

DESCRIPTION OF THE QGUAR SYSTEM IMPLEMENTATION

Place of implementation:

Kalisz

Implemented system:

Qguar WMS Pro

Cooperation commencement date:

2009.

Warehouse operation mode:

The warehouse operates 5 days per week. Its operation time depends on the seasons and the number of released clothes collections.



Company profile

Big Star is one of the major companies in the clothes market and one of the jeans brands that is most frequently purchased by Poles. The company started to operate in Poland in the 1990s under a license. Its business activities comprised not only Poland, but also the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Belarus and Lithuania. As a result of gradual development of the sales network and of an increase of the Polish-owned share of the company's capital up to 100%, the company was taken over by Polish shareholders in 2007. The company's registered offices are located in Kalisz – the town that also houses its production plant that provides brand clothes to the Polish and the Eastern market.

At present, Big Star has got a network of several hundred shops in Poland and it consistently develops its sales networks in Germany, Slovakia, Hungary, Ukraine, Belarus and Lebanon, to name some of the countries of major interest.

Business line characteristics/challenges

Reaction to quickly changing trends in fashion is one of the most important challenges of the market, to be faced by clothes industry. To ensure a brand is successful, one has to be extremely attentive to constantly growing clients' requirements. Fashion collections must appear in shops at a strictly defined period and in perfect condition. To realize logistic tasks in the clothes line of trade, it is required to plan processes sufficiently in advance. Therefore, it is so important to effectively manage warehousing logistics.

Selected solution

Dynamic development and constantly growing demands of the market encouraged the company to look for a system that facilitates efficient and effective management of warehouse logistic processes.

Many factors contributed to the selection of Qguar WMS Pro. Among others, they included: the possibility of efficient data exchange with Impuls – ERP, the upper level host system that operates at the client's; integration with external software delivered by the UPS carrier company and the possibility of easy extension and customization of the system to meet individual needs of the client. When selecting the software supplier, the company also considered the availability of a qualified implementation team as well as experience in implementing WMS-class systems. Availability of training courses, constant technical support – including assistance after system start-up, guarantee and post-guarantee servicing – constitute additional elements that influenced the decision to establish cooperation with Quantum.

Benefits

According to the assumptions and expectations of the Big Star company, the implementation of Qguar WMS Pro was primarily aimed at increasing the efficiency of warehouse management, so that new collections could be shipped within pre-established terms. As the company had to cope with high numbers of products on offer as well as high numbers of required operations, the implementation organized its work and resources.

By means of Qguar WMS Pro, a warehouseman can find out where exactly a given product or a given batch of products can be found. Increased efficiency of warehousemen's work decidedly increased the quality and speed of picking goods for shipment. To carry out majority of their tasks, warehouse employees use portable radio terminals that allow them to immediately communicate with the system, download tasks to be performed and register completed operations. This allowed the company to efficiently plan and manage their work, as well as to acquire information about their productivity. The logistic costs were reduced thanks to more precise goods shipping operations and the corresponding absence of customer returns resulting from operators' errors.

Moreover, the Qguar WMS Pro system offers stock-taking scenarios that allow one to easily carry out stock-taking operations for a part of goods in stock, without totally blocking the flow of goods in the entire warehouse. System users have on-line access to information concerning warehouse inventory balances. Efficient management of resources allowed the company to minimize shortages in the warehouse and contributed to elimination of delays in new collection release.

Big Star brand products are picked and shipped according to their quality, model and size. Qguar WMS Pro supports goods allocation management and identifies optimum goods picking routes. Adequately defined picking paths reduced the time required to carry out warehousing tasks. This, in turn, translated directly into increased work efficiency and allowed the same task to be realized with fewer employees and less resources.

Upon the implementation of Qguar WMS Pro, the Big Star company observed an increase of efficiency in the entire distribution warehouse, while acquiring comprehensive information about warehouse operation.

