

DESCRIPTION OF THE QGUAR SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION

Place of implementation:

Ocięż, Nowe Skalmierzyce

Implemented system:

Qguar WMS Pro

Qguar YMS

Qguar Dashboard

Cooperation commencement date:

2008.

Warehouse operation mode:

The warehouse operates 24 hours per day /7 days per week, in the three-shift mode.



Company profile

The group of companies associated under the style of Com.40 Limited is a manufacturer of upholstered furniture, mattresses, beds and garden cushions. Its registered offices are located in Nowe Skalmierzyce in the Greater Poland region. It offers several dozen assortments of upholstered furniture that are available in several hundred variants. Apart from meeting the needs of individual clients, the furniture offered by the company is successfully used in numerous networks of cafes, clubs and restaurants, as well as in public facility buildings. The company has got its own points of sale, but it also supplies furniture to shops in many European countries. Among its biggest clients, one can count the Ikea Group. Com.40 constitutes the biggest consolidation point in Europe for the Group.

Business line characteristics/challenges

In the times of intensified competition, meticulous attention to the quality of offered services becomes one of the more important elements of company functioning. An advantage over competitors is gained by accurate selection of appropriate management methods and IT solutions tailored to support them. An analysis of market needs, adaptation of the product assortment to current trends in fashion and constant increase of the number of assortment on offer – all these factors generated the need for the company to introduce changes in the domain of logistics and warehouse management.

Selected solution

An improvement in the domain of warehousing logistics constituted an important part of the investment process, related to the extension of company buildings and modernization of the warehousing space in the plant in Nowe Skalmierzyce. It was impossible to implement a standard WMS solution, due to a great number of warehousing operations and specific warehousing requirements, involving mobile shelving racks and multi-stage transport of storage carriers. The company chose Qguar WMS Pro as a flexible and fully configurable tool to support logistic processes. Company development involved more work related to the support of deliveries from both external suppliers and from the production department. Therefore, Com.40 decided to implement the Qguar YMS system. The system took over control of logistic processes realized within the plant. It records all visits and controls their purpose, duration and course. Qguar YMS allows vehicles activity (entrance - exit) to be recorded and controlled. Thanks to the data contained in the system, the user may reconstruct the history of visits in the plant, as well as identify bottlenecks in the logistic process. Both the Qguar WMS system and Qguar YMS were integrated with the IFS – ERP system.



Benefits

Qguar WMS Pro was implemented in a modern high-bay warehouse that covers an enormous storage space and that supports a high number of warehousing operations on an assortment of products of known overall dimensions.

Implementation of the radio terminal technology in the company contributed to increased efficiency of the stock taking process in the warehouse, e.g. by liquidating the need to totally stop warehouse operation for that purpose. Thanks to mobile devices and solutions implemented in the system, the possibility of committing mistakes in the process of goods shipment to clients was reduced practically to nil. This investment resulted in elimination of superfluous works, not only those related to recording receptions (releases), but also those related to the support of this process.

As a result of cooperation between the Qguar WMS Pro system and warehouse automation solutions – e.g. the warehouse belt conveyor – it became possible to dynamically redirect goods to appropriate warehousing zones, depending on the current needs. It is an employee, who makes the final decision where to store goods or where to pick them from. This, in turn, contributed to more rational utilization of the warehousing space and to increased flow capacity of the warehouse.

Integration of the WMS system with warehouse automation solutions allowed bottlenecks to be eliminated and the operation of the pallet transport system to be optimized, which had a significant impact on the speed of goods distribution and allowed warehouse performance to be increased.

Moreover, thanks to Qguar WMS Pro, it became possible to create and generate for each operator reports that present meticulous statistics of work efficiency. This, in turn, allowed the warehouse operation to be planned and organized, on the one hand, and the efficiency of employees work to be monitored, on the other hand. Thanks to Qguar WMS Pro, it became possible to identify activities that resulted in waste of time, assess the related costs and to immediately introduce modifications aimed at eliminating such activities.

Qguar WMS Pro means not only higher efficiency of the supply chain processes, but also better control over profitability and smooth flow of processes. It allows the total cost of goods flow to be minimized, the time of operations to be reduced and the amount of goods kept in stock to be minimized, which is very important in the times of intensified competition. In Com.40, the Qguar Dashboard system was implemented to provide graphical representation of the course of processes and to provide information about potential disturbances of belt conveyor operation. This solution provided the company with access to diagrams that present – on a big monitor in the warehouse hall - the basic warehouse performance indicators, namely: belt conveyor loading, filling of the corresponding belt entrance and belt exit posts or filling of the belt exit loop with goods.

Every week, the enterprise supports thousands of lorries that transport furniture to shops and warehouses all over the continent. Qguar YMS made it easier for the company to plan time windows for vehicle loading and unloading, as well as to schedule vehicle support. It allowed the company to optimize the use of its resources and minimized unwanted accumulation of works.

The Qguar system, combined with dynamically operating logistics department, turns Com. 40 into an exceptionally efficient and punctual supplier. Thanks to the implementation of the Qguar WMS Pro system, the company acquired an invaluable tool that enhances all warehousing works, while Qguar YMS – by managing the plant environment – allowed the total cost of deliveries to be reduced. This, in turn, increased the efficiency of the enterprise and improved the quality of client support.