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UNITED STATES COLD STORAGE OPENS HIGH-TECH WAREHOUSE IN LEBANON, IN

Indianapolis-area site completes two-year automation project, operates the company's first automated storage and retrieval system.

CAMDEN, NJ –United States Cold Storage (USCS) officially opened a 5.1 million-cubic-foot freezer addition at its warehouse in Lebanon, IN. The expansion includes an approximate 3.5 million-cubic-foot section with an automated storage and retrieval system (AS/RS) as well as a 1.7 million-cubic-foot section for conventional storage.

USCS Lebanon is located along US Interstate 65, just 30 minutes northwest of Indianapolis. The new operation primarily supports a customer whose products are housed in both the automated and conventional storage areas for both full-pallet and case-pick load preparation. The finished addition houses 15,724 pallets including 5,898 conventional locations and 9,826 slots within the ASRS warehouse.

United States Cold Storage selected Westfalia Technologies, Inc., York, PA, to provide ASRS technology, including a high-density storage system. The system includes storage and retrieval machines (S/RM's) with double-load handling capability, unique satellite load extraction devices, integrated warehouse management system (WMS) control software, and a triple-rail support AS/RS rack structure. USCS and Westfalia technicians also ensure that the system is integrated with USCS Lebanon's order fulfillment, pallet flow systems, conveyors, palletizers, and case packing and handling equipment.

After USCS receives customer product loads, those pallets are tagged and entered into the WMS system. Pallets then convey automatically into the enclosed AS/RS room, where machines select, lift and carry them to specified pallet locations. Later, the same machine will select and retrieve those pallets, which are placed on a separate conveyor leading to the outbound shipping staging area. Westfalia's system in Lebanon utilizes a double-mast storage and retrieval machines that can reach horizontal speeds of 650 feet per minute as well as vertical speeds of 260 feet per minute.

Leading USCS' involvement has been Chad Bowen, Director for Automation & Innovation. It was back in 2017 that he and USCS engineers began reviewing AS/RS technologies and vendors' competitive offerings. After a supplier selection was made, USCS began its Lebanon site expansion in January 2018. The site's new conventional warehouse was completed in August 2018 while the new automated section was completed this year, in June.



And after nearly three full years, USCS officials are pleased with the completed project.

“I’m extremely excited for the opening of the first USCS automated warehouse,” says David Butterfield USCS Regional Vice President, Midwest. “It is an honor to be on the forefront of using automation to provide top quality service to our customers. I’m equally proud of our Lebanon team’s approach, management and determination to make this project successful.”

About United States Cold Storage

United States Cold Storage, Inc. (USCS), Camden, NJ, is a premier provider of public refrigerated warehousing (PRW) and related logistics services throughout the USA. With roots dating back to 1899, USCS has long served a diverse customer base with requirements ranging from primary storage to fully integrated third-party logistics. The company offers more than 355 million cubic feet of temperature controlled warehouse and distribution space in 42 facilities located in 13 states including California, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Nebraska, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Utah and Virginia. USCS is the third largest PRW Logistics provider in North America. It is a subsidiary of the U.K.’s John Swire & Sons Ltd.