tech

GAVIN MATERIALS HANDLING

turnkey solutions

An investment for future growth



by Charlotte Murdoch

The company, a leading overnight parcel carrier, has an automated parcel sortation hub accommodating up to 400 trunk movements per night.

The existing automated sort system had a capacity to sort 20,000 parcels per hour. The company required an additional small parcel and courier pack sort system to be installed above the existing parcel sorter, to provide additional sort capacity and to support business growth.

The need for high-speed sortation

Gavin Materials Handling (GMH Ltd), based in Swansea, Wales, offers a range of bespoke material handling solutions. GMH Ltd was awarded the contract to supply a parcel sortation system which incorporated sorting and conveying technology. The system is composed of two horizontal Interroll Crossbelt Sorters, each with 56 sort destination chutes allocated to different depots around the UK and Ireland.

For exception handling, GMH Ltd installed chutes for "No Read", "Non allocated" and "Dump." Each sorter has 228 carriers and runs at a speed 1.4 m/s, capable of achieving a throughput in excess of 10,000 items per hour per sorter.

Each sorter has two barcode reading arrays which scan the label on each pack or parcel. Once the destination depot of the pack or parcel has been determined, the programmable logic control (PLC) system tracks the parcel to the appropriate destination chute.

Immediate capacity increase

Based on its customer's specific requirements, GMH Ltd installed a turnkey sortation solution directly above the current system at the customer's site to avoid any disruption to production. GMH Ltd completed the project ahead of schedule and according to customer specifications. The investment in the new system brought GMH Ltd's customer an immediate increase in capacity. Dermot Gavin, Managing Director of GMH Ltd. concludes: "The timescale of the project was critical, so we needed a trusted partner to ensure the system could be delivered on time and without disruption to the current operation. Interroll's product quality and reliability were critical for our success in this challenging project."

