

# A Rolling On Interroll success story from SPHERE Global

## A TURNKEY SOLUTION FOR SUSTAINED GROWTH

A leading office supply and order fulfilment company based in the UK and Ireland for B2B, B2C and E-commerce markets operates a centralised distribution network supplying over 24,000 products across three industry leading distribution centres. This network is complemented by local cross-dock sites and a fleet of vans enabling next day delivery to more than 50,000 customers.



### THE CHALLENGE

The company's recent growth into the E-commerce sector and direct business to customer (B2C) fulfilment affected the existing material flow and order structure, as a significantly higher percentage of smaller item orders needed to be processed. The requirements for its new material handling system were clear: To handle the picking volume increase, 112 individual customer orders per wave at a rate of 320 pieces per minute. To respond adequately to the new demands, the company needed an intelligent and future-proof material handling system that should allow them to reduce labour costs and inaccuracies, whilst increasing productivity and maximising overall warehouse efficiency.

### THE SOLUTION

SPHERE Global, a Northern Ireland based provider of complete material handling solutions, were selected as the primary contractor for this major project and took over responsibility for the design, engineering and installation of a highly flexible turnkey system. They sought to increase efficiency and reliability whilst offering thorough technical support throughout the project. SPHERE Global's experienced engineers advised on the most suitable solutions according to the customer's requirements based on product dimensions, weights and throughputs. In total four SPHERE High Speed Servo Sorters were installed, with 28 sort locations per sorter.



SPHERE Powered Roller conveyors used cutting-edge 24V DC technology from Interroll proving to be energy saving and highly efficient. Employing the hands-free SPHERE Pick to Voice warehouse system ensured employees safety, whilst accurately and quickly completing picking tasks. The new system allowed warehouse operatives to concentrate on the picking process without paperwork and keep both hands free to perform the pick. Productivity increased and costly errors were reduced. SPHERE software modules including AutoComm, AutoSort and AutoPick completed the project scope and thanks to their simplicity and user-friendliness, SPHERE's customer can now manage picking operations in less time while also removing the possibility of human error.



## IN A NUTSHELL

The company's sustained growth and rapid expansion into the E-commerce sector changed their existing material flow and brought additional requirements in terms of capacity and speed. Just as important as the investment justification was a smooth transition from the existing to the new system. A turnkey solution was needed and delivered by the team of SPHERE Global within the given timeframe. The new material handling system, including hardware and software, brought immediate benefits for the customer in terms of capacity increase and improved accuracy in picking operations.

## COMPANY DETAILS

### SPHERE Global

SPHERE Global was founded by Sean McNicholl in 2014. Along with their subsidiaries they have established themselves as one of the greatest and most prestigious providers of complete solutions to a wide range of industries including pharmacy, food and drink, fulfilment, postal, 3PL, logistics and general warehousing. SPHERE's Automation solutions cover a wide variety of purposes from conveyors to checkweighers, sortation to shipping and receiving systems to robotics. They create unique solutions to fully meet the needs of their clients in a unique and innovative way.

### SPHERE GLOBAL

is an official partner of the Rolling On Interroll program of the worldwide Interroll Group.



### Why did SPHERE Global choose Interroll?

Due to the importance and complexity of the project, SPHERE Global needed reliable project partners and suppliers to ensure the overall system would be delivered in time and according to the customer specifications. For the mission-critical conveying equipment, SPHERE Global chose Interroll as reliable partner with state-of-the-art products and used Interroll's 24V RollerDrive and corresponding control cards along with the compact, energy saving, Synchronous Drum Motors.