


Slim4 - an excellent tool for PGZ International

PGZ International is an international trade and logistics group: Feeder One is a company with core activities in distribution, warehousing and billing of brands for the DIY and professional market. PGZ Retail Concepts' core activities are: trade concepts, sourcing & fulfilment, service merchandising and space management, coverings, painting, handheld, garden and electrical tools, fixing materials and ironware. Menno Blewanus explains how the partnership with Slimstock has developed over the years.



With Slim4 our stock turn increased from 8 to 11

“We started working with Slim4 in 2005. Following the decision in April we went live in August of that year” Blewanus continues: “We started with a very strong focus on reducing our inventory and Slim4 reacted immediately. We may have gone a bit too fast, so we then moved to higher safety stock levels. From this moment on the stock turn at Feeder One increased from 8 to 11 while the availability significantly improved. At PGZ Retail Concept we clearly focused on improving the availability; it increased from 95% to presently 98.5%, and here too the stock turn increased.”

Blewanus' opinion is that Slimstock fulfilled all expectations. “We wanted to be able to order with less hassle and have a more solid basis of our purchase advices. Within PGZ we were working with the ordering modules

of JDEdwards, but they proved to be insufficient.” Blewanus admits that his planners had to get used to Slim4 at the beginning. “They are now looking at inventory in a different way and are focusing on different data. They are working much more with demand forecasts and are able to give better information to our suppliers. That is clearly different from the past. We are working with a smaller team, but still have much more control over our inventory. So we have clearly become more efficient.”

“Slim4 is based on the management by exception principle. This means that Slim4 automatically takes care of all items that behave as expected and only the unexpected developments are highlighted. This frees time which is spent on internal communication

with sales and externally with the suppliers. Work is getting more interesting”.

Experience is just as important

Slimstock trainers all have experience in the fields of demand planning and inventory management. This means there is an immediate understanding and problems are easily recognized. “When we had vacancies in our department, Slimstock could help us temporarily with extra capacity. One of the trainers used to be planner at one of our suppliers, and stepped up immediately”. Blewanus concludes, “Of course we took into account which software had the best fit. But it is as important that the supplier of the software has a proven track record and can guarantee continuity. Slimstock is the only supplier in the Netherlands that fits that bill”.