



Press Release

Fiorano (MO), May 2015

The MOPS system has arrived: mixed pallets and automated picking. System Logistics' response to the multifaceted preferences of consumers

Milan, 18 May 2015 - Changes in consumer preferences has led to the **constant growth in new products and packaging**, with the resulting **proliferation of SKUs** within the supply chain. **Pallets with mixed products or mixed SKUs** have become the norm in the food industry, where products of all shapes, weights and degree of crushability need to be safely transported from distribution centres to retailers. However, these same characteristics can also be found in other industrial sectors, including large retailers and the so-called CPG sector (Consumer Packaged Goods). The response to this complexity comes from **System Logistics**, which **will present the MOPS (Modular Order Picking System) system at Ipack Ima 2015. This system has a high degree of automation which can create mixed pallets and simplify shipment complexity.**

The System Logistics solution is already operating in 7 facilities around the world: 3 MOPS systems for a global brand synonymous with soft drinks, and 4 MOPS systems within the facilities of a leading beer producer. The **characteristics which make the MOPS system stand out from other solutions on the market are flexibility and independence from the sales order ("packages by row")**, because it handles the individual item. Its ability to handle packages without support trays means that it can manage a very large range of different products: this means more than 95% of products managed within large-scale retail. The number of items that can be managed through the MOPS system is very variable: from just a few hundred to a few thousand, and can be used in product warehouses at room temperature ("dried"), food and non-food, for fresh products (meat, dairy, fruit and vegetables), and frozen products.

"The food industry has been called on to make a leap in quality and notable modernization to its processes. On the one hand, this is happening through the drive of the retail giants who require the containment of supply chain costs and times; on the other hand, there is pressure from the end-consumer who is becoming increasingly demanding in terms of food freshness and safety, respect for the environment, etc.," explained Luigi Panzetti, the CEO of System Logistics. "In this context, storage and picking system automation plays a fundamental role in ensuring an overall





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improvement in efficiency across the entire value chain of the food industry and, as a result, the pursuit of long term, sustainable profitability," concluded Panzetti.

HOW MOPS WORKS

The MOPS system starts from the initial loading unit, i.e. the pallet, and separates the item using an automatic depalletizer. Next, the loading unit is directed to the dedicated storage system. At this point, the Best Fit software receives the orders and determines the optimum composition of the client pallet (mixed).

The items on the mixed pallet are then extracted from the warehouse by the miniload system, directed to Synchron, which creates the sequence requested by the Best Fit software, and directs them to the automatic palletizer. In this respect, System Logistics has developed a gripping system, adapted from the very precise beverage industry, which enables construction of even very complex pallets.

THE SOFTWARE

The software underlying the MOPS system was developed entirely in-house by System Logistics: Best Fit®.

At the core is a powerful 3D visualizer, which gives users the possibility of viewing each assembled pallet using wireframes or solids. These views enable the user to access information on orders, status, exceptions and configuration parameters used for robotized pallet assembly.

The Best Fit® software is based on a unique approach consisting of the use of an iterative algorithm for the optimization of the solution for each pallet.

SYSTEM LOGISTICS COMPANY PROFILE

System Logistics is a global supplier which, from a leading position in Italy, expanded its range to Europe, the Americas, the Middle East and Asia, optimizing the warehouse supply chain, distribution centres and manufacturing facilities across the world. System Logistics develops tailor-made automation solutions for storage and picking systems, made up of stacker cranes, miniload systems, handling systems, software and services. Among System Logistics' clients are leading global brands in the food and beverage industry.



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