

Industry Brochure

Intralogistics Solutions for 3PLs



Industry challenges

Do you want to know how to manage frequently changing customer portfolios without re-organizing the warehouse every few years? When servicing several customers simultaneously as a third-party logistics (3PL) provider, it is critical that every section of the warehouse can manage a wide range of goods and easily adapt as customers themselves and their individual needs change.

Adding to these traditional challenges comes further pressure from delivery demands and labor shortages. As supply chains move from linear to more complex networks, how can a 3PL stay a step ahead?

With increasing e-commerce sales, customers' expectations and behaviors continue to change – next-day or even same-day delivery is now the standard. The challenge is managing increasing order volumes and escalating order fulfillment to meet demand.

The answer is automated order fulfillment and order consolidation solutions. Many warehouse and distribution centers leverage a zone-picking strategy to pick, pack, and ship orders efficiently. Automated order consolidation before shipping or packing is critical to utilize space, labor, and capital investments efficiently.



Manage seasonal spikes and high throughput rates



Decrease long search or walking times and eliminate delivery delays



Easily adapt to new customers and changing warehouse requirements

Smart intralogistics

Based on decades of hands-on experience partnering with warehouses worldwide, Kardex understands how to use automation to strengthen warehouse intralogistics and help companies deliver innovative and unrivaled intralogistics. Kardex's modular solutions provide fast fulfillment and enable flawless material flow.



Why automate?

"The Global Third-Party Logistics (3PL) market was valued at around USD 1 trillion in 2020, and it is expected to reach more than USD 1.75 trillion by 2026"¹. As more businesses turn to 3PLs, they will need the proper tools to support and retain customers. Automation is no longer an option, but a must.

With state-of-the-art capabilities ranging from vertical, horizontal to cube-based automated storage and retrieval systems and integrated material handling systems, Kardex offers a flexible, scalable and cost-effective solution portfolio, designed to meet the unique needs of our customers.

The various order fulfillment and picking strategies, including the Kardex Color Pick System and Kardex Frame Pick System can easily add or reduce labor, speed up order picking, minimize errors, reduce walking, provide ergonomic working conditions, and optimize space and storage volumes.

 Learn more about automated storage solutions for 3PLs

High & accurate
throughput

Just-in-time
deliveries

Modular & flexible
intralogistics

¹ Global Third-Party Logistics (3PL) Market – Growth, Trends, COVID-19 Impact, and Forecasts (2021–2026); <https://www.researchandmarkets.com/reports/4756808/global-third-party-logistics-3pl-market/>; May 2021.

Managing current and future growth

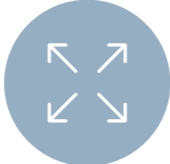
Cygnia, based in England, is the digital and e-fulfillment sector of Wincanton, providing logistics solutions to a wide range of retail sectors, including omni-channel. Cygnia needed to expand its storage capacity and find a way to efficiently increase stock throughput for current business demands as well as future demands.

Kardex created a tailored solution that included installing six 9.8-meter high Kardex Megamat 650 units and a Kardex Color Pick System – all seamlessly managed by a warehouse management software and integrated into the existing in-house system. The solution freed up over a third of Cygnia’s warehouse space, reduced travel time, increased efficiencies and delivered unforeseen savings in time and accessibility. Future scalable units are planned as growth projections come to fruition.

Customer benefits



Increased picking performance by 200%



Flexible and scalable solution



Efficient order consolidation

Hella Distribution GmbH is a logistics service provider with long-standing experience in the automotive industry. From its headquarters in Germany, the company ships 2,000 orders daily to customers worldwide. Hella Distribution selected Kardex to implement an efficient and ergonomic order consolidation process.

With the task of transitioning the manual processes of loading cartons onto pallets and storing them until needed into an automated solution, Kardex installed a six-meter high Kardex Miniload-in-a-Box* with three access openings and conveyor technology. This serves as a consolidation buffer and pre-sorts items waiting to be shipped.

Customer benefits



Reduced footprint by 80%



Transparent, accessible and ergonomic



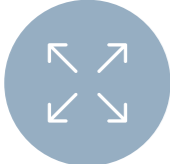
* formerly Kardex Compact Buffer

Specific demands and value-added services

Since 1999, the Nagel-Group has operated a temperature-controlled central warehouse in Reichenbach an der Fils for a German chocolate manufacturer. The goods delivered by an electric truck shuttle from the factory are temporarily stored in 16,000 pallet spaces in two different temperature-controlled areas. They are confectioned for sale to end consumers, and shipped to retailers.

In 2000, Kardex's predecessor company supplied six stacker cranes, two shuttle cars, two vertical transfer units, and the complete conveyor technology, including a control system and a material flow control system. In 2019, Kardex modernized the high-bay warehouse's conveyor technology and eight stacker cranes – two of which were from a third-party manufacturer. The focus was on replacing discontinued components and installing new control technology to ensure continued high system availability.

Customer benefits



Flexible and scalable solution



High availability



Maximum flexibility and speed

MS Direct AG, based in Switzerland, is a leading partner to the online retail industry, offering automated solutions in the areas of fulfillment and cross-border e-commerce.

The high order volume of MS Direct's customers required additional capacities and highly efficient processes. Therefore, MS Direct selected Kardex to integrate an AutoStore™ solution into their new fulfillment center. The AutoStore system provides space for 30,000 storage bins. However, the hall offers further expansion potential for up to 60,000 bins. 48 battery-powered robots pick up the bins, re-arrange them and present them at nine ergonomically designed workstations. Offering high-density storage, AutoStore maximizes storage density and enables four times the capacity with the same footprint compared to conventional manual storage.

Customer benefits



4 x more storage capacity



Fast, accurate and dependable



Industry expertise

Kardex is a global industry partner offering customized intralogistics solutions for individual requirements across various industries. Based on decades of working with small to large-scale businesses in every corner of the globe, we have seen first-hand how every industry has unique challenges and demands regarding warehouse and plant operations.

With increasing pressure to switch up warehouse organization, knowing where to begin can be overwhelming. Kardex can support your move to automated logistics every step of the way.

 Contact us



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