



1

Add 30%
capacity

2

Shelving
options

3

Adding
floors

4

Optimizing
the use
of space

Four options

for additional storage space and
cost-efficient supply chain management.



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A lack of storage space has a negative impact on your supply chain management. Fact.

No one will argue the fact that a bulging warehouse or a congested depot is not a situation that you want to allow to continue. But this doesn't necessarily mean that you have to rush into spending on real estate for additional storage space.

Why not? Well, let's work with the premise that the growth in stock is not incidental, but structural. Even in this case, obtaining additional warehouse will require a substantial investment – an investment that can even make your company as a whole less cost-efficient. The choice of location plays an important role in this matter. If you can't find a quality location

in the vicinity, then you'll have to look further afield or choose a very busy location, which can also have a negative impact on your transport costs, efficiency and logistics processes.

In this whitepaper, we will discuss four alternative options to buying additional property for storage purposes.



Can you make do with one yard (meter) less?

Perhaps you have already looked at this option. Corridor paths are usually between 3 and 3.6 metres wide. Is it an option to scale down the aisles to 2 to 2.5 metres? It requires a redesign, but with this quick fix you will easily gain about 30% of space. Please note that it may be necessary to switch to leaner vehicles with a smaller turning radius, which can require an additional investment.

Add 30% capacity

1

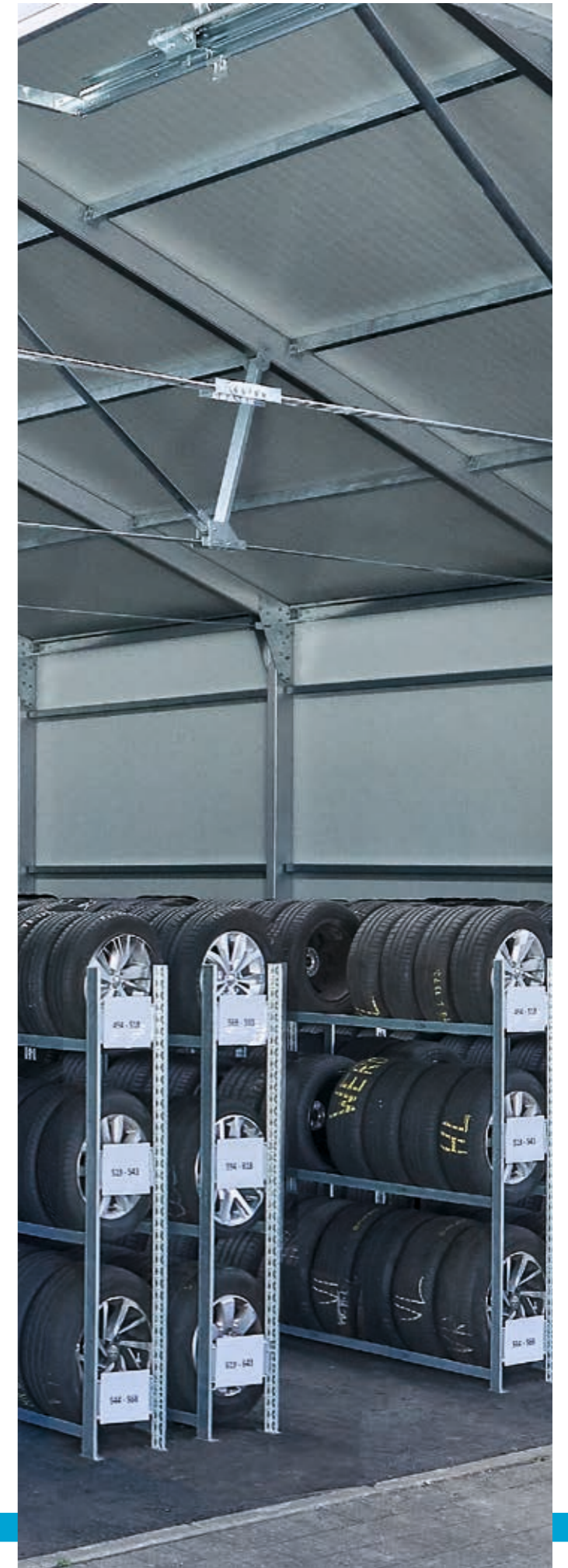


Shelving options

2

Take a look at other shelving options

Many warehouses, depots and storage locations utilize racks with single, deep spaces. In some cases, it may be useful to switch to a push-back system, where pallets are placed on a rail system, flow-through systems or drive-in racks. The effectiveness of this switch strongly depends on the nature of the goods stored and the frequency with which access to some of these goods is required. But in some cases, switching shelving systems is worth considering.



Adding floors

3

Floor it!

Adding an extra floor can be a good option in some cases. Your shelving is less high, but you gain floor space. You can store the smaller or lighter goods that do not need to be transported with a vehicle upstairs, giving you more space for your heavier materials on the ground floor. The main disadvantage to installing an additional (mezzanine) floor area, is that you will need to reorganize the entire layout of the location. You will also need to keep in mind that the load-bearing capacity of the new floor is limited. An investment is required; however, the costs are lower compared to purchasing and setting up a new facility. If you need a lift, the investment costs will increase further. Companies that choose to add an extra floor, often opt to use this space for a combination of storage (of light goods), light assembly and / or office space.



Temporary or semi-permanent storage space

Do you have some extra space left on your premises? Or can you rent (or buy) some land in the vicinity? Because in that case, using a temporary or semi-permanent storage facility is a viable and cost-efficient option. This might be a lesser known solution to your storage and warehousing-issues, but did you know that a temporary warehouse can be built in a matter of weeks? And that this requires a significantly lower investment than purchasing a new, existing warehouse?

4

Optimizing the use of space



Firms like Losberger De Boer offer a number of cost-efficient, modular structures that are tailored to your specific needs in terms of size, available space and accessibility. This would mean that you can have additional storage space at your disposal within weeks, at relatively low costs and without seeing a rise in transport and labour costs. Recent studies show that saving 1% on such costs, equal saving 15 to 20% on your total housing costs.

A temporary space solution also offers you added flexibility. Temporary structures can be modified, allowing for both scaling up and down. Maintained well, temporary warehouse can be used for several decades.

For more information on temporary storage or warehouse facilities, please contact Losberger De Boer.

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