

CASE STUDY

FOUR-TIME AWARD WINNER

THE HALF-PALLET FROM WALTHER
FALTSYSTEME GMBH

OVERVIEW

WALTHER Faltsysteme GmbH develops containers and pallets made of plastic that are robust, recyclable, and reusable indefinitely. These perfect reusable solutions are highly valued by industry and trade. The special feature: these reusable systems can also be equipped with AutoID technology upon request. For example, one customer desired a pallet that incorporated four types of identification. This challenging task was successfully accomplished by WALTHER in collaboration with the labeling experts from inotec.

About WALTHER

WALTHER Faltsysteme GmbH is a family-owned company based in Kevelaer in the Lower Rhine region of North Rhine-Westphalia/Germany. Founded over 40 years ago WALTHER manufactures reusable containers, pallets, and carts made of plastic, which are used in various industries and trade sectors. The company has received multiple awards for its products, designs, research, and commitment to sustainability.

The Starting Point

Reducing environmental impact through reusable solutions was the goal of a German discount retailer who sought to reuse the pallets used to display products in their stores. They found the ideal reusable pallet at WALTHER Faltsysteme GmbH. A key advantage of this pallet is its ability to be permanently equipped with modern AutoID technology—thanks in part to the expertise of inotec specialists, who have long been closely collaborating with WALTHER.

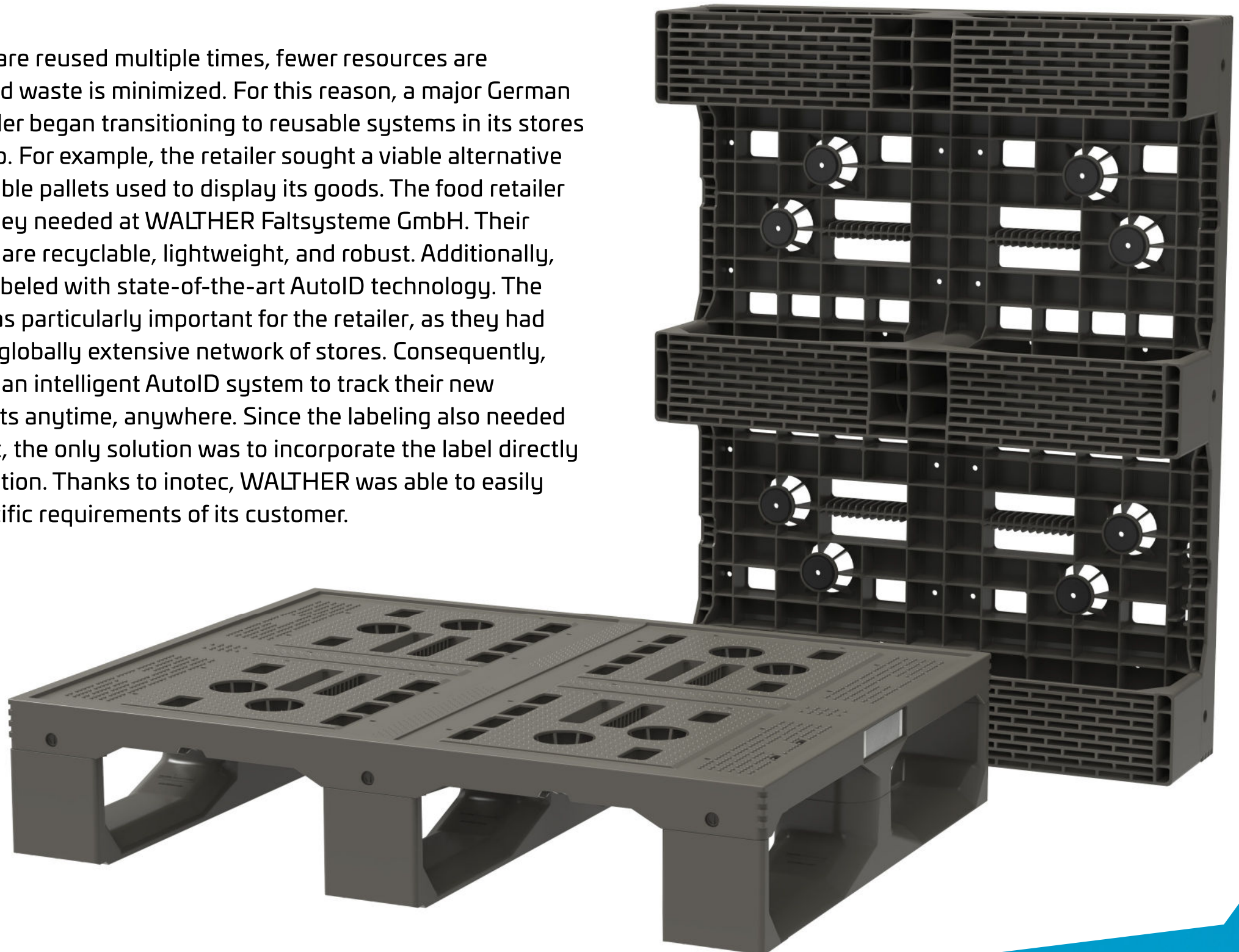
The inotec Solution

Multiple identification options through fourfold labeling:

- Process optimization and seamless traceability achieved by integrating RFID technology in combination with barcode, 2D code, and human-readable text.
- Permanent and extremely robust labeling ensured by the inseparable connection of the label and the pallet.

THE SITUATION

When things are reused multiple times, fewer resources are consumed, and waste is minimized. For this reason, a major German discount retailer began transitioning to reusable systems in its stores some time ago. For example, the retailer sought a viable alternative to the disposable pallets used to display its goods. The food retailer found what they needed at WALTHER Faltsysteme GmbH. Their plastic pallets are recyclable, lightweight, and robust. Additionally, they can be labeled with state-of-the-art AutoID technology. The latter point was particularly important for the retailer, as they had established a globally extensive network of stores. Consequently, they required an intelligent AutoID system to track their new reusable pallets anytime, anywhere. Since the labeling also needed to be hygienic, the only solution was to incorporate the label directly during production. Thanks to inotec, WALTHER was able to easily meet the specific requirements of its customer.



THE INOTEC SOLUTION

For over 25 years, inotec has been working closely with WALTHER, serving as one of its key suppliers of AutoID labels. tasked with developing a labeling solution for the discounter's pallets that would integrate human-readable text, barcode, 2D code, and RFID. This fourfold labeling would enable reading through various means: via scanner, contactless in bulk, or visually. This ensured that the discounter's staff could always identify the reusable pallet clearly, even if individual markings were damaged. Additionally, the label needed to withstand extreme conditions such as loading and unloading of pallets or industrial cleaning processes (high temperatures, strong cleaning agents).

The inotec experts immediately got to work. They refined the technical parameters, configured, and tested until they achieved the best result. The outcome was a fourfold labeling solution that combined human-readable text, barcode, 2D code, and RFID as desired. The label is integrated directly into the material through the injection molding process, becoming seamlessly bonded with it. Running a finger over it reveals no irregularities because the inmould label is flush with the surface, ensuring it won't fall off or be damaged by water, chemicals, UV light, or other external factors. Moreover, this process ensures that the labeling remains hygienically flawless at all times.

The smart reusable pallets with the inmould label from inotec have been in use for several years now. They enable secure and easy reading, seamless traceability, efficient data transfer, and sustainable use of natural resources. This aligns perfectly with the priorities of WALTHER Faltsysteme's customer, who placed great emphasis on these aspects. The integrated inotec solution played a crucial role in the successful realization of the smart reusable pallet.

„We continuously develop new ideas to optimize our customers' logistics with innovative products. The increasing digitization in packaging logistics and automation present both our customers and us as manufacturers with entirely new challenges. New technologies also bring new possibilities and opportunities for innovative applications along the supply chain. As a reliable partner, we are ready to assist in these endeavors.“

Dominik Lemken

Managing Director WALTHER Faltsysteme

YOUR SOLUTION PARTNER

Do you always seek the best solution and maximum service? Then contact us. Trust in over 40 years of experience and the expertise of the market leader. Trust in inotec. We look forward to working with you.



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