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The biggest Skyfall line in North America

## **Ultraflexible SkySorter conveyor technology for fashion logistics**

**Atlanta/Hinwil, April 4, 2016. Skyfall overhead conveyors from Swiss systems supplier Ferag AG are gaining a foothold in more and more application areas. The latest project comprises a complete SkySorter line for the transport, sorting, intermediate buffering and order-picking of garments, shoes and jewellery. US group SDI Systems is primarily a specialist in Multi Channel solutions for the distribution industry and is integrating the Ferag innovation into an existing distribution centre owned by speciality retail chain Stage Stores, based in Houston, Texas. Equipped with 5,000 Skyfall hangers, the installation is expected to become operational in the autumn of 2016. The installation is specifically aimed at improving the efficiency & speed of picking for the fast growing Ecommerce Channel that Stage Stores operates.**

“We are very pleased to have been able to convince SDI Systems about the advantages of our Skyfall technology,” explained Jürg Möckli, CEO of Swiss company Ferag AG. “The company SDI Systems was meticulous in its all-round evaluation of our conveyor technology’s potential, and examined a number of alternatives before finally deciding in favour of our system.” According to the CEO of SDI Systems Krish Nathan, it was not only exceptionally high flexibility and ease of servicing (the system is almost zero maintenance) that spoke for Skyfall, but also the high energy

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efficiency that comes with the drive technology, which is largely gravity-based. Also, the Swiss were able to deliver the system extremely quickly. Ferag is very proud that, in collaboration with SDI Systems, the first Skyfall line in North America is to be installed at Texan fashion chain Stage Stores. Amongst the items distributed by this famous store chain are shoe and clothing labels like Calvin Klein, Clarks, Dockers, Jockey, Lee, Levis or Ralph Lauren.

The goods distribution centre that will accommodate the new SkySorter conveyor technology is located in Jacksonville, Texas. There, Stage Stores transfers goods to stock that arrive directly from overseas via Houston. The Stage Stores head office is also in Houston. This metropolitan area on the Gulf of Mexico is not only the fourth largest city in the USA, but also has one of the country's busiest ports. After a brief period in intermediate storage, the products are sent out from Jacksonville to the fashion group's stores, which currently number 850. After commissioning in the autumn of 2016, the Swiss system, which is integrated into the existing logistics centre, will be one of the biggest Skyfall lines so far delivered by Ferag. It incorporates ten loading stations, one intermediate storage buffer, one sorting buffer and 24 packaging lines. The SkyTrain interconnects all these areas and has more than 5,000 hangers, each configured for loads up to six kilograms.

Ferag's partner SDI Systems sees itself as the preferred supplier of logistics solutions for clothing manufacturers, fashion chains and fashion houses. Founded in 1977, the Californian company has realized a major share of the goods distribution centres for this sector in the USA, and optimized their supply chains.



**((Captions:))**



((FPI528a.jpg – FPI528b.jpg))

Sorting and intermediate buffering of garments: the Skyfall installation for fashion chain Stage Stores has an intermediate storage buffer with a 5,000-pocket capacity and a sorting buffer with a 3,000-pocket capacity.

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**About Ferag AG**

Ferag AG, with its headquarters in Hinwil in Switzerland's Zürcher Oberland, is a specialist in innovative conveyor and processing technology. It is seen as the global market leader in the development, manufacture and marketing of postpress processing systems. At the same time, this traditional, family-owned company is stepping up its activities in the intralogistics and packaging industries. Like its associate companies Denipro AG, WRH Marketing AG with 20 WRH Global subsidiaries, and PMC Print Media Corporation, Ferag is part of the Walter Reist Holding AG corporate group, which employs a staff of more than 1,000 worldwide.

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