

# A Rolling On Interroll success story from Zenon Automation SAICT

## AUTOMATED ORDER PICKING OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS AT LION PHARMA SA

Zenon Automation SAICT, a company with extensive expertise in the design and implementation of robotic and automation solutions for the end-of-line, successfully completed a fully automated order picking and dispatch system for Lion Pharma, a company which specializes in the distribution of pharmaceutical products.

### THE CHALLENGE

Lion Pharma needed a fully automated system for the formation, invoicing, packing and dispatching of its orders. The project posed many challenges as Lion Pharma stores thousands of different products and distributes them to hundreds of costumers daily, at rates that can reach 10 orders per minute. The solution had to ensure high productivity, optimal use of available space and existing resources and seamless adaptation to the existing hybrid order-picking model, which combines automatic and semi-automatic stations.

### THE SOLUTION

Zenon offered a complete solution which completely satisfied the needs of Lion Pharma and which covers the following: Conveying, Handling, Labeling, Invoicing, Packaging, Sorting and Information control system.

For the collection of orders, plastic crates are used. At the start of the line, a specially designed destacker receives the empty crates in stacks, de-stacks them and feeds them to the order picking system. The unique barcode of each crate is then matched with the unique barcode of the order via the software supplied by CSA. The crates are forwarded to the various picking zones in accordance with the ERP system, via the extensive conveying and handling line built by ZENON.



At the picking zones, operators collect the items of each order and place them in the respective crate. During this process, operators use wireless ZEBRA terminals to scan both crates and products thus ensuring correct collection of order items and at the same time send picking confirmation to the ERP.

Following the labeling and invoicing procedures, an autonomous Cartesian system by ZENON places a plastic lid on the crates and forwards the crates to a strapping machine. Finally, the crates are forwarded and sorted into 16 individual dispatch exits before they are loaded to the vehicles that distribute them to pharmacies.

## IN A NUTSHELL

The implemented solution helped Lion Pharma achieve the following tangible benefits:

- Productivity increase / increased daily throughput
- Easy operation and error minimization
- Operational cost reduction
- Warehouse space & operation optimization
- Expandability due to modular design (e.g. extra zones)
- Quick and easy installation and start-up

## COMPANY DETAILS

### Zenon Automation SAICT

Since 1987, Zenon designs, constructs and supports integrated robotic and automation solutions for the end-of-line and logistics, providing case packing, palletizing, automated warehousing, handling and sorting solutions. Zenon is a member of the Theodorou Group of Companies and cooperates with leading global packaging equipment manufacturers. It has successfully completed more than 150 applications in Europe and the Middle East. Zenon's solutions deliver real value by combining technology innovations with reliability in the long-term.

### ZENON AUTOMATION SAICT

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



- **Conveying was of paramount importance in this project. Interroll key products, i.e. conveyor rollers and drives, thanks to their excellent construction quality and reliability, helped significantly in the completion of the project in terms of system development, assembly and installation.**

At the same time, the extensive range of products designed to meet varying needs and applications, enabled us to meet all different handling requirements. Overall, our partnership with Interroll enabled us to provide a solution that fully met the customer's needs, as it offered an extremely reliable, flexible and durable system with low maintenance needs.