

Press release



New building of the premises of thb:

Logistics center fulfills highest requirements

Biedermannsdorf, November 28th, 2007. The name of the Austrian roller bearing trade thb located in Ebensee/Traunsee stands in the branch for first-class quality and customer service since the foundation of the company in 2000. Extremely positive developments in turnover during the past six years make it now possible for thb to build a new warehouse with neighboring administration buildings. The rack system producer META Lagertechnik has been charged with the logistics planning by the owner-operated company. Due to the excellent expertise and the efforts of the rack manufacturer, the new thb-warehouse between Ebensee and Bad Ischl could start operations in August already three days before the planned date.

thb is a target oriented producer and independent supplier for ball bearings, swivels and components. With a large knowledge about possibilities of production and delivery as well as the world market, the company from the "Salzkammergut" (a region in Austria) always finds the optimal solution for their customers. Strict in-house rules for quality assurance guarantee the long-life cycle and the professionalism of the offered products. With their private brand APB (Austria precision Bearings) thb has already placed a premium brand successfully on the market . Especially with regard to cylinder roller

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bearings and precision bearings, the ball bearing trade sets standards. The production of the APB-products is done by thb themselves as well as in factories in Italy, Germany and Great Britain. For the next years we intend the own production of approx. 24,000 articles at the location Ebensee. For the next years we intend to produce in-house approx. 2,500 articles at the site in Ebensee. Thus we can always guarantee our customers perfect quality "Made in Austria", outlines Holger Brummer, manager and owner of thb, the future of his company.

Stock at three locations

Since the old building of thb was distributed to three locations within a radius of 10 km around Ebensee, the logistics of the company was extremely immobile and complicated. In order to compile a delivery for a customer, all stocks had to be approached under a high expenditure of time and unnecessary transport costs. Furthermore the stock had an increased, personal logistics, i. e. the warehousemen knew the positions of the products and decided from their experience where to put the individual articles. At first this system functioned without any mistakes, however, when the stock increased, it became more and more unclear.

The new building

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Last but not least due to the inefficient logistics the engineer Holger Brummer decided a new building of the warehouse and the administration at another site. With the next 10 years in mind, Holger Brummer purchased a 7,500 square meter property with spitting distance of the federal highway 145 between Ebensee and Bad Ischl.

Already in the first planning stage thb charged the rack system producer META-Regalbau from Arnsberg. Edwin Zellner, area manager at META Austria, supported the thb-team yet from the first month with his expertise. "What made the work special, was the fact that the buildings were planned around the stock, i. e. we as the planners had no architectural frontiers", says Edwin Zellner and likes to recall the productive cooperation.

Safe delivery

The planned target was to be able to continuously overlook the range of goods and at the same time make the staff mobile. Therefore after detailed meetings thb decided for a manual picking location with a three-story META High-Clip® shelving system as well as a pallet racking system of the type META Multipal®. All in all the stock has a base area of 900 square meters at an almost square division.

With a total height of eight meters, the prefabricated META High-Clip® multi-tier shelving consists of 6,902 shelves with a width of 1,000 mm, a depth of 400 mm as well as

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a shelf load capacity of 330 kg. The frame load capacity is 6,000 kg. All 21 levels are accessible via two stairways and all flooring materials of the rack system are flame resistant and equipped with a slip resistant safety-floor surface. A safe and simple handing over was very important for thb. The engineer Holger Brummer, manager and owner at thb was enthusiastic. "The handover of the pallets is brilliant according to our ideas and functions excellent."

Maximum storage safety

With a frame height of 8,200 mm , the pallet racking META-Multipal[®] carries a load of 21,800 kg. Of course the shelving system has all usual safety devices like start-up protection, fall protection and protection against collision. In general safety is a very important subject in the new stock of thb. An automatic gangway lighting provides for sufficient lightness for works in the modular shelving system. There are 30 lamps per level in the modular shelving system which can be switched on either for 30 or 60 minutes. "I am responsible for the safety in my stock. I take for granted to take all technical measurements which are possible to guarantee the safety of our staff," points out engineer Mr. Holger Brummer .

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Chaotic stockkeeping

With a maximum of clarity, the new stock offers space for 12,000 articles with a total weight of 1,000 tons. It has been designed for a chaotic stockkeeping with some firm parameters. In principle all products are stored in the modular shelving system. Only for particularly big and heavy articles thb uses the pallet racking.

The new logistics center has been designed to offer enough space for expansion and the realization of visions within the next years. Already today up to 4,000 tons bearings can be stored in Ebensee. However, if the system gets too small, there would be the possibility to erect another pallet system on the big property of the company.

META- Lagertechnik Ges.m.b.H. is a subsidiary of the German META-Regalbau. As one of the European producers for innovative storage solutions, META develops, produces and sells shelves, pallet-, cantilever- and mobile racks, which can be combined with customized system solutions. From the first idea via the project planning and the customer service up to the start-up of the corresponding rack system, META always offers its customers sophisticated complete solutions.

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