

# The future within specified cost and time scales

Robots take care of transporting goods and yet 1'500 new jobs are also expected. This is Amazon in Spain with its new Castellbisbal logistics centre in greater Barcelona. If you're looking for the future, you'll find it here – including the building automation. The solutions from SAUTER ensure excellent energy efficiency and optimal productivity.

Where do we begin if we want to discover the future? Not on the 17'000-square-meter robot field. Not with the investment-secure SAUTER solutions. No, we start with plan-based commissioning. "We were able to get the project up and running within the specified cost and time scales," says Miquel Vita from project developer and partner VIA Y CONSTRUCCIONES, adding: "This was due to close consultation with SAUTER's specialists and their extensive experience."

SAUTER was proactive as early as the planning phase in ensuring the project ran smoothly. A pre-audit identified the work that would seal the success of the project.

What makes the premises so special? The core business is goods distribution and this requires masses of space. The new logistics centre was built on 30'000 square metres, with the robot field forming its centrepiece. Transport devices developed by Amazon move the goods here – ceaselessly around the clock. They position articles in a way that makes employees' work significantly easier.

The investment is reaping rewards for Castellbisbal. Orders are increasing and Amazon has earmarked 500 more jobs in the locality in greater Barcelona.

## Top-most standards

The building automation is just as key as the robot technology. Climate, lighting, fire protection – all systems must interact reliably and efficiently. SAUTER fulfils Amazon's strict technical standards, with SAUTER Vision Center enabling logistics to operate 24/7.

The building management system (BMS) uses open protocols only such as BACnet/IP. Further systems – for lighting (DALI) and fire protection, for example – are integrated directly or with gateways. In Castellbisbal, SAUTER employs modulo 5 technology and ecos504 room automation stations. They process information from 6'000 data points in total.

SAUTER Vision Center is a web-based solution in the HTML5 standard. This means that it is compatible with almost all internet browsers. It has a modular and freely scalable design. Integration is possible with a whole host of protocols. This also makes for increased sustainability of the building, with extensions and changes of use accommodated with ease.

## Outstanding energy efficiency

The SAUTER Energy Management module also provides the new logistics centre with excellent energy efficiency. A single operating



panel allows energy consumption data to be managed, water and power supply to be monitored and control algorithms to be adapted.

The intelligent automation system from SAUTER not only makes operation of the Amazon logistics centre more reliable and future-proof. It also benefits employees by adjusting both the lighting and – in the Spanish heat – the ventilation and cooling. This improves working conditions and boosts productivity.

“We were also particularly keen to be able to implement changes at short notice, quickly and reliably,” explains project developer Miquel Vita. “Because, despite the intensive planning, these types of change are normal in such complex projects.” The entire building automation had to be engineered, installed, commissioned and approved within two months.

### Growth trajectory

The e-commerce market is booming worldwide. In 2023, revenue from physical goods in the B2C sector will amount to roughly EUR 2.35 trillion. This equates to around double the figure for 2017, or yearly growth of almost 11 per cent\*. An important contributor to success here is logistics because the customer demands reliable, fast delivery.

One of the key drivers in the industry is Amazon. No other internet company in the world has higher revenues. And it's still growing, aided by the new Castellbisbal logistics centre outside Barcelona.

\*Source: Statista, online, <https://de.statista.com/outlook/243/100/ecommerce/weltweit>, 13/09/2019

