

Italian book wholesaler turns to automation with TGW Logistics

- **Messengerie Libri – the largest order in the history of TGW Italy**
- **Efficient order fulfillment and return handling in focus**
- **One of the most advanced intralogistics systems for books in Europe**

(Marchtrenk, December 4, 2023) TGW Logistics has constructed a highly automated fulfillment center for the Messengerie Libri book wholesaler in the northern Italian municipality of Stradella. The innovative solution has already celebrated its go-live and is one of the most advanced intralogistics systems for books in Europe. This plant allows Messengerie Libri not only to speed up its deliveries but also to improve its efficiency in processing orders and in return handling.

Messengerie Libri is the largest book distributor in Italy. The company was established in 1914 and delivers about 50 million titles to 4000 sales points such as book retailers and stationeries every year. Together with Ceva Logistics, a third-party specialist, Messengerie Libri has founded the C&M Book Logistics joint venture, which is in charge of the everyday operations of the distribution centre in Stradella. As part of a strategic partnership, the two companies will closely collaborate for the next twelve years.

"City of books" as a highly efficient shipping hub

Messengerie Libri has invested a total of more than 40 million euros in this plant, which measures 80,000 m² and is called the "city of books". A FlashPick®-System with a 14-aisle shuttle warehouse of about 330,000 storage positions is the centrepiece. Thanks to triple-deep storage and the option of stacking containers, the provided surface area can be used optimally.

Orders arrive at 32 ergonomic PickCenter One workstations. The functional areas of the plant are connected by eight kilometres of energy-efficient KingDrive® conveyor systems. The TGW Warehouse Software, which is linked to the customer's SAP ERP system, is in charge of the control system.

Flexible order fulfillment and return handling

Thanks to the PickCenter One workstations, Messaggerie Libri can switch easily between order processing and return handling – and achieve minimum error rates while maximising commissioning throughput. Fast-moving items are manually picked from pallets. All other items arrive at the PickCenter workstations. Orders are first consolidated in the shuttle buffer before robots automatically group them to pallets.

"Messaggerie Libri can optimise its order processing by means of this highly automated solution and benefits from faster delivery and increased efficiency", explains Matteo Righini, Managing Director of TGW Italy. "We are highly pleased to have gained the customer's trust and to have won them over in a highly competitive environment."

Press release



About TGW Logistics:

TGW Logistics is one of the leading international suppliers of material handling solutions. For 50 years, the Austrian specialist has implemented highly automated systems for customers, including brands from A as in Adidas to Z as in Zalando. As systems integrator, TGW Logistics plans, produces, implements and services complex logistics centres – from mechatronic products and robots to control systems and software.

TGW Logistics has subsidiaries in Europe, China and the US and more than 4,400 employees worldwide. In the 2022/23 business year, the company generated a total turnover of 955 million euros.

Pictures:

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