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First electric heavy-goods vehicle travels through the Channel Tunnel with LeShuttle Freight

In a joint effort to advance low-carbon logistics, Kuehne+Nagel, LeShuttle Freight, Voltempo, and DAF Trucks have successfully sent the first electric heavy-goods vehicle (eHGV) through the Channel Tunnel.

The Channel Tunnel, managed and operated by Eurotunnel, is a vital European trade corridor. Through its LeShuttle Freight services, it carries a quarter of all goods traded in value between the UK and continental Europe, with over a million trucks crossing each year. As the leader in low-carbon transportation, Eurotunnel offers the only zero-direct-emission way to cross the Channel, with services powered entirely by electricity.

By demonstrating that eHGVs can use LeShuttle Freight, this partnership accelerates the industry's shift to more sustainable logistics and proves that with Eurotunnel, sustainable cross-Channel transport is practical, efficient and ready to scale.

As members of eFREIGHT 2030, part of the UK Government's Zero Emission HGV and Infrastructure Demonstrator programme (ZEHID), Kuehne+Nagel, DAF and Voltempo will share their learnings and insights from this groundbreaking trip to help accelerate the shift to low-emission transport. eFREIGHT 2030 is funded by the Department for Transport and delivered in partnership with Innovate UK.

The journey: 1,700 km across five countries with a DAF New Generation XF

The journey began at Kuehne+Nagel's East Midlands Gateway depot in the UK where the truck was loaded with 12-tonnes of freight before being fully charged using the depot's Voltempo HyperCharger – the UK's first megawatt-scale charging system. Formally opened on 15 January with Chris McDonald, Minister for Industry in the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) and the Department for Business and Trade (DBT) in attendance, the Kuehne+Nagel six-bay hub is capable of delivering charge rates of up to one megawatt (MW), or to dynamically allocate the 1MW capacity across six trucks at once.

Along the 1,700 km round-trip route to Kuehne+Nagel's depot in Haiger (Germany), the two-person crew topped up at public charging hubs operated by Gridserve (UK), and Milence in Dunkirk (France) and Maasmechelen (Belgium), showcasing the growing accessibility of fast-charging infrastructure for long-haul electric freight.

The vehicle used for this milestone was the DAF New Generation XF, recently awarded the prestigious International Truck of the Year 2026. This recognition highlights its advanced engineering, efficiency, and readiness for the future of decarbonised transport. The vehicle provides a real-world range of up to 500 km (310 miles) on a single charge and supports DC charging up to 325kW, enabling rapid top-ups to make long-haul daily journeys of up to 1,000 km a reality.

Aviation, Maritime and Decarbonisation Minister, Keir Mather said: "We're backing British business by cutting up to £120,000 off the cost of new electric trucks and investing £120 million to rollout

zero-emission lorries and the charging infrastructure needed to support them, boosting growth, UK manufacturing, and supporting jobs.

“Our support has seen companies like Kuehne+Nagel get clean delivery trucks on the road and helped fund the launch of the first electric lorry across the Channel Tunnel, showcasing the massive trading and economic opportunities that can be delivered through green freight.”

Kate Broome, Sustainability and Social Impact Director at Kuehne+Nagel UK, said: *“With this first-ever electric HGV journey via the Channel Tunnel, we set out to show what’s possible - and to inspire others to accelerate their own electrification journeys. Planning a multi-country long-haul route still requires extra work to optimise our schedule for charging stops, but the rapid expansion of charging infrastructure across the UK and Europe is transforming what’s achievable. Today we’ve demonstrated that this effort truly pays off - and this electric-corridor milestone shows just how quickly the future of sustainable transport is taking shape.”*

Peter Roberts, LeShuttle Freight Commercial Strategy Director, said *“This milestone marks a major step forward towards greener supply chains and shows what’s possible when industry and government collaborate. Working with Kuehne+Nagel and DAF Trucks we are proving that electric heavy-goods vehicles can operate a zero-direct-emission freight corridor between the UK and mainland Europe, thanks to the Channel Tunnel. It’s a significant move towards decarbonising freight transport and we’re proud to be rolling out this capability to all eHGVs later this year.”*

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About Kuehne+Nagel

With more than 85,000 employees at almost 1,300 sites in close to 100 countries, the Kuehne+Nagel Group is one of the world's leading logistics providers. Headquartered in Switzerland, Kuehne+Nagel is listed in the Swiss blue-chip stock market index, the SMI. The Group is the global number one in air and sea logistics and has strong market positions in road and contract logistics. Kuehne+Nagel is the logistics partner of choice for 400,000 customers worldwide. Using its global network, logistics expertise and data-based insights, the Group provides end-to-end supply chain solutions for global companies and industries.

About Eurotunnel

Eurotunnel operates the Channel Tunnel, the world's longest undersea tunnel, providing a vital and sustainable transport link between the UK and France. Since its inauguration in 1994, Eurotunnel has transported more than 109 million vehicles and over 537 million passengers across its LeShuttle and Eurostar services. As the operator of both LeShuttle and LeShuttle Freight, Eurotunnel enables the seamless movement of millions of passengers and freight vehicles each year. With a strong commitment to innovation, reliability, and customer experience, Eurotunnel plays a key role in supporting cross-border connectivity and economic growth throughout Europe.
<https://www.getlinkgroup.com/en/our-group/eurotunnel/>

About DAF Trucks

DAF has been leading the UK market for trucks above 6.0-tonnes GVW for over 30 years (29.7% market share in 2025). The DAF Dealer network comprises about 1,100 representatives in Europe and beyond, including 136 locations in the UK & Ireland. The DAF Range of vehicles includes the multi-award-winning XB, XD, XF, XG and XG+ models to suit a world of applications, plus a growing number of zero-emission electric models. The DAF XD Electric and XF Electric were voted International Truck of the Year 2026. All the DAF sales locations in the UK are committed to becoming DAF Electric Truck Centres, to support the sale and service of DAF Electric trucks and PACCAR Chargers.

About Voltempo

Voltempo is a UK manufacturer of advanced EV charging solutions, specialising in HyperCharger technology for commercial fleet electrification. Founded in 2019 and based in Tysley, East Birmingham, the company offers end-

to-end services including site development, grid connection management, charging infrastructure, and ongoing operations, maintenance, data analytics and optimisation. Voltempo is leading the eFREIGHT 2030 consortium, part of the UK government's £200m Zero Emission HGV and Infrastructure Demonstrator Programme (ZEHID) to accelerate the uptake of zero emission HGVs.

More information at Voltempo.com

Notes to Editors

Captions for images:

- (1) (l) to (r) Peter Roberts, Commercial Strategy Director, LeShuttle Freight; Alistair Barnes, Senior Programme Manager, Innovate UK; Kate Broome, Sustainability and Social Impact Director, Kuehne+Nagel; Michael Boxwell, Corporate Development Officer, Voltempo; Chris McDonald, Minister for Industry in the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) and the Department for Business and Trade (DBT); Ben Fletcher, Chief Executive, Logistics UK; Amanda Hack MP; Louis Jones, EV & Connected Services Director, DAF Trucks UK; Eleanor Edmonds, Director, Road Logistics, Kuehne+Nagel; Matthew Grigor, Senior Policy & Public Affairs Manager, Getlink; Simon Smith, CEO, Voltempo.
- (2) The first electric heavy-goods vehicle (eHGV) to travel through the Channel Tunnel arrives at Eurotunnel's Calais terminal.
- (3) The first electric heavy-goods vehicle (eHGV) to travel through the Channel Tunnel arrives at Eurotunnel's Calais terminal.
- (4) The first electric heavy-goods vehicle (eHGV) to travel through the Channel Tunnel exits in France.

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