

Case study

Delivering BESS to a remote Chilean PV plant

Find out how Kuehne+Nagel delivered the first batch of BESS (Battery Energy Storage System) modules to a photovoltaic (PV) plant deep in Northern Chile. Bringing a projected capacity of 103mW to the remote site meant overcoming some unique hurdles.



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Project overview

Kuehne+Nagel successfully delivered BESS modules to a project site in Chile to add to an already extensive PV plant. The first part of the solution was getting the modules to Iquique port from China. However, our service didn't just include sea freight—it also covered delivery to the site. This presented novel challenges, particularly given the hazardous nature of the goods and the dangerous road conditions that would need to be overcome en route to the plant.



Project details

Cargo specs

- 30 modules, 32 tonnes each
- Hazardous cargo (Class 9)

Scope of work

Provide a complete door-to-door service from China to Chile with final delivery to the solar plant.

Project challenges

- Limited lead time to find capacity availability per vessel and attend to carrier acceptance constraints.
- Given that it was a relatively small quantity, it wasn't worth arranging a part-charter shipment.
- New technology coming to Chile for the first time meant that cargo preservation was key.
- What's more, the shipment was classified as dangerous goods (DG), requiring extra care.
- Executing on-carriage transport to meet port of delivery (POD) free time for hazardous/overweight cargo.
- Destination solar plant was located in desert terrain with dirt roads featuring sharp curves and steep slopes. This required defined backup plans and tailored support solutions.
- In addition, the area's high altitude added an extra dimension to an already complex scenario.

Our solutions

- Established a pool of authorized dangerous goods (DG)-licensed truckers to ensure timely pre- and on-carriage transport.
- Ensured cargo was offloaded and safely stored at POD until customs clearance was complete, then securely shipped goods to destination site.
- Flatbed trucks for optimised cost and reliability.
- Tow trucks were used at specific points on the journey enabled us to tackle slopes with an incline of 10% and above.
- Dedicated team working on site guaranteed smooth coordination on arrival.

Result

Cargo was delivered safely and on schedule, without damage.

About us

Kuehne+Nagel Project Logistics provides services for unique cargo projects that require special handling, chartering of vessels or heavy-lift services by sea, air, road or rail with focus on customers from renewable energy logistics, industrial projects and marine logistics globally.

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