

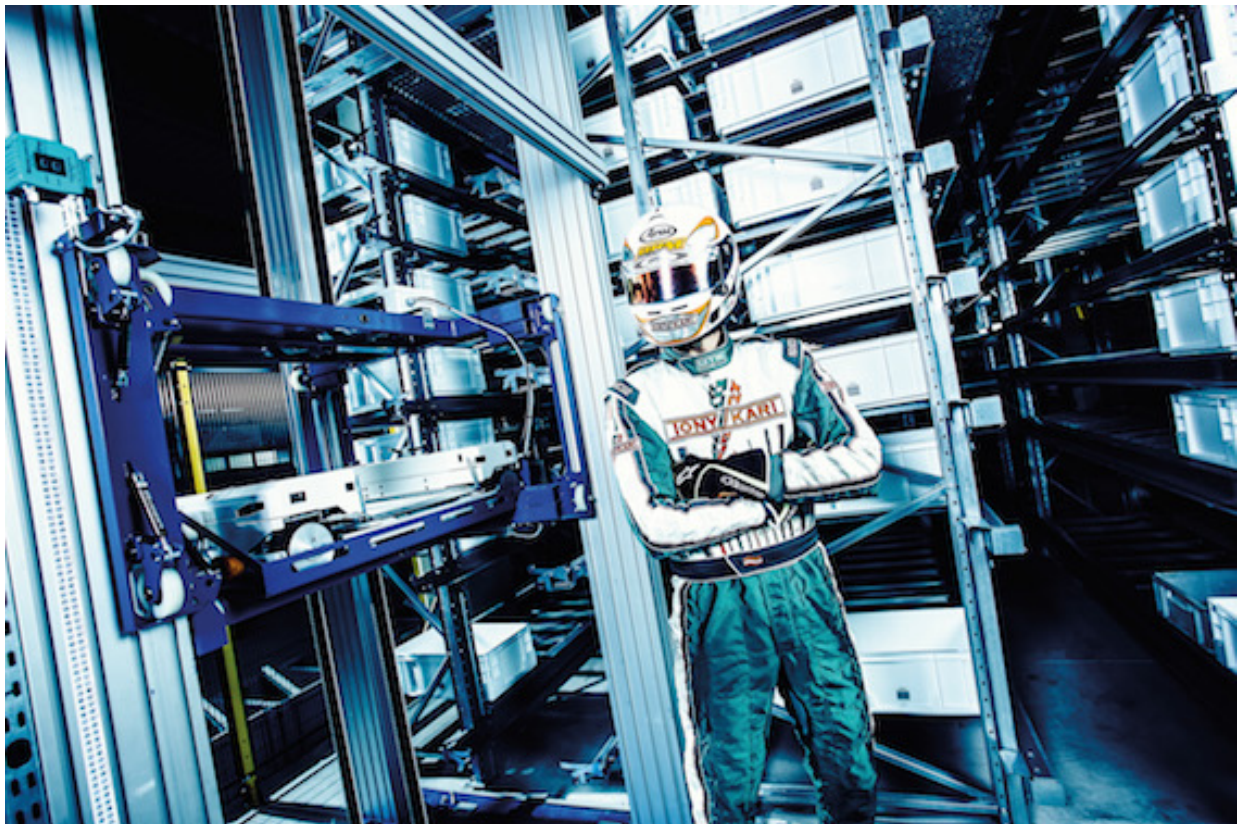


PRESS RELEASE

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Pankl Racing Systems chooses flexible KNAPP shuttles

Engine and drivetrain components specialist, Pankl Racing Systems, is relying on shuttle technology from KNAPP at its new drivetrain component factory in Austria.



Pankl Racing Systems has selected KNAPP's flexible YLOG-Shuttle system for its new drivetrain component factory

As part of the installation of its new production facility at its headquarters in Kapfenberg, Pankl Racing Systems has selected KNAPP's flexible YLOG-Shuttle system for automation of the small parts warehouse and supply of the workstations. Pankl develops, manufactures and markets engine and drivetrain systems as well as chassis parts for racing cars, luxury vehicles and the aerospace industry. The new manufacturing site for high-performance

motorcycle gearboxes, featuring the new automated storage system, is due to begin operation in 2017.

“We opted for the concept from KNAPP because it’s clear that the core components of the system have been carefully thought through and are technically sophisticated,” explained Stefan Zinner, Series Production Manager at Pankl. “Another crucial factor was the extremely productive co-operation during the concept phase. The project engineers and product managers were quick to grasp our unique requirements and went on to develop excellent solutions.”

Scalable shuttle system

The solution from KNAPP consists of an automated YLOG-Shuttle system connected to three workstations. The YLOG-Shuttle technology is scalable in line with company growth and guarantees high availability. Pankl’s extensive range of toothed wheels and shafts will soon be stored across 4,300 storage locations, from where they will be supplied to the assembly workstations according to the goods-to-person principle.

Traceability

KNAPP is supplying ergonomic workstations from its Pick-it-Easy series that are specially adapted to suit Pankl’s requirements. A safety check comprising three separate steps will be carried out to ensure that each part can be traced, if necessary, at a later stage. The individual parts will be supplied to the workstations in the correct sequence, with staff being instructed via pick-to-light technology as to the correct article to pick. The serial number will then be read using image recognition technology, identifying the part removed from the storage tote. In addition, the assembly process will be verified using image pattern recognition technology from KNAPP subsidiary, ivii GmbH.

Pioneering solution

Stefan Zinner has high expectations of the new technology: “For us, the KNAPP system is a pioneering solution, leading the way towards Industry 4.0 and going far beyond the classic requirements of warehouse logistics. It involves value-adding interaction between man and machine. Our staff will carry out assembly tasks that require technical skill and will be supported in these tasks by the image processing system.”



Pankl’s new factory in Kapfenberg, Austria, which will begin manufacturing high-performance motorcycle gearboxes in 2017

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High-resolution versions of the images above are available on request to: heidi@bridgeland-copyright.co.uk

About Pankl Racing Systems

Pankl Racing Systems specializes in the development and manufacture of engine and drivetrain components for racing cars, high-performance vehicles and the aerospace industry using lightweight and innovative materials that are designed to withstand extreme mechanical stress. In the racing sector, the first conrod was produced for motor sport as far back as 1985. Today, the company is the sector's leading supplier of engine and drivetrain components. In the mid-90's, the first tail rotor drive shaft was produced and with it, the company's know-how in the aerospace industry was further cemented. Pankl is headquartered in Kapfenberg, Austria, and has subsidiaries in Germany, UK, USA, Slovakia and Japan.

www.pankl.com

About the KNAPP Group

The KNAPP Group, headquartered in Hart bei Graz, Austria, operates internationally in the field of warehouse automation and warehouse logistics software. KNAPP is a leading global provider of all-in-one intralogistics solutions and automated storage systems, specializing in the core sectors of pharma, fashion, retail, food retail and industry. Having an export rate of 98 per cent, KNAPP supports customers around the world and – thanks to its network of 30 subsidiaries – guarantees optimal customer care.

www.knapp.com

About KNAPP Industry Solutions

KNAPP Industry Solutions, headquartered in Dobl, Austria, is the specialist for tailor-made solutions for industry, manufacturing and distribution logistics within the KNAPP Group. With its scalable shuttle solutions – including the Open Shuttle driverless vehicles and the YLOG-Shuttle storage system – the company has technology at its disposal that offers new possibilities with regard to flexibility and availability in the industrial environment.

www.knapp.com

Company contact:

Mr Craig Rollason, Managing Director
KNAPP UK Ltd
Tel: 01844 202149

Media contact:

Heidi Scott, Partner
Bridgeland Copyright
Tel: 01622 832598
E-mail: heidi@bridgeland-copyright.co.uk