

Challenge Solution

Client

adidas USA, Inc.
Spartanburg, South Carolina

adidas USA, Inc., is a leading manufacturer and distributor of athletic footwear and apparel to retail stores nationwide.

Challenge

adidas USA's distribution center is comprised of two separate buildings, 260,000 square feet each. One building distributes footwear, the other apparel. Mantissa's task was to retrofit the facility to streamline all processing operations into one building and reserve storage into the other. The two buildings were to be connected by a material handling spline.

Solution

The centerpiece of this retrofit was Mantissa's tilt-tray sortation system, which would support the receiving, quality control, special handling, packing and shipping requirements.

Mantissa designed a tilt-tray sorter 654' long with 328 trays and carriages, and 5 automatic inductors. The sorter travels at a speed of 340' per minute and can perform approximately 400 sorts per minute.

The tilt-tray sorter serves as a "traffic circle" or interchange for all conveyor subsystems. All product passes through the sortation process as it moves from Receiving to Shipping, and many items are sorted more than once as they are processed through the functional areas of the Distribution Center.

The addition of the tilt-tray sorter to the adidas facility has enhanced responsiveness and general customer service by increasing throughput without significantly increasing personnel.

