

Customer Reference

Hitachi Energy



AutoStore™ empowered by Kardex

Company

Hitachi Energy

Location

Zurich, Switzerland

Application area

Spare parts handling

Kardex optimizes Hitachi Energy's high-voltage service warehouse in Zurich with AutoStore

For the reorganization of the spare parts business at the Dietlikon site in the Swiss canton of Zurich, Hitachi Energy was looking for an innovative, sustainable, and exceptionally flexible solution. The global AutoStore partner and intralogistics expert Kardex offered the most convincing overall package and was commissioned with planning and implementing a fully automated AutoStore™ spare parts warehouse.

Hitachi Energy is a global leader in high-voltage technology, offering a wide range of high-voltage products up to 1,200-kilovolt (kV) helping enhance the safety, reliability and efficiency of power networks while minimizing environmental impact. The Dietlikon site, where the Kardex AutoStore solution is being implemented, covers all processes for the service components business of the "High Voltage Products" business unit. This includes goods receipt and inspection, storage, picking, packing, and shipping of the service components.

"In order to optimize our logistics processes and use our existing space more efficiently, we have found the right solution in AutoStore, and the ideal partner in Kardex."

Patrick Looser, Head of Service Logistics Center at Hitachi Energy



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Sustainable, flexible, and highly efficient

For the customized design of Hitachi Energy's AutoStore solution, Kardex performed several system simulations with real data during the planning phase. The results, which were based on the required operating times for picking and putaway of the service components as well as other customer requirements, led to a system configuration with a total capacity of 3,250 bins measuring 25.6 in × 17.7 in × 8.7 in (l × w × h). In the first expansion stage, the grid will be equipped with 3,000 bins only, two "Red Line" (R5) robots and two Conveyor Ports. Various system extensions are already in the planning. The Warehouse Management System (WMS) Kardex Control Center manages the various warehouse systems and optimizes the connecting processes.

"With our new AutoStore spare parts warehouse, we will be able to react even more flexibly to customer needs and process orders even faster thanks to greater availability of the service components," Looser continues. "In addition, as a pioneer in sustainable technologies, we are setting another important milestone with our investment in AutoStore."

Hitachi Energy is actively working towards a sustainable energy future, which is exactly where the AutoStore technology will make an important contribution in the future. Ten AutoStore robots consume no more energy than a standard vacuum cleaner, and whenever robots lower a bin or reduce speed, power is returned to the batteries. AutoStore's compact design also requires no aisles, decreasing energy consumption significantly by reducing the number of areas that need to be illuminated. With an average availability of 99.6% and "built-in" redundancy, AutoStore is the world's most reliable and efficient storage system.