



Unitronics Automates Largest Pharmaceutical Logistics Center in the Middle East

Teva-S.L.E., a global leader in generic pharmaceuticals and one of the top 15 pharmaceutical companies of the world, has successfully built the largest logistics center for pharmaceutical purposes in the Middle East. Headquartered in Shoham Israel, Teva operates in 60 countries and has 47,000 employees worldwide. The distribution center is designed to receive and send finished goods throughout Israel and to the rest of the world.

Teva-S.L.E.'s goal was to centralize all of their logistics activities to one, efficient, streamlined location. Teva-S.L.E. needed to handle more than 1000 orders per hour and store more than 75,000 pallets; a task that could only be achieved by a robust and fully automated solution. As the market leader for automated warehouses and logistics distribution centers with over two decades of installation success, Unitronics was the natural choice as the systems integrator for the automated portion of this project.

Within the distribution center, there are two different systems of operation. The first is a storing and



Teva-S.L.E. Logistics center. Teva-S.L.E. is 141 Ft High. The mid-section is offices, and on floor "0" there is a system of conveyors. Each white wing is a huge automated warehouse, with a total of 75,000 storage pallets.

retrieving system with over 75,000 automated locations for pallets up to 1,000Kg. Automation tasks include: automated truck loading/unloading conveyors, automated shrink-wrap machinery, pallet changers and more. The second system of operation is the Picking system. This consists of 15,500 automated locations for totes, an automated picking machine (A-machine), 6 goods-to-man stations, and automated closing lines. The material flow throughout the entire center is done by a decentralized control system controlled by Unitronics PLCs. Cranes, lifts, conveyors and special machines are all connected by a network of dozens of Unitronics Vision570™ and Vision1040™ PLCs. The automated cranes move at a very high speed and with precise levels of accuracy within the millimeter. Each of the pallet cranes executes approx. 50 movements per hour and each of the tote cranes executes more than 400 movements per hour.

The whole system is also built in controlled temperature and humidity conditions that have been planned and tested according to strict FDA regulations. Unitronics PLCs are also operating this portion of the center as well - with the chilled areas being regulated at temperatures of 35.6°-46.4° Fahrenheit. All of the PLCs are connected via TCP/IP, and allow remote access for support and maintenance purposes. Unitronics' quality, reliability and user-friendly environment has made Teva-S.L.E.'s automation needs transition seamlessly into many years of success.

