



MultiPick buffer storage adds flexibility to order picking

When products have a short selling time and distribution volumes are large, it requires automated order picking and often also smooth buffer storage between production and order picking. MultiPick is ideal for both tasks.

The distribution of fresh products, in dairies for example, often operates under extreme pressure, and in dispatch frequently there are product batches to be managed with several different expiry dates. Clarity of function and speeding up the supply chain play a key role as far as development is concerned. Cimcorp's MultiPick solutions are most often used in distribution centers for picking customer orders, but they are also ideally suited to the buffer storage of all kinds of dairy products, providing effective means to improve productivity.

Precision replenishment as required

MultiPick buffer storage is ideal for the distribution of all such fresh products, where items with several different expiry dates are to be managed.

Products are sent in plastic crates from production to the buffer storage by conveyor. Before the MultiPick picking position the crates are put into stacks, after which the robot takes the stacks to the storage places on the floor. In this way the robot can collect the product stacks from

the storage according to replenishment orders coming from the order picking areas and deliver them to the conveyor going to the order picking area.

Not all products need to travel via the buffer storage. Instead, they are guided by conveyor directly to the order picking sectors. The buffer storage is mostly required for low-volume products, which are not worth taking to the order picking area before it is known which order picking sector needs the product in question. Thus low-volume products can be kept waiting as long as possible in the buffer storage, avoiding unnecessary transfers between order picking areas. As for high-volume products, on the other hand, the final items of the production batches are kept in the buffer storage until there are orders for them in the order picking areas.

The material flow of the MultiPick buffer storage is controlled by Cimcorp's Warehouse Control System (WCS). WCS can also manage the entire material and data flow of the distribution center, so that the buffer storage is a part of this larger entity.

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