

Yard Management System



Many complex business processes take place at warehouses and logistics centres, especially in the yard areas where freight vehicles are loaded and unloaded. Considerable advantages can be gleaned if these processes are optimised by the use of a high-performance IT system. The optional Yard Management System PSIwms is ideal for this. This Yard Management System records and manages freight vehicles as they arrive to load and unload, and displays the loading bay to which it has assigned them. It also

assigns the orders or lots that are waiting to be loaded to the available loading bays. When a freight vehicle arrives, a dialogue function is used to record the relevant data in the Yard Management System. Each freight vehicle is assigned to one or more tasks (loading, unloading, and so on). In the case of recurrent tasks, task models can be assigned in the Yard Management System of the PSIwms so that only the variable data, such as the registration number of the vehicle in question, need to be entered into the

system. All required definitions are already available in the system.

The assignment of a specific loading bay normally takes place using a Drag&Drop dialogue. The data of the freight vehicle available for the task in question is selected using the mouse and "dropped" onto the relevant loading bay. If a freight vehicle has not yet been assigned to a loading bay, or if the assigned bay is still occupied by another freight vehicle, the freight vehicle being processed is sent to a parking bay. This information is issued when the freight vehicle data is first entered. Once the data entry is complete the system checks whether the required loading bay is free. If the loading bay is occupied, the Yard Management System allocates a parking bay in the parking area of the logistics centre. Then the Yard Management System prints out a job slip for the freight vehicle. This slip contains information on the loading bay or the coordinates of the parking bay. If the relevant loading bay becomes available whilst the freight vehicle is parked up, the driver is told that he can now proceed to the allocated bay. This information can be displayed on large display screens outside the yard or can be sent in the form of an SMS to the driver's mobile phone. The driver proceeds to the specified loading bay and carries out the assigned task. The process is then registered as complete and the system notes that the loading bay is no longer occupied.

The advantages of the Yard Management System of the PSI*wms* are obvious:

- Minimum effort required for coordinating processes outside the yard
- Minimum amount of wasted time between processes as a result of real-time assignment of freight vehicles
- Reduced waiting times for freight vehicles, allowing transport providers to maintain favourable conditions

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