

19th INTERNATIONAL LOGISTICS AND HANDLING CONGRESS (SIL) (FROM 6 TO 8 JUNE IN HALL 8, FIRA DE BARCELONA, MONTJUÏC - PLAZA ESPANYA)

## MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT **ÍÑIGO DE LA SERNA** HAS OPENED **SIL 2017**

- The minister of Territory and Sustainability of the Generalitat of Catalonia, Josep Rull, the government delegate in Catalonia, Enric Millo, and the second deputy mayor of Barcelona, Jaume Collboni have led the large institutional representation at the opening ceremony.
- The first edition of eDelivery Barcelona Expo & Congress has started; it showcases the latest trends in the sector of the distribution and delivery, as well as logistical challenges posed by online and multi-channel retailing.
- Minister of Health, Dolors Montserrat, has closed the Pharma session of the SIL Barcelona International Congress with more than 200 professionals in the pharmaceutical and healthcare sector this afternoon.

**Barcelona, 6 June 2017.** – Minister of Development, **Íñigo de la Serna**, has led the opening ceremony of the 19th edition of the **Saló Internacional de la Logística i de la Manutenció** (International Logistics and Handling Congress), **SIL 2017**, this morning. The congress is open from today until next Thursday, 8 June, in Hall 8 of the Montjuïc Plaça Espanya Fira de Barcelona venue. **Íñigo de la Serna** was accompanied by minister of Territory and Sustainability of the Generalitat of Catalonia, **Josep Rull**; the government delegate in Catalonia, **Enric Millo**; the second deputy mayor of the area of Enterprise, Innovation and Culture of the Barcelona City Council, **Jaume Collboni**; the special representative of the State at El Consorci de la Zona Franca and president of SIL, **Jordi Cornet**; the secretary of State for Infrastructure, Transport and Housing, **Julio Gómez-Pomar**; the mayor of L'Hospitalet de Llobregat, **Núria Marín**; the secretary for Infrastructure and Transport of the Generalitat of Catalonia, **Ricard Font**; the managing director of the Public Ports Agency of Andalusia, representing this edition's guest region at SIL 2017; **Alfonso Rodríguez Gómez de Celis**; the regional secretary of Sustainable

Economy, Trade and Productive Sectors of the Generalitat Valenciana, **Blanca Marí**; the executive secretary of Competitiveness and Logistics of the Republic of Panama, **Miguel Ángel Esbrí**; the general director of SIL, **Blanca Sorigué**; and presidents and CEOs of leading companies, as well as several members of the Organising Committee of SIL 2017.

Over 600 companies, 40 % of them international companies, from 38 different countries, participate at SIL 2017, which is organised by El Consorci de la Zona Franca de Barcelona. The number of participating companies increased by 5 % in this edition of the SIL in comparison with the 2016 edition. The first edition of the eDelivery Barcelona Expo & Congress was held simultaneously. The special representative of the State at El Consorci de la Zona Franca and president of SIL, **Jordi Cornet**, was visibly satisfied at the opening ceremony and stressed that "***SIL is a gathering of all the sectors that make up the logistics chain in a setting where everything is designed to generate business, networking and showing the latest in knowledge. Moreover, every year, the SIL is the meeting point for all professionals: They share experiences, exchange views, make deals, network, attract customers and open new markets.***" Cornet also stressed the importance of SIL as a "***great logistics summit that projects the image of Barcelona and establishes the city as an economic environment within the mainstream of international trade.***"

### **15th anniversary of the Mediterranean Logistics and Transport Forum**

This morning, SIL 2017 has also hosted the 15th anniversary of the Mediterranean Logistics and Transport Forum, organised by the Asociación de Cámaras de Comercio e Industria del Mediterráneo (ASCAME) and El Consorci de la Zona Franca de Barcelona, with the support of the Cambra de Comerç de Barcelona. Entitled *Another time is coming*, it highlighted the unique positioning of Mediterranean countries as hubs for international distribution at a time when major changes are taking place. Logistics is today a driver of economic strategy for the Mediterranean region and the region has strong business relationships with international markets and various industries, from shipping to aviation.

The **15th edition of the Mediterranean Logistics and Transport Forum** has addressed the unique positioning of the Mediterranean in the international logistics market as well as its strong trade relations with markets in **Eastern Europe, North Africa** and the **Gulf**. The forum has devoted a special session to the important place occupied by women in the regional and global logistics sector, as well as start-up companies in this market, with one of the highest financing indexes in the industry in the region.

### **Minister of Health, Dolors Montserrat, closes the pharmaceutical and healthcare session at SIL**

The programme of the SIL Barcelona International Congress included a day dedicated to the most important logistics sector: the pharmaceutical and healthcare sector. This year has seen the participation of the minister of Health, Social Services and Equality, **Dolors Montserrat**. The minister has closed this year's SIL Pharma, which has discussed "How to adapt to new trends in supply chain logistics and pharmaceutical logistics."

**Dolors Montserrat** exchanged opinions, concerns and ideas with the general managers and supply chain and operations managers of companies such as: **Roche Diagnostics, Alliance Healthcare, Laboratoris Rovi, Dermofarm, Novaltia, Fedefarma** and **Cofares**.

### **eDelivery Barcelona Expo & Congress**

The first edition of eDelivery Barcelona Expo & Congress opened its doors this morning with a large influx of visitors and attendees. In this first year, this fair, which puts its focus on logistics and delivery as the two key elements in the success of any digital business, had the participation of leading companies such as: **DHL, Correos, MRW, Celeritas Transporte y Logística, Smartpak, Grupo FSM (BTS/ACTÚA), Logisfashion, Setroc Manufacturas Metálicas, Ecoscooting, Retail Rocket, Frigicoll, Cold Chain Store 2 – Tempack, CITET, Font Packaging Group, Pospulse, Ferrimax, AS Software, CITET and Soft Doit**.

One of the strengths of the first edition of eDelivery Barcelona is the congress, with over 400 attendees. Significant trends in the sector of the distribution and delivery are presented, and the logistical challenges posed by online and multi-channel retailing are discussed. The congress began with a session on "Innovation and the latest trends in distribution" with the participation of **Fred Patje**, Amazon General Operations manager for Spain & Italy; **Xavier Ferràs**, dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business at the Universitat de Vic; **M.<sup>a</sup> Isabel Iglesias**, Development and Security and Big Data Business Telefónica; **Marius Kerbalek**, Smartpak CEO; **Ignacio García Cuenca**, Country manager of Goodman Spain; and **David Conca**, Chep vice-president for Southern Europe.

The next meeting has put the focus on the last mile and operations for the food sector. Some of the speakers were: **David Costa**, Nektria CIO & cofounder; **Gemma Sorigué**, Deliberry CEO & co-

founder; **Ricardo Ribes**, Ulabox COO; **Gerardo Sánchez Bandrés**, BTS Home Delivery executive president; and **Diego Sebastià**, DIA eCommerce Food director. Another session on the last mile, specifically on the challenges for cities and sustainability, is scheduled for the afternoon.

### **2nd edition of the SIL ICIL Awards for Best Innovation**

This evening, at 5:30 pm, the second edition of the SIL ICIL award for Best Innovation will be announced at the congress. The jury is composed of 12 renowned journalists specialised in covering logistics and delivery news and the award will be handed out by the representative of the State at El Consorci de la Zona Franca de Barcelona and president of SIL, **Jordi Cornet**, and the chairman of the Board of Trustees of ICIL, **Ignasi Sayol**.

Later, in the networking area of eDelivery Barcelona Expo & Congress, the first eDelivery Barcelona prize for Best Innovation will be awarded. A jury of eight journalists covering news on the retail sector and online retailing will announce which novelty presented at the congress is the best.

You can see pictures of the event by clicking [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)

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