

# ADN is experiencing substantial growth

From the central warehouse in Oosterhout, where 30,000 articles are kept on stock, AutoDistribution Nederland (ADN) supplies car parts and accessories to numerous AD wholesalers. However, the number of affiliates will double when the new purchasing organisation logistics centre commences operations shortly. Nevertheless, ADN is convinced that deliveries will continue without any problems. This is because Slim4 has been keeping a close eye on the inventory for the last few years, making the quantity to be supplied irrelevant.



Cindy Hendriks is responsible for inventory and stock levels at ADN. When she started working for ADN she was confronted with a large and poorly balanced inventory. "The assumption in the past was always that all parts that may be requested must be kept in stock. However, these days, stock turn and marketability are the standards by which the choice is made whether or not to stock an article. This had to be handled and managed more effectively. At my former employer I'd had good experiences with Slim4 in combination with JD Edwards, and so I soon thought: 'I need this tool here'.

Cindy explained that prior to Slim4 the stock was primarily controlled passively: "Back then we used an ERP system in which a statistical min-max was used. However, this was not dynamic, so the same min-max limits were calculated regardless of the seasons.

This meant that we did not always have the correct articles in stock, resulting in us always

lagging behind the facts. Slim4 enabled us to clearly define where the problems actually were." The planning of promotional campaigns and new articles is now also much better and simpler.

ADN has been operating more efficiently since implementing Slim4: "You used to have to check all the articles, and then come to the conclusion that some special action had to be taken for a small portion of them. Now we only look at the exceptions indicated by Slim4, which allows us to work much more efficiently. Previously, the ordering process was divided amongst 4 people. Now, one person can monitor and check the entire ordering process. Hendriks says that the excellent visuals and automatic calculations performed by Slim4 enable easy identification of where the problems are. In some cases people were hardly aware of them before this. The department is much calmer now. In practice, approximately 200 articles are now checked

each day, down from 30,000 per week.

In 2003, Slim4 was implemented at ADN. Hendriks: "That was fairly simple, the interface to our new Axapta ERP system from Microsoft runs well and is a positive and necessary addition to that package."

Hendriks has noticed a great deal about the practical experience of Slimstock as a company. She believes the people know exactly where the problems are and also give good tips on how to handle Slim4 effectively. Hendriks: "They are very good at translating daily practice into Slim4. It is very visual, so you quickly 'see' what is going on.

A shift has occurred in the stocks. Hendriks: "We have reduced the total value of the stock, while the stock of fast movers has actually increased. The middle section has decreased significantly. Overall, this represents a significant saving based on efficiency, and I think that in particular is key in our sector."