



Brice

Le Mans, France

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ENHANCED OPERATION

The solution has increased operational efficiency, performance, visibility and control.

AUTOMATED SOLUTION

Upgrading to an automated system has helped allow the steady increase of productivity, by making the loading and storage of garments more efficient.



THE CHALLENGE

Brice has more than 150 shops throughout France and the company's manual handling system at its Le Mans National Distribution Centre (NDC) was becoming incapable of coping with the new increase in throughput.

The NDC provides 7,500 sq m of space, with adjacent land offering Brice the potential to add a further 2,500 sq m.

THE SOLUTION

SDI won a competitive tender to design and build a new materials handling infrastructure that would be able to meet existing demands and accommodate future increases in the business to cope with the expected demand of an additional 100 stores.

The system incorporates sorting conveyors across two floors to handle both boxed goods and handling garments from receiving, through checking to put-away and storage and on to dispatch.

THE SYSTEM

All deliveries entering the NDC are opened and the goods checked, with their details logged-in to the Warehouse Management System (WMS) by mobile frequency (RF) terminals. The incoming consignments are directed either straight to dispatch or to the storage zones to replenish stock, carried on the SDI flat and hanging conveyors.

All product movements in the warehouse are driven by the WMS with put-away and order-picking instructions relayed by RF to the operators' hand held radio data terminals. Picked orders are sent to dispatch on high-speed flat and hang sorters. Here the individual orders are assembled onto pallets, which are loaded onto delivery vehicles by roller conveyor.

The sorters using radio data terminals to the WMS transmit detailed carton-content information. Inventory update is then uploaded to Brice's mainframe with the information relayed by EDI to individual stores.

“The SDI system has given us the capacity we need now and the flexibility to cope with future requirements. It has also increased productivity, improved reactivity and reduced processing times.”

Thierry Albert, Brice's Logistics Director

ABOUT SDI GROUP

SDI group is an innovative provider of systems and solutions to the retail, wholesale, fulfilment and e-commerce industries for all aspects of distribution centre materials handling.

As both consultants and system integrators, the company provides clients with a total logistics solution package, which includes materials handling consulting, as well as design, engineering, fabrication, installation and integration services.



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