

A super-powered future.

The Automated Guided Vehicles (AGVs) move industriously and confidently through the 31,000 square metre distribution centre in Harsewinkel. The decision to handle pallet transport using automated industrial trucks gives our customer Arvato Supply Chain Solutions several advantages. Companies that automate remain competitive and benefit from maximum process reliability. The mixed operation relieves the employees of time-consuming tasks in times of acute shortage of skilled workers. And if we need further proof of how much the employees in these warehouses appreciate the autonomous support, all of the AGVs have been named after well-known superheroes.

END-TO-END LOGISTICS FROM A SINGLE SOURCE.

Batman, Spiderman and Super Richie have become much-loved members of the Arvato Supply Chain Solutions team. Jungheinrich supplied the expert in supply chain solutions with a total of eight EKS 215a AGVs. Whether they are used to transport consumer goods, medicines or individual luxury goods, the compact and versatile trucks easily handle the lengthwise and crosswise transport of pallets, as well as performing rotating movements. The Jungheinrich Logistics Interface guarantees smooth processes at every stage from goods receipt to waste disposal thanks to intelligent interface management. As well as tracking pallets in real-time, the logistics solution has also been used to connect an automatic waste compactor with the system interface.

THE SUREST PATH TO SUCCESS.

"It's great to see how naturally and efficiently people and machines now work together here", enthuses Fabian Generotzky, Director of Operations at Arvato Supply Chain Solutions. "Thanks to the excellent safety standards of our AGVs, mixed operation can be carried out without any problems. All Automated Guided Vehicles are equipped with extensive safety sensors and immediately detect obstacles on the route in the form of people or trucks", explains Alexander Nieke, the project manager from Jungheinrich responsible for implementing the logistics solution at the Harsewinkel location. Reflectors on the walls and along the racks, together with laser scanners on the trucks, ensure navigation with millimetre precision and the reliable transport of around 20,000 shipments on 400 pallets per day.

CONTINUOUS CHARGING AND RECHARGING.

In recent years, lithium-ion technology has become increasingly popular in Automated Guided Vehicles, which is why all of the EKS 215a trucks supplied are equipped with this advanced drive technology. Two automatic charging stations allow the AGVs to be charged and recharged continuously, providing maximum flexibility. Depending on the charge level, the trucks recharge their batteries autonomously for 30 minutes before they are reintegrated into the work process. And, in order to achieve maximum efficiency, the automated transport orders transmitted to the AGVs are timed so precisely by the Logistics Interface that empty runs are virtually non-existent.

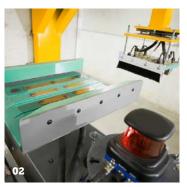
SUCCESSFUL TEAMWORK.

Rather than leading to redundancies at Arvato Supply Chain Solutions, the use of the AGVs in fact increased job satisfaction. When working with the AGVs, the employees benefitted from a considerably reduced workload in internal pallet transport. "Jungheinrich understood the complexity of the Harsewinkel location perfectly", says Fabian Generotzky, explaining the choice of contractor. Any faults are quickly and easily rectified thanks to the Jungheinrich full service support for hardware and software. "We can unreservedly recommend Jungheinrich as a reliable partner", says Generotzky, praising the success of the collaboration.

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A heroic paragon of automation.

Fabian Generotzky

Vice President Operations, Arvato Supply Chain Solutions

We speak to Fabian Generotzky, Vice President Operations at Arvato Supply Chain Solutions

What were the main reasons for implementing an automation solution in Harsewinkel?

The current shortage of skilled workers in the industry combined with the urgent need to ease the workload in the steadily growing internal pallet transport sector. The automation of ground-level transport seemed to us to be the best solution, and could be implemented most efficiently by using a larger number of Automated Guided Vehicles. Six automated industrial trucks now support our employees in day-to-day pallet transport.

Our aim is to further automate our locations, as we have been so impressed with our experience of these new technologies across the board.

How would you describe the cooperation between the employees and the Automated Guided Vehicles?

Since it has now become a real challenge to recruit skilled "human" specialists, we are delighted with the support provided by the AGVs. The new additions to the team have all been positively received. Thanks to the high safety standards, the workflows quickly became fluid and consistent. For us, the vehicles are not just devices that drive from A to B, but a real helping hand in everyday logistics. That's why it seemed logical to name them after superheroes. The new co-workers were named as a result of an internal survey in which the employees could suggest their favourites.

Are you planning further automation projects?

In addition to our locations in Gütersloh and Landsberg, where we have already successfully launched automation initiatives, the Harsewinkel project is yet another impressive example of our progress in regard to automation at Arvato Supply Chain Solutions. The latest technology will continue to be a guiding principle in the future of our company and we hope to continue to work with Jungheinrich as a capable and professional partner on further projects.



Customer:

Sector:

Location:

Company size:

Warehouse size:

Arvato Supply Chain Solutions

Supply chain management

Harsewinkel, Germany

800 employees

Storage area of approx. 31,000 m²

CHALLENGE

Automation of the pallet transport process with simultaneous lengthwise and crosswise transport, as well as the implementation of a sophisticated interface management system at every stage from goods receipt to waste disposal.

JUNGHEINRICH SOLUTION

Six EKS 215a Automated Guided Vehicles with lithium-ion technology, two automatic charging stations and the Jungheinrich Logistics Interface for the automatic processing of transport orders.

RESULTS

Commissioning of an end-to-end logistics solution with maximum process reliability, which both counteracts the shortage of skilled workers and increases job satisfaction.

IMPRESSIONS



Thanks to the excellent safety standards of the AGVs, mixed operation can be carried out without any problems.



The vehicles are a real helping har

An automatic waste compactor was also connected for the first time.

The vehicles are a real helping hand in everyday logistics. That's why Arvato Supply Chain Solutions decided to name them after real superheroes.

