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Jungheinrich automates internal material handling processes at HELMA Kartoffelvertrieb GmbH

- **First step into automation: Driverless high-lift truck EKS 215a in operation at Sittensen site**
- **Flexible stand-alone solution with interface to existing conveyor system**
- **User-friendly control via logistics interface with web-based visualisation**

Smart automation of recurring, simple transport tasks using a single automated guided vehicle (AGV): Jungheinrich has automated pallet transport for HELMA Kartoffelvertrieb, a wholesale food distributor, at its Sittensen site. The project demonstrates how automation can also deliver benefits in straightforward application scenarios.

Hamburg – HELMA Kartoffelvertrieb GmbH, a wholesale distributor of food products based in Sittensen, has automated its internal material handling processes in the filling and warehouse areas with Jungheinrich. The solution has been designed with scalability in mind, enabling the future automation of additional material handling processes. The current setup highlights the benefits of automation in simple use cases: With just one intelligently integrated AGV, HELMA is organising the palletised transport of potatoes between filling stations and dispatch.

The vehicle used is an EKS 215a mobile robot, which handles several key tasks along a 120-metre transport route. It moves loads from conveyor belts or floor stations to two block storage zones, transfers goods between various conveyor stations, and supplies the filling process with empty pallets.

The project marks HELMA's entry into the automation of internal transport processes. "It is impressive to see how much support and simplification even a single automated vehicle



can provide, while ensuring a high-performance and safe transport of goods,” says Florian Brunkhorst, Head of IT and authorised officer at HELMA. “In addition to the excellent consulting and support provided by Jungheinrich, we were particularly impressed by the system’s simple and intuitive control.”

“Thanks to the logistics interface with web-based visualisation, the system can be easily operated via tablet. Employees can start, monitor or cancel transport orders at the push of a button,” explains Markus Schaak, Senior Project Manager Mobile Robots at Jungheinrich.

The stand-alone solution is powered by lithium-ion technology, includes an automatic charging function and is connected to the existing conveyor system via a dedicated interface.

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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.