Automated Parts Storage Keeps JetBlue Flying

Features and Benefits
- OSHA & Airline Industry Compliant
- User Friendly
- Minimal Order Cycle Times
- Low Maintenance Costs
- Adaptable to Emergencies
- Customized Fire Suppression

Industry Group:
Automated Storage & Retrieval Systems

Muratec installed a one aisle, mini-load AS/RS, a system that comprises of 62 bays and 40 levels; totaling 4,960 locations. Additionally the system utilizes two stacker cranes, each with an extractor to store and retrieve totes. Each tote contains dividers allowing for small parts storage, enabling a total of 47,644 storage locations.

Storage/Retrieval queues can be overridden to retrieve a repair part needed immediately.

JetBlue, the low-cost, passenger-oriented airline, broke ground on a 100,000 sq. ft. support operations and training facility. Located in Orlando, FL, the airline’s new location would serve as a vital hub for training, distribution, and equipment repair.

After closely working with Muratec, JetBlue decided that an Automated Storage & Retrieval System (AS/RS) best suited the needs of the new construction. Muratec installed a one aisle, mini-load AS/RS, a system that comprises of 62 bays and 40 levels; totaling 4,960 locations. Additionally the system utilizes two stacker cranes, each with an extractor to store and retrieve totes. Each tote contains dividers allowing for small parts storage, enabling a total of 47,644 storage locations.

The AS/RS fulfilled the severe mechanical needs of the airline and also provided an ease of operation and various customized features. For example, parts retrieval was simplified by forming two administrative terminals that allow supervisors to enter needed parts into the automated system.
Making the process even more efficient, touch screens display the location of desired parts within the tote, and confirm that the retrieval process is complete.

Additional safety features were also built in, which alert workers by touch screen if the tote exceeds safe height and weight requirements for pickup.

Special administrator control was also implemented in this design. For instance, if a vital part is needed for an aircraft sitting at a terminal, the AS/RS allows workers to retrieve that part quickly by overriding other part orders in the systems queue. This has allowed JetBlue the ability to save time that is critical to the company and has expedited aircraft maintenance.

Muratec’s Automated Retrieval & Storage System’s innovative performance and reliability has provided JetBlue’s abundant facility with an efficient blend of safety, dependability, speed, and control.

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