**For GLS Hungary 2020 was not only a year of challenges but also of expansion**

Last year brought a major change in the lives of all people. The appearance of the coronavirus has not only shaken the world but has also impacted society. Looking for new opportunities, we had to adapt to a changed life, learn to live with the virus, and get the best out of 2020. As a result of Covid-19, the number of online purchases skyrocketed, resulting in an increased parcel traffic for GLS, as well. This represented a serious challenge for the company, as it still had to ensure efficient and fast parcel processing.

As in previous years and regardless of the coronavirus, the company expected a higher parcel volume in 2020. This is why in 2019 it decided to expand the existing sorting plant and to build a new, modern office building at the GLS Headquarters site in Alsónémedi.

With this investment, GLS Hungary has completed its 5th large-scale construction. The work lasted only 8 months, from March to October 2020. The area of the central sorting plant has been enlarged by a further 54%, exceeding 24,000 m2. The new part has a reception, a new depot, and office space, and a rather spectacular so-called hub ‘control tower’ has also been set up.

Thanks to the expansion, parcel handling will be facilitated by 102 new docking gates. The plant's conveyor belt is now approximately 2 km longer and is thus capable of processing up to 40,000 parcels per hour.

Due to the significant parcel volume, GLS expanded the number of its depots by 17 last year, so now there are a total of 80 depots functioning in Hungary.

Last year, staff size grew not only in the sorting plant but in the offices, as well. The bright and modern office space of nearly 1,000 m2 built as part of the new plant enhances employee convenience.

Thanks to the new expansions, the company closed the peak season successfully in 2020, as well, providing the usual high-quality and reliable service level.