

Project:

Consolidating strength and competence



How to build a new logistics-centre in 2 years, transfer 30.000 pallets and disband 5 logistics-centres.

The customer:

Gebrüder Weiss is Austria's largest family-owned transport- and logistics services provider.

3,900 employees in 21 countries and 134 branches. Through Gebrüder Weiss's growing activity in the Eastern European markets, Vienna is becoming a location of growing importance.



Logistics Consulting

Problem: five individual sites, limited capacities, no space for growth and many interfaces

Gebrüder Weiss operated five individual logistic-centres in the Vienna area. Due to strong growth of Gebrüder Weiss all sites in the Vienna Area were at maximum capacity with no space for further growth and development. All five centres maintained and funded their own personell, IT-systems and other infrastructure. The physical distance between the individual warehousing, cross-docking and transportation units resulted in considerable costs and traffic between the five centres.

Solution: consolidation into one new logistics-centre

In the first phase we developed a pilot study which served as a basis for decision making for the customer. The main topics in this study were the potential location, size and dimensions of the new site as well as the technical requirements of the building. We calculated the necessary capital and reviewed the "Return on Investment". On this basis we also calculated the expected future monthly fixed costs as well as the variable production costs.

In the second phase "implementation" we planned the layout of the centre and defined the new

processes. The connections of the different business units "warehouse, transportation, Air & Sea and cross-docking" were optimised through incorporating a cargo conveyor system.

Based on the newly defined processes we could describe and implement all the necessary IT-systems, for example

Tipp:

Ensure a steady flow of information, and transparency in the decision making process between the construction and process planners. An unsuitable building creates expensive processes.

for controlling cargo flow, the truck- fleet management system, the paperless-warehouse-process as well as the security systems.

The driving force behind our efforts was the time-critical relocation of all five sites as well as the transfer of major customers into the new logistic site.





Project Management

Problem: rapid business growth and highly stretched resources

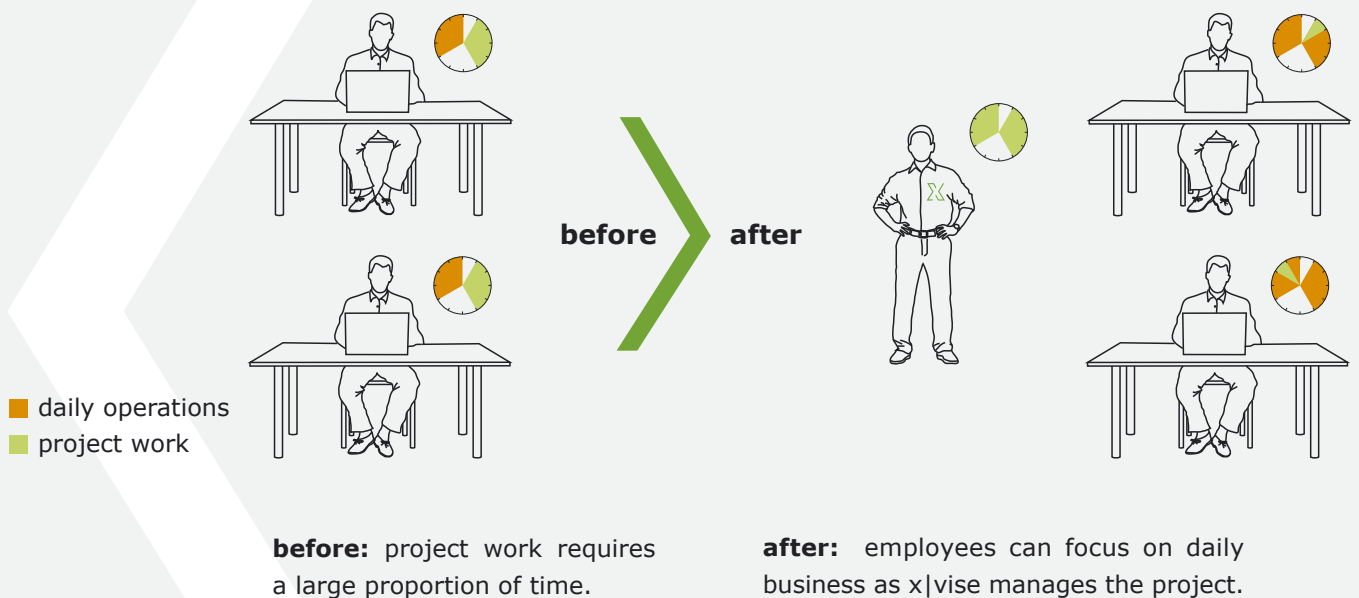
Business growth of between 20% and 80% in the last years required employees to focus on daily business and did not leave capacity for handling a project of this size internally. The implementation required additional resources on the one hand and well founded know-how in project management on the other hand.

Solution: hire external project-management experts

x|vise was able to bring in its knowledge and experience in project-management. The project organisation, decision support processes, project scheduling, cost control and risk management were all managed by x|vise. Additionally x|vise provided professional reporting and managed the information flow amongst the entire project team during the implementation as well as the planning phase. x|vise also coordinated all internal and external suppliers and service providers.

Tipp:

Projects with a duration of more than one year can easily run over budget, for example due to unexpected business growth or technical advances. x|vise recommend putting a contingency of 5 – 10 % in your budget for unforeseen costs.



Customer Benefit

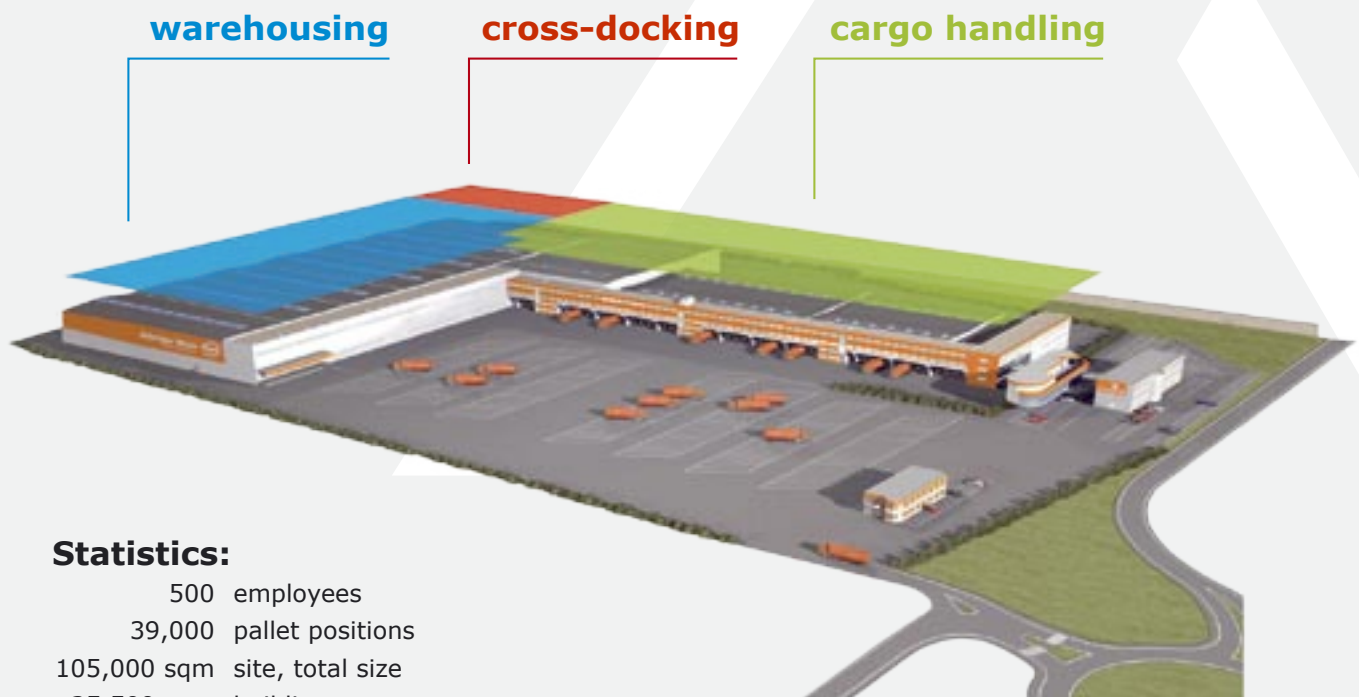
- × on schedule availability of the new logistic centre
- × project under budget by 1,1 Mill. EURO
- × minimal internal personnel requirements for the customer

customer statement:

„The new centre is a milestone for Gebrüder Weiss on our way to delivering integrated logistics solutions. We have further enhanced our service quality by minimising interfaces and introducing paperless processes. The new centre gives us the space to completely focus on our customers needs. We are in an ideal geographical location right at the doorstep of the growth markets in Central- and Eastern Europe, yet still directly in Vienna.“

Jürgen Bauer

Director, Eastern Region, Gebrüder Weiss.



Statistics:

500 employees
39,000 pallet positions
105,000 sqm site, total size
35,500 sqm building
EUR 50 mill. investment
1,225 trucks per day capacity
18,000 sqm cargo handling and cross-docking area

total duration of project 2 years
400 man-days project management

Planning and realisation of logistics-centres

Saving time and money with x|vise

- × x|vise are an industry insider with extensive knowledge of logistic- and customer processes.
- × we are an independent consultant.
- × tried and tested tools create cost- and time savings. Our cooperation with experienced partners (technical planners and suppliers) brings further benefits to our clients.
- × consulting, planning and implementing: your designated x|vise partner supports you throughout the entire project.
- × x|vise also supports you in the accompanying change-management needs of your employees.

We are an independent subsidiary of the logistics group Gebrüder Weiss. We have a wealth of experience at our disposal, gained with the execution of logistic-centres throughout Europe.

About x|vise

x|vise is a practically oriented consulting company specialised in analysing and optimising logistics processes. We specialise in the areas of warehousing, procurement, distribution as well as the design of controlling information processes.

Our customers particularly value our creativity, our experience in all logistical matters and our very personal and committed way of working with our clients.