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WAGO scales up mobile robot fleet: Four SOTO robots automate injection moulding production

- **Company scales up to four SOTO robots following positive demonstration project**
- **Fully automated small load carrier supply in three-shift operation to relieve employees in the long term**
- **Maximum efficiency in a tight space: SOTO transports six small load carriers simultaneously**
- **VDA 5050-compatible solution strengthens the future viability of the location**

WAGO expands successful collaboration with Jungheinrich: Following very good results with a SOTO demonstration project, the connection and automation technology specialist is expanding its mobile robot fleet to four SOTO robots.

Hamburg/Minden – Following a demonstration project that has been successfully in operation since 2023, WAGO GmbH & Co. KG has decided to scale up its mobile robot solution. In the future, a total of four SOTO robots from Jungheinrich subsidiary Magazino will take over the fully automated supply and disposal of injection moulding machines with small load carriers in three-shift operation.

Innovative technology successfully scaled

The deployment of a SOTO robot, which was launched as a pilot project in 2023, impressed WAGO with its efficiency and flexibility in the production environment. The mobile robots transport empty small load carriers to the production machines and transport finished parts from production to the logistics area. “SOTO has proven itself to be a future-proof solution

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for our production supply,” explains Thorben Eppmann, Technical Process Engineer at WAGO. “Following the positive experience with SOTO during the demonstration operations, we are moving forward with a fleet expansion. In the future, our employees will be relieved of physically demanding work to an even greater extent, allowing them to concentrate fully on value-adding activities.”

Maximum efficiency due to intelligent multiple transports

The SOTO robots impress with their unique ability to transport several small load carriers at the same time. This drastically reduces vehicle traffic in the production area and at the same time increases supply security. The omnidirectional drive technology allows precise manoeuvring, even in spaces that are only 1.65 metres wide. This is a decisive advantage in the tight machine park.

The autonomous navigation requires no artificial landmarks. SOTO orients itself independently based on the space's contours using four laser scanners and two 3D cameras. The robot navigates its way independently and reliably along authorised routes while the 360°-degree sensors recognise unexpected people and objects. If there is imminent danger, it stops immediately. At the same time, the maintenance-free lithium-ion technology with automatic interim charging enables uninterrupted 24/7 operation.

Future-proof system architecture

The fleet is fully VDA 5050 compatible and is coordinated via a master control system that is not dependent on any single manufacturer. This standardised interface ensures maximum flexibility and expandability.

A customised conveyor technology concept in the logistics area and a customer-specific rack design on the injection moulding machines are the transfer points for the SOTO robots. This ensures optimum decoupling between production and logistics.

“This successful scaling proves the enormous potential of mobile robots for German industry,” emphasizes Magazino Sales Manager Paul Seluga. “By expanding its automation solution, WAGO is increasing the efficiency of its internal logistics and creating room for further growth,” adds his colleague Janik Brinmühl, Project Manager for Intralogistics Systems at Jungheinrich.



The expanded fleet is scheduled to start operations this year.



Caption: After gaining experience from a pilot project, WAGO is expanding its AMR fleet to a total of four SOTO robots that handle the automated transport of small load carriers between the logistics area and production.

If you have any queries, please contact

Benedikt Nufer, spokesman

Tel.: +49 40 6948 3489

Mobile: +49 151 2779 1245

Email: benedikt.nufer@jungheinrich.de

About WAGO:

The WAGO Group is one of the world's leading suppliers of connection and automation technology and interface electronics. The family-run company is the world market leader in spring pressure connection technology. WAGO has grown continuously since its establishment in 1951 and now has approximately 9,000 employees worldwide. Of these, approximately 4,400 are based in Germany, at the headquarters in Minden, East-Westphalia and in Sondershausen in Thuringia. In 2024, the Group reported revenue of 1.24 billion euros.

About Magazino:

Magazino GmbH develops and manufactures intelligent mobile robots that process their surroundings and make decisions autonomously. These autonomous robots work alongside humans and make processes more flexible and efficient. With over 170 employees at its Munich location, Magazino has one of the largest advanced robotics teams in Europe. Magazino has been a fully owned subsidiary of Jungheinrich AG since 2023.

**About Jungheinrich:**

As one of the world's leading providers of material handling solutions, Jungheinrich has been advancing the development of innovative and sustainable products and solutions for material flows for more than 70 years. As a pioneer in the sector, the family-owned listed business is committed to creating the warehouse of the future. In the 2024 financial year, Jungheinrich and its workforce of around 21,000 employees generated revenue of €5.4 billion. The global network comprises 12 production plants and service and sales companies in 42 countries. The share is listed on the MDAX.