

Case study: Trumpler

Simplicity and productivity in Trumpler's automated warehouse

Location: Spain



Mecalux has built an automated warehouse for the chemical company Trumpler, consisting of two double aisles with double-depth racks on both sides. Two single-mask stacker cranes with telescopic forks are in charge of introducing and removing the goods from their corresponding locations. This facility, located in Barcelona, has a 2,512 pallet capacity and the entire operation is supervised by the warehouse management software, the Mecalux Easy WMS.

About Trumpler

Trumpler is a multinational company that focuses on the manufacture of chemicals for all leather making processes. It was founded in 1975 in Barcelona and in the 80s began expanding internationally. Currently, it is present in most of the world, with offices in Mexico, Brazil, China, Germany and Italy.

The company is especially aware of impact its business activities has on the environment. For this reason, it offers products and solutions with a low carbon footprint and more than 40% of the raw materials it works with come from renewable sources. They are resolute to continue on with responsible business practices.

Needs and the solution

The company did not have enough room to store the more than 500 SKUs in its Barcelona production centre. Faced with this situation, it required a high capacity warehouse, which would ensure a continuous flow of products with greater flexibility and at an affordable cost.

After an in-depth analysis of the specifications and needs of the company, Mecalux proposed the construction of an 840 m² automated warehouse inside the Trumpler building. The site was

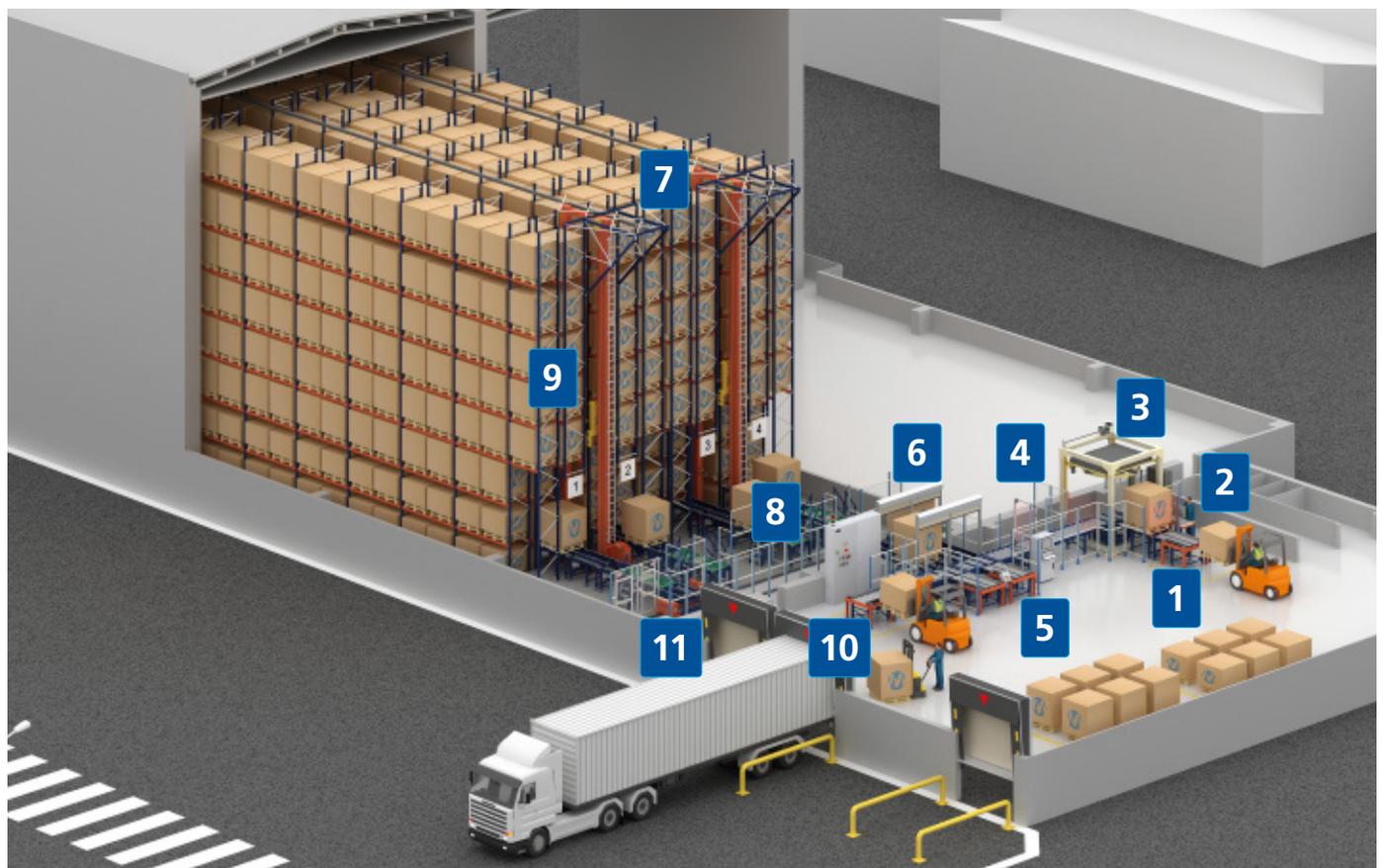


designed based on the dimensions of the automated warehouse to make full use of the available space, i.e., the racks were designed first and then the building was constructed. Thus, Trumpler obtained a 2,512 pallet storage capacity for raw materials and finished products.

This new warehouse stands out for its simplicity and efficiency. The inputs and outputs of goods are carried out automatically through a circuit of chain and roller conveyors, in addition to a transfer car. There is no need for human intervention hence

avoiding logistical errors. The warehouse layout is as follows:

1. Entry point
2. Pallet dispenser
3. Stretch wrapping machine
4. Checkpoint
5. Rejected pallet exit point
6. Access doors
7. Warehouse
8. Transfer car
9. Stacker crane
10. Exit doors
11. Dispatch docks



Warehouse entrance

At the front of the warehouse, inputs and outputs of the goods take places separately to avoid interference.

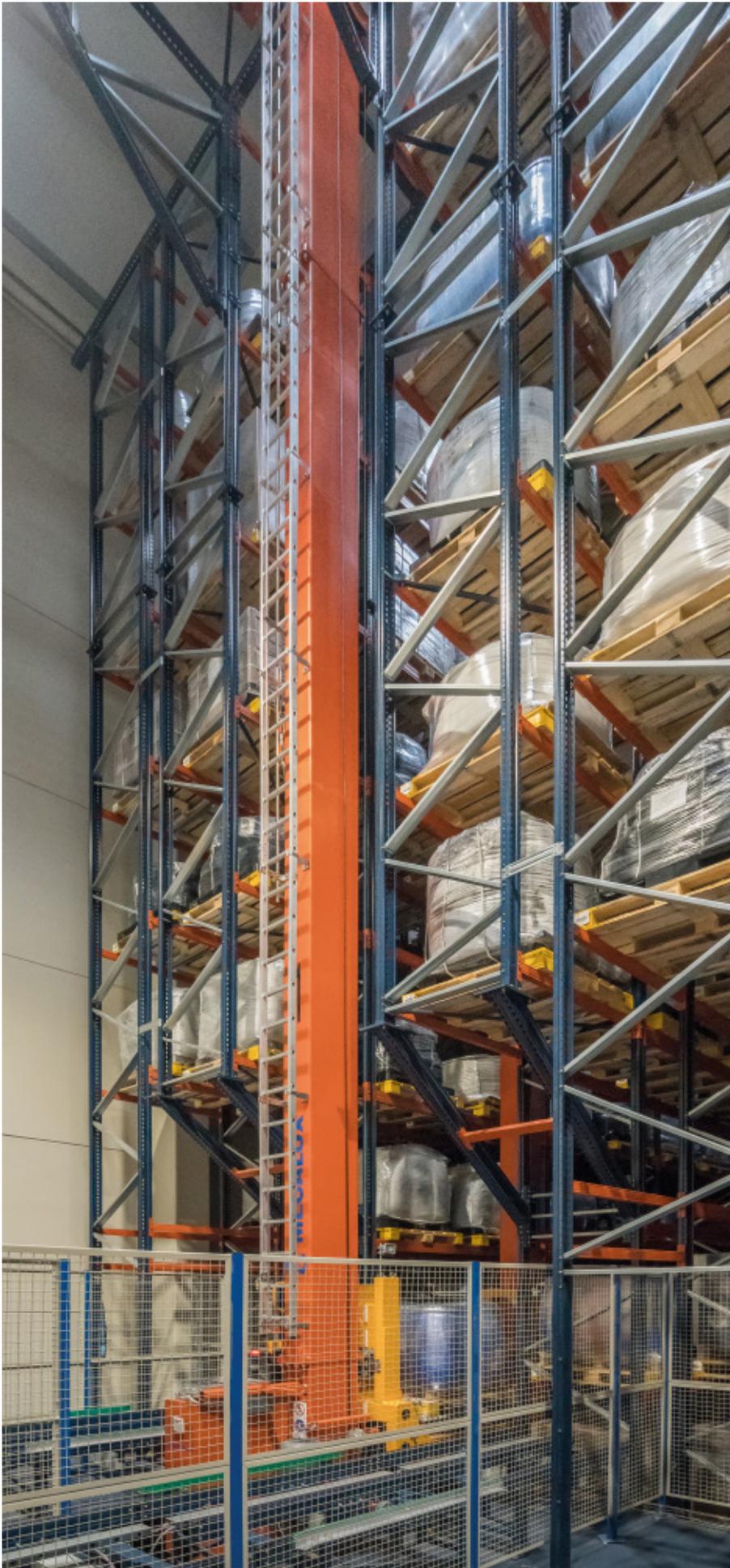
Before introducing the goods from the production centre, there are three different processes performed to ensure that the pallets are in good condition and meet requirements.

This centre operates with 1,200 x 1,200 mm slaves pallets. Thus, unit loads can be placed on pallets of different qualities, strengths and sizes. Once products are placed on slave pallets, a stretch wrapper is responsible for grouping and protecting them in order to ensure load stability.



The pallets must pass a checkpoint where the weight, size and condition of the goods are verified





The transfer car

Once inside the warehouse, a transfer car moves the pallets to the storage aisle assigned by the Easy WMS management system by Mecalux. These machines move along rails, connecting the input conveyor and the aisles swiftly.

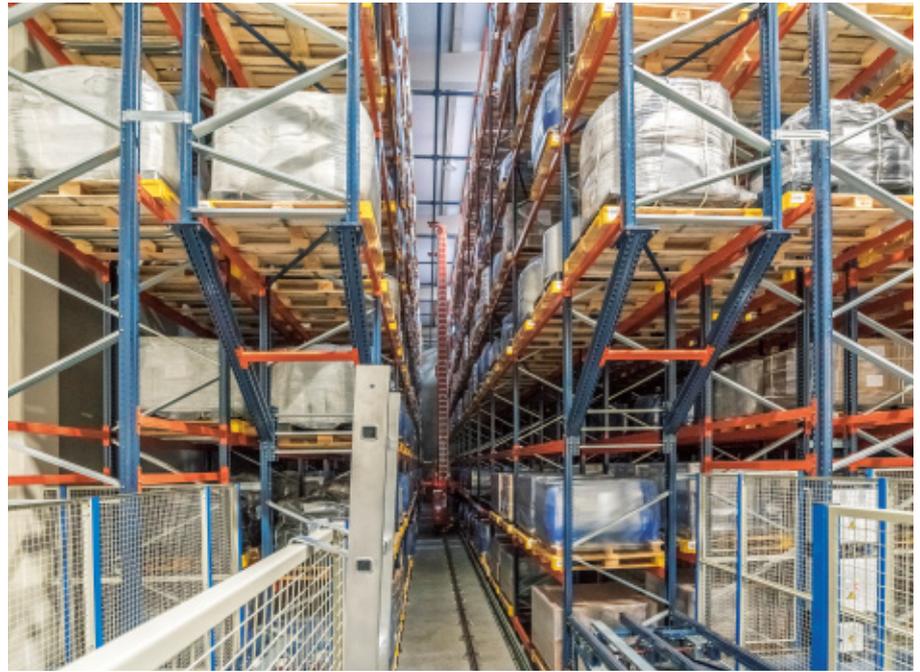


At the ends of each aisle, there is a chain conveyor on which the pallets are deposited. Stacker cranes collect the goods directly from the conveyor to place them in the appropriate rack locations.

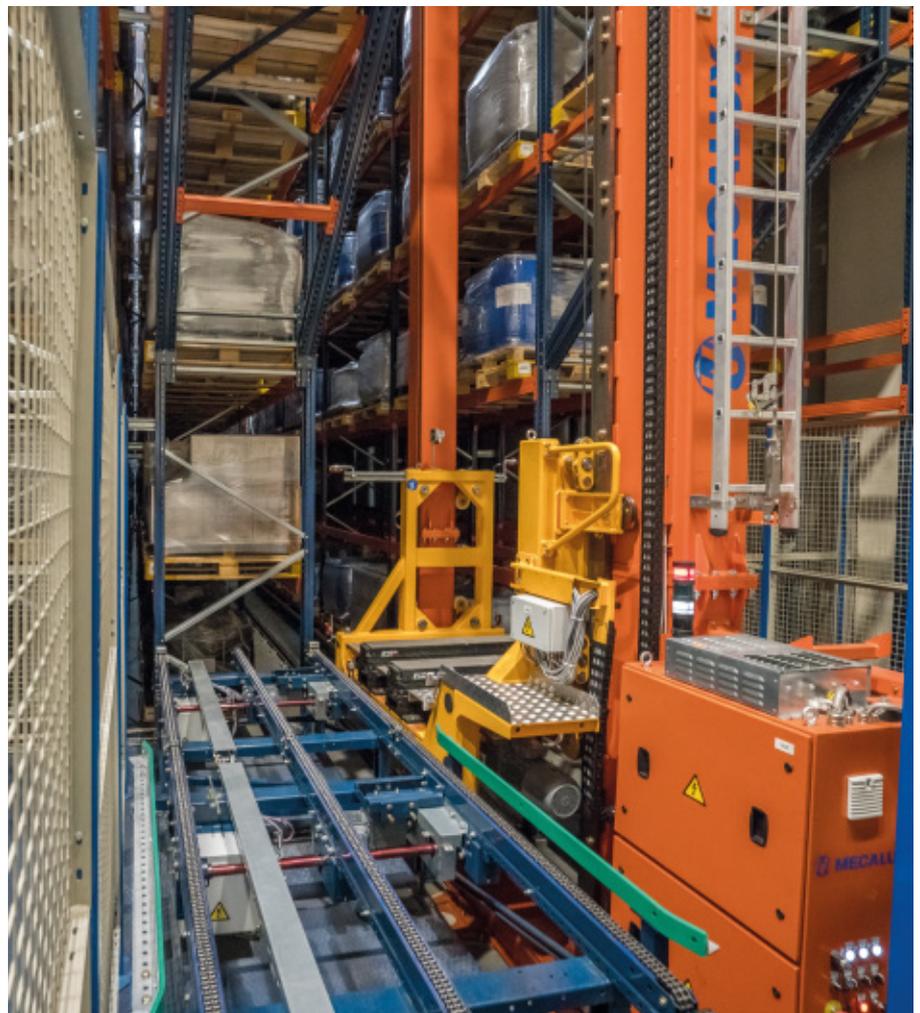
Pallet storage aisles

The warehouse is composed of two aisles with double-deep racks on both sides that measure 38 m long and 15 m high. In this storage system, two pallets of the same SKU (one behind another) are introduced on the same side of the aisle.

Two single-mast stacker cranes, one in each aisle, move pallets between the racking locations and the input and output conveyors. They move at a travel speed of 120 m/min and 38 m/min raised, enabling 50 combined cycles/hour (50 input and 50 output pallets).



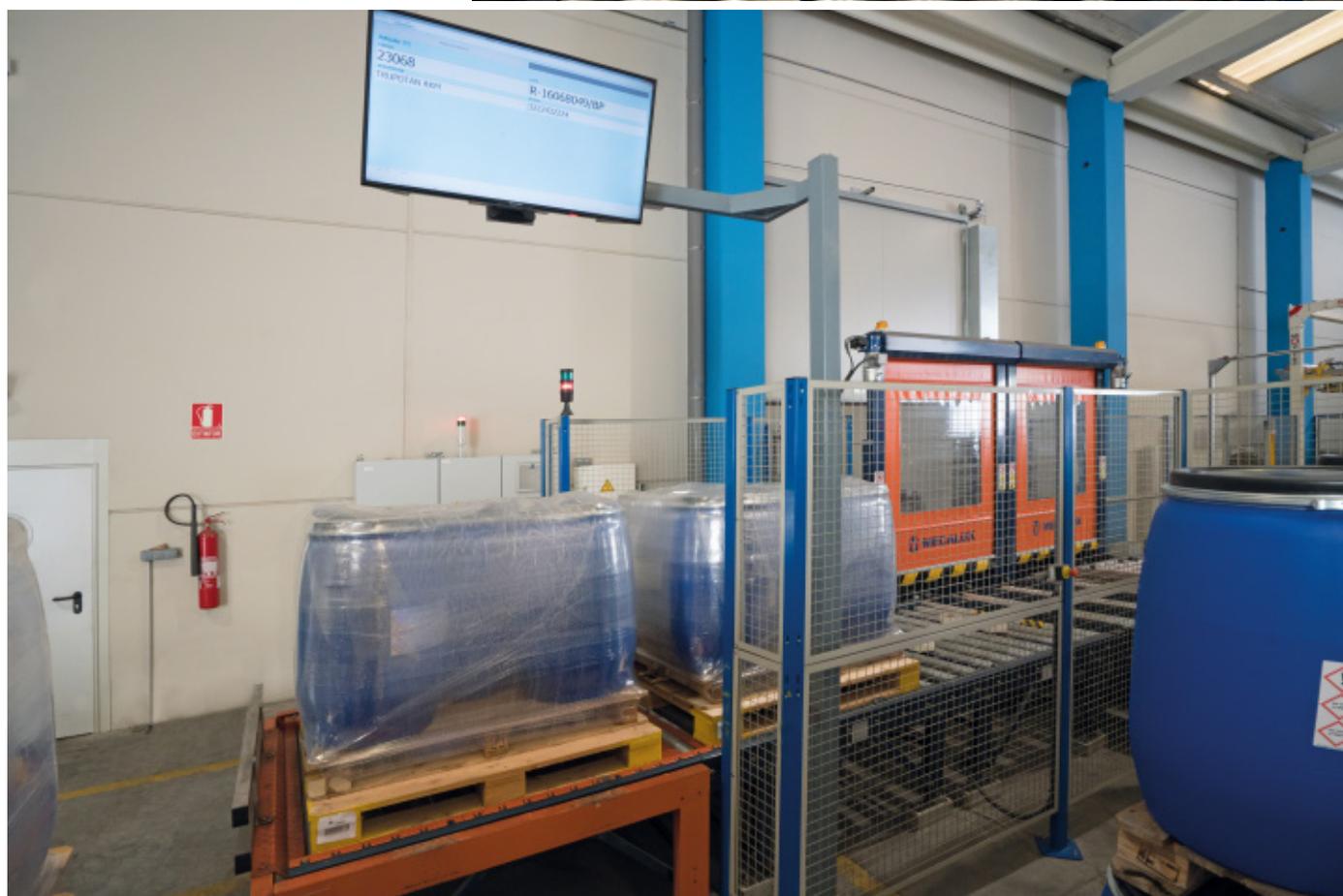
Stacker cranes have double-depth telescopic forks that help to deposit and extract loads from secondary locations on the racks



The goods leaving the warehouse repeat the same operation as when they enter, but in reverse. The transfer car collects the pallets directly from the conveyor at the end of each aisle and moves them to the exit.

At the exit point, a monitor provides useful information for operators, such as the order corresponding to the pallet, the characteristics of each order or what docks are assigned the loads.

Personnel, using counterbalanced forklifts, remove the pallets from the output conveyors and fed them directly into the transport vehicle.



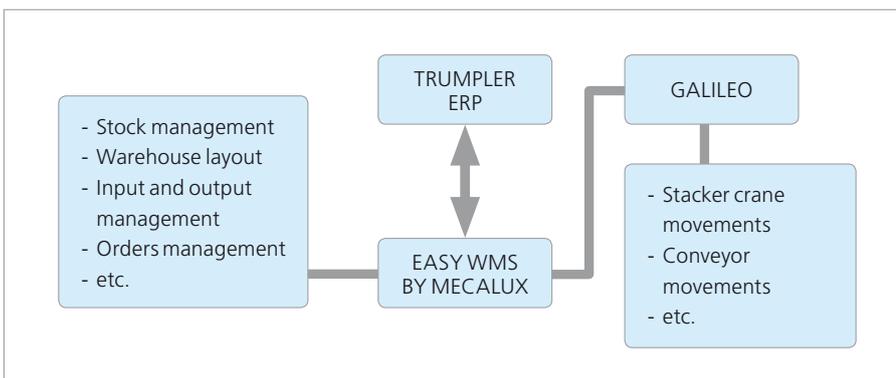
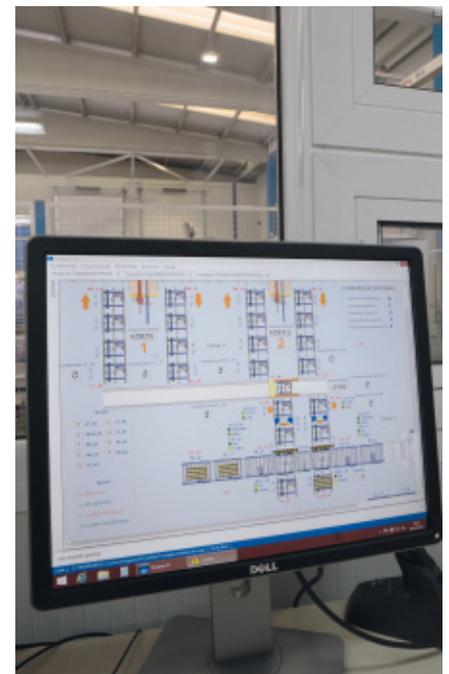


Because the warehouse is completely automated, the Galileo control module was also implemented, responsible for all the devices in motion and their movements

An intelligent WMS

The installation is also furnished with the Easy WMS warehouse management software by Mecalux. It is the brain of the warehouse, whose mission is to direct all internal operations (including the receipt, storage and dispatch of products). This WMS is very versatile and can meticulously

control stock levels, knowing at all times the location and status of the goods. The Easy WMS by Mecalux is in constant two-way communication with the Trumpler ERP. Both programmes transfer data and critical information to achieve maximum profitability and warehouse operational throughput.





Advantages for Trumpler

- **Small space, top capacity:** in just 840 m², the company achieves a storage capacity for 2,512 pallets of raw materials and finished products.
- **Boosted productivity:** simplicity in warehouse organisation and operations ensures high throughput and agility in the run times of all processes.
- **Efficient management:** the warehouse is directed and organised using the Easy WMS by Mecalux and the Galileo control software.



Technical data

Storage capacity	2,512 pallets
Pallet sizes	1,200 x 1,200 mm
Racking height	15 m
Racking length	38 m
No. of aisles	2

