



psb Best Practice

psb intralogistics

Efficient tool storage
with psb microstore



CREATING YOUR
INTRALOGISTICS

psb microstore tool storage

The smart solution for centralised tool management

psb intralogistics is a leading European company in the intralogistics sector which plans and implements customised integrated systems. Due to the extraordinarily high internal added value, the system components are manufactured in the company's own machining centre at nine CNC machines. Hundreds of different tools are needed for the various processing steps.

Optimisation of manufacturing processes

Historically the tools had been stored manually without central organisation or systematic inventory management. The machining jobs were manually assigned to the respective machine and the list of the tools to be taken out of storage was created manually as well. When scheduling the tools, it was neither known whether they were already in use on another machine nor where they were stored. A very high number of inventory positions did not appear in the accounts and the inventory receipts and issues could not be tracked.

The manual and decentralised management and provision of tools was error-prone,

time-consuming and expensive. Therefore, these processes should be centralised, digitalised and automated.

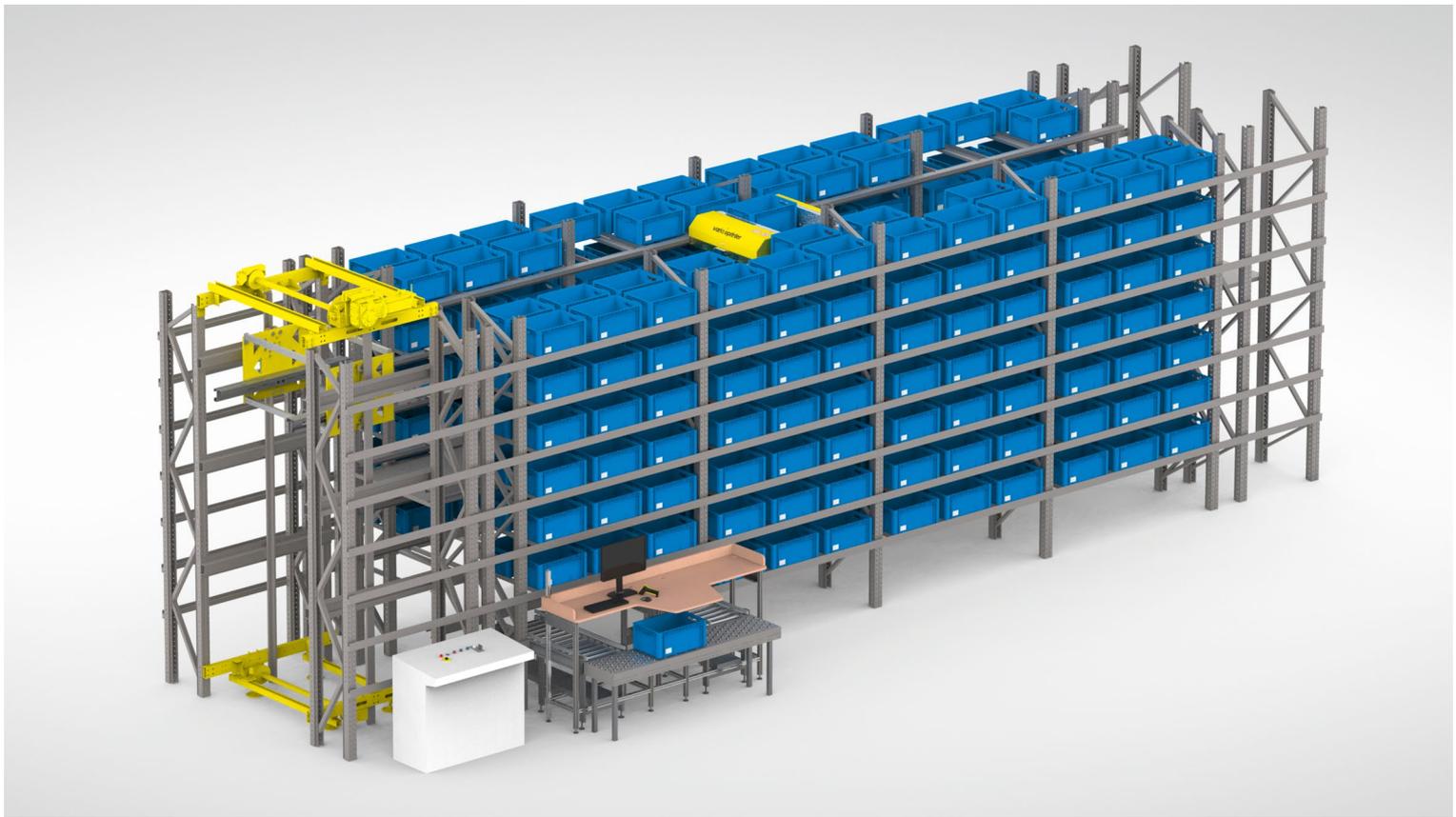
Centralised storage of tools with the psb microstore

The *microstore* compact warehouse is the ideal solution for optimising this process in the factory. The main components of this installation are a rack, which is scalable in height and length, a *vario.sprinter* shuttle, a shuttle lift and an order-picking workstation. Through the scalability of these elements, the compact warehouse could be optimally designed onto the available space of 13 x 3.5 x 5 m. The new tool warehouse at psb has a capacity for 350 totes of 600 x 400 mm. Up to 5,000 tools can be

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automatically stored and managed. With a performance of 50 storage and retrieval operations per hour, the *microstore* offers capacity for future growth.

Automated tool management as key to increasing efficiency

The *microstore* tool warehouse is managed and controlled by the integrated PLC control via the picking workstation. The master data of the individual tools are managed in the ERP system. Furthermore, there are tools, which are combined to assemblies that are required for the different production steps. In the warehouse at psb, the respective information is processed by the technology management system.

These different system platforms involved in the manufacturing process are linked together by a software module, that collects the data necessary for the management of the tools and makes them available to the tool warehouse control system for allocation to the works schedule.

As all relevant information is digitally available at the picking workstation in the warehouse, the operator can transfer the tool data from the technology managing system

directly to the warehouse control system for the generation of retrieval orders. For the retrieval and re-storage of a part, the operator is optically indicated the corresponding position in the sub-divided totes.

Advantages of the psb warehouse solution for tools

- Scalable in length, width, height and performance
- Maximum storage capacity on the available space
- Exact stock overview and control at any time
- Efficient and ergonomical provision of the required tools
- Reduction of expenses and costs in the manufacturing process



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