

Project:

Hydrauflex GmbH, Plauen, Germany

Industry:

Industry

Task:

Optimising manufacturing processes with the aid of a Warehouse Management System (WMS)

Project duration:

08.2011 - 05.2012

Services:

- Junaheinrich WMS
- Narrow aisle warehouse
- ETV 216 reach trucks
- EKX 513 high rack stackers
- Warehouse navigation with Logistics Interface

Most important results:

- Faster access to components
- Organised warehouse processes
- High levels of efficiency
- Process transparency
- Reduced errors

Hose lines from Saxony

Based in Plauen, Hydrauflex GmbH is a productive manufacturer of hydraulic transmission systems. In particular, it manufactures hydraulic hose lines, pipelines, distributors and collectors as well as fasteners. Hydrauflex is a supplier and partner of leading German companies in mechanical engineering, the construction and agricultural machinery

industries as well as commercial vehicle construction. Operating across Europe, the company currently has 130 employees.

The optimum solution must guarantee process simplification and efficiency

When entering Hydrauflex's production supply warehouse, it immediately becomes clear that it has complex requirements with respect to efficient warehouse and material flow management. In view of the different part sizes and replacement frequency, the products are stored in pallet racking as well as Lean-Lifts and modular racking systems. Being able to manage more than 20,000 stock items in more than 14,000 locations requires an optimum intralogistical solution. As the warehouses are accessed almost 118,000 times a year, not only did Hydrauflex want to simplify its processes, but also to increase efficiency and reduce the number of error sources.

The choice - the Jungheinrich WMS

With the Jungheinrich WMS, Hydrauflex has been able to create an integrated intralogistical solution which supports all the processes, from goods inward to goods outward. The system forming the basis for this solution does not just manage the products in the warehouse, but it also controls the associated order picking processes as well as routing the trucks used in the warehouse and is connected to them via the Logistics Interface.

The requirement

Focusing on simplicity, error reduction and efficiency

The requirements for the Jungheinrich WMS, which is seen as the basis of the entire system, are demanding. In order to simplify the warehouse operation and make it more efficient, error sources must be reduced and warehousing processes better organised. In addition, short access times to all components must be guaranteed. The main goals are increasing the degree of automation and reducing the mountain of paperwork generated by the logistics processes in the warehouse.

The solution

The Jungheinrich WMS fulfils all the requirements

In order to react flexibly to expansion at the site, the Jungheinrich WMS support all processes from Goods inward to Goods outward. Connection is via the ERP system interface. In addition to the standard version of the Jungheinrich WMS, Hydrauflex also uses customer-specific adaptations, e.g. for stock management, which also takes into consideration outsize pallets. The Jungheinrich WMS is also responsible for coordination of the tasks in the hose warehouse and modular racking warehouse as well as the online connection of the existing six Lean-Lifts from Hänel. In addition to various Goods inward profiles, this also requires that retrieval with Lean-Lifts be taken into account. Along with adjustment postings, the stock-taking function also contains a control station message which provides information about the item's target and actual quantities in the event of deviating quantities.

The EKX 513 high rack stacker is connected to the Jungheinrich WMS via the Logistics Interface. This enables transport orders to be sent directly to the truck and executed semi-automatically via warehouse navigation.

Customer statement

One-stop intralogistical concept

Gert Ebersbach, Managing Director, emphasises the good cooperation between Hydrauflex GmbH and Jungheinrich. Along with outstanding communication, he also underlines Jungheinrich's constant availability and rapid responses. From the time the contract was awarded, he specified a project duration of nine months for introduction of the Jungheinrich WMS. This was completed in two stages. Care was taken during realisation of the interface with the ERP system that the scheduled ERP change would have no influence on the interface. When asked why Hydrauflex has chosen a solution from this supplier, Ebersbach praised Jungheinrich. "We were convinced by its product presentation and consultation services. Aside from that, we were able to visit a reference system and talk with the operator. It was also important to us that we had a one-stop intralogistical concept. In addition, in Plant 1 we have already had positive experience of the fork lift trucks and racking systems provided by this manufacturer." Gert Ebersbach is certain that the investment in this overall system will be worth it because Hydrauflex GmbH can utilise it to its full extent.



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