

SCHNELLECKE AND UBIMAX WIN AUTOMOTIVE LOGISTICS AWARD 2018

Production process significantly optimized.



Wolfsburg, 25.06.2018 The automotive logistics company Schnellecke, together with Ubimax, the specialist for wearable computing and augmented reality solutions, has won the Automotive Logistics Award Europe 2018 in the category Cooperation. With their jointly developed X-Pick solution, Schnellecke and Ubimax have improved logistics in the areas of performance, costs and efficiency and thus convinced the jury of 24 experts from the European automotive logistics industry.

Open for innovative technology solutions

At Schnellecke's Wolfsburg plant, the focus is on module assembly and delivery to Volkswagen's production lines. Due to JIT and JIS delivery, the processes are highly dependent on optimized and error-free process steps. In the past, conventional individual order picking with hand scanners was prone to errors and led to delays within the tightly meshed assembly processes.

Open to innovative technology solutions, both the speed and quality of order picking and sequencing processes for the mold ceiling should be improved by increasing process speed and reducing the error rate to ensure seamless delivery to the customer.

The ergonomic factor was also in focus and had to be taken into account. Employees need both hands to handle the often heavy and bulky vehicle components. The optimal solution should therefore be hands-free.

Within three months Schnellecke and Ubimax developed and implemented the hands-free picking solution xPick with the xBand and the Pick-by-Vision solution with Google Glass for mould ceiling production. Several process steps and call-offs were combined, digitized, automated and bundled into a new type of multi-order picking for final assembly. Using a bidirectional and universal interface between xPick and the Schnellecke JIT system, xPick was fully integrated into the IT process landscape of the Schnellecke infrastructure.

Digitisation on the shop floor

The Glass Enterprise Edition with intuitive graphical user interface is used in combination with the xBand (RFID wristband), allowing hands-free operation along the entire process chain. The confirmation of the picking steps is done with the xBand - which completely eliminates the time-consuming scanning process. A great advantage when more than 1,800 vehicle headliners have to be installed every day.

The introduction of the hands-free multi-order picking solution based on the Schnellecke JIT system and the add-on xPick solution from Ubimax led to a significant increase in performance of the picking process. The process quality was improved and the error rate was reduced to zero. In addition to process speed and error rate, the introduction of hands-free operation has significantly improved ergonomics. This solution also benefits a shorter implementation period for new employees and more flexible staff deployment. In times of increasing digitization and automation, such solutions allow employees on the shop floor to concentrate on their original work.