The Role of New Technology for Logistics Operations

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Current Situation (not only) in Logistics

Companies request:

- Individual logistics services
- Fulfillment of flexible and extensive turn-key 3PL services
- Support for tailor-made processes and value-added services
- Transparency of costs and performance
- What companies don't want
 - Long contract periods
 - High basic investments



Those Requirements are true for both...





IT-Architecture: TODAY Monolithic Software Blocks





IT-Architecture: TOMORROW Internet of Services





Logistics Mall – Cloud Computing for Logistics



- Virtual marketplace for logistics and IT apps
- The way from application-centric processes (like MES, WMS and ERP) to service-oriented processes



Fields of Innovation

Logistics-by-Design (Standards)

Standardized structures called <u>business objects</u> for the definition and modeling of logistics services and objects

→ Allowing easy integration of business processes and services

Logistics-on-Demand (Tools)

Cloud-based tools for the integration and development of logistics services → Support for the creation of flexible business processes

Logistics-as-a-Product (Marketplace)

Virtual marketplace for custom-made logistics processes ranging from single services to complete software solutions
→ Logistics processes as tradable goods



Internet of Services - Business Objects



Those Requirements are true for both...

Intelligent Objects - Timeline

Smart Transport Items

Reference: Würth Industrie Service GmbH & Co. KG

- Examples for smart load carrier / smart transport items
 - Inbin, the intelligent bin (Fraunhofer)
 - Saves and communicates information about goods
 - Organizes and controls the material flow
 - IBin, storage solution (Würth)
 - C-part management based on image recognition
 - Kanban: automatic reordering when bin gets empty

Transport Systems Innovations - Timeline

Cellular Transport Systems

- Combination of smart transport items and cellular transport systems
 - Flexible flow of goods
 - Routes
 - Throughput
 - Ad-hoc adaption to changing environments
 - (Static) infrastructure-reduced logistics
- Cooperation of men and machine

Cellular Transport Systems Swarm Intelligence

- Exchanging of sensor information in a mesh network
- Autonomous behaviour detects relevant changes in the environment

- Coordinated, free path planning to reduce waiting time and to guarantee the achievement of transports
- Consideration of mission/transport priorities and vehicle properties

Industrie 4.0: Developments towards Smart Factory

Intelligent Transport Items

- → Sensor intelligence
- → Communicating
- → Energy harvesting

Cellular Transport Systems

- \rightarrow Autonomous driving
- \rightarrow Self-controlled behaviour
- \rightarrow Swarm intelligence

Rack Racer

→ Autonomous vehicle

- → Diagonal movements in the shelf
- → Bionic shape

New ICT and Equipment Technology will enable Logistics Systems which are:

- Scalable (in costs and throughput)
- Flexible (in tasks and usage)
- Adaptable (to changing environments and requirements)
- Ad-hoc useable (without long ramp-up or development times)
- Affordable (even for small enterprises)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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