

RFID Use Case: Shipping

Initial situation

The consequences of a lack of digitalization of logistics processes quickly become apparent in many companies: major time losses due to manual scanning and booking of goods, high error rates and ultimately inefficient processes.

The medium-sized company from Bavaria has been producing high-quality awnings and shading systems for German and international markets. The employees in the shipping department were busy preparing the products for delivery. Instead of their main task - packing the awnings - they spent much of their time scanning and checking that the goods were complete. They were also unable to check for sure that every box had been scanned by hand.



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Solution

The company therefore decided to install an RFID system with stationary RFID readers from KATHREIN Solutions. In this way, the work processes in the outgoing goods area were automated, making them reliable and time-saving. When the awnings arrive in the packing area, the respective order is selected using the production documents generated by the hand scanner. The shipping labels for this order are then printed with an RFID chip directly at the workstation and attached to the packages.

As soon as the carrier arrives to collect the goods, they are simply pushed through the RFID gate. Due to the bulk detection of the RFID labels, it is no longer necessary to scan the goods individually. During the RFID loading process, the data is automatically recorded in a database table so that the current location of the goods can be tracked at all times.

SMSH antennas on the side of the gates to capture the tagged parcels.



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Results and benefits: Great time and cost savings

One of the biggest advantages of the RFID system is the huge time saving. Whereas scanning the individual parcels used to take up to 40 minutes, employees can now complete this step in a maximum of two minutes with the RFID gate. As there is a high volume of packaging and shipping in the seasonal business, especially in the peak season, the RFID solution is particularly helpful because search times are reduced, productivity is increased, and the error rate is reduced. Another plus point: there is now 100% certainty that every box has been scanned and that the delivery has been fully recorded in the ERP system.



KATHREIN RRU 4500 Readers were installed directly above the loading gate.

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In addition to its use in outgoing goods, RFID technology is also suitable for many other applications: automated object detection also ensures a transparent material flow in incoming goods, warehouses or production.

Solutions such as pick-by-light, e-kanban or electronic labels enable seamless tracking of materials, orders or goods.



Your Advanced Systems team is here to help you develop object detection and material flow applications that maximise the benefits of the very latest RFID technology.