

Project:

Adolf Grüninger AG, Mitlödi, Switzerland

Industry:

Food

Task:

Reorganise the narrow aisle warehouse, implement a new Warehouse Management System

Project duration:

04.2011 - 11.2011

Services:

- Jungheinrich Warehouse Management System
- Truck Management-System and Client modules
- RDTs, scanners, mobile workstations
- Narrow aisle forklifts with telescopic fork and Warehouse Navigation system

Most important results:

- Increased performance due to optimised processes
- Quality improvement due to paperless picking
- Ideal space utilisation

Build new or rebuild an existing warehouse?

Best possible space utilisation, a modern infrastructure and optimised processes are crucial to the efficiency any warehouse operation. Achieving these objectives in an existing building is not always as easy and practical as it would be with a new purpose built warehouse. With expert support from Jungheinrich project team Grüninger AG decided it was better and much more economical to optimise their existing building. In just six months a new 20-aisle narrow aisle high bay with 46 ft high racking giving 7,300 pallet locations was constructed.

The project also included implementing the Jungheinrich WMS with paperless picking to optimise the warehouse processes.

A concept, adapted to the exact needs

Adolf Grüninger AG is the largest producer of margarine and cooking oils in Switzerland. With 75% market share, the company serves the major proportion of the demand for industrial used margarines.

Because of an acute shortage of space in their Mitlödi warehouse, Adolf Grüninger decided to utilise their other building in Reichenburg which offered more space and also has good transport connections.

The company planned for the future: a warehouse with optimal operations equipped with modern technology which can keep up with the rapidly increasing demand.

One partner for all tasks

Once the decision was made to outsource the work, it was obvious that the project should be awarded to a provider who is able to deliver everything needed for the retrofit and can complete the project on time and on budget.

Efficient flow of goods and optimal use of storage space and building height.

Apart from their own products Adolf Grüninger AG use their warehouse to store other 3rd party affiliated companies' products. A key requirement was therefore that the racking installation and the WMS implementation work should be very fast and cause minimum disruptions to the day-to-day operations. The system should also be very fast and easy to learn and use for Adolf Grüninger AG's employees.

The previous racking structures had to be reconfigured to accommodate a range of new products. A broadband radio network was installed to ensure fast and effective communications between the WMS and the drivers' truck terminals. The WMS operational instructions are wirelessly transmitted to these terminals.

The solution

Paperless picking and Truck Management System with the Jungheinrich WMS

The Jungheinrich WMS – with full traceability for all transactions – optimises the flow of materials throughout all the warehouse processes: from goods-in to storage, paperless picking, packing and despatch right up to the point of delivery to the customer. Both Adolf Grüninger AG and their 3rd party companies gain from this very efficient system.

Transports and movement sequences are controlled and organized by the Truck Management System, which is integrated into the WMS. Workers receive route-optimised run commands directly onto their truck terminals. In addition, our high rack stacker EKX 515 is equipped with Warehouse Navigation.

Warehouse Navigation ensures that the trucks travel to their destination location at the fastest possible speed (horizontally and vertically). The location address is automatically passed to the truck computer by the WMS. WN increases the truck efficiency by up to 25 %.

Customer statement

Jungheinrich Warehouse Management System

With their new central warehouse in Reichenburg the Adolf Grüninger AG is now well prepared for future growth. As Romeo Steiner, head of logistics from Adolf Grüninger AG says: "both the implementation and the 'go live' stages the Jungheinrich WMS worked very well. All our staff were given comprehensive training with many tips for running an efficient operation.

We are very pleased with the outcome of this project and with the collaboration from Jungheinrich. All of our requirements have been fulfilled and the project was completed on schedule."



Romeo Steiner, Head of logistics, Adolf Grüninger AG, Mitlödi, Switzerland.

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