

TCR International expands in the US

■ TCR International has made public its plans to further its expansion in the US through the addition of key executives.

As Europe's leading provider of turnkey solutions for aviation ground service equipment, TCR is also capable of offering expertise in GSE rental and operational leasing, maintenance and fleet management. TCR's rental offering enables GSE operators to improve the efficiency of their ramp handling services, and is the only leading GSE company offering a unique and comprehensive range of GSE services that supports customers in a vital aspect of their ground handling processes: the use and operation



of their equipment.

TCR is headquartered in Belgium and operates at 50 airports in seven countries throughout Europe. In 2009, it announced its strategic plan that would see it take its product offerings to the US and in December 2009, it established its first operation at Houston's intercontinental airport.

"The start of operations in the US has gone very well and confirmed our hypothesis that there is substantial demand for the TCR line of products in the US and that these products can be effectively marketed and provided at US airports," affirmed Marc Delvaux, TCR's Chief Executive Officer.

TCR has now enhanced its American efforts by adding two key executives: Richard Janisse and Nicolas Dymock. Richard is a seasoned veteran in the airport and aviation industry in the US and who previously was President and CEO of AMR Services Corporation, a diversified ground handling company owned by AMR Corporation - parent of American Airlines, where he expanded the ground services company from 15 airport operations to 64 over a four year period and diversified the company's business through the acquisition of ten Fixed Base Operations. Richard will be serving as President of Finance & Administration.

In addition, TCR will be relocating Nicolas Dymock, the company's leading

business Development Manager in Europe, to the US.

"Nicholas, who has assumed the position of Vice President of Operations for TCR International USA, has been instrumental in expanding TCR operations throughout Europe and will be focusing his attention on TCR's US operation and marketing TCR products to ground handling customers at US airports," confirmed Marc. "Together, Rick and Nick will be establishing a headquarters in the US in the near future and will be responsible for TCR's American expansion, reporting to TCR's Chief Operating Officer, Donald Meulebroek."

TCR's customer base consists of Europe's largest handling companies, airlines, integrators and cargo handlers. In all, TCR now manages over 10,000 pieces of GSE and is staffed with over 400 dedicated professionals. TCR's mission is to be the leading provider of innovative turnkey solutions for ground support equipment services, and uses its insourcing expertise and IT systems to add significant value for its customers. TCR believes that the success of any ground handling business is largely determined by how efficient the business manages the complex process of operating its ground support equipment: in this context, optimal usage of GSE delivers maximum business returns.

➤ and EMB 170-195 models.

LEKTRO pioneered the towbarless tow tractor market when it first developed the towbarless tug back in 1967. Today, LEKTRO combines its towbarless design with state-of-the-art battery power resulting in a safe, efficient and environmentally friendly tow tractor.

"These features are some of the main reasons Regional Elite Aircraft Services chose LEKTRO," states Dick Schukraft, Director of Hub Operations. "The LEKTRO tug not only helps keep our operation efficient, it also helps us do our part for the environment."

Bill Kilduff, Department Manager of Ramp Operations and Kevin Gleason, Department Manager of GSE at the station, both confirm that their LEKTRO tugs are easy to use, easy to operate, easy to maintain and are very gentle on the aircraft. "The

passenger experience while being pushed back by a LEKTRO is unbelievably smooth, much better than a conventional tractor and towbar," states Bill. "The rugged design and excellent access to the components makes maintaining a LEKTRO tug simple as well," added Kevin.

Commander 60i goes into action

■ JBT AeroTech has introduced the Commander 60i cargo loader to handle heavyweight air cargo loads. This new model will replace the venerable MDL-60, which was first commercialised over 35 years ago.

With a maximum payload capacity of 30,000 kilogrammes (66,000 pounds), the Commander 60i comes with the

dependability, reliability and durability of the MDL-60. Further, as a member of the Commander family, it features the Heliroll conveying system, a swing-out power module and PLC electrical system with an Onboard Diagnostic System. The patent pending LIFTsmart closed loop automatic lifting system ensures smooth uplifts and improved stability with heavy or off-centred loads through position sensing cylinders; it also adjusts speeds automatically to load conditions and has a fragile lift mode for livestock and valuable cargo. All controls, functions and maintenance features on the Commander 60i are common with the Commander 15i, Commander 30i and Commander 40i family members, providing complete fleet commonality for the servicing of all commercial containerised aircraft.