APL Logistics and VASCOR form automotive logistics joint venture in India

Top-tier 3PL to raise the bar for meeting OEMs' rising demands

NEW DELHI, India, December 5, 2012: APL Logistics and VASCOR today announced the formation of a joint venture to better serve the growing and increasingly sophisticated supply chain needs of the automotive sector in India.

The Delhi-based joint venture – named APL Logistics VASCOR Automotive – draws on the supply chain expertise and auto sector experience of two of the industry's most respected brands. APL Logistics is a leader in international supply chain services with extensive experience serving the automotive sector in both developed and emerging markets. In India, APL Logistics' international expertise is complemented by its strong intermodal rail capability through IndiaLinx^{SM}, which operates reliable, dedicated container train services to Northern India's hinterland. VASCOR is a leading automotive 3PL with deep experience in inbound-to-manufacturing, outbound finished vehicle, and value-added services throughout the U.S., Canada and Mexico. It has market-leading expertise in finished vehicle logistics.

"This collaboration between APL Logistics and VASCOR marks the first international 3PL to be dedicated exclusively to India's auto sector, and underscores India's growing importance as a major global automotive manufacturer," said Bill Villalon, APL Logistics Vice President for Automotive and Chairman of the joint venture.

"APL Logistics VASCOR Automotive will seek to raise the bar for automotive logistics in India by developing and offering innovative solutions that meet the increasingly sophisticated

requirements of original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) and Tier suppliers," said Bill Garrett, President and CEO of VASCOR Ltd, and CEO of the joint venture.

The joint venture has appointed Umesh Bhanot as Chief Operating Officer.

While APL Logistics VASCOR Automotive plans to offer a full spectrum of inbound, outbound and aftermarket parts solutions, the company will initially focus on providing finished vehicle logistics, specifically:

- Rail transportation
- Yard management
- Containerised transportation – via APL Logistics' AutoDirect product

Wagon for finished vehicle distribution

In close consultation with OEMs, APL Logistics VASCOR Automotive has developed a rail wagon with a unique design that can accommodate a wide range of automobiles, including the fast-growing SUVs. The complete door-to-door service will include collection of finished cars from OEM plants, vehicle loading and unloading at terminals, and long-distance rail haulage, and last mile delivery.

Using these newly designed wagons, the joint venture plans to introduce AutoLinx^{SM}, an innovative rail-based solution for more reliable, damage-free and cost-efficient distribution of finished vehicles and motorcycles across the country. Trial runs of AutoLinx^{SM} rail-based wagons will begin in early 2013 with full-scale operations slated to begin mid-2013 following regulatory approvals.

For more information on APL Logistics VASCOR Automotive, visit: www.apllvascor.com

About APL Logistics

APL Logistics provides international, integrated supply chain services in 75 countries, including origin and destination services such as freight consolidation, warehousing and distribution management. It uses innovative IT for maximum supply chain visibility and control. APL Logistics is a unit of Singapore-based Neptune Orient Lines (NOL), a global cargo transportation and logistics company.

About VASCOR

VASCOR is a joint venture of Singapore-based supply chain management leader APL Logistics and FUJITRANS Corporation of Japan. Formed in 1987, VASCOR offers third-party logistics services to key automotive companies in the U.S. and Mexico. Based in Georgetown, Kentucky, USA, it serves major automotive manufacturers or sales entities as well as all Class One Railroads.

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