



Automation Optimizes Pharmaceutical Production Facility

Features and Benefits

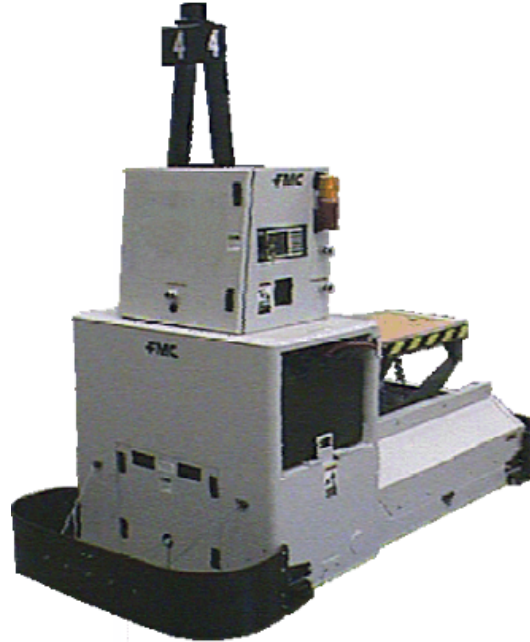
No Down Time during Installation

Quiet, Clean and Safe Environment

Minimal System Supervision

Optimal Uptime and Maintainability

Industry Group: Automatic Guided
Vehicle Systems (AGVS)



Five AGV Lift Deck Vehicles deliver Palletized loads to an AS/RS

An Automatic Guided Vehicle System (AGVS) provides efficient handling of production and packaging materials when called upon to support the pharmaceutical site's Work-In- Process (WIP) requirements.

The AGVS is responsible for transporting material between two inbound conveyors, a 12-aisle/44,000 location Automated Storage / Retrieval System (AS/RS) and two outbound conveyors. Raw material or WIP items are introduced into the system for storage until they are needed by production or packaging. The host system verifies that the load on the inbound conveyor is the appropriate load by interfacing with the site's upper level control system. Once verified, the AGVS then transports the pallet to the correct AS/RS crane aisle for storage. For the outbound process, the AGVS pulls product from the AS/RS outbound drop-off point and transports it to the appropriate Chemical Stock or Outbound Conveyors for use at other production locations throughout the facility. During both operations, the upper level host is kept informed of the status of the load / order.

The AGV system was used to replace an aging wire guided system. Due to the ease of the laser-guided systems' installation, the customer experienced no appreciable downtime or impact to their production, all while fully complying with cGMP and validation requirements. They continued to operate their existing system to support production until the AGVS became operational. The capability of undergoing the installation of a "state of the art" laser-guided system, while not impacting production, was of immeasurable benefit to the customer. Not only in preventing lost revenue or increased overtime but in beginning their ROI earlier than anticipated.



JBT Corporation
400 Highpoint Drive
Chalfont, PA 18914
mark.longacre@jbt.com
www.jbtc-agv.com