paying a visit to the companies in question. This year, the award winners were Mercedes-AMG and its service provider Müller – Die lila Logistik. The award was presented at the 31st International Supply Chain Conference in Berlin in October in recognition of the project “Supplying Performance. Logistics as a Growth Factor”.

At the end of November, around 50 people visited the company locations in Affalterbach and Marbach in southern Germany, and a further date has been set for the end of January next year. At Mercedes AMG, AMG Project Manager and Director AMG Operations Christian Wolff outlined the strategic reorganisation of logistics based on the interplay of SMEs and a global corporation.

He emphasised that the performance of the entire team was key to the success of the project. Employees were involved in the process from the outset and were able to share their specialist and “insider” knowledge. After the presentation of the strategic concept, Head of Logistics Marco Witzel and Head of Engine Production Peter Kubiena escorted the visitors on an in-depth tour of the plant, allowing them to experience up close the practical implementation of this concept. Following a transfer to Müller – Die lila Logistik, CEO Michael Müller held a Q&A session with the participants. At the end of this day full of new impressions, all the attendees praised the openness of the companies and the transparent information and insights into the project. You can find [more information on the “Over-The-Shoulder” format](#) in Germany on the website of BVL Campus.

## English-language services further extended

One of the main tasks of BVL is to spread and promote logistics knowledge – naturally also on international level. BVL has already extended its information services for English-speaking partners during the past year, and there are firm plans for further expansion of these services in 2015.



The most recent publication was in October – the free 10-page executive summary of the new study “Logistics in Retail and Wholesale – Structures, Success Factors, and Trends”, carried out by HTW Berlin and 4flow AG. The study looks at the functions and structures of the trading sector, identifies the underlying success factors of trading logistics, and uses the findings as a basis for defining specific recommendations. The executive summary will be supplemented by an English PowerPoint presentation in December. The availability for download means that these BVL publications like studies and presentations are easily accessible for the purpose of furthering knowledge, for events, as the basis for discussion, and as further training material for students. All international chairpersons and BVL Representatives will automatically receive the English-language material up to the end of 2014.

[An overview of all freely available English-language BVL publications can be found online.](#)

## 2015 MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR BVL MEMBERS IN EUROPE

As outlined in the last LOG.Letter, there will be no change in the membership fees for BVL members from Brazil, China, India, Russia, Singapore, Turkey and the USA in the coming year. For Germany, all the EU member states and Switzerland, new fees will be introduced next year for personal membership. As was decided by the BVL General Assembly in May 2014, the fees will be simultaneously adjusted and staggered in order to make membership more attractive for target groups like students and pensioners. The new fees are as follows:

- Personal membership for professionals: **140 € p.a.**
- Young professionals up to the age of 30: **70 € p.a.**
- Students, school students, apprentices, pensioners: **25 € p.a.**

## Countdown to Supply Chain Day 2015 on April 16



“Supply Chain Day 2014” in Beijing

⇒ **International day of action** Logistics paves the way! With the aim of portraying the diversity of activities in this key sector of the economy, companies and organisations in the fields of industry, trade and the services will be opening their doors for the eighth time on April 16, 2015 and allowing

interested visitors to take a look inside their operations free of charge. Logistics institutes will also be participating, presenting research projects and their services in the area of supply chain management. Supply Chain Day is a truly global day of action: in 2014, more countries than ever before took

part. Around 37,500 visitors in a total of 18 countries had the opportunity to take a look behind the scenes and experience logistics close-up. For the companies which open their doors to the public, Supply Chain Day is a good way to raise their profile and create a better understanding of their logistics processes.

Companies and institutions can register events online with immediate effect! BVL International is happy to support event organisers by providing brochures and giveaways – the office in Bremen looks forward to hearing from you. Our tip: the earlier a company registers, the sooner we can dispatch the materials. You can find all the relevant information on the day of action at [www.supply-chain-day.com](http://www.supply-chain-day.com)

Your contact at BVL head office is Project Manager Regina Brüning (English/Spanish): phone +49 421 173 84 45, [bruening@bvl.de](mailto:bruening@bvl.de)

## What are the scenes in your country at the end of the year?



The “Schlachte” promenade, not far from the BVL head office in Bremen  
 Photo: Sylvia Schuchardt / BTZ Bremer Touristik-Zentrale

⇒ **Light and warmth** Everyone is familiar with the world-famous Christmas Markets in Central Europe. In Germany, the end of the year is a time for festively decorated markets on streets and squares, and Bremen is no exception - as this photo shows directly in front of the entrance to BVL head office. BVL International would like to know what your streets look like in December as year-end approaches. Send us your photos and snapshots with a few explanatory words by e-mail, and we will publish them on the BVL website!

All the employees of BVL International wish the readers of LOG-Letter happy holidays and a good start to the New Year!

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## BVL founder honored



**Dr. Hanspeter Stabenau was a co-founder of BVL in 1978 and Chairman of the Board in Germany until 1999.**

Dr. Hanspeter Stabenau, a founding member and long-time Board Chairman of BVL, celebrated his 80th birthday on November 1, 2014. Stabenau is a “logistician of the first hour” and has more than left his mark through his activities in both teaching and practice. Today, he still lives by the motto that only people who enjoy their job can achieve success in a career. He was born in Königsberg in Eastern Prussia (which is today Kaliningrad/ Russia). After 1945, he obtained a university entrance qualification in East Germany, and

then went on to study Transport Science in Cologne in West Germany.

Stabenau’s commitment to logistics began in 1961 as a lecturer at the German Foreign Trade and Transport Academy (DAV) in Bremen. He subsequently became head of studies at the DAV in 1966. From his position at the DAV, Stabenau was one of the co-founders of BVL in 1978; a few years later, in 1984 he called the International Supply Chain Conference into being, and the event has since developed into

Europe’s leading annual logistics conference. Until 1999, Stabenau was Chairman of the Board of BVL in Germany. In Stabenau’s eyes, the course mapped out for BVL in the 21st century is an international one. His conviction is that “global commitment is the central task for the future”. BVL would like to congratulate him most warmly on his 80th birthday!

[More information in German](#)



## IMPRINT

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## International presentations at the conference



**Presentation “USA: Offshoring and Nearshoring” at the 31st International Supply Chain Conference**

The 31st International Supply Chain Conference in Berlin from October 22 to 24 welcomed visitors from around 40 countries. In the International Meeting Point of BVL, some of the foreign guests rounded off the conference programme with short presentations. The presentations, like most of the special-topic

presentations, are available online in the conference mediatheque with immediate effect. BVL would once again like to take the opportunity to thank the honorary officials and the ELA partners for their efforts.

[To the conference mediatheque \(password from the conference required\)](#)