MITSUI-SOKO GROUP

Press Release

March 11, 2025

MITSUI-SOKO HOLDINGS Co., Ltd.

MITSUI-SOKO Group Develops and Introduces a Paperless Multi-Picking Cart

Enhancing efficiency in e-commerce shipping operations

The MITSUI-SOKO Group (hereinafter, the "Group" or "we") is pleased to announce that the Group has developed and introduced a paperless multi-picking cart for e-commerce shipping operations at the Group's logistics centers.

The paperless multi-picking cart (hereinafter, the "Cart") is equipped with a paperless function that enables multi-picking, allowing for the collection and simultaneous sorting of items for multiple orders. We have collaboratively customized and developed a multi-picking cart with B-STORM Co., Ltd. (Head Office: Chofu City, Tokyo; President and CEO: Masayuki Hakata), a venture company spun off from the University of Electro-Communications, specializing in system and product development in the logistics field.

We have achieved complete paperless operations by converting order numbers, which serve as linkage information in the process from picking to inspection, from paper slips to barcodes displayed on electronic paper tags attached to the Cart. Additionally, B-STORM's proprietary technology automatically calculates the optimal route and displays information such as picking location, product name, and quantity on the picking instruction screen of a tablet device, reducing walking distance and shortening work hours.

Particularly in e-commerce shipping operations, which often involve a wide variety of products in small quantities, picking operations have a significant impact on warehouse operating rates. Therefore, enhancing the efficiency of these operations is crucial when looking to boost productivity.

MITSUI-SOKO Co., Ltd., a member of the Group, has introduced the Cart to facilitate the acceptance and management of e-commerce logistics operations for a company that develops B2B and B2C businesses nationwide in the luxury fashion sector. With the addition of this multi-picking to single picking, which selects items for each order, and collaborative picking using the autonomous mobile robot (AMR), the Cart can utilize three different picking methods based on the number and type of items, significantly improving work efficiency in the shipping process.

Benefits of Introducing the Cart

- (1) Reduces paper consumption by going paperless through the elimination of paper slips.
 - Reduction of approximately 1,500 A4-size sheets of paper per month
- (2) Reduces man-hours and enhances work efficiency through various operations on the web-based management screen.
 - Reduction of man-hours by automatically allocating order information to each Cart.

MITSUI-SOKO GROUP

Press Release

- Improvement and enhancement of work accuracy through the visualization of work progress rates and workloads of responsible personnel.
- (3) Enhances work efficiency by reducing workers' walking distance and work hours, thanks to B-STORM's unique route search technology that calculates the optimal picking route.
 - Approximately 70% reduction in walking distance and about 40% reduction in work hours (according to B-STORM).

Since formulating the MITSUI-SOKO Group DX Strategy in 2021, the Group has been focused on creating societal value through digitization and visualization in supply chain management (SCM). We are committed to achieving optimal operations that enhance efficiency, reduce costs, and improve quality by leveraging the latest technologies, advanced robotics, material handling solutions, and other innovations.

In response to challenges such as labor shortages due to the declining birthrate and aging population, rising wages, and intensifying competition, we will continue to support the growth of our customers' businesses by promoting the automation and semi-automation of field operations, along with other measures to enhance productivity and quality through smart logistics.

###

For inquiries regarding this matter:

MITSUI-SOKO HOLDINGS Co., Ltd. Digital Strategy Division Email: dx@mitsui-soko.co.jp

For inquiries regarding this press release:

MITSUI-SOKO HOLDINGS Co., Ltd. Strategic Planning Division Public Relations Team Email: <u>kouhou@mitsui-soko.co.jp</u>