

Interroll and Modumaq provide maximum versatility for Arvato Supply Chain Solutions' material handling in Spain

Sant'Antonino, Switzerland/Barcelona, Spain, June 18, 2020. Interroll and Modumaq, a partner of the Rolling On Interroll program, teamed up for an extension project to provide an optimal order classification system for Arvato Supply Chain Solutions in Spain's increasingly complex material handling processes.

Arvato needed an order classification system for business-to-business (B2B) transactions in a first phase, which has recently been extended for business-to-consumer (B2C) transactions. The system, which was installed in Alcalá de Henares, consists of two induction zones: one for the preparation of orders from the packing tables and the second for the feeding of cross-docking boxes.

"The proposed solution had to have the necessary versatility to be able to feed the system from several packing tables, while at the same time being able to receive boxes directly from a cross-docking entrance," says Alfonso Flores, General Manager of Modumaq.

Both inductions can work simultaneously and converge to a transport collector that aligns all the boxes for a correct reading and weight control. The weight control compares the data obtained in real time with the theoretical weight indicated by the customer's warehouse management system (WMS), automatically diverting all boxes that are not within a preset range to a quality control area where the boxes accumulate. Here, the operator will check the boxes one by one and will forward them again to the collector if the content is the desired one.

Maximum variety of goods can be transported

The boxes that are confirmed as correct will then pass to a sorting area, where they will be read again and automatically distributed to various routes leading up to a sorter system. The design of the ramps takes into consideration that the product is very fragile and that variation in weight is quite high, being able to receive boxes from just 200 grams for B2C shipments and up to 25 kilograms for B2B shipments. A superior conveyor has also been added for the recirculation and provision of empty boxes to be used for B2C, so that the personnel on the packing tables always have a buffer of boxes close to each of the workstations.

Interroll's Modular Conveyor platform (MCP) has been chosen as the main conveyor system, which is completed by ramps designed and manufactured by Modumaq solely with Interroll material. The control system is from Siemens and the reading system from Datalogic, and a communications interface has been developed between the Modumaq system and Arvato's warehouse management system by means of a protocol for exchanging data in real time.

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"Handling fragile products safely was a top priority, so Modumaq's design department took this into account in both the loading areas and the sorter exit ramps," says Alfonso Flores. "We based our design on Interroll's modular MCP platform, as this will enable us to install new elements on the line without having to carry out major modifications and stop the process."

Modularity ensures installation of new systems without interruption of operating procedures

The great advantage of the MCP system is its modularity: Since the system was installed years after the sorter, Modumaq's installation teams were able to extend the packing and dispatch areas in record time without impacting or interrupting Arvato's operations.

"We were faced with the challenge of rising complexity in the preparation, classification, and daily distribution of orders for an important international cosmetics company. The installation carried out by Modumaq perfectly meets our expectations, covering the needs required by the customer, such as handling a high variation of goods, high performance and great flexibility." says Laura Alaman, responsible for Project Management and General Services at Arvato Supply Chain Solutions in Spain.

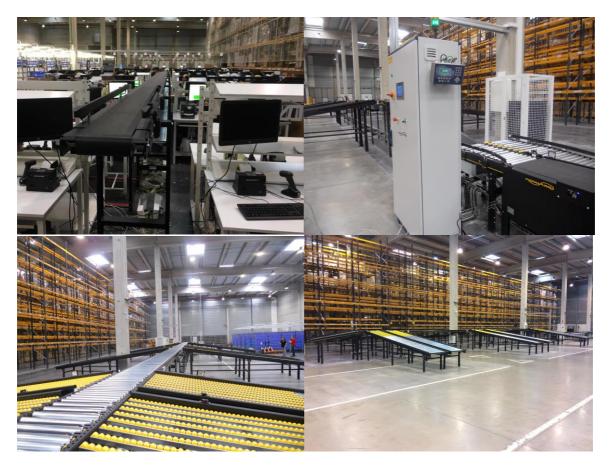
Tel.: +41 (0) 91 850 25 25

Fax: +41 (0) 91 850 25 05

info@interroll.com

interroll.com





Captions:

Top left: Belt conveyor for trays - B2C

Top right: Control cabinet, dynamic weight controller and quality control

Bottom left: classification ramps (Chutes).

Bottom right: classification ramps (Chutes).



Contact:

Martin Regnet
Interroll (Schweiz) AG
Global PR Manager
Via Gorelle 3 | 6592 Sant'Antonino | Switzerland
media@interroll.com
www.interroll.com

About Modumag

Modumaq is a group of technology companies that occupies a privileged position in the global logistics landscape, and that continues to maintain the DNA with which the first company was created, being the close and accessible alternative to the automation problems of large companies. Since 2016, Modumaq is a partner of the Rolling on Interroll program.

About Arvato

Arvato is an internationally active services company that develops and implements innovative solutions for business customers from around the world. These include SCM solutions, financial services and IT services, which are continuously developed with a focus on innovations in automation and data/analytics. Globally renowned companies from a wide variety of industries – from telecommunications providers and energy providers to banks and insurance companies, e-commerce, IT and Internet providers – rely on Arvato's portfolio of solutions. Arvato is wholly owned by Bertelsmann. The services business also includes the Majorel group of companies, in which Bertelsmann owns 50 percent of shares.

About Interroll

The Interroll Group is the leading global provider of material flow solutions. The company was founded in 1959 and has been listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange since 1997. Interroll supplies system integrators and plant manufacturers with a wide range of platform-based products and services in the following categories: "Rollers" (conveyor rollers), "Drives" (motors and drives for conveyor systems), "Conveyors & Sorters" and "Pallet & Carton Flow" (flow storage systems). Solutions from Interroll are used in express and postal services, in e-commerce, in airports, in the food and beverage, fashion and automotive sectors, and in many other industries. The company is used by leading brands such as Amazon, Bosch, Coca-Cola, DHL, Nestlé, Procter & Gamble, Siemens, Walmart and Zalando. With its headquarters in Switzerland, Interroll has a global network of 32 companies with a turnover of CHF 559.7 million and 2,400 employees (2019).