

► Case Study

GXO

Missguided's fashion DC



MISSGUIDED

The Customer

GXO is a world leader in providing cutting-edge logistics solutions for multinational companies and blue-chip market leaders. In 2015 the fast fashion retailer, Missguided, signed a seven-year deal for GXO to manage its international e-fulfilment operations. Founded in 2009 by Nitin Passi as a pure play fashion retailer, Missguided aims its celebrity-inspired ranges at women aged 16 to 34. Following rapid growth in the UK, the company has launched sites in the USA & Canada, Australia & New Zealand, France, Germany, Ireland, Poland and Spain, plus a pan-European site. Missguided also has a bricks-and-mortar store at Bluewater shopping centre, making the brand a multi-channel business.

The Challenge

To meet growing demand, Missguided opened a brand-new distribution centre (DC) in Trafford Park, Manchester, in July 2016. The DC replaced Missguided's existing facility in Salford, which was at full capacity. Operating 24 hours a day, seven days a week, the new 250,000 sq ft DC was designed to handle Missguided's logistics needs for the next ten years. As the DC features four mezzanine floors that provide a total floor area in excess of one million sq ft, the facility required a vertical elevation solution and Nerak Wiese was selected to provide it. ►



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NERAK



“The system works well and, in tests, the equipment exceeded the specification, so we are delighted and plan to buy a further two lifts from Nerak.”

Phil Shepherd,
Director of Technical Services
Gxo Logistics

Nerak Wiese is a UK-based engineering company that specialises in the design, manufacture and installation of automated lift systems. It has been providing both stand-alone and turnkey solutions to a global customer base for over 45 years. Its design and engineering experience and strong product portfolio have been fundamental in resolving diverse material handling challenges – for both bulk and unit loads – across multiple industry sectors.

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The Solution

Nerak Wiese designed and manufactured two lifts featuring a unique design. Each lift comprises two independent hoists, each of which has two conveyors – mounted one above the other – and so can handle two loads. The lifts transport cardboard cartons of goods received from manufacturers up to the order picking areas on the mezzanines. Here, staff pick orders into totes, which are then transported down to the ground floor by the lifts. In addition, the lifts are used to transport empty totes up to the pick areas, with three totes nested together during elevation. The throughput from the top floor is 250 inbound and 250 outbound loads per hour, per lift.

The Benefits

The Gxo and Missguided teams have been pleased with the installation, operation and reliability of the lifts. With two independent hoists, the lifts have high capacity and their versatile design has made them suitable for various elevation tasks at the warehouse. In addition to this, as the lifts are based around rubber chain technology, they do not require frequent lubrication or recalibration. From a service and maintenance perspective, the result is very little downtime, minimizing the associated costs. “*This has proven to be a cost-effective and high-quality solution,*” commented Phil Shepherd, Director of Technical Services for Gxo Logistics. “*The system works well and, in tests, the equipment exceeded the specification, so we are delighted and plan to buy a further two lifts from Nerak.*” ■

