

CASE STUDY



CALJAN BELTRACK WITH VACULEX PARCELIFT™ – MUSIK MEYER, GERMANY



»REDUCING THE NUMBER OF SICKDAYS THROUGH AN OPTIMAL WORK ENVIRONMENT«

A MANUAL JOB IS MADE EASIER

Unloading containers is a strenuous, manual job that can result in repetitive strain injuries and/or a high level of absence owing to sickness. MUSIK MEYER decided to reduce the risks involved, and indeed the cost of having a reduced workforce due to sickness, by providing the operators emptying containers with a lifting aid.

It is not just a question of economics, or being able to offer a quick delivery service to customers, MUSIK MEYER prides itself on providing safe, working conditions – the AAA rating they have been awarded is testimony to this fact.

SIMPLE, HIGH QUALITY, COMPLETE SOLUTION

Caljan Rite-Hite teamed up with Vaculex to provide a complete and simple solution. Parcels of various sizes and weights are removed from the container using Vaculex ParcelLift. This lifting device extends into the container as an integral part of the telescopic boom conveyor. Using a simple joystick to extend the conveyor, the operator positions the head precisely where it is needed and uses the lifting device to put parcels onto the belt. The belt transports the parcel along the conveyor and into the warehouse. Here a Vaculex TP100 (photo. on far right) is used to transfer the parcels to pallets, which are then moved away by a forklift.

THE FACTS AND PRELIMINARY RESULTS

On average, two 40 ft containers with some 500 - 600 units need to be emptied every day. The parcels weigh between 30 and 75 kg and measure somewhere around 800 x 210 x 650 mm. There can be as many as 15 stock numbers in each container.

MUSIK MEYER has already experienced improvements in absence statistics and expect these to fall still further. Using the same manpower, the time taken to empty a container has been reduced from 2½ - 3 hours to just 1 hour or perhaps 1 hour 15 minutes, depending on content.

The operators are happy with the equipment and training took just 1 hour. All in all a 24 month ROI is expected.



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Reinhard Estor, Head of Organisation Management

»I saw this equipment at the CeMat exhibition in Hannover in 2008 and was convinced that this complete solution was exactly what we needed to optimize our work environment.

Some elements in the company, unfortunately, saw this equipment as a threat with reductions in the workforce to follow. To maintain impartiality, I asked PIERAU Planung, a consulting company, to carry out an analysis. Test criteria were drawn up and the machine was installed on trial.

The results of the test left no doubt. Productivity levels were maintained, although the work was easier on the individual. Long-term we expect to see reductions in the number of sick days.

There was an added advantage too that we hadn't foreseen... the noise level decreased significantly. The combination of a stell bridge and forklift trucks that we used earlier was very noisy, which we didn't realise until the new equipment was installed.

I have no reservations about recommending Caljan Rite-Hite to other companies.«

MUSIK MEYER

Family-owned MUSIK MEYER has been the leading supplier of musical instruments and accessories in Europe for more than 60 years.

Approx. 200 well-trained employees, working in various European locations, work hard to market, sell and distribute the instruments to loyal and valued customers.

The company headquarter is located in Marburg, Germany. Warehousing, technical support, shipping and other administrative support functions are handled centrally by an efficient in-house logistics centre. The 100,000 sq.ft. computer-controlled central warehouse is one of the most advanced and specialized in the industry – with a controlled climate.

MUSIK MEYER has an average inventory of about 600,000 items. The modern Merchandise Management System and efficient Warehouse Organization enable MUSIK MEYER to ship orders within 48 hours. More than half of all orders can be processed and shipped on the day they are received.



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