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Warehouse & Logistics News

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RACK ARMOUR

The success story



During its inception in 2004, not in their wildest dreams would the team at The Rack Group believe that Rack Armour would be the resounding success it is today. That it would go on to sell in well over eighty Countries and manufacture on three Continents. That the world's biggest brands would install and continue to support the

product globally, brands such as Wal-Mart, Tesco, BMW, Audi, Office Depot, Lowes, Mercedes, IKEA, Kellogg's, Kraft, McDonalds, Nestle, Toyota, Pepsico, Coca Cola, DHL, and Eddie Stobart.

Rack Armour was created initially as a product to reduce racking damage for The Rack Group's biggest customer.

Their remit was to produce a cost effective solution that would reduce racking repair costs year on year. After looking through the market for existing products it became obvious there was no such product. Metal protectors easily buckled and dented, often creating more of an issue than a solution.

Continues on page 7

Pallet Wrap latest prices - June 2016

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Velden boosts output with SSI Schaefer's Autocruiser



SSI Schaefer is pleased to announce a contract agreement with Velden Engineering (UK) Limited to supply and install its recently developed Autocruiser internal transport system at Velden's Columbia Mill manufacturing site in Bolton.

Established in 1973, Velden supplies many industry sectors with high quality, competitively priced, on-time machined components and assemblies in a wide variety of materials from prototype to volume production.

Velden's engineering services include production of copper work and busbars for the power generation and distribution industries. These components can be punched and folded to many varied specifications and then manufactured as one-offs through to large production runs on a 24-7 service.

Increased demand, coupled with a requirement to maintain rapid response, was the catalyst in SSI Schaefer automating a significant part of the process to increase output,

while still managing the diverse requirements of busbar specification.

SSI Schaefer's Autocruiser, which represents a less expensive and more flexible alternative to a conventional conveyor system, consists of transport carriers operating on rail structures which are easy to extend and modify, making this a versatile and scalable solution. Diverters send components carried by the Autocruiser off a central loop to be modified then back to the loop to complete the production process before transportation to packing and despatch to Velden's continually growing client base.

The system, due to be delivered in July, is easy to assemble and build and will be installed by Velden's own maintenance team before being finally commissioned by SSI Schaefer. This adopted approach will help Velden save money on the installation costs of the system.

SSI SCHAEFER

www.ssi-schaefer.co.uk

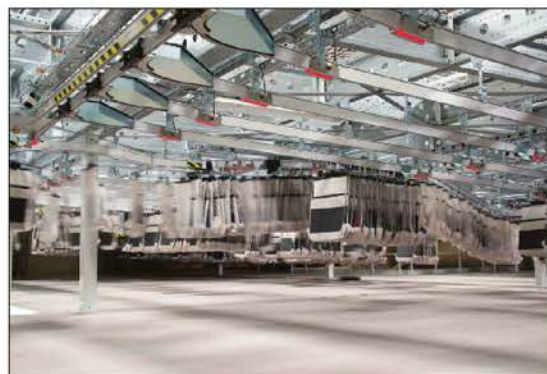
Easy does it with KNAPP

KNAPP has added another innovative workstation to its Pick-it-Easy series: Pick-it-Easy Multi is designed to work with the company's Pocket Sorter system in e-commerce applications.

KNAPP has invested considerable R&D in the ergonomic design of its Pick-it-Easy workstations, which were developed with help from TÜV Rheinland. The Pick-it-Easy series is designed around the needs of warehouse workers in various industries. Solutions such as Pick-it-Easy Shop for retail ranges, Pick-it-Easy Health for pharmaceuticals and Pick-it-Easy Tray for groceries are goods-to-person fulfilment solutions that combine ergonomics, multi-functionality, efficiency and economy.

Pick-it-Easy Multi

The new Pick-it-Easy Multi workstation is designed for



processing goods into sorter pockets and dispatch cartons. In KNAPP's Pocket Sorter system, pockets are suspended from an overhead conveying system via a 'rolladaptor' that features an RFID transponder. At the Pick-it-Easy Multi station, operators take items - such as DVDs, books, shoes or flat-packed clothing - from the transport container and move them over an integrated scanner, which can feature barcode or RFID technology. When the article is read, confirmation is displayed through a light signal in the adjacent chute, through which the goods are passed into the prepared sorter pocket. From this moment on, the article data is allocated to the RFID transponder on the pocket, which is used to track

and identify the item in the processes that follow.

Matrix sortation

The Pocket Sorter solution sequences the individual pockets, sorting them into the precise order required by the packing stations. The system - which uses a three-step matrix sortation process based on a mathematical algorithm - is scalable, with up to 7000 units being sorted per hour, per module.

With the pockets able to carry up to 3kg and accommodating goods up to 500x380x150mm in size, the solution has proved ideal for the product ranges of a number of customers including Arvato in Germany, Asos in the UK, Mayoral in Spain and Kiabi in France.

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KNAPP is a leading global supplier of warehouse automation solutions, with over 1600 active systems worldwide. The group's advanced conveying, storage and fulfilment technologies are combined in solutions that feature seamless integration and intelligent software. Successful projects in the UK recently include systems for John Lewis, Boots, M&S, Staples, Clarks, British Gas and Well.

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