

# AMERDEN AGVS APPLICATION REPORT

## *AGV RETROFIT: GETTING THE MOST OF A VALUABLE ASSET*

In 2002 a manufacturer of plastic containers began to implement an Automatic Guided Vehicle System (AGVS) but their supplier soon went out of business leaving the system and the operation in disarray. The company formed a relationship with Amerden, Inc. of St. Augustine, FL and contracted Amerden to make the system a productive part of their manufacturing operation.

First, Amerden retrofitted the two (2) roller-deck vehicles with new on-board controls to eliminate the obsolescence of the original controls. New control boards were installed and changes were made on the vehicles to create a clean, easy-to-maintain design.



Next, Amerden recut the entire wire guidepath to create a more efficient material flow and access each of 13 pick up locations and 3 drop off locations. Each location was fitted with new I/O by Amerden as part of a complete control and software retrofit.

Finally, Amerden implemented the De'Carte PC based system controller (AGVSM). This central AGV controller provides traffic management, reports, AGV communications, order assignment and monitors all system I/O.

When a load is ready for pick up the operator pushes a local button to call the AGV, a button lights up when the order is received by the AGVSM and flashes when an AGV is on its way. When the AGV is in place, the vehicle sounds a horn to alert the operator who manually pushes the load part way onto the AGV conveyor which starts as soon as it's photoelectric is blocked and can safely retrieve the load.

Loads are transported and automatically transferred to one of 3 locations; 2 for printing and 1 for stretch wrapping. The AGV system may also be used to resupply the manufacturing lines with various materials.



An AGVS is too valuable to let fall by the wayside. In addition to new AGV systems, Amerden provides vehicle upgrades, parts or complete system retrofits. Amerden makes the most of a valuable asset and provides our North American clients with....

***Productivity Through AGV Technology.***



Amerden AGVS

PO Box 240 • St. Augustine, FL 32085 • (904) 826-4490 • [www.amerden.com](http://www.amerden.com)