

PRESS RELEASE

25 years of system innovation

iTERMINAL – Digital interaction point on the Kanban rack

Bad Mergentheim/Main-Tauber-Kreis. How about a rack, which can be accessed in real time via an information board? A rack that signals, in combination with a display, the exact location of the required item? And all of this is centrally accessible on a monitor? Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG shows how this can be achieved with its newly developed iTERMINAL for complete digitalisation of the Kanban rack – directly on site, available at any time, all information in one place!

There are often hundreds, even thousands, of parts in manufacturing companies that are stored at various storage locations in production. With iTERMINAL, the long search times have now become a thing of the past – in view of rising customer demands as well as increasing dynamics and volatilities, these aspects are all the more important! Henceforth, customers will have the benefit of a digital Kanban rack, the occupancy of which can be accessed instantly using a separate monitor. The intelligent iTERMINAL is therefore perfect as a digital information board, which will allow manufacturing companies to interact quickly, easily and directly at the storage location. The system is characterised by a user-friendly interface and combines all the functions of the Kanban rack with absolute transparency. Important information at item level, particularly the exact location of specific C-Parts in the Kanban rack, can be retrieved within seconds. Where is the desired item? How many bins are there for this purpose and are these currently on site or are in the order? When will the next bins be filled and delivered? At which of the other storage locations is the required item? In combination with iDISPLAY, a digital rack label, the search function has been simplified – even visually. The operation is quite easy: search, select, find and retrieve. As soon as the customer selects a specific item using the search function on the monitor, the iDISPLAY at the respective storage space lights up. Both the systems communicate with each other using a wireless connection, which means that customers do not have to rely on a separate network.

Instead of initiating the search function on the monitor, there is an alternative option to use a connected barcode scanner. By scanning the barcode, it is clearly visible, on which rack level, in which bin the required product is placed. Therefore, iTERMINAL impresses by clearly reducing the search time as well as by avoiding unnecessary walking distances, which frees up more time for value-adding

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activities. Most importantly, maximum transparency is achieved – with all the information about different storage locations as well as multiple Kanban racks available at a glance. The iTERMINAL is currently being used by selected customers as part of the pilot phase.

The perfect interplay with iDISPLAY

As a comprehensive C-Parts partner, Würth Industrie Service places a high value on further development of its tried and tested systems. This also applies to iDISPLAY. A printed rack label can be replaced in the future by a digital rack label, which will function fully autonomously at the storage location. By automatically updating the system in the case of fundamental changes to master data or filling status, customers are always up to date. iTERMINAL makes outstanding use of the extended functionalities “search” and “pick”. Through the connected systems, it is not only possible to initiate a full search via iTERMINAL (search), but also withdraw easily using “Pick by Light.” In the future, the iDISPLAY will show with the help of the LED signal, where exactly is the item required for the next step of the process located. Another starting point for optimisation is the connection of the ERP system of the customer to the iTERMINAL. Pick lists of the customers can be transferred to and accessed on iTERMINAL, in order to pick them using iDISPLAY. Manual intervention is no longer necessary.

Ensuring replenishment - automated, of course!

The new iTERMINAL, along with the intelligent RFID Kanban system solutions of Würth Industrie Service, achieves maximum efficiency. RFID enables radio-controlled data transmission directly from the customer’s production to the central warehouse of Würth Industrie Service. Through the automated and demand-oriented reordering of production materials, industrial companies benefit from maximum supply and delivery reliability. The basis for all this is a Kanban bin. In the case of Würth Industrie Service, it is the patented Würth small load carrier, W-KLT®2.0. It is available in various sizes according to the VDA standard and is equipped with an RFID tag by default. Each transponder can be identified by a unique data security number. In the outgoing goods process, the ID of the bin is linked to a corresponding item. Through various RFID systems, the ID of the bins can be read and transferred to the Kanban Management System for automated re-ordering.

Unimaginable yesterday, real today, smart tomorrow: As an award-winning “Digital Champion 2024” and one of “Germany’s most innovative companies in 2024”, Würth Industrie Service keeps a close eye on the connected systems. And that for over 25 years now. Würth Industrie Service is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

More information on iTERMINAL is available at www.wuerth-industrie.com/kanban-future

Images

Captions:



Photo 1: iTERMINAL.jpg

Caption 1: iTERMINAL at LogiMAT 2024 – Digital interaction point on the Kanban rack

Image source 1: Thomas Möller, bitterechtfreundlich.de



Photo 2: iTERMINAL_monitor.jpg

Caption 2: Customers will have the benefit of a digital Kanban rack, the occupancy of which can be accessed instantly using a separate monitor.

Image source 2: Thomas Möller, bitterechtfreundlich.de



Photo 3: iDISPLAY.jpg

Caption 3: As soon as the search function is initiated on the monitor for a specific item, the iDISPLAY on the respective rack lights up.

Image source 3: Niklas Streib, Würth Industrie Service

Brief profile of Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG

Within the Würth Group, Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG is responsible for supplying to the industrial sector. Since its foundation in the year 1999, the company is located at Industriepark, Würth in Bad Mergentheim, Germany with over 1,800 employees.

As a one-stop C-Parts provider, the company offers its customers a specialised product range with over 1,400,000 items: from screws and tools to connection and fastening technology, technical chemicals as well as occupational safety solutions. Aside from the extensive standard product range, the strength of the company lies in its customer-specific, logistical and dispositive supply and service concepts as well as special parts. Under the service brand "CPS® - C-Product Service", the company offers modular solutions customised as per the customer's requirements. These consumption-based and demand-based systems streamline the processes for purchase, logistics and quality assurance while enabling the procurement of small parts in a cost-optimised manner. Logistic and dispositive services such as shelving systems that use scanners or a just-in-time supply using Kanban bin systems play a significant role in increasing productivity.