

# SAFETY SUCCESS FOR LBC LILLO

Terminal manager Tom Vanhoeylandt tells Kate Rainford about LBC Lillo's win for Excellence in Safety at the Global Tank Storage Awards 2024



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**SAFETY IN TERMINALS** is a key consideration for storage providers. LBC Lillo's terminal manager of 11 years, Tom Vanhoeylandt, proudly puts safety at the forefront of the company, and was recognised for this when LBC Lillo won gold for safety excellence at the Global Tank Storage Awards in March 2024.

Located in Antwerp, Belgium, LBC Lillo boasts 47,500 m<sup>3</sup> of liquid storage capacity across 19 storage tanks, ranging in volumes from 1,660 m<sup>3</sup> to 3,000 m<sup>3</sup>. Focusing on specialty chemicals, the terminal was renamed LBC Lillo in 2023, following LBC Tank Terminals' acquisition

of 25% in shares, previously held by Cepsa Química – giving LBC 100% of the terminal ownership.

Since starting up in 2007, LBC Lillo has been a key terminal at the Port of Antwerp-Bruges, with a key central location. Its easy access to the continent

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makes LBC Lillo an essential link in the global supply chain, so safety is of paramount importance to ensure smooth storage and supply for all stakeholders.

With seven terminals worldwide, LBC Tank Terminals covers the storage and handling of chemicals, base chemicals, and products related to the energy transition.

With LBC continuing to grow as a company and expand its terminals, it is crucial that its safety regulations are consistent across all sites. LBC also stores various products that require specialised handling, so safety is non-negotiable. Vanhoeylandt says: 'Our colleagues mindset is safety. It is something within the company's DNA.'



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## SAFETY FIRST

Safety, sustainability, service and efficiency are key components for the success behind LBC Lillo. Vanhoeylandt is proud that the terminal is able to celebrate its 1,000 day incident-free milestone, which prompted the team to enter the awards. 'It all starts with our colleagues and the positive culture within the terminal,' he says.

In addition to keeping up the 1,000-day streak, Vanhoeylandt recognises that safety ambitions and goals are important on every level. Many safety steps are taken at the company, including various safety training modules, both for workers on the ground, and for middle and upper management.

These measures help ensure that LBC stays customer-centric, remains efficient, and can continue to expand terminals, all whilst making sure that safety is at the forefront of the company's makeup.

Tim Doggett, CEO at the Chemical Business Association and a member of the Global Tank Storage Awards judging panel, recognised these key company values during the process, noting that: 'The safety culture of the organisation demonstrates its commitment to continuous improvement and the highest of standards.'

**METICULOUS MINDSET FOR SAFETY**

To ensure that safety procedures are consistent within LBC Lillo, the company pays close attention to the use of PPE (personal protective equipment), a non-negotiable in critical operations such as tank terminals. Vanhoeylandt explains that strict PPE instructions must be followed, to ensure the safety of both staff and also site visitors. The training of middle management is also crucial in ensuring that safety standards are consistent across the entire company.

The thorough training programmes that the terminal provides include soft skill development, people management, conflict management, leading by

example, different leadership styles, communication essentials, and personal coaching. Vanhoeylandt adds: 'Safety needs to be something that is automatic, not something you have to think about all the time.' LBC Lillo ensures that every team member is coached and trained in safety procedure to a very high standard from the get go. In addition, Vanhoeylandt highlights: 'We really want to empower everyone to take the leads and responsibilities.'

At the Global Tank Storage Awards, where LBC Lillo picked up gold for Excellence in Safety, the company's thorough and meticulous mindset was noted by judge Joanne Carrol, management systems consultant at ISO Integrity. 'The proactive safety strategy, coupled with the implementation of safety coaches and an interdependent safety culture, illustrates a comprehensive and effective approach to maintaining a safe working environment,' she comments.

**A SAFER FUTURE**

Looking towards to a safe and sustainable future, LBC Lillo is keen to protect its incident-free streak. 'Safety is not something you achieve once,' says Vanhoeylandt. 'It's something you need to be working on every day.' Receiving the gold award was a very proud moment

for the whole LBC Tank Terminals team, and the family culture it encourages in the workplace is very evident not only through the win, but through the team's attitude and safety concerns.

Looking towards the future, Vanhoeylandt notes that the company is committed to continuing to drive meaningful change in the industry by expanding its capacity to store products of the future, playing a crucial role in the energy transition, and ensuring a safe and sustainable future for the next generations.

**For more information:**

[www.lbcctt.com](http://www.lbcctt.com)

Nominations are now open for the 2025 Global Tank Storage Awards: [www.tankstorageawards.com](http://www.tankstorageawards.com)

01 LBC Lillo, Antwerp, Belgium

02 Tom Vanhoeylandt, terminal manager, LBC Lillo

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