

Press release

AutoStore® warehouse at the chipper and mechanical engineering specialist ALBACH

The family-owned company **ALBACH Maschinenbau AG** from Menning in Upper Bavaria specialises worldwide in the construction of chippers and complex special constructions for mechanical engineering. In the self-propelled chipper segment, the company is the market leader, hiring approximately 220 employees. HÖRMANN Intralogistics is installing an AutoStore® system for storing small components in an existing warehouse at the production site in Langquaid.

Concept

HÖRMANN Intralogistics carried out several plant simulations with real data during the planning phase for the customised design of the AutoStore® system. The required operating times of 8 hours per day, along with the other customer requirements and the simulation results, led to a system configuration with a capacity of 8,725 bins with a size of 649 mm x 449 mm x 220 mm (L x W x H).

The 7 autonomous, battery-powered robots move in two directions using four pairs of wheels arranged at an angle and thus reach every position in the grid. They communicate via WLAN with the AutoStore® controller, which assigns the transport orders. When the order load is low or the battery capacity is too low, the robots drive to one of the 7 charging stations located at the edge of the grid.

The robots tirelessly load and unload the 3 carousel ports located along the grid. All port workstations are equipped in such a way that goods inbound or order picking can be carried out there at any time.

The AutoStore® system is installed in the existing warehouse. The partially clad aluminium grid system has overall dimensions of 12.1 m x 12.6 m x 6.5 m (L x W x H) including the service platform. In the grid system, the stacks comprising of 24 bins each stand directly on the hall floor. The rail system is mounted above the bin stacks, on which the robots move and jointly pick up bins, rearrange and handle them to the order-picking modules (ports).

The AutoStore® system at ALBACH handles approximately 137 storage and 880 retrieval operations per day.

In order to pick items, complete picking orders with the individual order lines can be sent to AutoStore®. With a lead time of 30 minutes, AutoStore® with its integrated optimisation algorithms ensures maximum efficiency in the processing of orders.

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Maximum performance and availability for WMS HiLIS AS

The AutoStore® controller autonomously handles the transport orders for all robots, but is not aware of the contents of the bins. For this purpose, HÖRMANN Intralogistics has developed the higher-level warehouse management system HiLIS AS. It is customised to the requirements of AutoStore® and directly connected to the customer's HOST systems. HiLIS AS also controls the put-to-light picking orders and the bin management via the transfer cells. With the HiLIS AS visualisation, all system data and functions can be monitored clearly at any time.

The AutoStore® small parts warehouse at ALBACH is scheduled for commissioning in March 2023.

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