

# FLOW INSTEAD OF DOWNTIME

## Case Study // BASF Italia S.p.A.

Automation in safety-critical industries: The customer project at BASF Italia proves how well these two go together. At the Pontecchio Marconi plant, an autonomous Linde L-MATIC AC pallet stacker takes over a standardized transport process that previously tied up the labor of qualified employees and repeatedly led to downtime.



**Company:** BASF Italia S.p.A., Pontecchio Marconi (Italy)

**Industry:** Chemicals industry

**Task:** Analysis, planning, and implementation of an AGV solution for pallet transport and its networking with the production equipment

**Linde solution:** Automated, self-controlled Linde L-MATIC AC pallet stacker with geo navigation



## Task

At the Pontecchio Marconi plant near Bologna, Italy, BASF Italia produces additives for plastics that are exported to around 50 countries. A critical point in the intralogistics was the transport from the packaging line to the intermediate storage. Previously, an employee had been assigned to transport the goods prepared by the packaging machine to the intermediate storage area by forklift truck – which repeatedly led to downtime between transports. An automated solution could make this process more efficient and safer.

## Challenge

The BASF plant operates in accordance with the strict Seveso III safety directive, so the Linde solution had to ensure these high requirements continued to be met. At the same time, the customer wanted the implementation to be carried out with as little intervention in the existing infrastructure as possible.



**Win-win situation** While the Linde L-MATIC AC takes care of a standardized process, the employees at BASF Italia can devote themselves to more profitable tasks.

## Solution

An automated Linde L-MATIC AC pallet stacker was integrated into the plant based on a detailed workplace safety analysis. The truck manages the transport between the packaging machine and the intermediate storage area completely independently using geo navigation. By integrating it into the existing IT infrastructure, the industrial truck communicates with the packaging equipment, meaning it is always ready at exactly the right time.

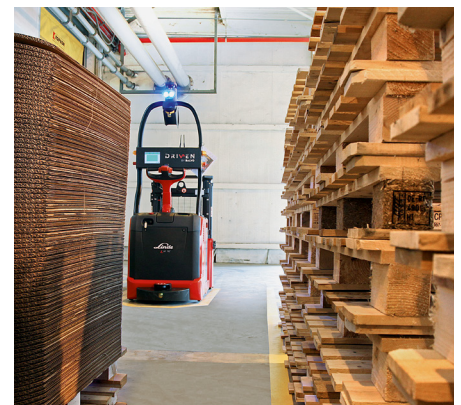
## Advantages

The Linde solution not only saves valuable working time, but thanks to integrated lasers it does not require any reflectors, magnetic bands, or guide rails; the vehicle, which is also equipped with BlueSpot™ and other safety features, detects obstacles and brakes automatically if necessary. Another advantage is the high flexibility, as the working speed of the equipment can be easily adjusted to fluctuations in the order situation.



»The integrated project allows us to react immediately to changes; the scalability in particular is a great advantage.«

Mario Serranti, Supply Chain and Logistic Manager, BASF Italia S.p.A.



**Effectively synchronized** The Linde pallet stacker is networked with the packaging equipment – avoiding downtimes and increasing productivity.

## Roll it!

The button leads you directly to our video, which shines a light on the customer project at BASF in all its facets.

