Case Study

Optimal Use of Space
Ensures on-time retrieval

Case at a glance

How we took our customer from task to solution

ABB Switzerland has 6,500 employees and manufacturers gas-insulated switchgear for power distribution in grids at their Zurich/Oerlikon location. There, the assembly tool pool’s task is to retrieve toolsets used to build systems worldwide. A long-time Kardex partner and already using approximately 20 automated storage and retrieval solutions, they added two more units.

Customer and task

ABB’s Zurich/Oerlikon warehouse stores 1,000 different items totaling up to 8,000 items.

They were pleased with their Kardex Vertical Lift Modules and Vertical Carousel Modules which store individual tools for assembly sets and retrieve them at the touch of a button.

There used to be bottlenecks with assembly sets that weren’t yet fully picked. Until now they were stored on pallets in static shelving and ABB was experiencing huge space and maneuvering difficulties. The head of ABB’s assembly tool pool received a Kardex newsletter about automated pallet storage at exactly the right time.

Solution

Kardex installed two Vertical Lift Modules Kardex Shuttle 1000. These provide space-saving storage for pallets with double frames and at 9-meters high, they make optimal use of the existing space.

Until all items to complete a set are available, pallets with semi-picked toolsets wait in one unit. This includes parts primarily on a load basis like diamond drill sets, equipment for dealing with faults, repair sets, and high-quality measuring devices. After use, the items get returned and temporarily stored in the second Kardex Shuttle 1000. Once checked, the returned items find their way back to the parts’ area. Using a touchscreen on the control unit, an employee operates one of the two Kardex Shuttle 1000s between 20 and 50 times a day.

A tray extraction device ergonomically moves the pallets into position. Here, a forklift truck or electric pallet truck picks them up.

Optimal use of space

58 pallets on a small footprint of 18.94 m²

Store pallets with double frames
Scope of delivery

- 2 Kardex Shuttle 1000 W: 1,850 mm | D: 1,270 mm | H: 8,850 mm
- 29 trays storing pallets with double frames (height of stored goods is 950 mm)
- OPLLogicontrol unit (+20 various Kardex Remstar Vertical Lift and Vertical Carousels Modules)