

Storage

Order Picking

Handling & Automation

Case Study 019

Warehouse and Distribution

**ORDER PICKING WITH PICK TO LIGHT TROLLEYS**

The Customer

The Abena group is a Danish, family owned company established in 1953. They are among the market leaders in the protective healthcare business producing a wide range of incontinence products, baby nappies, sanitary towels and other healthcare-related disposable goods. Abena products are sold around the world through a distributor network of subsidiary companies and specialist distributors.

The company markets some 19,000 products not only to retail outlets and wholesalers, but also directly to various healthcare organizations and consumers. Sales via web shop (AbenaOnline/AbenaPrivate) and monthly subscriptions is a growing business. Abena has a fully automated warehouse in Aabenraa, quite far south in Denmark.

Further Information:
www.kardex-remstar.com



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Task definition

Due to the increased internet sales and increasing number of subscription customers, they experienced a rapid growth in sales of smaller quantities and an increased need to breach packaging, new commissioning and repacking to each customers exact need. They started to handle this manually in the end of the fully automated warehouse, however realized soon that this was not efficient enough. Especially due to the fact that the efficient picking process for the fully automated warehouse resulted in very high peaks in manual handling. Therefore they started to look for a solution to handle this process more efficient.



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Solution



In a close cooperation with Kardex the new process was defined: 18 Kardex Shuttles XP with light indicators, wireless picking trolleys with pick to light solution integrated with Kardex Power Pick Global. The innovative solution is integrated with their corporate WMS system SattStore from Consafe. The functionality of Kardex Dynamic Zones secures extremely efficient picking. The pick to light devices secures zero picking errors. The system has helped Abena to be able to commission these small orders very smooth without tedious peeks. Furthermore they have achieved far higher picking efficiency than before, and a more ergonomic working environment for the operators. They were amazed how easy the system is to use. First of all they were at requested efficiency only two weeks after installation. Secondly a new operator are able to work at top performance just after a short introduction to the system.

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Advantages at a glance

- Same amount of goods on 20% of the floor space compared with shelving in mezzanines
- Extremely efficient put and pick process, utilization of all machine capacity at all time with Kardex Dynamic Zones
- Put and pick batches can be executed at the same time with no change in the system setup
- Picking errors are eliminated due to very clear guidance of the operator from the Kardex Power Pick Global Software and wireless trolleys equipped with a pick to light solution
- More than 200 picks per picker/hour equals a 300% efficiency improvement

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Process description

We would be delighted to explain details on stock management as well as storage and retrieval strategies in a personal consultation.

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Scope of delivery

- 18 Shuttle XPs 7,750 mm high and 3,050 mm wide trays with a total of 990 shelves giving 2,455 sqm storage space on only a footprint of approx. 290 sqm floor space – including aisles
- 5 picking trolleys by KBS with "pick to light" and bar code readers
- Laser pointer, points at the correct put and pick location
- Power Pick Global Software with Kardex Dynamic Zones and interface to SattStore WMS (Consafe)



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