



# THE COOP GROUP

## The Art of Simplicity

**Less is more when it comes to complex logistics processes. This is particularly true for the Swiss retail and wholesale company, the Coop Group, which trusts in SSI SCHAEFER's customized, high-tech software solution for greater efficiency and technical performance.**

The Coop Group looks back on more than 150 years of company history. What started out as a small co-op has by now grown into the biggest retail and wholesale company in Switzerland with approximately 86,000 employees and almost 2,500 stores.

Since 2001, Coop has been placing its trust in the competence and expertise of SSI SCHAEFER when it comes to warehouse management. With the proprietary logistics software WAMAS® a uniform WMS solution was implemented at many Coop locations. This resulted in the optimization of performance and harmonization of logistics processes.

### THE PROJECT

Back in 2012 the existing WAMAS® warehouse management system at Coop was replaced with the latest generation of the software. The objective of the program is to upgrade the existing locations to WAMAS®

and to implement WAMAS® at many further and new locations as the central, uniform warehouse management software throughout the Coop Group.

At the beginning of the project a thorough review of existing processes was carried out and additional requirements for the program were identified.

All customer requirements could therefore be considered and implemented in the project. Over the entire course of the project, specialist IT know-how played a crucial role, along with efficient project management, goal-orientated process advice, and flexible rollout support.



HEADQUARTERS:  
Basel, Switzerland

EMPLOYEES:  
86,000

SECTORS:  
Food & Retail

LOGISTICS SOLUTION:  
Manual up to fully automated

WMS SOLUTION:  
WAMAS® 5

The applied solution was especially convincing due to the modern software architecture and its scalability.

Finally, IT was integral to the project in almost every aspect: connecting different third-party systems and implementing various interfaces (SAP, tour planning, material flow and control systems, production connections). The diverse range of Coop company sites and stakeholders with varying logistical features made this software modernization project a major challenge. ▶

In production, distribution, and e-commerce alike, a standardized WMS solution has been gradually introduced at many sites for manual, semi-automated, and fully automated logistics processes.

The result is a version of WAMAS® with customized Coop elements. The existing systems at the majority of sites were replaced during ongoing operation, as were the connections to external partners and sub-systems, which involved setting up numerous interfaces.

The newest flagship is the state-of-the-art logistics center in Schafisheim. The expansion of the regional distribution center and the construction of the

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Christian Deyerl  
Head of Coop WAMAS® 5 Program  
at SSI SCHAEFER

national deep-freeze distribution center - the biggest bakery and patisserie in Switzerland - was not only the largest construction project in Coop's history, but also set new standards in terms of logistics and sustainability.

The distribution center in the canton of Aargau supplies approximately 40 % of all Coop supermarkets - roughly 350 outlets - in north-west Switzerland, central Switzerland, and the Zürich area. In addition, 1,200 Coop supermarkets, megastores, and Coop Pronto shops also get their frozen products from Schafisheim.

#### THE RÉSUMÉ

With the highest degree of competence, professionalism, and passion, the SSI SCHAEFER team of experts dedicated themselves to this large project with Coop. Even before the modernization project was complete, the Coop Group began to record significant improvements in their logistics processes.

"Standardizing the WMS solution has helped us to optimize and further develop the logistics processes. At the same time, these actions have also resulted in increased transparency and reliable traceability of transactions and information flows," summarizes Christian Deyerl of SSI SCHAEFER.

Further positive aspects for Coop are lower costs and even greater synergies. ■

## CHALLENGE

Connection to different third-party systems and implementation of various interfaces during running operation

## OBJECTIVE

Harmonization of the logistics processes through a uniform WMS solution at all Coop locations and the changeover to WAMAS® logistics software

## SOLUTION

WAMAS® 5 with customized Coop elements for manual, semi-automated, and fully automated logistics processes

## RESULT

The logistics processes were developed further and optimized. This resulted in increased transparency and ensured traceability of material flows and information flows.

# SSI SCHAEFER GROUP

The SSI SCHAEFER Group is the world's leading provider of modular warehousing and logistics solutions. It employs approximately 10,500 people at its group headquarters in Neunkirchen (Germany), at eight domestic and international production sites, and at approximately 70 worldwide operative subsidiaries. Across six continents, SSI SCHAEFER develops and implements innovative industry-specific answers to its customers' unique challenges. As a result, it plays a key role in shaping the future of intralogistics.

SSI SCHAEFER designs, develops and manufactures systems for warehouses, industrial plants, workshops and offices.

Its portfolio includes manual and automated solutions for warehousing, conveying, picking and sorting, plus technologies for waste management and recycling.

In addition, SSI SCHAEFER is now a leading provider of modular, regularly updated software for in-house material flows. Its IT team, with a headcount in excess of 1,100, develops high-performance applications, and provides customers with in-depth advice on the intelligent combination of software with intralogistics equipment. SSI SCHAEFER's broad IT offering, including its own WAMAS® and SAP products, delivers seamless support for all

warehouse and material flow management processes. Solutions from SSI SCHAEFER improve the productivity and efficiency of customer organizations - not least through the highly precise monitoring, visualization and analysis of operational metrics for proactive intralogistics management.

SSI SCHAEFER offers highly sophisticated, turnkey systems. As an international player, it can deliver one-stop solutions to all four corners of the earth. Its comprehensive portfolio encompasses design, planning, consulting, and customer-specific aftersales services and maintenance.



## SSI SCHAEFER IT-COMPETENCE

- 35 years of IT experience
- 1,100 IT experts
- 35 IT sites worldwide
- 500 WAMAS® customers
- 1,200 running systems
- 50,000 WAMAS® users