



Racking system with UPC at A.S. Watson in Heteren.

Compact storage for a higher volume of goods and improved warehouse safety.

JUNGHEINRICH

Project:

A. S. Watson Health & Beauty Benelux,
Heteren, the Netherlands

Industry:

Health and cosmetics

Task:

New racking system for a higher volume of goods and
improved fire protection

Project duration:

07.2015 – 09.2015

Services:

- Storage system with 36 channels and five levels
- 72 drive-through racking sections with three pallets each
- Three Under Pallet Carriers (UPC)
- 144 UPC-channel racks with 12 pallets each
- Order-picking tunnel with a length of 5,400 mm

Most important results:

- Increase of the volume of goods as well as of the overall capacity
- Improvement of working conditions
- Reduction of fire risks

Daily supply of the stores

A.S.Watson is the holding company of retail formats such as Kruidvat, Trekpleister and Priksmepper. With more than 1,300 stores, logistics plays a decisive role in ensuring their daily supply. The company's distribution centre in

Heteren covers 68,000 m² and is among the most modern distribution solutions in the world. Depending on the amount of orders and the season, 500 to 800 employees work there every day. For this purpose, around four million packages can be processed every week.

Higher goods volume plus increased fire protection

In case of fire, the high number of bulky goods previously stored in the block storage in Heteren posed a hazard, as it could only be insufficiently reached with water. In addition, it was difficult for the order pickers to travel between the stored goods. For this reason, a compact storage was chosen.

Individual solution by Jungheinrich

Although drive-in and drive-through rackings are the most common solution for a compact storage, Jungheinrich suggested a racking system consisting of channel racks with UPC and drive-through racking sections, which they deemed most suitable for the operation. With this solution, the efficiency of the entire material flow was optimised and the overall capacity increased significantly.

The requirement

Increase of goods volume, safety and efficiency

To begin with, the task included ensuring enough storage capacity on 600 m² as well as a sufficient supply of products at the picking stations.

Additionally, in case of emergency, highly flammable products such as napkins and tissues had to be reached by a sufficient supply of water.

The solution

Jungheinrich channel racks with UPC and order-picking tunnel

In order to achieve an optimal overall capacity, a five-level storage system with 1,944 pallet locations was built on a floor area of 600 m². The upper four levels consist of 36 channel racks for UPC. Each channel rack has a capacity for 12 pallets and also ensures a gap of 75 mm on both sides. These gaps guarantee an ideal water supply in emergency situations. The bottom storage level is an order-picking tunnel, enclosed by 72 drive-through racking sections on both sides. Pallets move automatically to the picking location and, thus, reduce the reaching depth for the order picking personnel. This minimises physical strain and ensures the optimal accessibility of the goods. In addition, the driver can control the UPC on his terminal while driving, thus avoiding waiting times.

Customer statement

Productive and safe order-picking

"In order to achieve an annual increase in our goods volume, it was time to find a new solution that suited our specific requirements," says Steven Beerens, Project Manager of Supply Chain Development. "We are very satisfied with the achieved results. As far as we know, this is the first truck-operated pallet shuttle system in this country," says Beerens.



Steven Beerens, Project Manager of Supply Chain Development, A.S. Watson in Heteren.

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