

Media Release

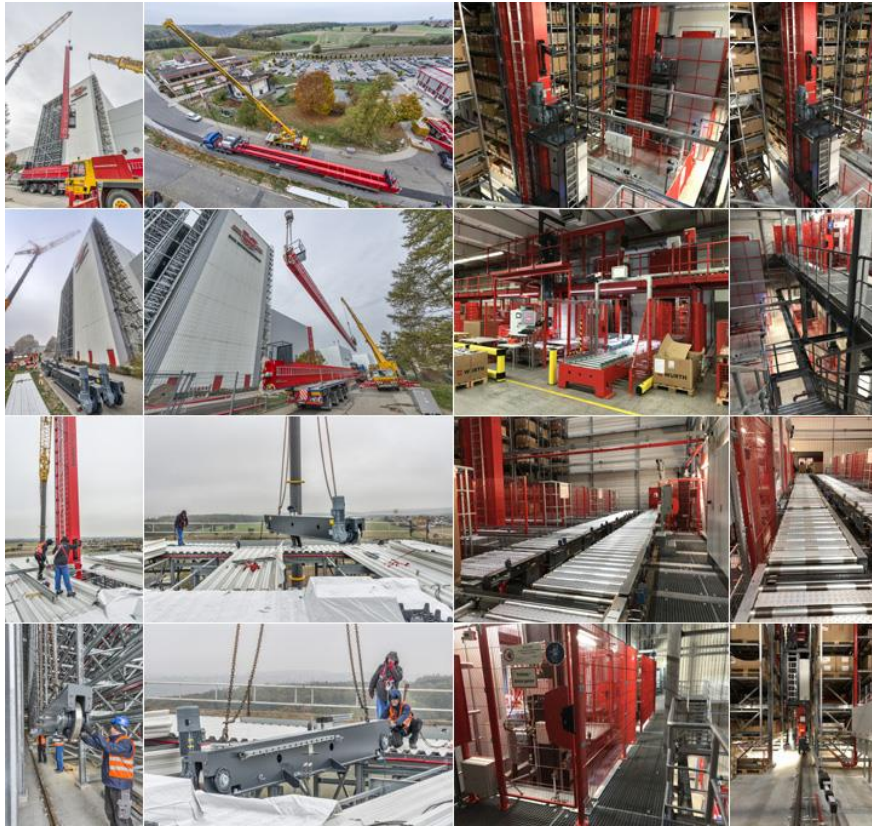


Image caption: Kardex Mlog built, delivered, and installed four MSingle B 1200 storage and retrieval machines (SRMs) with aisle equipment and automatic control for Adolf Würth GmbH & Co. KG. They integrated the SRMs across three floors in Würth’s existing plant.

Kardex Mlog / Expansion during ongoing operations

Time to expand

*Neuenstadt, 25.05.2021 - On behalf of Adolf Würth GmbH & Co. KG, Kardex Mlog expanded the existing three-aisle fully automated high-bay warehouse at their Northern Distribution Center in Künzelsau-Gaisbach, Germany. The expansion included adding four aisles with 12,000 additional pallet storage spaces. It was carried out during ongoing operations and completed in only five months. The project had an investment of 7.1 million euros.*

Each customer gets their own Würth: Under this guiding principle, Adolf Würth GmbH & Co. KG offers specially tailored sales and logistics solutions ensuring small-business craftsmen can concentrate on their work as much as globally active industrial companies. To achieve this goal, Würth relies on a modular logistics solution for multi-channel sales, a solution that has proven excellent results and won Germany’s Logistics Prize in 2009.

## Long-term strategy

As the result of a successful growth strategy, Würth's company headquarters in Künzelsau-Gaisbach have undergone several expansions throughout the years. In 2018, their three-aisle automatic high-bay warehouse located at the Northern Distribution Center had reached its capacity. Würth's rapidly growing product range had led to maximum utilization of the existing facility, and required more than double the capacity - approximately 12,000 additional pallet spaces. The building required for this purpose was erected by Würth directly next to the existing high-bay warehouse. The expansion was the result of a long-term strategic orientation by Adolf Würth GmbH & Co. KG. The space had been earmarked since 1995 when the Northern Mail Order Center was built.

The company was looking for an experienced supplier for the technical infrastructure of the approximately 1,360 square meter area who could guarantee the expansion of the warehouse during ongoing operations. The tender was won by Kardex Mlog, whom had already built their existing high-bay warehouse and had been one of Würth's suppliers for over 30 years. Würth selected Kardex Mlog for their excellent price-performance ratio, high investment security, and the close proximity to Kardex Mlog's production site in Neuenstadt, only 40 kilometers away.

## Integrated on three floors

Kardex Mlog built, supplied, and installed four MSingle B 1200 storage and retrieval machines (SRMs) with aisle equipment and automatic control, which were integrated into the existing system on three floors. The single-column SRMs were brought into the warehouse via a roof opening on October 23, 2018. The units have an operator's platform, are 35.5 meters high, and designed for a payload of up to 2.4 tons. With a travel speed of up to 180 meters per minute and a lifting speed of up to 70 meters per minute, they can move quickly within the 70-meter-long aisles.

The SRMs are controlled via the MLOG Control Center - MCC for short - programmed by Kardex Mlog. At Würth, it is connected to the existing SAP EWM warehouse management system. Via the system visualization (MVisu) as an integral module of the MCC, all automatic conveyor systems and storage and retrieval machines as well as their operating states can be displayed graphically. The visualization enables interactive handling of the material flow system - from context-related bin data editing to information in the event of a system malfunction. The visualization system is connected to the automation devices of the control systems via a standardized interface, so that there is a permanent data exchange between the systems.

## Smooth operations

The plant visualization system was integrated into the existing plant as part of the new construction without disrupting ongoing operations. The same applied to the mechanical and electrical connection of the two systems. The scope of supply also included the entire conveyor technology, consisting of continuous conveyors, vertical and corner transfer units, and turntables. In addition, Kardex Mlog was responsible for the procurement of strappers and several fire and machine protection gates. Lastly, the old plant's safety technology was adapted to the latest state of the art technology during the course of the project.

To ensure a smooth process and close coordination with Würth, the Kardex Mlog project team was permanently on site throughout the project. This commitment paid off: On November 12, 2018, after almost five months, Kardex Mlog handed over the new high-bay warehouse to Würth on time. Since then, the logistics of the giant for assembly and fastening materials is once again significantly faster and more efficient. "Through this expansion, we are further improving the service for our customers, as it is now possible to access additional products during order picking that were not previously housed in Gaisbach," explains Project Manager Roland Schneider, who is responsible for operating technology at the site. In addition, this expansion will cover the growth of the next few years and create the necessary reserve capacity.

Now, the Gaisbach site has a total storage capacity of 38,990 pallets in fully automated storage areas and another 63,010 pallets in manual areas. If these 102,000 pallets were placed one behind the other, this would correspond to a distance of 122 kilometers.

## Background: Adolf Würth GmbH & Co. KG

Adolf Würth GmbH & Co. KG specializes in assembly and fastening materials and offers a range of more than 125,000 products. These include screws, screw accessories, dowels, chemical-technical products, furniture and construction fittings, tools, stocking and removal systems, and solutions for occupational safety. In Germany alone, more than 650,000 customers from the trades, construction and industry are supplied with these products - worldwide, there are already 3.9 million customers in 80 countries. Würth supplies workshops, complete construction sites, industrial companies, automotive businesses, construction professionals, farmers, engineers and architects, carpenters, plumbers and painters. Würth employs over 7,400 people and generated sales of EUR 2.21 billion in the 2020 fiscal year. Further information at <https://eshop.wurth.co.uk/en>.

## For more information, see:

[www.kardex.com](http://www.kardex.com)

## About Kardex Mlog

**Kardex Mlog** ([www.kardex.com](http://www.kardex.com)), located in Neuenstadt am Kocher, Germany, is one of the leading suppliers of integrated material handling systems and high-bay warehouses.

The company has more than 50 years of experience in the planning, implementation and maintenance of fully automated logistics solutions. The three divisions: Greenfield Installation, Modernization and Life Cycle Service are based at the company's own production center in Neuenstadt. Kardex Mlog is part of the Kardex Group and employs 300 people - revenues for 2019 were 79 million euros. For additional information about the Kardex Group, visit [www.kardex.com](http://www.kardex.com)

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