Order picking robots take up service at Fiege

The next step towards a digitised warehouse in Ibbenbüren

Ibbenbüren, 12th of October 2016. Three order-picking robots have taken up service at Fiege Logistik in Ibbenbüren. A four-member developer team from the Munich robotics start-up, Magazino, have started putting the robots into operation. The three TORU Cube robots are to pick online orders for footwear. Tobias Hepke, branch manager of the Fiege Mega Center Ibbenbüren, is pleased about the addition to the team and says: “I find the topic extremely exciting and am thrilled that together we are advancing robotics for applications in intralogistics here.”

During the first weeks after the arrival of the robots the software developers will design a map of the area of application and of the surroundings and will start with first navigation and grab tests. Moritz Tenorth, the head of Magazino’s software department, described the requirements for this as excellent: “The warehouse is very structured and tidy, the racks are well placed - this makes the robot’s first steps in its new surroundings so much easier.”

Picking of boxes for shoes ordered online

The interconnected robot features a 3D camera and a laser which allows it to scan its surroundings. In a first step, the software developers will help the robot to find its way around the warehouse so that it can determine its position and drive to the individual spaces. Once there, it is to grab a shoebox from the rack and place it onto a picking trolley.

The robot projects a laser cross onto the shoebox, enabling it to measure the distance to the item and direct the arms accordingly. The smooth surface of a shoebox is ideal for this, but still, the developers had to solve a few problems. “For example, if the cross is partially projected onto the box’s lid and that lid protrudes a little, there is a shift in the cross’ depth”, explains Tenorth. The robot had to be taught new ways to recognise this.

Integration of robots into logistical flows

But no one shoebox is like the other. Some shoeboxes are perforated, others have a lid that protrudes significantly and yet others even have a handle on the side. “We tend to look at a shoebox as something rather simple, cuboid. In reality, however, the environment presents itself much more complex to the robot”, says Tenorth. Until the robots can work together with people in the warehouse in Ibbenbüren, a few more weeks are likely to pass. “I am really looking forward to when the robots have been integrated into the logistical flows here, and are connected to our interfaces”, says Tobias Hepke. And there is more: “I hope to gain further support for our work, but one thing is certain: robots will not be able to replace our employees. However, they can support our employees and are a further element on the road towards a digitised, transparent warehouse.”

**Zu Fiege:** Die Fiege Gruppe mit Stammsitz in Greven, Westfalen, zählt zu den führenden Logistikanbietern in Europa. Ihre Kompetenz besteht insbesondere in der Entwicklung und Realisierung integrierter, ganzheitlicher Logistiksysteme. Sie gilt als Pionier der Kontraktlogistik. Die Gruppe erwirtschaftete 2015 mit 10.500 Mitarbeitern weltweit einen Umsatz von 1,4 Milliarden Euro. 160 Standorte und Kooperationen in 15 Ländern bilden ein engmaschiges logistisches Netzwerk. 2,7 Millionen Quadratmeter Lager- und Logistikflächen sprechen für die Leistungsfähigkeit des Unternehmens. Mehr Informationen zu Fiege finden Sie auf [www.fiege.com](http://www.fiege.com)

**Zu Magazino:** Die Magazino GmbH mit Sitz in München wurde 2014 von Frederik Brantner, Lukas Zanger und Nikolas Engelhard gegründet. Das Startup ist mittlerweile auf über 50 Mitarbeiter angewachsen und entwickelt und baut wahrnehmungsgesteuerte, mobile Roboter für die Intralogistik. Der Kommissionier-Roboter TORU ist die neueste Entwicklung von Magazino. Konnten bisher meist nur ganze Ladungsträger wie Paletten oder Kisten automatisiert geholt werden, so wird mit TORU der stückgenaue Zugriff auf das einzelne Objekt möglich. Mit Magazinos Technologie können über 2D- und 3D-Kameras einzelne Objekte im Regal identifiziert und lokalisiert, sicher gegriffen und schließlich präzise an ihrem Bestimmungsort wieder abgelegt werden. Der intelligente Roboter TORU arbeitet parallel mit den Menschen und bringt benötigte Teile zum richtigen Zeitpunkt direkt bis zur Werkbank oder zur Versandstation. Magazino liefert damit die perfekte Waren-Logistik für die Industrie 4.0. Weitere Informationen zu Magazino finden Sie auf [www.magazino.eu](http://www.magazino.eu)

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