WAREHOUSE INVENTORY USING DRONES:
GEODIS and DELTA DRONE have entered the industrialization production phase of their completely automated solution

After almost two years of development, the completely automatic warehouse inventory solution using drones, perfected by GEODIS and DELTA DRONE, will be operational at the end of 2018.

More than 1,000 flight hours in prototype mode across three pilot warehouses were required to arrive at this unique solution, which allows companies to perform completely automatic warehouse inventories without interrupting their usual operations or requiring any human intervention. The main advantages of this solution are the productivity gains generated by performing the inventories outside warehouse operating hours, greater safety at work for the site’s employees, who no longer have to carry out this tedious and sometimes risky task and a greater reliability of the inventory.

In the prototyping phase, multiple tests were carried out in real operating conditions in order to meet the specific constraints of warehouses, such as low light or the impact that the plastic film covering pallets has on image capturing, which required special adaptations to the cameras embedded in the drones.

This phase ended in 2017 with the development of a complete “plug and play” solution that can be easily moved from one warehouse to another without requiring that any prior changes be made to the warehouse. This solution also adapts to all types of Warehouse Management Systems (WMS).

Based on these extremely positive results, GEODIS and DELTA DRONE are now working on producing a system that can be manufactured, focusing their attention on the solution’s design and the final choice of the best components. The aim is to move to the industrial production stage at the end of the year. Initially, GEODIS will be the exclusive user of this solution in its own warehouses.

The solution designed by the GEODIS and DELTA DRONE engineering teams is unique. It combines a ground-based robot equipped with a battery that provides the energy needed to navigate a warehouse and allows freedom from autonomy constraints, and a quadcopter drone equipped with four high-definition cameras. This set, equipped with indoor geolocation technology, operates autonomously during the hours the site is closed. From an IT point of view, the solution enables the counting and reporting of data in real time, the processing of data, and its restitution in the warehouse’s information system. The tests conducted during this initial development phase show that the solution enables inventory to be managed reliably with rates close to 100%.
About Delta Drone:
The Delta Drone Group is a renowned international player in the area of civilian drones for professional use. It offers a complete range of services, from data acquisition to data processing through a specifically developed information system, including a supply of professional pilots. Delta Drone is listed on Euronext Growth Paris – ISIN code: FR0011522168 4 166 666 BSA are also listed on Euronext Growth Paris – ISIN code: FR001329977
www.deltadrone.com

GEODIS - www.geodis.com
GEODIS is a top-rated, leading global supply chain operator recognized for its passion and commitment to helping clients overcome their logistical constraints, undisputed leader in France, ranking #4 in Europe and #7 worldwide. GEODIS’ growth-focused offerings (Supply Chain Optimization, Freight Forwarding, Contract Logistics, Distribution & Express, and Road Transport) coupled with the company’s historical success has led to wide-spread recognition including being ranked as a “Leader” in Gartner’s “Magic Quadrant for 3PLs Worldwide”. Currently GEODIS has over 40,500 employees, a direct presence in 67 countries, and a global network spanning 120 countries. In 2017, GEODIS generated €8.1 billion in sales, and continues to position itself for global growth.

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