

Project:

Debrunner Acifer AG, Kölliken, Switzerland

Sector:

Steel and metal distributor

Task:

To plan and implement a new logistics centre with automated small parts warehouse, automated high bay warehouse and conveyor technology

Project duration:

09.2014 - 11.2015

Services:

- Fully automated pallet high bay warehouse in silo construction with 2 rack aisles
- Automated small parts warehouse with 7 aisles
- Multi-order picking spaces for small parts and pallets, supported by Pick-by-Light
- Jungheinrich Warehouse Management System (WMS)
- Premium software support service
- Hardware service with interval contract for maintenance and rack inspection

Key results:

- Logistics process optimisation
- Reduction in error rate through Pick-by-Light
- Shortening of delivery times
- Decrease in operating costs

Traditional company with modern products

Debrunner Acifer, headquartered in St. Gallen, is a Swiss company that is steeped in tradition, having been founded more than 260 years ago. Debrunner Acifer is a competent B2B retail partner for reinforcements and reinforcement technology, steel and metals, water supply and civil engineering, building services, plumbing and roofing, fastening technology, tools, machinery and work protection.

A new logistics centre is born

Increased sales due to the rise in web shop orders made it imperative to construct an additional shipping warehouse. It was decided to build a new central logistics centre for fastening technology, tools, machinery and work protection at the site in Kölliken.

Competent partners sought and found

A partner was sought for the complex intralogistics that would be able to handle the entire process for Debrunner Acifer's supply chain and integrate this into its planning. The decision was made to use Jungheinrich. This challenging project was completed in record time.

The requirement

Faster processes, lower costs

The demands on the new logistics centre were high.

Debrunner Acifer wanted to optimise its intralogistics processes and at the same time reduce its delivery times. In addition, it wanted to reduce the error rate in its order-picking area. It was also promised that the new warehouse would reduce the operating and procurement costs.

The solution

State-of-the-art warehouse technology

The new high bay warehouse has a height of 16m and consists of an automated smallparts warehouse with 58,000 containers, divided into seven aisles. This is in addition to the 5,400 pallet positions in which the products are stored prior to shipping. The fully automated smallparts rack operating systems cover approx. 6m per second to retrieve the orders materials. The shuttle service is provided by extensive container and pallet conveyor technology. Customers of Debrunner Acifer's tradesman centre throughout Switzerland and customers placing orders via the efficient web shop benefit from very short delivery times and high availability. Bar codes and radio data transmission systems for paper-free work ensure a smooth process flow. Thanks to the innovative Jungheinrich Warehouse Management System (WMS), employees require less product and logistics knowledge and can focus on their order picking tasks. The order picking workstations are equipped with a Pick-by-Light. This system helps to avoid errors during the order picking process. Overall, this makes the warehouse process much more efficient and more effective.

The statement

Destination reached

"The fully automated system in Kölliken offers a goodsto-man process, instead of employees having to fetch the products from the rack. This reduces the error rate and shortens the delivery times. Overall this has allowed us to improve our services. A customer placing an order by 6pm is often guaranteed delivery the next morning."



Thomas Widmer, Managing Director of Debrunner Acifer AG, Kölliken, Switzerland.

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