

## *Wernsing Feinkost GmbH, Addrup-Essen*



With a turnover of 420 million euros in 2004, Wernsing Feinkost GmbH is one of the leading fine food companies in Germany. From its production sites in Addrup and Kaltenkirchen, Wernsing supplies the specialist fine food wholesale and retail trade with fresh and frozen potato products, raw and gourmet salads, ready meals, soups and sauces – all in small and large quantities.

In 2001, Wernsing Feinkost GmbH decided to extend the central warehouse in Addrup-Essen and to make it into a logistics centre. The old warehouse had reached full capacity. The new construction included an additional deep-freeze high-bay warehouse, a further bay warehouse for product line formation and

the installation of a second mobile shelving system. The number of pallet spaces in the new deep-freeze high-bay warehouse has now nearly tripled, with a total of 20,000 spaces. In addition, the old warehouse management system has been completely replaced by PSI Logistics software and has been enhanced by transport control, a plant visualisation system and a material flow control system.

## Task Definition

*“After a cost-benefit analysis, we decided on a standard solution and looked for established, flexible software which could be made to fit our requirements exactly by means of the necessary modifications”  
(Alfred Kessen, Head of Logistics at Wernsing Feinkost GmbH)*

The main challenge of the project was that Wernsing wanted to control both the processes of the old warehouse as well as those of the new deep-freeze and cold storage areas using the newly installed, comprehensive materials handling technology by means of a central warehouse management system. The warehouse management system needed to be able to handle complex commissioning strategies for implementing branch-specific requirements. The software changeover also needed to take place during routine operation.

## Implementation

The software was first implemented offline. Tests with controls on five subordinate levels made sure that all required functions were available in the new warehouse management system. The subsequent implementation of the system in live operation was a more difficult task. At the same time the old system needed to be taken out of commission, employees needed to be trained in the new system and the new warehouse areas and materials handling technology had to be connected to the superordinate inventory control system “Charisma”.

The first step was to ensure that the new warehouse areas were controlled by the new system so that the old system could be disconnected and the step-by-step connection of the old areas to the new warehouse management system could be carried out. PSI installed a new, faster material flow control system to coordinate

the goods flow in the individual warehouse areas. After going live, communication between the two systems became significantly faster, the degree of automation increased noticeably and the turnover frequency of the logistics centre was greatly improved.

## Functions

- Goods receipt: Goods are registered and automatically stored according to their variety in the MMS system by means of individual stock numbers
- Incoming orders are recorded in the data processing system and transferred to the route planning system. Delivery routes calculated there are recorded in the MMS.
- Fully automatic commissioning processes and downstream picking sequences can be realised according to individual customer specifications
- The transport management system handles commissioning orders and the planning of the stackers to be used
- Issue of commissioned goods via multiple issue points, collection of order items at the loading bays
- After reconciliation, the actual goods issue is recorded in the warehouse management system and the MMS

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