LTW
INTRALOGISTICS

CASE STUDY | FOOD INDUSTRY | SOFTWARE

BRAU UNION ÖSTERREICH

AUSTRIA

SOFTWARE MEETS HARDWARE

PROCESS OPTIMIZATION THANKS TO LTW SOFTWARE

The Wieselburg brewery has four of its own production lines and bottles around 60 different products at its site in Lower Austria. On peak days, roughly 40,000 returnable crates leave the brewery in 100 trucks. As a member of Brau Union Österreich, the brewery Wieselburg is a pioneer when it comes to warehouse optimization – partly thanks to the warehouse management system from LTW.

On average, around 50,000 pallets are stored over a total area of over 38,000 m². So-called block storage is used for this purpose, whereby the pallets are stored in blocks, sorted by type. With perishable goods in particular, it is essential to know which goods are where and above all which goods must be delivered first due to their best before date (FEFO principle) – because expired goods result in major losses. With this in mind, Brau Union Österreich opted for our warehouse management system back in 2008. Thanks to our software, employees know where which product is at all times. In 2021, the brewery once again upgraded and expanded the software to include our forklift management system (SLS).

The SLS optimizes the forklift movements so that not only are shorter distances covered, but the error rate is kept to a minimum. Furthermore, consolidated transports and double cycles have significantly reduced empty forklift runs, making operations even more efficient.

Enhanced performance

As a member of Brau Union Österreich, the Wieselburg brewery not only bottles its own beer but also supports other beer brands within the group. Furthermore, customers are increasingly demanding that all beverages be provided by one supplier, which simplifies material handling for customers immensely.

The Wieselburg site satisfies this demand by not only supplying beer to its customers but many other products too, including soft drinks. This means that the product variety and the associated effort involved in warehouse picking are enormous. Intelligent software working in the background is almost indispensable in coordinating and maintaining a clear overview of everything.

BRAU UNION ÖSTERREICH

Brau Union Österreich
Association of 15 leading beer brands with nine brewery locations, beery manufactories and over 30 sales warehouses throughout Austria regionally anchored.
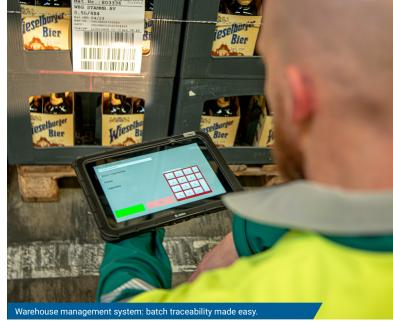
Founded: 1998
Employees: 2,700
Portfolio: over 100 types of beer

Single-variety block storage

Real-time 3D representation

Warehouse management system: batch traceability made easy.

When an order arrives, the order processor must be constantly aware of the location of each product as well as its specific best before date and batch.

It's a pleasure to work with the LTW software. Everything has been tailored to our needs and we are able to optimize the system on an ongoing basis. Alongside a direct point of contact at LTW, this is definitely the biggest advantage.

Dominic Buchebner, Warehouse Manager Wieselburg

We cater to your needs

When asked why the brewery chose our software, Dominic Buchebner is clear. We individually adapted the software to the company's needs and we are continuously optimizing it.

We collaborated in various workshops to create algorithms that are implemented by the transport orders. But the rule of "learning by doing" also applies here – so when the system is in operation, readjustments can still be made. That's why we have provided our customer with a platform on which they can continuously document their change requests and issues, so that we can develop solutions together.

As a pioneer within Brau Union Österreich, the brewery Wieselburg is already operating an intelligent system and is well equipped for the future. The long-term goal of Brau Union Österreich is to furnish more sites with our software. And the best part? They will be able to optimally benefit from the experience already gained by the brewery Wieselburg.

The advantages at a glance

Our warehouse management system not only provides the optimal system overview; thanks to the intelligent system it's also capable of optimizing routes. This saves both time and money. Furthermore, the software is able to keep errors to a minimum – mix-ups are virtually impossible because it always knows precisely where each pallet is located and with which goods. What's more, our software allows the straightforward execution of different retrieval strategies, such as FIFO (First In First Out) and FEFO (First Expire First Out).

Traceability also plays an important role in the food industry. Not only is it what industry customers demand, but it also brings with it a certain degree of assurance. If a customer submits a complaint, in Wieselburg it is possible to precisely trace the goods that were delivered (e.g., SSCC, batch, BBD). And of course, our software also simplifies the daily work of the employees. To quote just one example: Thanks to the clever logic running in the background, the picking stations are automatically replenished in good time to enable efficient picking, the production lines are promptly supplied with empties, and full products are picked up and stored appropriately.

As such, we're able to ensure an optimum supply for both picking and production lines. In summary, our warehouse management system not only gives the brewery's customers the reliability they need, it also makes a significant contribution to supporting the brewery's day-to-day operations and improving their efficiency.

More Infos at:

LTW.AT/en/references/detail/brau-union-oesterreich

OUTLINE OF THE PROJECT

- Warehouse Management System for the control and optimization of material handling equipment
- Paperless picking and order control

- Forklift control system including visualization
- Real-time 3D representation

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