



automated system integration for Asendia

o&i consulting provides operations, facilities and programme management expertise to the parcel logistics sector. Asendia wished to install an automated sorting system and six new robots for over-labelling - an industry first - at its Heathrow parcel processing centre, and asked o&i consulting for expert support in ensuring the successful delivery of this programme.



hands-on subject matter expertise from concept design to commissioning

A global leader in international e-commerce and mail business, Asendia is a joint venture of La Poste and Swiss Post, with its main UK hub at Heathrow. In order to invest in the future, accelerate throughput and increase hub capacity, Asendia wished to automate the sort process at its Heathrow facility.

Tasked with leading the delivery of the overall automation programme, o&i consulting worked closely with Asendia UK and its project stakeholders at all stages of design, implementation and commissioning of the new facility.

Through our involvement in the system development, from concept through to live operation, we had the pleasure of collaborating with automation and robotics solution providers. Together, the team created and fully implemented a bespoke parcel processing system - an automated cross-belt sorter, with scanners, printers, digital photography and six robots – with the capability of seamlessly performing the functions of relabelling, routing, sorting, weighing and dimension-checking of parcels.

project management for an industry first

In our role of project manager, o&i consulting engaged and managed stakeholders across a number of UK and international locations, providing subject matter expertise, incorporating design revisions and refinements, and overseeing the installation of the technical solution. The challenge was increased by the strict travel restrictions in place as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic, requiring much of the early programme communications to take place remotely.

operations readiness

Responsible for ensuring the operation was ready for go-live, o&i consulting created and delivered the ORAT plan and managed the operational readiness activities. This included coordinating and running a series of trials to fully test each aspect of the system under a range of scenarios, identifying and resolving issues and risks along the way.

delivering improved performance

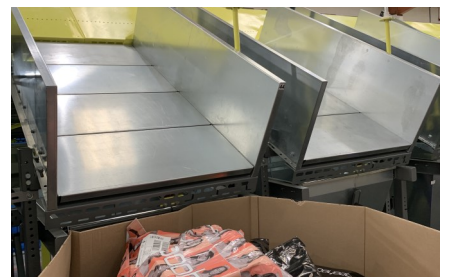
Asendia is now fully operating its new automated sortation system and six robotic arms for over-labelling parcels; what is believed to be an industry first. The new facility provides an increased parcel throughput for Asendia's clients at a rate of up to 7,200 parcels per hour, with maximum flexibility for despatch and the ability to sort items into bags, pallet boxes, or onward into air containers. The speed of a parcel's journey through the sort has been cut from 9 hours to 2 minutes.

o&i consulting is proud to have been involved in the successful delivery of this leading-edge project for Asendia.

"o&i consulting successfully managed all the complexities of the project, dealing and building relations with the various global external and internal stakeholders, in order to ensure the project deliverables matched the requirements and targets set up by us.

From design, commissioning, project management, testing and launch, the o&i team supported Asendia UK through all stages of the project until its completion. The result was a successful launch in 2022, and an automated system considered state-of-the-art within the cross-border parcel industry."

Luis Barros, Chief Operating Officer, Asendia UK Ltd



about o&i consulting

o&i consulting is a niche operations consultancy, specialising in the aviation, transportation and logistics sectors. We apply industrial engineering and operational research skills, project management expertise and broad industry experience to help our clients to fully understand their operation, improve the performance of their existing operations, develop efficient new facilities and create a positive customer experience.

David Calder
Director, o&i consulting
+44 (0)7990 572 895
davidcalder@oandiconsulting.com

Nigel Marsh
Director, o&i consulting
+44 (0)7919 202 067
nigelmarsh@oandiconsulting.com

www.oandiconsulting.com

