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RHENUS CONTRACT LOGISTICS INTRODUCES AUTOSTORE SYSTEM POWERED BY SWISSLOG

February, 2019 - Rhenus Contract Logistics has started using its AutoStore system provided by Swisslog. The automated storage and order picking system is installed in a brand new distribution center in Tilburg, Netherlands. This sustainable warehouse measures over 60,000 m², and Rhenus uses it to serve customers that provide high-quality products to various industries.

The construction of the sustainable logistics center and the introduction of the AutoStore system are part of Rhenus Contract Logistics' growth strategy. The logistics service provider chose this method of order storage and picking based in part on the type of customers it serves. The AutoStore system assists in further improving the accuracy of its ordering picking and in fulfilling the customers' growth needs through optimization of continuity and quality.

21,000 bins - 19 robots

The AutoStore system has a surface area of 1,000 m² and is equipped with 21,000 containers, 19 robots, 2 infeed and 3 order picking ports. Rhenus Contract Logistics can serve more customers thanks to the AutoStore system.

The automated order picking and storage installation is integrated with both the WMS and TMS package of the service provider with weighing and measuring scanners also integrated.

Compact storage and order picking system

The selection of AutoStore was based primarily on efficiency. AutoStore uses robots that run on an aluminum grid. The robots stack bins in the storage system grid, and then transport items for delivery to the order picking stations. Aisles are superfluous, making for an unusually compact automated storage and picking system.

Future expansion of AutoStore

Rhenus Contract Logistics management has already taken future expansion of the AutoStore system into consideration at the brand new Tilburg distribution center. Alphons van Erven, Senior Vice President of the logistics service provider said: "We are very pleased with our collaboration with Swisslog. The introduction of the AutoStore system enables us to work even more efficiently, and this choice is also good for both our growth strategy and that of our customers."

Hans van Driel, Project Manager for Swisslog said: "We are delighted to be working in partnership with Rhenus and that the solution provided has matched their highly sustainable logistics warehouse environment."

About Rhenus

Rhenus Group is a global logistics service company with a turnover of EUR 4.8 billion. Rhenus has more than 610 locations worldwide and employs 29,000 people. The divisions at Rhenus – Contract Logistics, Freight Logistics and Port Logistics – manage complex supply chains and provide a wealth of innovative value-added services.

About Swisslog

Swisslog designs, develops and delivers best-in-class automation for forward-thinking health systems, warehouses and distribution centers. We offer integrated solutions from a single source, from consulting to design, implementation and lifetime customer service. Behind the company's success are 2,500 employees worldwide, supporting customers in more than 50 countries. www.swisslog.com

Swisslog is a member of the KUKA Groups, a leading global supplier of intelligent automation solutions. www.kuka.com

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