

Sweet Automation



The Tibbet & Britten Group is one of few companies in the world wholly devoted to the provision of physical distribution, logistics and allied services. The group relied on Cleco for the turnkey supply and automation of their confectionery despatch facility in Bicester, UK.

Tibbet & Britten were looking to automate the entire process from receipt of palletised stock to despatch. This was to be achieved within a temperature-controlled environment and include a maturing area for recently made confectionery to be maintained at a different temperature to the rest of the warehouse.

Automatic vehicle offloaders, capable of unloading 26 pallets from a vehicle in just ninety seconds, take the pallets via



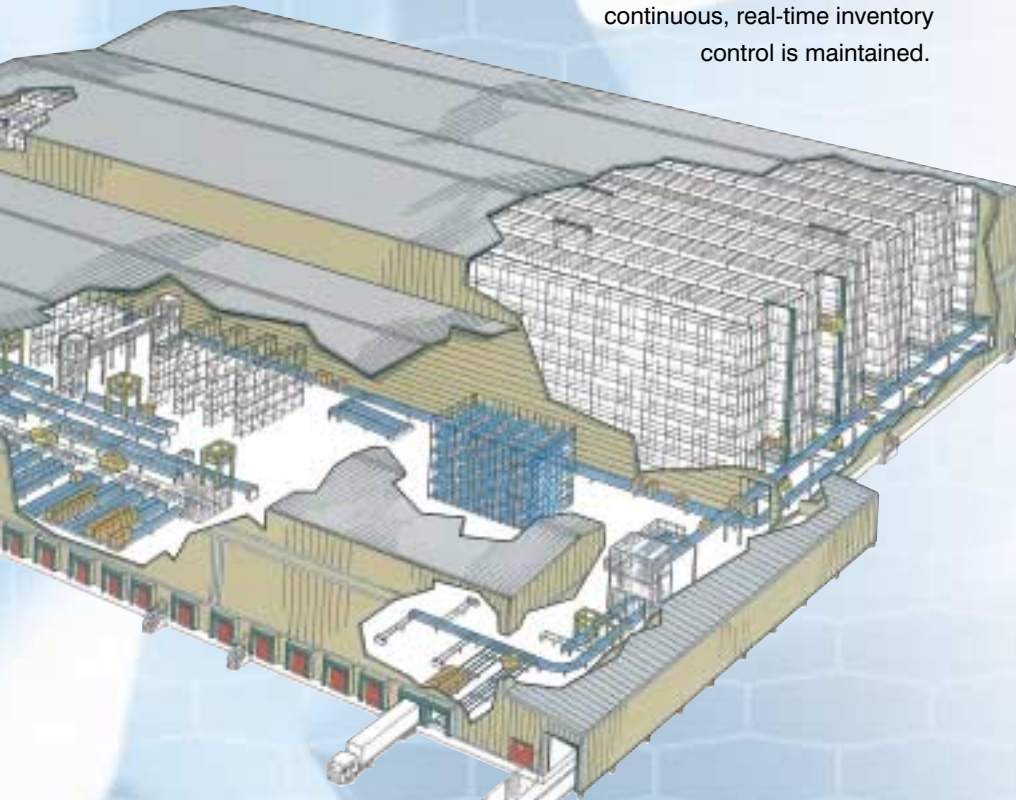
conveyor to the high bay area.

Recently made stock is put in the maturing area before being transferred automatically to the main racking. Here, automated Cleco stacker cranes work in each of the ten, 140 metre long, 25 metre high aisles. The cranes are fitted with data communication terminals so that continuous, real-time inventory control is maintained.

At the despatch end, 300 pallets per hour are marshalled automatically onto 45 pallet assembly lanes by 5 high speed shuttle cars. Both picked and bulk loads are then sorted into vehicle order, ensuring a multi-drop sequence is maintained where required.

Only 30% of goods are now handled more than once by an operative between manufacture and loading. This, the number of pallets that can be stored at the site and the high-speed load sorting, has generated huge savings on manpower, trucks time and space for Tibbet & Britten.

Tibbet & Britten UK



AT A GLANCE

Industry

Food Distribution

Application

Automatic vehicle unloading, dual temperature product control and automated high bay storage

Cleco Solution

Fully automated Cleco stacker cranes
Conveyor System & Racking
Automated Vehicle Offloading System
Warehouse Management & Control System

Facts & Figures

41,000 high bay double-deep pallet store
24.5m high racking with 10 automated cranes
Automated maturation area

Customer Solutions