

Press release

AutoStore® system and expansion for BGS technic in Wermelskirchen

For more than 50 years, BGS technic KG has been offering an increasingly wide range of hand tools and special automotive tools for workshop and industrial use. Now customers can choose from over 9,000 premium quality tools available on-line at www.bgstechnic.com. The company required a new AutoStore® system for storing a variety of tools at its headquarters in Wermelskirchen, between Cologne and Wuppertal. HÖRMANN Intralogistics set up the original AutoStore® solution and received the order for its expansion in late 2022.

A custom solution

To perfectly tailor the AutoStore® warehouse to BGS technic's items, HÖRMANN Intralogistics conducted a comprehensive weight and dimensional analysis of the item master data. The system simulation using real data gave a picking rate of 11,250 items and about 880 storage operations per day.

Based on these results and considering the free height of the existing warehouse, HÖRMANN Intralogistics configured the BGS Technic AutoStore® system with 15 levels and implemented the extensive expansion:

		Initial configuration	Expansion	Entire system
Bins	13,100	11,460		24,560
Red-Line Robots		33	10	43
Carousel ports		6	2	8 (plus 2 Frames)

The single-double grid of 25.5 x 15.5 x 6.2 m (L x W x H) clad on three sides was extended to 55.3 x 15.5 x 6.2 m. Additional works included adjustments to the electrical wiring and rebuilding of a storage platform and two fire-fighting platforms.

The robots can travel in two directions on four pairs of wheels arranged diagonally, enabling them to reach every position on the grid. The AutoStore® Control assigns transport orders to the individual robots via WLAN. When order demand is low or their batteries are running low, the robots automatically drive themselves to one of the 24 charging stations.

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Integrated optimisation algorithms for system control

For picking operations, complete picking orders (task groups) with the individual picking stations (tasks) can be transferred to AutoStore®. With its integrated optimisation algorithms, AutoStore® ensures maximum order processing efficiency with lead times of around 30 minutes. Items that belong together are stored in the shipping boxes, and the boxes are printed with a barcode "matched" to the shipping order number.

If necessary, a second redundant AutoStore® controller is available as a cold standby system.

"From first contact through the planning process and up to the completed extension design, the HÖRMANN Intralogistics AutoStore team won me over with their expertise and personal commitment."

Mr. C. Schottke, Managing Director BGS technic

www.hoermann-intralogistics.com, April 2023

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