

ProStore® SUCCESS STORY

at Diesel Technic AG



Diesel Technic AG stores 25.000 articles at the German headquarters in Kirchdorf

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Warehouse management software offers safe and sustainable logistics

► The Diesel Technic AG from Kirchdorf (Germany) has raised the quality of the spare parts logistics for commercial vehicles to a new level. First, the existing central warehouse was reorganized and the new warehouse management system ProStore® from TEAM was implemented. In a second step, a new narrow-aisle high rack warehouse and a small parts warehouse were put into operation at the headquarters in Kirchdorf. By doubling their storage capacity and optimizing processes, the Diesel Technic AG is now well positioned to achieve further growth in the aftermarket for commercial vehicles.

SUCCESS STORY

ProStore® components

- Goods receipt
- Storage
- Quality assurance
- Re-positioning of stocks
- Warehouse management
- Material flow control
- Supply
- Radio based paperless order picking
- Paperless order picking with Pick by Voice
- Packing
- Shipping
- Production
- Stock taking
- Inventory management
- Information system
- Batch tracing
- Connection to Navision

- Connection of automated stock control
- Connection of scales
- Radio-based forklift control system
- Resource planning
- Control panel
- ProStore® – Logistics intelligence

Hardware and tools

- Windows server
- Oracle tools
- Oracle database
- Psion radio system
- Vocollect Pick by Voice terminals
- 200 users

Please contact us. We are looking forward to hearing from you.

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ORACLE Platinum Partner

TEAM

SUCCESS STORY

Commercial vehicles are in use all over the world – often under the toughest conditions. Therefore the durability and reliability of each component is essential. The global Diesel Technic Group meets these challenges by guaranteeing high-quality spare parts for commercial vehicles and assuring the optimal availability through sustainable logistics processes.

As one of the largest full-service providers in the independent aftermarket for commercial vehicles, the Diesel Technic AG supplies its distributors all over the world with more than 30,000 different spare parts from its own brand, DT® Spare Parts.

In more than 140 countries around the world, DT-distribution partners are supplied “just-in-time” with spare parts for trucks, trailers and buses.

Customer-oriented availability required

The DT® Spare Parts brand stands for

uncompromising high quality products and this maxim has become a guiding principle for more than 450 employees around the world. Consequently, the company which was founded in 1972, is heading in the right direction. 2011 was the most successful year in the company’s history. This was a result of a successful implementation of marketing strategy: “For years, we have been focusing on quality and the permanent expansion of the product portfolio. The DT® Spare Parts brand offers a unique full range of products for commercial vehicles to the aftermarket”, said Dr.-Ing. Vondran Steffen, CEO of Diesel Technic AG.

Currently, 25,000 different items are stored permanently in Kirchdorf. Up to 2009, goods receipt and order picking were controlled using vouchers. Facing the growing product assortment, this proved to be increasingly unproductive and risky. Ordering structures changed dramatically, e.g. the number of or-

ders increased while the quantities per item fell, causing supply bottlenecks to which the logistics processes could no longer respond flexibly enough.

Therefore, Diesel Technic AG decided to carry out an extensive reorganization of all storage structures and processes as well as expanding the storage capacity on the whole. Their objectives being to improve performance significantly while increasing the transparency and reliability of the processes at the same time.

Working hand in hand

When selecting the warehouse management system (WMS), many factors were taken into account. A standardized, highly flexible and multilingual software solution that could be integrated into the existing IT environment and linked to the overall ERP system was required.

DIESEL TECHNIC

TEAM

ProStore® SUCCESS STORY

at Diesel Technic AG



Pick-by-voice optimizes the order picking



View at the small parts warehouse



Integrated conveyor systems for smooth operations



Worldwide spare parts supply from our headquarters in Kirchdorf

Performance specifications were drawn up, tender procedures were carried out and suppliers were compared and in the end, Diesel Technic AG chose ProStore® and entrusted TEAM with the project implementation.

“Right from the beginning, TEAM demonstrated competency and created a strong partnership feeling”, emphasizes Dr.-Ing. Steffen Vondran. “The solution provides a standardized development environment and a flexible basis for an optimal adaptation of our processes.” Last but not least, a consistent value for money influenced the decision in favour of the software house in Paderborn.

In just three months, TEAM developed a very detailed performance specification of almost 400 pages. Six months later, the first in-house tests of the new system were already in progress while the employees were being trained at the same time.

The initial operation of the real system was launched after a 12 month development and deployment period. Just over two years later, the logistics center was extended through the integration of a new narrow-aisle high rack warehouse and a small parts warehouse.

Today ProStore® controls all of the processes in functional areas such as “Goods receipt / manufacturing”, “Commissioning / high rack warehouse”, “Commissioning / small parts warehouse” and “Packing / shipping”.

All-in-one solution for the entire supply chain

A core process within the spare parts logistics is the goods receipt (GR). In this two-stage process, incoming packages are received and labeled with a bar code.

Then, extensive quality checks are carried out. The packages are assigned to specific storage locations and arrive at the relevant working groups or work places.

Samples are taken from the regular storage and the sample inventory. They are then fed to the goods receipt processing area and are returned afterwards. The required transportation orders are automatically initiated and generated by ProStore®.

A special area is reserved for in-house production, where employees assemble special repair kits. The required components are supplied from the high rack warehouse (HRW) and the small parts warehouse (SPW) as well

as directly from the storage sites in GR processing. Here too, ProStore® controls the supply processes and the storage of the parts produced either in the HRW or SPW. The system always provides an overview of the entire work list. It also displays the most important job data including processing status and times.

Other ProStore® features enable the allocation of the assembled repair kits and also the remaining components to different loading devices (LD).

Subsequently all loading devices are allocated for the handover to the internal transport. ProStore® indicates the target storage location and the ProStore® module “forklift control system (FCS)” generates the route-optimized transport orders and displays them to the forklift driver at the RF terminal.

The FCS ensures the maximum utilization of the forklift capacity. Empty trips are eliminated and transportation can be reduced.

Parallel to this, the dynamic storing of the goods according to the ABC classification is supported through targeted strategies to ensure the best possible allocation in the high rack warehouse and the small parts warehouse.

Radio and voice-controlled order picking

The order picking is located in the storage zones. In the high rack warehouse, the paperless order picking is supported by forklift RF terminals. In the small parts warehouse, a flexible pick by voice solution is used. The use of the voice control system leads to an additional mobility of the staff and a higher pick performance.

After the orders are transferred from the ERP system, ProStore® automatically reserves the required inventory. The order release and the order processing sequence are determined at the same time. If there are several orders for one customer, the system combines them. Pick positions can be bundled to common picking lists and joined to collective packages.

Tour-oriented order pickings are usually made when the orders are to be delivered by carrier. In this process, the article positions of the different orders are combined to one picking position. When the picking order is released,

the full pallets are reserved first. Then, ProStore® tells the yet to pick residual amount to the picker by dialog. Here, integrated batch algorithms also ena-

ble multi order picking. In this case the WMS makes an optimized summary based on the not yet released picking orders. The system identifies as many tours as possible that include identical items. This method is also used to pick certain internal order types, e.g. pattern manufacturing or in-house production.

The order consolidation takes place in the packing area. At this point, ProStore® offers a list dialogue that gives an overview of the current status. The staff can choose between different sorting categories, such as by order sequence, status, etc. Finally, in the course of loading the packaged and labeled goods are scanned.

New era heralded

The improvements are very impressive: “By reducing the cycle times and working simultaneously we were able to increase the picking performance in the logistics centre by 30 percent and minimize the picking errors by 50 percent,” said Thomas Kapps, head of logistics and quality management.

Furthermore, transparency has been significantly increased and a base for a permanent optimization of the warehouse was established.

The ProStore® module “Logistics Intelligence” has also contributed to this in that it offers comprehensive capabilities to analyze business ratios and to derive strategic decisions. Changing processes can be mapped immediately with little effort. In addition, the increased flexibility also enables us to process express orders quickly and securely. Furthermore, reliable information on the current order status is available at any time.

“As part of the further expansion of our corporate headquarters, we have doubled the logistics capacities. ProStore® has mapped these extensions easily,” says CEO Dr.-Ing. Steffen Vondran.

Due to the multitenant design of the system, there is an option of a “roll-out” to other locations. Only minor individual configurations have to be made. The sustainable logistics enables the continued growth of the Diesel Technic Group.