

Press Release

GLS aims to accelerate growth in the Czech Republic and become the market leader. First steps: more than 2,000 parcel lockers and pickup points, support for Czech e-shops

Prague, September 18, 2025 – The logistics company GLS, now under new Czech ownership, has ambitious growth plans. It has full support for further expansion and strengthening of its market position. Within six months, the company will expand its network of parcel lockers by more than 50% to 2,000 and will also develop the number of pickup points. GLS aims to be a leading company in supporting Czech e-shops and a partner in their growth.

2,000 lockers by March, with growth continuing afterwards

GLS plans to have at least 2,000 parcel lockers in the Czech Republic by the end of March next year. "Just two years ago, we had only 250 lockers, and now we have about 1,200. Over the past year, our network has been the fastest-growing in the Czech Republic, and we will continue this growth. On average, we launch one new locker every six hours, and by the end of March next year we want to reach at least 2,000. All of this is done in cooperation with municipalities and with respect for public spaces," said Petr Pěcha, Managing Director of GLS Czech Republic.

Lockers have become by far the most popular delivery method, now receiving more than half of all parcels. At the moment, GLS operates the third-largest network among carriers in the Czech Republic, but reaching 2,000 lockers will not mean the end of expansion. "We will keep building lockers as long as we see customer demand. The ideal situation is for everyone to have a locker within a 3-minute walk or drive from home or work. At the same time, we want to expand pickup points, increasing their number by 50% to over 2,100 by March," emphasized Petr Pěcha.

Goals under the new owner: GLS as market leader

Since spring this year, GLS has had a new owner – the parent company GLS, part of International Distribution Services plc (IDS), has been acquired by EP Group of Daniel Křetínský. IDS also controls the UK's Royal Mail.

"The Czech market is a priority. We want to grow quickly here and become number one in the medium term. This is not a short-term investment – on the contrary, we want to build GLS into the strongest brand on the market. GLS in the Czech Republic has full shareholder support for further expansion, whether through organic growth or otherwise," said Daniel Mareš, member of the senior leadership of global GLS and a board member of both IDS and Royal Mail.

"GLS has secured resources and financing for its expansion investments. These will not only go towards expanding the network but also towards further technological development. All investments will primarily focus on improving client comfort and customer satisfaction," added Daniel Mareš.

A strong partner for Czech e-shops

GLS's vision is to be a strong partner for Czech e-shops in their growth and potential expansion abroad. The Czech Republic has the highest number of e-shops per capita in Europe, with many already successfully expanding internationally. "GLS's strong international network, with more



than 110,000 pickup points and 20,000 lockers, opens the way for Czech e-shops into Europe. We can already deliver parcels within 48 hours to around 20 European countries, and we will continue to simplify cross-border shipping," noted Petr Pěcha.

According to him, a key success factor will be a positive customer experience. That is why home delivery will remain one of the key pillars of services, alongside lockers and pickup points. GLS will continue improving its services: recently, it launched a new version of its app with real-time courier tracking, simplified parcel shipping between private individuals, and introduced weekend sorting.

Looking ahead, customers will expect even more convenience and faster services. "Demand for next-day delivery and weekend delivery will increase – and we will be ready for it," said Petr Pěcha.

Expectations for this year's season

GLS expects strong growth already this year. Household incomes are rising, and with them the willingness to spend. According to GLS, domestic e-shops' sales should grow by at least 5% this year, with the pace accelerating before Christmas. "We expect a very strong Christmas season and we are ready for it. Our significantly expanded delivery network will mean that customers will truly receive their parcels exactly where they ordered them," said Petr Pěcha.

In addition to e-shop orders, 2025 has also seen a boom in direct parcel shipping between households, largely due to the popularity of apps focused on selling second-hand goods. GLS has recently made this service much simpler – parcels can now be shipped locker-to-locker without the need to print any labels. "We will continue with such small innovations to make GLS the first choice for both e-shops and end customers in the future," he added.

Including shared lockers of other operators, GLS currently delivers to more than 5,300 pickup points and lockers in the Czech Republic. "Shared lockers are the future – we are ready to share our expanded network with other partners as well," concluded Petr Pěcha.

About GLS Group

GLS Group is one of the largest parcel delivery providers in Europe, with a strong presence in nearly all European countries. GLS also operates wholly-owned subsidiaries in Canada and on the U.S. West Coast. It provides services to customers in more than 50 countries. The GLS network consists of 120 central and regional hubs and more than 1,600 depots, served by over 36,700 delivery vehicles and 6,400 trucks. In addition to home delivery, GLS delivers to more than 110,000 pickup points and 20,000 lockers. In fiscal year 2024/25, GLS generated revenue of €5.9 billion and delivered 926 million parcels.