

Hilton Food Group is a leading specialist meat-packing business supplying to major international food retailers, and their meat packing facility in Västerås, Sweden, is among Europe's largest and most up-to-date systems. The packing facility contains a fully automated raw materials store with a capacity of 350 tons meat – generating 35 pallets inbound and 35 pallets outbound per hour. The raw materials store, which was established in cooperation with UNIVEYOR, works as a buffer store for meat and has replaced the manual handling in the store.

When the raw materials enter Hilton Food Groups' store, weight and bar code information is checked to ensure consistency between the actual contents of crates and the contents recorded in the storage system.

## Retursystem

Not only the shuttle store is automated – UNIVEYOR has also supplied an automatic de-stacking system: Products are placed in crates from Retursystem – a Swedish logistics system for returnable crates – which are placed on pallets in 4 stacks of 8 crates each. Also, empty pallets are stacked in stacks of 17 pallets, which are subsequently strapped and conveyed onwards in the conveying system – all in a fully automatic process.



## SHUTTLE STORE

A shuttle store is an automatic compact store with shuttle vehicle placed on transfer car with built-in chain conveyor for quick and safe transfer of goods at entry and exit positions. The shuttle vehicle runs between rails. On its way into the store, the platform on the shuttle vehicle is lifted, and when reaching the requested storage location, the platform is lowered and the pallet moves to this location. The shuttle vehicle returns to the transfer car, ready for a new operation.

The storage aisles are built of steel profiles mounted in pallet racks, forming a self-sustaining construction.

Shuttle stores are characterized by their special suitability for stores with a large volume and few article numbers. Also, a shuttle store is extremely compact and space-saving, and it minimizes the risk of damage to goods and packaging. Due to the modular design of the system it is easily extendable.



**Anette Meijer, Project Manager of Hilton Food Group, says:**

*"With their simple shuttle store solution system, Univeyor offered the best possible storage logistics systems to us, at the same time as presenting a favourable price for this concept.*

*They also offered a WMS solution capable of communicating with our SAP system, which was essential to us.*

*Univeyor was able to show us reference systems at Arla in Vimmerby and Marabou in Stockholm."*