Geodis experiments with augmented reality

LEVALLOIS-PERRET, France: October 19, 2017. Geodis is implementing augmented reality at a logistics warehouse in Cologne. The solution is based on the Picavi's 'Pick-By-Vision' technology.

Equipped with data glasses, employees receive visual information into their visual field. This solution thus provides employees with all the information they need for order picking or loading. GEODIS has initially equipped twelve employees with this system.

The data glasses use visual displays to guide the order pickers through the current picking order. They inform the pickers in advance of the loading unit (pallet or carton) which need to be taken along, refer to the units to be picked as well as the item level and the storage location. If required, images of the products can be imported

into the field of view. At the end of the picking run, the data glasses guide employees to the correct storage location in the outbound area and the picking order is automatically completed in the warehouse management system (WMS).

The use of data glasses gives employees more freedom to move compared to the use of handheld scanners while providing more detailed information on the type and appearance of the units to be picked. This increases the productivity and eliminates potential sources of error. The data glasses can be used for taking pictures of the loaded pallets after the order has been completed, which ensures a complete loading documentation. Thanks to the precise and strict process, the team achieves high picking performance, better quality and complete documentation. A simple and very flexible parameterizing process- linked to the WMS - enables the solution to easily adapt any changes in the warehouse's organization.

In addition, Pick-by-Vision delivers another added value: "The scope and presentation of the relevant information is easily scalable. This means that even new employees without previous knowledge can be trained very quickly. This ensures high quality, even in peak seasons", says Christian Müller, Area Manager FMCG at GEODIS for Contract Logistics in Germany.

"This solution also represents a very good news for our customers which will see an increase of productivity -estimated up to 12% - and will thus benefit from the use of this innovative technology in their supply chain" declares Bernhard Heimann, Director of Operations at GEODIS for Contract Logistics in Germany.

After conducting several tests with different solutions, GEODIS has chosen the Pick-by-Vision technology developed by Picavi. If the expected results are confirmed, GEODIS plans to deploy Pick-by-Vision at other locations in Germany.