

Press report

Large volume container for automobile production

Logistics subsidiary of Kia Motors opts for BITO-Lagertechnik

The Kia Motors Corporation have established their first automotive production plant in Europe in Zilina, Slovakia. With a staff of approximately 3 000, the company is to manufacture 300 000 vehicles a year, in three model ranges. Kia's daughter company Glovis accounts for in-house and external logistics. Among other tasks, Glovis is in charge of organising supplies, i.e. they see that the huge amount of components delivered is available in due time and at the right place within the plant at Zilina. For internal distribution, Glovis use XL containers of BITO-Lagertechnik Bittmann GmbH.

BITO containers make Kia in-house logistics efficient

Kia buys many automobile components from abroad. Components arriving from Korea to the Slovak production plant are packed in always the same type of cardboard boxes. In order to allow in-house handling, Glovis places them into a defined BITO stacking container model of the XL series to make the Korean deliveries suitable for internal transport, intermediate storage on pallets or for replenishing supplies along assembly lines. Some 20,000 XL containers of many dimensions circulate in the Kia plant, 1 500 of which are dimensioned 800 x 600 x 320 mm (length x depth x height).

An increasing number of customers such as Kia use robust large-volume containers for transporting and storing bulky and heavy goods. The biggest container of the XL series is sized 800 x 600 x 320 mm (length x depth x height) and has closed sides and a closed base. Customers can choose between a standard base model with a load capacity of 60 kg and a double base container

with a load capacity of 150 kg. Moreover, the XL sized 800 x 600 mm is optionally available with a hinged lid.

In the case of very heavy loads, handling requires a hand pallet truck or a fork lift truck. For this purpose, BITO also provides the XL 800 x 600 mm with optional fork entry shoes. Even with fork entry shoes, the container remains stackable. Further convincing features are ergonomic open handgrips and its good stacking stability. XL models with view and pick opening which are particularly suited for assembly and order picking environments top off the XL series.

Immediate repacking from maritime containers into BITO containers

Glovis opted for XL containers providing the largest available volume, equipped with open handgrips, without pick opening and without fork entry shoes. BITO applied the Glovis logo by tampon print onto two sides of all containers and also developed a special label holder which allows error free scanning.

Most vehicle components and other parts are transported in maritime containers from overseas suppliers to the Kia plant at Zilina. Immediately after arrival, the complete freight of many containers is repacked into BITO containers. Large volume containers are used to transport larger components to the storage area whereas smaller-sized XL containers are loaded with small parts and components such as screws and bolts, nuts, washers and so on for direct transport to the assembly lines where they are fed into BITO carton live storage racking for immediate access.

In the meantime, BITO containers also attracted the attention of Kia's parts and components supplier, Mobis. Mobis, the main supplier of Kia Motors Slovakia who has established a parts and components production plant next to the Kia plant, also uses XL containers with special label holders.



Picture:
Supply of parts and components in BITO carton live storage racking units installed along assembly lines

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