**PRESS RELEASE**

Prague, June 18th 2019

**Biking to work had three thousand participants more than last year, project help to save 466 tuns of CO2**

**19 576 people from all over Czech Republic have took part in the ninth year of ecological challenge Biking to work. Three thousand people more were for the entire May using not just bike, but also scooters or running gear for transportation to work and back home. This project helped to save 466 tuns of CO2, nine tuns more than last year. The starting packages was traditionally transported to all participants by parcel logistics company GLS. GLS has supported also the critical mass of Josef Zimovčák, more than 1.300 kilometres long tour for the support of oncologically ill children.**

**Number of participants is fluently increasing**

Project Biking to work that tries to motivate the public to use ecological means of transportation to work and back home, regularly records increasing number of participants. The very first challenge not to use car for their way to work had in 2011 about one thousand of participants. In 2016 there were already ten thousands of participants, this year it was already 19 and a half participants, almost a double. „Almost one thousand of companies took part in this years challenge*. In 2018 it was 1838 companies, this year the number has reached 2737. We believe that next tenth year will be special again*,“ says Jan Haruda, coordinator of project Biking to work.

**Long term effort for better life**

Thanks to the significant involvement of public and companies this project managed to save 466 tuns of CO2 during May. This year has by nine tuns of saved CO2 surpassed last year´s result. That is more than double of saved emission during year 2014 (212 tuns). International parcel delivery provider GLS takes part every year as a general partner and provides the transportation of starting packages with specially designed t-shirts to all participants. „*Ecological transport is an important topic for us, mainly due to our program ThinkGreen. We are glad to support ecological means of transport amongst the public and our own colleagues. About one third of our employees were biking to work this year and has rode over 800 kilometres,“* says Pavel Včela, director of company GLS Czech Republic.

**Across Czech Republic on high wheel**

Parcel delivery provider GLS has along with project Biking to work supported also Josef Zimovčák´s endowment fund On bike for children. Josef Zimovčák has on his high wheel rode the whole rout of Tour de France and with his endowment fund supports the cure of oncologically ill children. National charity event called Cyklotour has started off its tenth year on 29th of May in Aš and finished on 8th of Jun in Znojmo after more than 1.300 kilometres. „*We are glad we managed to connect these two events and impressed not just people interested in ecological transport, but also people interested in social and charity events, that could join the peloton during its whole route across Czech Republic. Josef Zimovčák´s endowment fund managed to earn almost 2.000.000 CZK thanks to sponsors and involved cyclists,* “ adds Pavel Včela.

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 *GLS Czech Republic and the GLS Group*

*GLS Czech Republic is a subsidiary of General Logistics Systems B.V. (headquartered in Amsterdam). GLS realises reliable, high-quality parcel services for over 270,000 customers, complemented by logistics and express services. “Quality leader in European parcel logistics” is GLS’ guiding principle, sustainability being one of the core values. Through wholly owned and partner companies, the Group provides a network coverage of 41 European states. GLS is also present in eight U.S. states and in Canada, and is globally connected via contractual agreements. About 50 central transhipment points and more than 1,000 depots and agencies are at GLS’ disposal. With its ground based network GLS is one of the leading parcel service providers in Europe. GLS counts 18,000 employees and every day around 30,000 vehicles are on route for GLS. In the financial year 2017/18 GLS achieved revenues of 2.9 billion euros and transported 584 million parcels.*