

Sustainable logistics for LIDL in Slovakia

In February 2016, LIDL celebrated the opening of its third national logistics centre for Slovakia in the town of Sered'. The building, with its grey shell and sustainable core, received BREEAM certification with the highest possible appraisal rating. This makes it the first logistics centre in the country – and the fourteenth worldwide – to achieve this award.

Pleasantly cool air greets staff and visitors as they enter the new LIDL logistics centre in Sered's industrial zone. Covering around 128,000m² and with 200 staff, the facility stores fruit, fish, frozen food and many more goods for daily dispatch to the supermarket discounter's outlets across Slovakia.

LIDL's main aim at the new handling terminal was not only to ensure the quality of its goods by having the best possible indoor climate. It was equally keen to minimise the carbon footprint that it leaves behind. SAUTER solutions in another LIDL logistics centre, as well as SAUTER's servicing performance, had already been a great success and so the discounter opted again to work with the building automation specialist in Sered'.

A flexible solution for maximum shelf life

When apples are stored alongside bread and household products, room temperature plays a major role. When temperatures are correct, food stays fresher for longer and cold-sensitive products are less likely to deteriorate. At the same time, employees benefit from a workplace that is pleasantly climatized.

To meet these many requirements, LIDL commissioned a system offering demand-based control of all room climate parameters. In the eight months leading up to the opening, SAUTER technicians fitted the 50 million-plus logistics centre with cutting-edge automation technology. Future-proof SAUTER EY-modulo 5 equipment provides optimum storage conditions. SAUTER modu525 and SAUTER ecos500 automation and room automation stations guarantee automatic cooling and a fresh air supply to all areas.

Eco-friendly operation

LIDL wanted a logistics centre that uses resources sparingly. Integral automation of the systems allows the facility to achieve maximum energy efficiency. The SAUTER solution includes DALI-integrated lamps for controlling lighting which results in low power consumption.

Aspiring to create one of the most modern and resource-friendly logistics centres in Europe, LIDL has decided on other measures here, besides an advanced building automation system. The cooling system is run on renewable energy and waste heat is recovered to heat the premises. Rainwater is collected and used in the toilets as grey water.



Operators gather data on consumption with the seamlessly integrated energy management system. LIDL has thus clearly shown that it is possible to achieve energy efficiency and temperature-controlled handling, even when storing a diverse range of goods. The BREEAM experts who awarded the LIDL Logistické centrum Sered' the maximum number of points – the first Slovakian logistics centre and only the fourteenth worldwide to achieve this – were indeed also impressed by its sustainable resource use.

LIDL in Slovakia

LIDL has been operating on the Slovakian market since 2004. Today, around 4,000 people work for the discount chain across the country. Three logistics centres supply the country's 127 outlets daily.