



Franke GmbH
Mumpferfährstr. 70
79713 Bad Säckingen

Franke Group invests in its Bad Säckingen facility

Groundbreaking ceremony for state-of-the-art logistics center

Bad Säckingen, August 16, 2017

Franke has initiated the active construction phase of its new logistics center in Bad Säckingen with an official groundbreaking ceremony. By the end of 2018 the Franke Group will expand its existing logistics center on the Franke GmbH premises to include a fully automated high-bay warehouse for the Franke Kitchen Systems and Franke Water Systems divisions. Automated storage and preparation for dispatch will guarantee a considerably more efficient and flexible flow of goods in the future, thereby improving again the level of service for customers.

The initial construction work on the state-of-the-art logistics center already began at the beginning of 2017, the approval planning was coordinated by the Heidelberg planning office io-consultants, and the engineering company for the construction industry Hulverscheidt + Kindler of Bad Krozingen is now responsible for the detailed execution planning and site management.

After a short greeting by Stefan Kükenhöfner, Managing Director of Franke GmbH, Alexander Zschokke, CEO of the Franke Group, emphasized the strategic importance of the project – both for the German market as well as internationally. "Franke is growing – both Franke Kitchen Systems as well as Franke Water Systems. In addition to strong products, an excellent service level is increasingly becoming a competitive advantage. With the investment in the new logistics center we are boosting the availability of our goods and the increasing automation is leading to faster reaction times and shorter delivery times. In addition to the German market, other European Franke logistics locations served through Bad Säckingen are also profiting."

Dr. Lukas Burkhardt, COO of the Franke Group, addressed important technical facts and details. Mayor Alexander Guhl was also on site and welcomed Franke's decision to invest in its Bad Säckingen facility. Michael Pieper, CEO and owner of the Artemis Group, gave a short retrospective of the meanwhile 67-year history of Franke, underscored the relevance of the Bad Säckingen site and highlighted the extensive investments made in the past. The official breaking of ground was then duly celebrated.



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More storage capacity and a shortened logistics chain

By the end of 2018 a new fully automated high-bay warehouse including eight loading ramps for incoming goods will be constructed on the around 59,000 m² company premises on Mumpferfährstrasse. With a height of about 31 meters, the new 13-story high-bay warehouse will accommodate more than 26,000 pallets. A hall extension of approximately 4,000 m² will also be added to the existing storage capacities. Around 6,000 pick-by-voice locations will be created here. The goods are placed in storage in the new high-bay warehouse and transported to the modern packing stations fully automatically. A total of six storage and retrieval machines will be in use to this purpose.

The consolidation of goods for dispatch will also be automated. With the aid of a conveying system the goods will travel through the production hall to the new packing and dispatch area. The goods will then finally be loaded via 25 truck loading platforms – sorted according to the respective mode of transportation.

Thanks to the new logistics center Franke will be able to organize goods processing in a significantly more efficient and flexible way in the future so that the standard products of the kitchen specialists will be dispatched within approximately 2 to 24 hours after receiving the order.

An important investment

With a capital investment of about 25 million euros, the new construction project for the Franke Group is an important investment for safeguarding the future. In addition, up to 100 additional employees could be hired at the site by 2025.

Stainless steel sinks have already been developed and manufactured in Bad Säckingen since 1955. In the meantime, output has grown to around 800,000 sinks per annum. From there they are shipped all over the world together with high-quality faucets and practical accessories such as strainer bowls, cutting boards, or rollmats as well as with Franke electrical appliances.

Starting in 2019, the new high-bay warehouse is also intended for use by the Franke Water Systems division and to serve as the central European warehouse for both divisions.

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Parts of the existing buildings as well as parking spaces on the premises of Franke GmbH have already been relocated for the planned construction work. Over the course of the project, the employee cafeteria, which was inaugurated in May, has also undergone a fundamental redesign.

Captions:



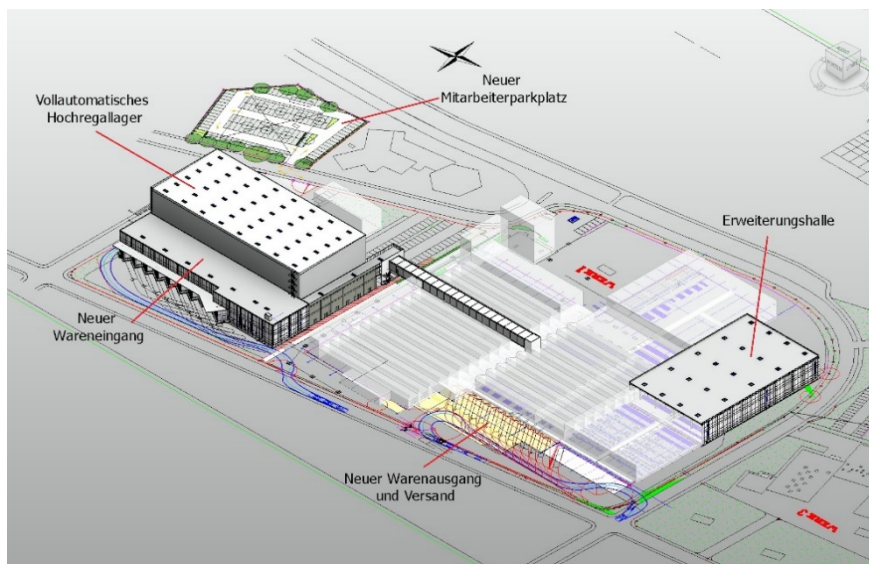
Franke Logistics Center 01

The Franke Group will expand the existing logistics center on the premises of Franke GmbH in Bad Säckingen by a fully automated 13-story high-bay warehouse by the end of 2018. With a height of about 31 meters, it will accommodate more than 26,000 pallets.



Franke Logistics Center 02

Franke will also expand the existing storage capacities by a hall extension of approximately 4,000 m².



Franke Logistics Center 03

The goods are placed in storage in the new high-bay warehouse and transported to the modern packing stations fully automatically. With the aid of a conveying system the goods will travel through the production hall to the new packing and dispatch area.

Photos: Franke GmbH



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About Franke GmbH

The success story of Franke Kitchen Systems – today the world's biggest sink manufacturer and supplier of high-quality taps, waste separation systems and hoods – began in 1931 with the manufacture of the first stainless steel sinks. Franke GmbH, the German production and sales company of the Kitchen Systems division is headquartered in Bad Säckingen and employs a workforce of 230. Stainless steel sinks have been developed, manufactured, and shipped all over the world together with practical accessories since 1955.

About the Franke Group

Franke belongs to the Artemis Group and is a leading global provider of solutions and equipment for domestic kitchens, private bathrooms, semi-/public washrooms, the professional foodservice sector, and coffee preparation. The Franke Group operates worldwide and employs around 9,000 people in 40 countries, generating sales of over CHF 2.0 billion.

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