An aerial photograph of a high-speed train bridge crossing a deep valley. The bridge is supported by tall concrete pillars and carries a red train. Below the bridge is a dense forest, and to the right, a blue river winds through the landscape. In the background, there are rolling green hills and distant mountains under a blue sky with light clouds.

CARINTHIA

It's my life!

CARINTHIA CONNECTED

INFRASTRUCTURE, LOGISTICS
AND DIGITALISATION AS
REGIONAL BUSINESS ADVANTAGES

YOUR GATEWAY TO EUROPEAN MARKETS

Carinthia is fast developing into a pivotal transportation hub in Europe. With modern infrastructure, extensive business development programmes, a strategically advantageous location on the southern side of the Alps and constant investment in transport links, the province offers excellent conditions for companies with logistical requirements.

This white paper highlights the most important logistical advantages of Carinthia and shows why well-known production and trading companies, investors and specialists choose this location as a place to work and live. Through targeted investments in rail, road and air transportation, Carinthia is developing into a future-proof logistics hub with an international focus that can offer an unbeatable business framework.



THE KORALM RAILWAY – A MILESTONE FOR CARINTHIA

Carinthia is moving closer to central markets, as the Koralm Railway adds a new dimension to mobility from the end of 2025. It will connect over 1.1 million people, enable daily commuting and offer companies and logistics enterprises a more efficient flow of goods, which is a clear advantage of locating in Carinthia in the Alpine-Adriatic region.

With the completion of the Koralm Railway and its centerpiece, the Koralm Tunnel, Carinthia will be even more accessible and more closely connected with Styria from the end of 2025. The new high-speed line will directly connect Klagenfurt, Villach and Graz to create a completely new mobility dimension as well as a dynamic economic and living space in southern Austria. The reduced travel time will bring the urban centres closer together and allow a daily commute between them for the first time – the ideal prerequisite for specialists, companies and investors alike.

Carinthia also relies on flexible transport systems away from the main hubs and likewise on future-oriented mobility solutions.

Good to know

- Attractiveness for companies through fast connections to important markets
- Far-reaching ease of commuter travel for specialists
- Expanded opportunities for logistics companies thanks to a more efficient flow of goods
- Regional economic inflows from the Koralm Railway amounting to 167 million euros per year, according to calculations by the Vienna University of Technology

Zahlen & Fakten:

45

minutes

from Klagenfurt to Graz

1,1

million inhabitants

connected by the Koralm Railway
in Carinthia and Styria

0,5

million employees

in the new economic area

23

modern railway stations

along the railway line

50

kilometres of tunnels

>100

railroad bridges

from Graz to Klagenfurt



SEMMERING BASE TUNNEL AND KORALM TUNNEL – EVEN MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CARINTHIA

The Semmering Base Tunnel, another central project of the new southern rail route, will create a faster and more efficient rail connection between Vienna, Graz and Carinthia by 2030. While the Koralm Tunnel will provide a direct link between Klagenfurt and Graz from the end of 2025, the Semmering Base Tunnel will provide an even better connection between the entire southern rail route and the economic centres in the north of Austria and beyond.

Carinthia benefits from shorter transport times

The Semmering Base Tunnel will make the existing rail connections between Carinthia and Vienna significantly faster and more reliable. After the Koralm Tunnel's opening, the travel time on the southern rail route from Klagenfurt to Vienna via Semmering will be only 2 hours and 40 minutes. The new Semmering Base Tunnel will save up to an additional 40 minutes, which will significantly reduce travel times for passengers and goods transport. This means that a train journey from Klagenfurt to Vienna will only take around two hours from 2030.

More efficient goods traffic for Carinthia

The new southern rail route is therefore not only an essential asset for Carinthia in terms of passenger transport, but also one of the most important transit routes for rail goods traffic between Central and South-Eastern Europe. The Semmering Base Tunnel reduces the gradients and bottlenecks that previously slowed down the transit of goods. This means:

- More cost-efficient and faster transportation for Carinthian companies
- Increased capacity for goods trains as the line becomes more efficient
- Direct connection to large logistics centres such as Logistik Center Austria Süd in Fürnitz, which acts as a central transshipment point for goods from Italy, Slovenia and Eastern Europe

CARINTHIA AS A STRATEGIC LOGISTICS HUB

Carinthia is located at the intersection between Central Europe and the growth markets in Southern and Eastern Europe. Well-developed infrastructure connects Carinthia with the largest economic regions in Europe and offers a wide range of advantages:

- Direct connection to the Baltic-Adriatic Axis
- Fast connections to the Adriatic ports of Koper, Trieste and Rijeka
- Efficient connections to Germany, Italy, Slovenia and Eastern Europe
- Intermodal transportation options by road, rail and air



Good to know

€ 9,510,684,459

in exports from Carinthia in 2023.

(Source: Statistics Austria)

9,536.64 km = 11,37%

of the Austrian road network is available in Carinthia.

(Source: Statistics Austria)

€ 2,703.2 million

was the value of goods exported from Carinthia to Germany in 2022. Italy was in second place with € 1,037.8 million and China in third place with € 523.8 million.

LOGISTIK CENTER AUSTRIA SÜD – EFFICIENCY MEETS INNOVATION

Logistik Center Austria Süd – a strategic hub for logistics and industry

Logistik Center Austria Süd (LCA Süd) is located on one of Europe's most important transport axes and, as a joint venture between Kärntner Beteiligungsverwaltung (KBV, the Carinthian Investment Administration) and the Austrian Federal Railways (ÖBB), connects central economic areas. Targeted sector development with a focus on the food and logistics industries creates the ideal conditions for companies wishing to benefit from a favourable location, modern infrastructure and a dynamic economic region.

A business location around Logistik Center Austria Süd and the Villach/Fürnitz logistics centre offers companies decisive advantages – from fast connections to European markets to tailor-made settlement strategies for future-oriented industries.

The benefits in three points:

Excellent transport connections

The properties of Logistik Center Austria Süd benefit from a strategically advantageous location along the Baltic-Adriatic Axis and the Tauern Axis. This enables fast and efficient connections to the northern Adriatic ports as well as to economic centres in Germany, Poland, the Czech Republic and Slovenia.

Generous availability of space

On a total area of 160 hectares, Logistik Center Austria Süd offers optimally developed operating areas for companies from the production and logistics sectors. The areas are suitable for heavy traffic and equipped with comprehensive infrastructure, including water, electricity and gas supply.

Individual company services

Logistik Center Austria Süd supports companies with tailor-made services – from advice on land purchases and assistance with approval procedures to recruitment and the targeted search for suitable cooperation partners.



Your contact
to Logistik Center
Austria Süd
lca-sued.at

FOCUS ON CROSS-BORDER PROJECTS – NEW OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH MODERN INFRASTRUCTURE

The expansion of the transport infrastructure and the development of intermodal solutions are increasingly facilitating the implementation of cross-border projects between Austria, Italy and Slovenia. These developments open up new opportunities for international cooperation and optimised logistics solutions.

- **Intermodality as a competitive advantage**

Carinthia offers ideal conditions for companies that use both road and rail for the fast, efficient transportation of goods.

- **Innovative projects and partnerships**

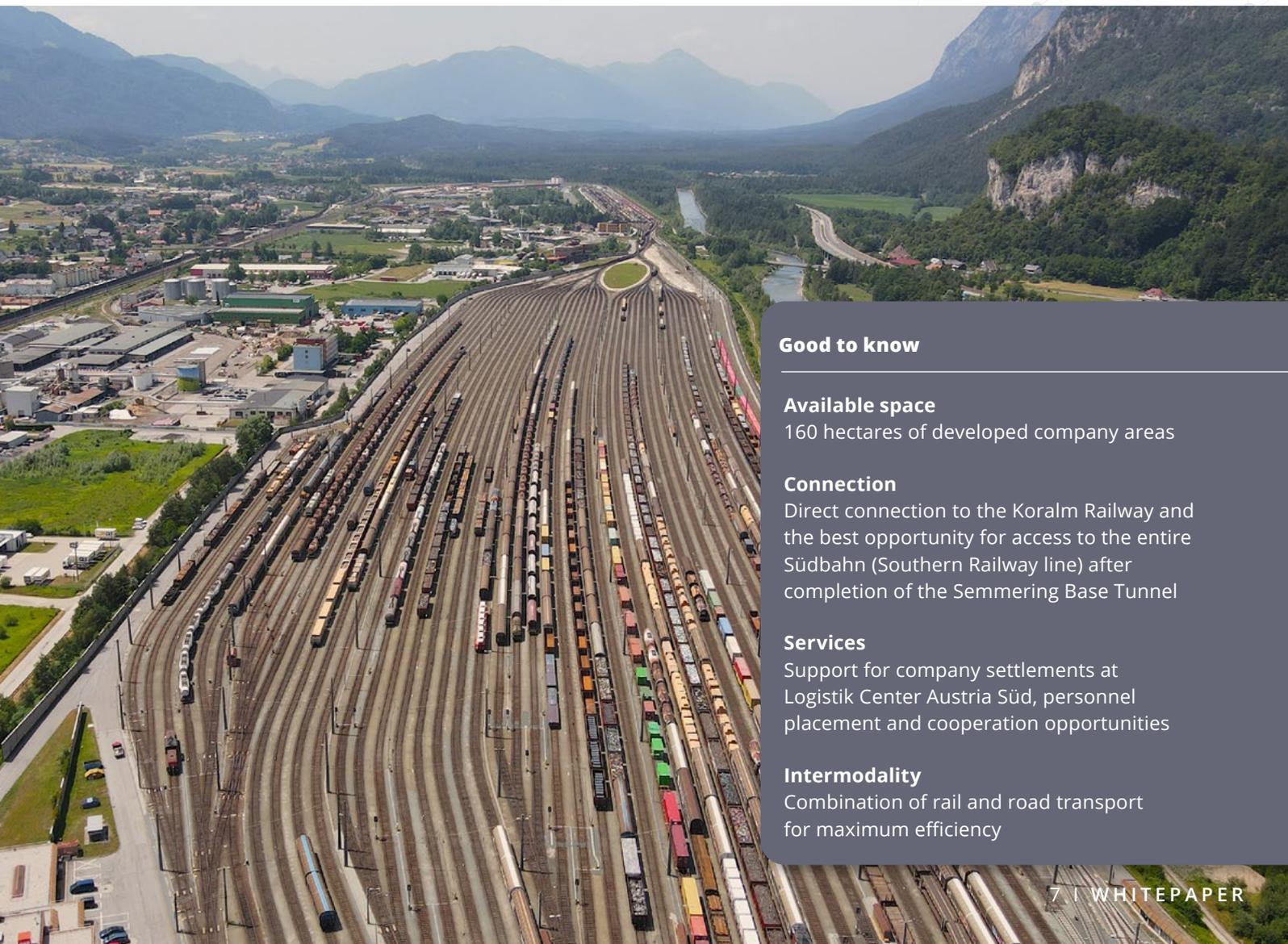
Carinthia and Logistik Center Austria Süd create optimal conditions for the realisation of cross-border initiatives in the areas of logistics, production and distribution. One outstanding example is the **Interreg project FOODIS**, which strengthens cooperation in the food industry across national borders and makes value chains more sustainable and resilient.

- **Part of the FOODIS project**

The Carinthian Agri Food Hub platform was launched by Logistik Center Austria Süd together with partners from Carinthia and Friuli-Venezia Giulia. This digital platform simplifies the management of surplus food and serves as an innovation hub for the further processing of these products – for example into fruit and vegetable juices or spreads.



All details about
the Interreg
project **FOODIS**



Good to know

Available space

160 hectares of developed company areas

Connection

Direct connection to the Koralm Railway and the best opportunity for access to the entire Südbahn (Southern Railway line) after completion of the Semmering Base Tunnel

Services

Support for company settlements at Logistik Center Austria Süd, personnel placement and cooperation opportunities

Intermodality

Combination of rail and road transport for maximum efficiency



Cargo Terminal Villach Süd – efficiency and modern infrastructure for the logistics industry

The Cargo Terminal Villach Süd of the Austrian Federal Railways stands out with its state-of-the-art technical equipment and a wide range of services, making it an ideal location for logistics companies.

Powerful technical equipment

The terminal has a full-loaded container reach stacker with a load capacity of up to 45 tons and is designed for train lengths of up to 600 metres, which enables efficient and flexible handling of goods.

Comprehensive services

Companies benefit from a comprehensive range of services, including customs clearance, refrigeration and heating services, container repairs, empty container depots and specially designed transshipment tracks for conventional goods traffic.

Fürnitz large shunting yard – efficient hub for international goods traffic

The Fürnitz large shunting yard offers decisive advantages to companies that rely on efficient and optimised logistics solutions.

Optimised logistics processes

By reducing wagon turnaround times, accelerating train composition and minimising transport damage, the railway station significantly increases the efficiency of goods traffic.

International link

As a central hub and distribution centre for goods to and from Italy and South-Eastern Europe, the railway station ensures optimised distribution of shipments within Carinthia as well as to East Tyrol and Upper Styria.



**All information
about the terminal
in the border triangle**

Klagenfurt Airport – international accessibility

Klagenfurt Airport is an essential infrastructure facility and a strong partner for the Carinthian economy and local tourism. It is an important driving force in the southern Austrian economic region and a major employer in Carinthia with over 120 employees.

Opportunities for companies and investors

The improved accessibility of Carinthia provided by the Koralm Railway increases the importance of the airport as a multimodal transport hub and as a pivotal point for business and mobility. The combination of air and rail transport creates synergies that strengthen Carinthia as a business location in the long term. Klagenfurt Airport plays a key role here as a central hub for business travel, tourism and location development.

Investors and companies interested in relocating to Carinthia will find ideal international interconnectedness at Klagenfurt Airport, complemented by modern office and commercial spaces at and around the airport. Furthermore, close integration with international networks improves competitiveness.

Efficient business travel and connection to international markets

With fast flight connections to Vienna and beyond, Klagenfurt Airport offers the best options for business travellers. Companies benefit from short distances to international markets and destinations, while optimal accessibility makes the province of Carinthia a more attractive place to live and work for specialists and contributes to the long-term development of the region.

Diverse possibilities

The general aviation sector (private and business aviation), as well as flight schools and flying clubs, are an important part of Austria's southernmost commercial airport. They make a substantial contribution to the value chain in Carinthia.

Expansion and new potential uses

Significant and profitable investments are in the pipeline for the further successful development of Klagenfurt Airport. These include the construction of a new helicopter base, the expansion of office space for rental, the creation of modern event areas and a private flight terminal. Large areas not required for operations are available on site, which can be leased to strategic partners in the future.



You can find the current flight schedule of Klagenfurt Airport here.



Good to know

- With over 120 employees, the airport is a major employer in the region
- The airport offers fast connections via Vienna to more than 80 international destinations

(Sources: Austrian Airlines, Klagenfurt Airport, 2024)

LOGISTICS IN CARINTHIA: STRONG COMPANIES, INTERCONNECTED FUTURE

Several major logistics companies operate in Carinthia, strengthening the location. They make a significant contribution to Carinthia's logistics infrastructure and support the regional economy with their wide range of services.

Examples:

- **DB Schenker**
At Klagenfurt Airport, the freight forwarding company and logistics specialist DB Schenker operates a modern logistics terminal with its own railway siding. The facility comprises a 2,500 square metre transshipment hall, a 1,800 square metre logistics warehouse and a 1,200 square metre office wing for 130 employees.
- **Gebrüder Weiss**
With a location in Maria Saal, Gebrüder Weiss offers comprehensive transport and logistics solutions. The company boasts a global network with around 180 bases in 34 countries.
- **Weiss Logistik Center**
Specialising in transport, warehouse and pallet logistics, Weiss Logistik Center offers tailor-made solutions for various industries.



You can find out more about
transport and logistics
management in Carinthia here.

MICRO-PUBLIC TRANSPORT – FLEXIBLE MOBILITY SOLUTIONS

The integration of micro-public transport systems in Carinthia plays a decisive role in the optimisation of regional mobility – especially in view of the imminent opening of the Koralm Railway in 2025. This combination strengthens Carinthia as a business location through improved accessibility and flexible transportation solutions.

Micro-public transport in Carinthia: flexible mobility for rural regions

Needs-based transportation options are offered that supplement public transport in less densely populated areas. They close gaps in the transport network and enable residents to be efficiently connected to larger transport hubs. One example of this is Kärnten Transfer, a shuttle service that is bookable online, connecting over 6,500 accommodation establishments with train stations and airports in the region.

The Carinthia 2035 Mobility Master Plan aims to fundamentally change mobility in Carinthia. Efforts are focused on improving accessibility to mobility services, environmental friendliness, safety and the further development of sustainable, efficient mobility services as well as improving accessibility to Carinthia’s various regions.

 **The Carinthia 2035 Mobility Master Plan is available for download here.**

Synergy effects through the Koralm Railway

The Koralm high-speed rail line will significantly improve accessibility and promote the development of a new urban agglomeration in the south of Austria. The combination of micro-public transport systems and the Koralm Railway creates the following advantages for Carinthia:

Extended labour market

Thanks to the improved connections, commuters have more flexibility of choice in where they live and work. This strengthens the regional labour market in Carinthia.

Attractiveness for companies

Companies benefit from a greater reach and can access an extended catchment area of specialists.

Population growth

The improved infrastructure can help to stop external migration trends and attract new residents.



Good to know

In 2019, Carinthians travelled an average of 7,935 kilometres per person by car, which is the highest value among the Austrian federal provinces.

(Source: Statistics Austria, 2023).

THE SECOND TUNNEL TUBE OF THE KARAWANKEN TUNNEL – MORE SAFETY AND CAPACITY

The expansion of the Karawanken Tunnel represents a significant step forward for international trade. It is a clear signal of Carinthia's attractiveness as a hub in the Alpine-Adriatic region and underlines the importance of modern infrastructure for regional development and competitiveness. The construction of a second tunnel tube will increase road safety and expand the capacity of the important north-south connection between Austria and Slovenia. This project, which was launched in September 2018, is being carried out by Autobahnen- und Schnellstraßen-Finanzierungs-Aktiengesellschaft (ASFINAG) in cooperation with the Slovenian motorway operator, Družba za avtoceste v Republiki Sloveniji (DARS).

- Increased safety and shorter waiting times
- Significant increase in capacity for traffic of goods
- Optimised connection to Slovenia and the entire Alpine-Adriatic region

Facts & Figures:

2025

completion
(in summer)

168

million euros
construction costs

7.948

metres tunnel length
of which 4,402 metres in Austria and
3,546 metres in Slovenia

34

escape channels
walkable or driveable, every
340 metres, for increased safety

ALPINE INTERNET EXCHANGE – CARINTHIA AS A DIGITAL HUB IN THE ALPINE-ADRIATIC REGION

With the Alpine Internet Exchange (ALPSiX), Carinthia is creating a digital infrastructure of European significance. Inspired by Marseille's success as a leading internet hub, Carinthia will be directly connected to the international data highways of Arelion and EXA Infra/TürkTelekom with its own data node in Fürnitz.

Advantages of the new data infrastructure

- Reduction of latency times from currently around 20 ms to just 1 ms – essential for telemedicine, autonomous driving and smart city applications
- Direct data processing in Carinthia instead of detours via Vienna or Frankfurt – more data security and greater efficiency for companies
- Attractive location for data centres and digital companies, as such hubs have proven to be a magnet for IT and cloud service providers

A high-performance fibre-optic network for Carinthia

Parallel to the creation of the Alpine Internet Exchange, a fibre ring is being set up that:

- redundantly connects Lakeside Science & Technology Park in Klagenfurt and High Tech Campus in Villach and ensures a high-performance fibre-optic infrastructure,
- integrates Logistik Center Austria Süd into the digital network, creating an optimal combination of physical and digital infrastructure,
- connects Carinthia better internationally and makes the region more attractive for investors and technology-driven companies.

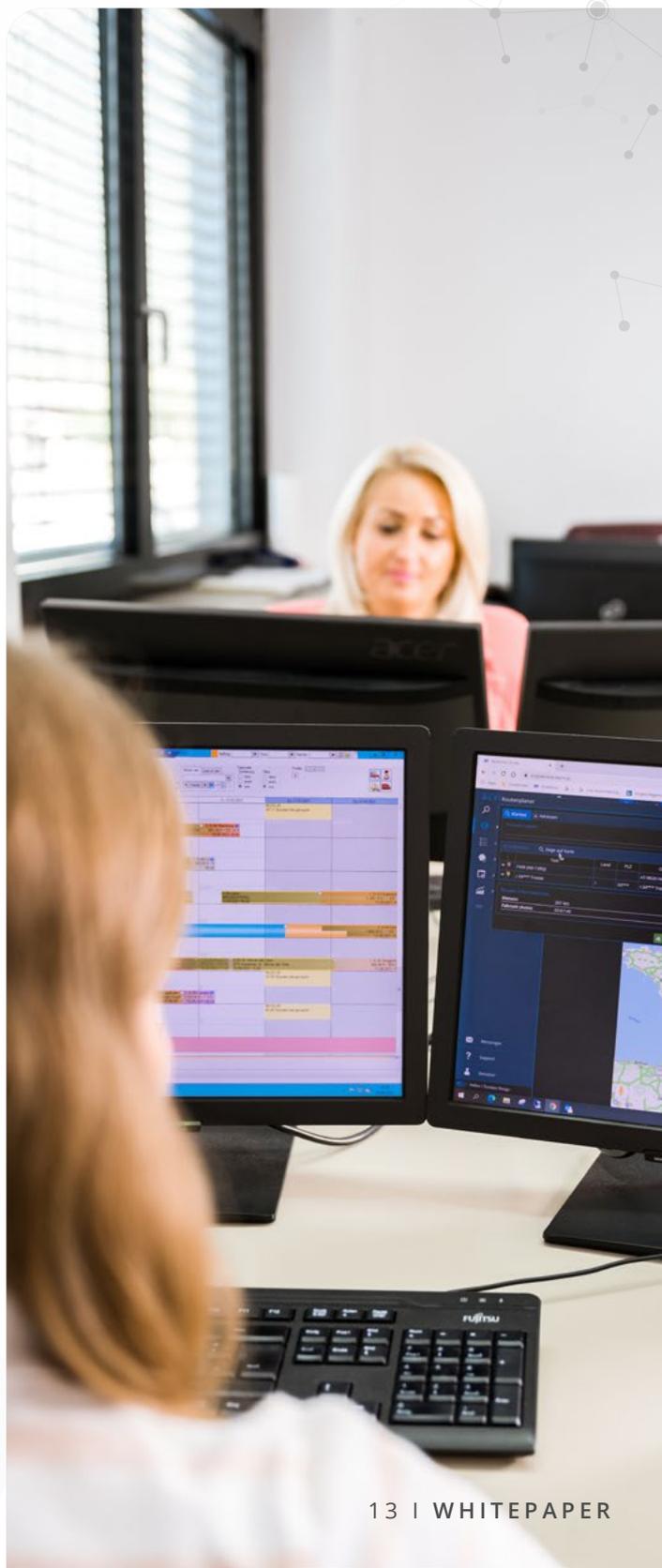
A location with a future

The Alpine Internet Exchange is not only a technological improvement, but also a strategic investment in Carinthia's competitiveness:

- International visibility as a digital location in the Alpine-Adriatic region
- Synergies with the Koralm Railway, international transport axes and the port of Trieste
- Live launch in early 2026 – a decisive step towards positioning Carinthia as a preferred location for digital innovations and smart working environments



You can find out more about the broadband infrastructure here.



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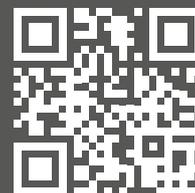
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