



Heavy lift express in Vietnam

Last November, Kuehne + Nagel's project transport team in Vietnam had the task of delivering an urgent consignment in the heavy category. The Vietnamese subsidiary of Air Liquide, the world's leaders in industrial and medical gases and related services, chose the company to transport an oversized gas tank weighing 105 tonnes from Tianjin in China to Ho Chi Minh City as quickly as possible.

Whereas shipment from the port of Tianjin to Vietnam presented no major problems for the world's number one in seafreight forwarding, the tricky part lay in the on-carriage of the tank from the docks in Ho Chi Minh City to the final project site at Saigon Hi-Tech Park. As a first obstacle, the gas tank was too heavy for the shore crane at Tianjin Port to load, so that a 700-tonne floating crane had to be hired

and transported to the loading site. A careful survey of the infrastructure at the destination showed that with its dimensions of 35 x 4.5 x 4.5 meters the cargo was simply too large to be carried through the busy, narrow streets of Vietnam's biggest city.

Faced with this situation, the inventive Kuehne + Nagel project team decided to transport the tank to its final destination via the Saigon River. After clearing customs in a record time of only one day, the tank was loaded onto two turntables fixed on a multi-axle hydraulic trailer on a barge which then carried it up the river. A temporary jetty was quickly constructed, fences which stood in the way were removed and the cargo was brought to land. Finally, the tank was transported to the job site under police escort, so as to avoid any interference from other traffic on the road.

Thanks to this outstanding logistics performance by all concerned, the gas tank was delivered to the Saigon Hi-Tech Park five days before the deadline. The customer was delighted with this outcome.

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