



SUCCESS STORY

Time Slot Management

How Siemens Mobility eliminates congestion in inbound logistics

It's a scenario that logistics professionals know all too well: Trucks are backed up at the entrance to a production facility. All the loading docks are occupied, leading to long lines of idling trucks in and around the site. Drivers lose time and incur costs waiting unnecessarily, and manufacturers have a hard time predicting when urgently needed parts will arrive. But it doesn't have to be this way. The right tool makes it possible to eliminate spikes in inbound logistics and optimize how loading docks are utilized. The logistics experts at Siemens Mobility are using a time slot management tool that actually delivers on its promises: effective booking of pre-defined time slots so that goods arrive exactly when expected. Siemens Mobility is already using the tool at many of its sites, where it ensures a smooth flow of goods and on-time loading and unloading processes at the docks.

Challenge

The Siemens Mobility plants in Germany and Austria receive production supplies delivered by up to 100 trucks daily per plant. Each day is different, and significant fluctuation in the number of inbound deliveries makes planning difficult. In the past, this repeatedly led to spikes in delivery volumes, congestion at the site entry points, and an uneven utilization of capacities at loading docks. To optimize the flow of goods, a tool was needed to eliminate congestion and reduce the costs incurred by long wait times. The tool also needed to ensure that the right equipment was always in the right place at the right time, and that information on inbound deliveries was communicated early on and made visible as broadly as possible.

"Time slot management is yet another milestone in the modernization and streamlining of logistics processes. It provides visibility of all inbound logistics data, from the time of the notification email and planned arrival to the actual unloading appointment at the dock and the receipt of the goods—with a complete overview of inbound goods, including weight and dimensions."

Danny Vondran

Head of SCE Digitalization,
Siemens Mobility GmbH

SIEMENS



Solution

Siemens Mobility was already using Inbound Logistics for Plants (ILOP), the AX4 transportation management solution. Now, with the addition of Time Slot Management, they've achieved complete visibility across their inbound logistics, from the initial order to the final receipt of goods.

Time Slot Management allows carriers to book fixed inbound delivery time slots and assign goods using the transport or delivery note number, so everyone knows as soon as possible which goods will arrive and when. It's even possible to enter info about the delivery vehicle and which equipment is required for unloading so that the receiver can be ideally prepared for each individual inbound delivery.

The module can be customized and controlled to fit the specific needs of each individual site. Time slots and unloading locations can be edited or extended as required, and site information can be adapted as needed and updated on a daily basis. Time Slot Management features an intuitive user interface and provides an up-to-the-minute overview of the situation in the receiving area.

Success

After a pilot implementation at selected sites, Siemens Mobility is now using Time Slot Management with great success at its key locations. This makes the unplanned delivery of incoming goods a thing of the past. Inbound deliveries are staggered to avoid congestion. If a truck does happen to arrive without an appointment, it is assigned an available time slot on the same day if possible. This is not only effective in preventing congestion, it also makes life easier for workers inside the plant by permanently reducing stressful spikes in the workload of forklift operators and receiving personnel.

The integrated daily reporting feature also makes it possible to optimize resources at the start of a shift so that the inbound goods can always be processed in an orderly fashion.

"Our carriers also benefit: They can plan their deliveries down to the hour and organize their routes accordingly. Long wait times are a thing of the past, and the unloading process is also quick and easy, since the necessary equipment and resources are already in place."

Danny Vondran

Head of SCE Digitalization,
Siemens Mobility GmbH

Published by:

Siemens Digital Logistics GmbH
Nachtweideweg 1-7
67227 Frankenthal
Germany

E-Mail: info.digital@siemens.com

Web: www.siemens-digital-logistics.com

Copyright: Siemens Digital Logistics
GmbH 2023

Register court Ludwigshafen HRB 64386

SIEMENS