



MISUMI USA INTEGRATES LFS WMS FROM EPG INTO HIGHLY-AUTOMATED US DISTRIBUTION CENTER

Having already successfully deployed the EPG LFS warehouse management system (WMS) in Germany, the supplier of standard and custom mechanical components for machine and assembly automation implemented the same solution at its new North American facility.

MISUMI, a leading global manufacturer and distributor of both standard and custom-engineered mechanical components for machinery and assembly automation, saves customers time throughout the product lifecycle from design to build and ongoing maintenance. The company offers more than 20 million products globally and 80 sextillion part

configurations for automation, press die, and plastic mold applications. Organizations in automotive, medical equipment, consumer packaging, semiconductor, and other industries turn to **MISUMI** for one-stop-shopping and its ability to design and engineer components at extremely high rates of speed.



CHALLENGE

- New highly automated DC needed WMS that provided flexibility, transparency, and scalability to accommodate future growth
- Tracking 140,000 stored parts and another 20 million components in online platform
- Supporting one-off products, cross-docking for made-to-order parts, and monitor order status



SOLUTION

- LFS WMS manages manual pick processes
- Orchestrates inventory putaway and retrieval
- Interfaces with new, highly-automated Daifuku system for the fastest moving items



RESULTS

- Has reduced error rates and increased operator efficiency
- Improved order cut-off times and increased customer satisfaction
- Easily integrated with remote support during Covid-19

“Our colleagues at the distribution facility in Germany have a very similar set-up, and were extremely pleased with their experience with both EPG and the LFS WMS.”

VP of Supply Chain Management MISUMI USA

In 2019, the company’s American division set out to build a new, highly-automated distribution center in Dayton, Ohio. The new facility joined three other buildings on MISUMI USA’s Dayton campus. With the new distribution center, operations managers sought a warehouse management system (WMS) that provided flexibility, transparency, and scalability to accommodate future growth. The ideal system needed to:

- Manage more than 140,000 parts in the warehouse which are maintained in stock for same day shipping.
- Track and manage up to 20 million components in MISUMI’s online platform, which allows designers to configure and purchase their customized components directly online.
- Support one-off components designed for a specific, unique purpose.
- Monitor order status.
- Direct cross-docking activities for individual, made-to-order components as they are received from the primary Asian manufacturing center.

“We wanted to find a proven warehouse management solution that was flexible to accommodate our forecasted growth, as well as capable of managing our highly dynamic inventory in real-time,” explained the VP of Supply Chain Management at MISUMI USA.

ABOUT THE SOLUTION

At its European distribution center in Frankfurt, Germany, MISUMI had already implemented LFS WMS from EPG, a leading global provider of supply chain execution and voice software solutions. Based on that successful implementation, the company chose to also implement LFS WMS in its new Dayton facility. There, the system manages both manual pick processes, as well as orchestrates inventory putaway and retrieval from a new,

highly-automated Daifuku system for the fastest moving items.

“Our colleagues at the distribution facility in Germany have a very similar set-up, and were extremely pleased with their experience with both EPG and the LFS WMS. Their ability to know order status on made-to-order parts — thanks to the LFS WMS’ traceability functions — has increased their overall efficiency and reduced their error rates. For example, they no longer spend time double-checking orders, which improves their order cut-off times and increases customer satisfaction. We knew we would benefit from deploying the same system here.”

THE RESULTS

Initial implementation occurred shortly after the emergence of the global COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in travel restrictions that prohibited EPG’s team to work in-person at the site.

“No worries, our teams worked well together and found creative and resourceful work-around solutions to ensure the project stayed on track and with good quality,” states the VP of Supply Chain Management.

The facility went live with the LFS WMS for manual processes in November 2020; the automated Daifuku systems were subsequently integrated and launched in June 2021. “Relatively few issues were discovered and the system is working well, reliably fulfilling orders every day in both manual and automated processing,” he continues.

ABOUT MISUMI

- Global manufacturer and distributor of standard and custom mechanical components for machine and assembly automation
- 20 million products, 80 sextillion part configurations
- Delivers one-stop-shopping and capability to design and engineer components at extremely high rates of speed



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