November 2026 Newsletter

FORWARD Belgium activities

New members

We recently welcomed the following company as **a new member**:

Bleckmann Belgium NV
Meirestraat (KRU) 9A
9770 Kruisem
Tel.: +32 (0)9 338 54 54
Email: Patrick.Bruns@Bleckmann.com
Website: https://www.bleckmann.com/



FORWARD Annual Event | Tuesday 8 December 2026

On **Tuesday 8 December,** we look forward to welcoming you to the prestigious **Botanic Sanctuary Antwerp** for the FORWARD Annual Event. In a unique and stylish setting, we will look back on the past year together, strengthen existing relationships and forge new valuable connections. You'll also enjoy an exceptional gastronomic experience, curated by the team of three-star chef **Viki Geunes**. We look forward to raising a glass with you to a successful year and a promising future.

More info and registration

GOLD sponsors 2026



FORWARD Belgium Gold sponsors 2026

The following companies are FORWARD Belgium's **GOLD sponsors** for **2026**:

- ✓ BDO Belgium
- ✓ Vanbreda Marine
- ✓ SSC Consolidation
- ✓ Van Doosselaere & Partners
- ✓ Customs Support
- ✓ Portilog

FORWARD Belgium



Customs

Obligation to declare product identifiers
From 1 November 2026, you must declare **product identifiers** (PIDs) for goods that meet both of the following conditions:

- the goods have been sold via distance selling to a consumer (B2C);
- the goods are part of a consignment with an intrinsic value of no more than 150 euros.

This requirement does not apply to B2B and C2C consignments.

Read more



Human Resources

Statutory public holidays and sector-specific leave days in 2027
Click here for an overview of **public holidays and sector-specific leave days in 2027.**





Wanted: companies and professionals keen to inspire logistics talent
For an International Trade and Logistics class at the KNMC campus, we are looking for companies and professionals who want to introduce young people to the practical side of the industry.

Specifically, we are looking for:
• A **logistics professional** who would like to **introduce** students to the **practical aspects of international trade, freight forwarding or shipping**.
• A company willing to host a small group of students for a **company visit**.
• HR professionals who would like to conduct a **mock job interview** with final-year students in May.

These initiatives give young people the chance to explore the logistics and maritime sectors at first hand and to better prepare themselves for their future studies or careers.

Interested in getting involved in one or more of these initiatives? Please contact the FORWARD Belgium secretariat for more information.



Young FORWARD Belgium

Never a dull moment in liner shipping | 26 November 2026
On **Thursday 26 November 2026,** Young FORWARD Belgium & BSV The Next Generation are organising an inspiring information session for students from Karel de Grote University of Applied Sciences, the University of Antwerp and Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences. During a keynote speech, **Stefan Verberckmoes** (AXS Marine/Alphaliner) will take participants on a journey through the rapidly evolving world of container liner shipping, focusing on current challenges such as market disruption and sustainability.
This will be followed by an **informal networking session** where students and professionals can meet one another.
Members of FORWARD Belgium can attend this session free of charge.

More info and registration



AI: What Nobody Tells Us – Not Even ChatGPT | 1 December 2026
Artificial intelligence offers unprecedented opportunities, but at the same time raises important questions regarding security, control and societal impact. During this **FORWARD Academy session,** Professor of Philosophy of Technology and columnist **Lode Lauwaert** will guide you through a **critical reflection** on the **opportunities and risks of AI**.
On **Tuesday 1 December 2026** at the **Havenhuis in Antwerp,** discover how we can harness the benefits of this technology without losing control.
We'll round off the event with a **networking reception**.

More info and registration

Port Accessibility



Port Accessibility Dialogue Session | 11 December 2026
What roadworks are planned in the port area? And what alternatives are there to ensure the port area remains easily accessible?
On **11 December 2026,** from 10.00 am to 12.30 pm, Alfaport Voka, Voka – Antwerp-Waasland Chamber of Commerce and Port of Antwerp-Bruges will once again bring businesses together for a **dialogue session** at the Antwerp Port House. You'll be given an overview of the most important roadworks and projects relating to alternative mobility.

More information and registration

Portilog

New: the Online Expert Academy
Portilog has brought together its digital learning solutions in the new **Online Expert Academy**: practical e-learning courses that enable professionals to deepen their expertise and organisations to embed knowledge digitally.
Learn at your own pace. Based on recognisable real-world scenarios. And always built on expertise from the field.

Discover the Online Expert Academy

Night-time logistics



Port of Antwerp-Bruges launches campaign on night-time logistics
With the *'Switch to Nightmode'* **campaign**, Port of Antwerp-Bruges is highlighting the benefits of **night-time logistics**. By spreading transport flows more evenly across the evening, night and early morning, traffic congestion can be reduced, available capacity utilised more efficiently and goods transported more smoothly.
The **campaign video** uses real-life examples to demonstrate how night-time logistics can contribute to a more reliable and sustainable logistics chain. Both a lorry driver and a planner illustrate the operational challenges the sector faces on a daily basis and how transport outside peak hours can offer a solution.
Discover the campaign here and watch the video via the link below.

Video: Switch to Night Mode





On our website, you'll find WARD, FORWARD's digital assistant.
WARD helps members quickly find the right information, documents and answers to frequently asked questions. By digitising processes and making information more accessible, WARD contributes to more efficient and sustainable operations within our sector.
Less searching, fewer emails, less paper — more time for what really matters.
You can use WARD directly via our website. The secretariat *remains available for any further enquiries.*

Calendar

FORWARD BELGIUM EVENTS AND MEETINGS

October 2026

DATE	TOPIC	TARGET AUDIENCE	MORE INFO
12 November	Managing body FORWARD Goals	Members of the managing body Members of the Evaluation Committee	info@forwardbelgium.be
24 November	Evaluation Committee Guest lecture by Stefan Verberckmoes: 'Never a dull moment in liner shipping'		info@forwardbelgium.be
26 November		FORWARD Belgium & BSV members	forwardbelgium.be/SCE-event

TRAINING COURSES

IN-HOUSE TRAINING COURSES

- ✓ **Click** here **for the training courses offered by FORWARD Belgium**

TRAINING COURSES OFFERED BY OUR PARTNERS

- ✓ The practice of the freight forwarding profession
- ✓ CMR consignment note: from theory to correctly completing the consignment note
- ✓ DMS: a practical guide to using AES, NCTS and IDMS
- ✓ Introduction to the Port of Antwerp
- ✓ Customs Masterclass – Module 04: Imports
- ✓ Document flow for imports and exports: essential for the shipper
- ✓ Key players in international trade: roles and responsibilities
- ✓ Practical online customs tools

Full agenda

This newsletter was sent to you by:

FORWARD Belgium
Brouwersvliet 33/Box 1
2000 Antwerp
Tel: 03/233.67.86
info@forwardbelgium.be
www.forwardbelgium.be

If you no longer wish to receive newsletters, you can unsubscribe here.