Press information



SmartPocket: TGW Logistics presents a revolutionary pocket sorter

- The disruptive hanging goods conveyor relies on intelligent mobile robots that travel autonomously along a system of intersecting rails to reach their destinations
- Conventional pocket sorters are only scalable in large increments and leave a lot of potential unexploited outside of peak times; SmartPocket addresses these challenges by tailoring the technology to actual needs
- Realisation only spans six months from the signing of the contract to go-live

(Marchtrenk, Austria, 26 February 2024) The new pocket sorter from TGW Logistics will be celebrating its world debut at the LogiMAT trade fair. Rather than a drag chain, it relies on mobile robots that travel independently along a network of rails to reach their destinations. Thanks to this innovative concept, it sets a new bar in terms of efficiency, scalability and reliability. Unlike conventional systems, it does not leave potential unexploited and is tailored to actual requirements, providing significant cost advantages not only with regard to the initial investment but also during live operation.

As the philosopher Heraclitus said, nothing is more constant than change. Our world is changing more and more rapidly, and developments now often occur in a disruptive rather than linear manner. In an environment marked by great uncertainty, it is hardly possible to confidently predict what the future will bring.

Sweeping investments are causing ever more headaches

Whether due to the development of the different industries, unpredictable ordering behaviour or labour shortages: stability and the potential for planning ahead are dropping dramatically. Sweeping, long-term investment decisions cause headaches for those who have to make them. They have to offer their customers a high level of service while at the same time guaranteeing maximum efficiency and reliability in order fulfillment. That is the only way to hold their own among the competition.

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Six months from signing the contract to go-live

Conventional pocket sorters are designed to cover peak loads. Outside of such peak times, however, they leave a lot of potential unexploited. This means that users are paying for performance that they do not need.

Following the motto "Stop paying for potential," SmartPocket's high scalability represents an intelligent alternative. The pocket sorter from TGW Logistics can be adapted to changing business developments at short notice. Customers can easily purchase increased performance in the form of additional modules. This can significantly reduce the initial CAPEX, and recurrent operating expenses (OPEX) also remain low. Thus, the investment risk dwindles as well.

Intelligent robots for autonomous transportation

"SmartPocket is a game changer for intralogistics" according to Matthias Stötzner, Vice President Pocket Sorter at TGW Logistics. "The disruptive hanging goods conveyor uses autonomous sensor-driven robots that travel independently along a system of intersecting rails toward their destinations. This approach provides a lot of flexibility for system design and operation, and facilitates high scalability and optimal redundancy. Idle time is significantly reduced."

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About TGW Logistics:

TGW Logistics is one of the leading international suppliers of material handling solutions. For over 50 years, the Austrian specialist has implemented highly automated systems for customers, including brands from A as in Adidas to Z as in Zalando. As systems integrator, TGW Logistics plans, produces, implements and services complex logistics centres – from mechatronic products and robots to control systems and software.

TGW Logistics Group has subsidiaries in Europe, China and the US and employs roughly 4,400 people worldwide. In the 2022/23 business year, the company generated a total turnover of 955 million euros.

Pictures:

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