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Press Officer:
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Cooperation between Consist and Kieler Nachrichten

Data on shipping traffic in the Bay of Kiel – live online, and free of charge

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In the context of the relaunch of its website, the newspaper Kieler Nachrichten is offering its readers an online shipping information system (SIS) about the ships in the Kiel Fjord. The system, developed by the Kiel software company Consist, provides up-to-the-minute information about general ship data, position, and movements. The above-average traffic for the SIS on KN-Online shows that the public is happy with the opportunity.

Kiel – Any interested people, such as tourists, hobbyist photographers, sailing and ship enthusiasts, can now follow ship position and movements in the Bay of Kiel in real time on the websites of the Kieler Nachrichten (www.kn-online.de/schiffe) and Consist (www.consist.de/www/en/info_center/schiffsinformationssystem.html).

The Ship Information System (SIS) created by Consist shows the name, dimensions, destination, travel data (white arrow = at rest, green arrow = afloat) and category of each ship (names underlined in blue = passenger ship), often with a photo as well. The service is free of charge. The SIS can optionally be viewed as a map, satellite view, or ground view.

"With the publicly accessible Ship Information System, we want to highlight our positioning as a software company for the maritime economy. We are the only company providing up-to-the-minute data on ships in the Bay of Kiel," explains Martin Lochte-Holtgreven, Managing Director of Consist.

With SIS, the Kieler Nachrichten offers its readers a modern form of the port gazette (Hafenbericht): "At first, you would think that SIS is of more

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interest to shipping companies and port management. Yet talking about ships somehow makes everybody yearn for distant shores. The forerunners of the first newspapers in history were started to cover shipping arrivals in the trade ports. So it's no wonder that the port gazette is still a necessary part of every newspaper in coastal regions, which is exactly the case at the Kieler Nachrichten," explains Rainer Pregla, alternate departmental manager at KN-Online.

The Ship Information System provides not only data and facts, but also provokes dreams and emotions. That's how Rainer Pregla also explains the system's success: "We're happy that our Internet presence www.kn-online.de can be decorated with this modern form of the "ship watching". Enthusiastic letters from our readers and the above-average traffic show that this offering has been welcome, and that our readers are thinking more about travel as a result."

Evaluation of AIS signals provides current data

Seagoing vessels of over 300 GT (gross tonnage) have been equipped with AIS (Automatic Identification System) units since 2005, which continually transmit identification and navigation data via ultra short-wave communication. The SIS is based on the receipt of these AIS signals, using graphical material (map, satellite images, and landscape views) from Google Maps.

The Consist software package VERS (Vessel Event & Reporting System) for port management and traffic control also uses AIS data. While SIS is oriented towards private users, the VERS variant is equipped with a larger scope of functionality, and is provided for a fee for commercial purposes. For instance, VERS provides exact times of arrival of ferries or ships arriving from the sea.

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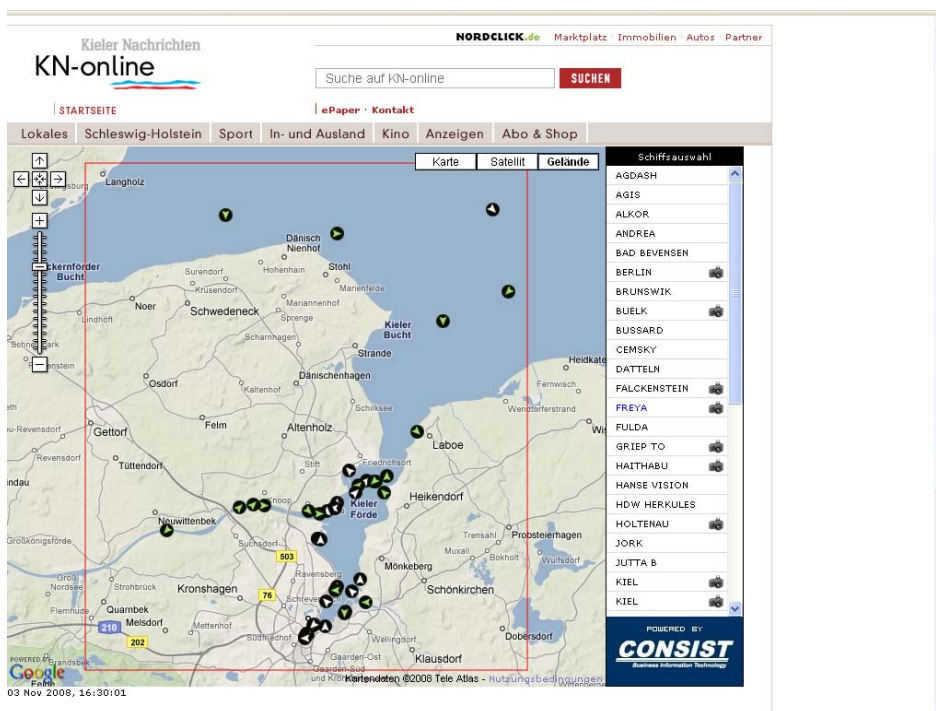
This press release contains 2838 characters (including spaces), with an average of 65 characters per line. You can also find it at

www.consist.de/presse

More information:

- Shipping information system at Consist:
www.consist.de/www/en/info_center/schiffsinformationssystem.html
- Shipping information system at Kieler Nachrichten:
www.kn-online.de/schiffe/
- About VERS:
www.consist.de/www/en/solutions/solutions03/solution_0006.html
- About Consist: www.consist.de/www/en/index.html

Illustrations:



Screenshot of the shipping information system on www.kn-online.de/schiffe/

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About Consist

Consist Software Solutions GmbH is a specialist in tailor-made applications and selected software solutions.

Consist Software Solutions has over 25 years of experience in information technology (IT). The strengths of the company are its expertise in both classical and modern technologies, its manufacturer independence, its professionalism, reliability, and commitment.

Its subsidiary Consist ITU Environmental Software GmbH – Consist ITU for short – is the specialist in Europe-wide IT solutions for waste management.

Mission

True to the slogan Pushing IT forward!, Consist Software Solutions uses innovative IT solutions to shape the information technology of its customers. Our company discovers opportunities and implements innovations, thus increasing the competitiveness of its customers. Since 1983, the company has already helped more than 600 well-known enterprises and organizations to create significant added value in this way.

Service portfolio

The business activity of the internationally active enterprise is based on the three pillars "Professionals & Projects", "Managed Services," and "Solutions".

In the "Professionals & Projects" area Consist Software Solutions concentrates on IT consulting, projects, and the provision of qualified IT specialists (sourcing).

In the context of "Managed Services," the IT enterprise handles the maintenance and continued development of custom software (Applica-

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Company Portrait



tion Maintenance Services) and offers cost-effective offshore development within the Consist Group (Consist Group Services).

The business area of "Solutions" includes solutions developed in-house, like the IT solution Modawi for electronic data exchange in waste management, the tracking software VERS, and the PerfoMon performance monitor.

Target market

The target market across all industries consists of midsize and large enterprises and organizations, primarily in Germany, but around the world as well.

Shareholder and figures

Since 1995, after its purchase from the Krupp Group, our company belongs to the Consist World Group.

The shareholder Consist Software Solutions Inc. in New York is a software company with over 35 years of experience in IT. Within the Consist World Group, our company is the largest subsidiary in Europe. In 2007, sales are projected to have reached 15 million Euros with approximately 160 employees.

Internet: www.consist.de

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