

UKWA warehouse

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How we can win at Brexit?

The 'Brexit bounce' and the 'Circle of Trust' **20**

Amazon:
Friend or Foe?

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● HANDLING

Pocket Sorter solution

Global logistics provider, Fiege, has 160 sites in 15 countries across Europe and the Far East. With 2.7 million square metres of warehousing and logistics space, the group is one of the ten most powerful 3PLs in Europe.

At its distribution centre in Erfurt, Germany, the 3PL provides fulfilment services for SportScheck, the multi-channel sports retailer. SportScheck markets more than 35,000 products from over 500 brands including Adidas, Nike, Puma, Bench and Reebok. The Erfurt facility has 40,000 square metres of floor space and features three levels kitted out with overhead pocket sortation technology from KNAPP.

The Pocket Sorter sequences the individual pockets, sorting them into the precise order required by the packing stations. The system uses a three-step matrix sortation

process to sort up to 7000 units per hour, per module. At the Erfurt DC, the Pocket Sorter feeds orders to 35 ergonomically designed packing stations – 23 for the direct-to-customer business and 12 for store replenishment.

The pockets are connected to a rail system via a 'rolladapter', which features an RFID transponder. At the loading stations, staff move the goods over a scanning area and into a pocket; from this point on, the goods can be identified in the system at any time through RFID. The solution easily handles the performance peaks of SportScheck's seasonal business.

After being checked, returns are given top priority to leave the warehouse again. New goods and returns are loaded into the Pocket Sorter system in separate areas, with returns stored in a dynamic buffer to minimise the picking time. ■



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UKWA The Voice of The UK Logistics Industry

- Do you sell to 3pls?
- Do you want to raise your profile in this key sector?
- Do you want to meet senior decision makers regularly?
- Do you want to add to your company's market credibility?
- Do you want to be part of the UK's premier warehousing association?
- Do you want to join UKWA?

To find out more and benefit from professional impartial marketing insights please call Tony Kaminski 07508 975590 or Peter Ward 07971 320211 or HQ at 020 7636 8856