



Case study

89 % less dust in a central warehouse, optimised for health and well-being



Customer

XXL Sport & Vildmark



Location

Örebro (SE)



Sector

Retail



Dust reduction

Up to 89 %

At a glance

“We’ve had Zehnder’s air cleaners essentially from the start – meaning we have a fantastic working environment. Our warehouse has dust levels that are much lower than recommended levels – which is noticeable. We’ve also seen a decrease in maintenance now that we have less dust.”

Tobias Johansson, Central Warehouse Manager

Challenges

XXL Sport & Vildmark’s central warehouse in Örebro serves the entire Swedish and Finnish market with nearly 50 department stores and e-commerce in Denmark, Finland and Sweden. The business faced lots of dust related challenges – including dust covered boxes and goods, dirty floors and dust-filled air that employees were breathing in. Zehnder already supply sister company XXL Grossist Norge AS with air purification systems and knew that they could make a real difference to create a clean workplace and clean air.

About XXL Sport & Vildmark

Not only the largest online sports retailer in the Nordic region, XXL Sport & Vildmark is also the most expansive sports and wilderness chain in the Nordic countries - with more than 90 stores in Norway, Sweden, Finland and Austria. From its three central warehouses – Gardemoen in Norway, Enzersdorf in Austria and Örebro in Sweden – XXL offers a wide range of well-known brands in sports and outdoor equipment.

Benefits

The Zehnder air purification solution was installed at the central warehouse in Örebro. The service agreement meant that regular measurements were taken and optimised filter changes made based on the results – delivering an 89 % reduction in dust. XXL has combined its optimised air purification with thorough cleaning routines for the non-airborne dust, creating a neat and clean workplace where happy, productive employees breathe clean, fresh air into their lungs with every breath.



A passion for the outdoors can’t be shared without clean indoor air

XXL Sport & Vildmark uses its 50 Swedish stores and extensive e-commerce to inspire its customers to take part in sports and outdoor activities. They passionately believe that activities in the great outdoors play an important role in bringing people together and creating joy in the fresh air. **XXL recognised that to deliver on their passion for outdoor air, they needed to clean up the indoor air at the 42,000 sq ft central warehouse in Örebro, too** – a crucial operational location where 180 employees and 100 AutoStore robots handle up to 18,000 shipments every day!

A dusty warehouse = poor working environment

Any warehouse environment where goods are packed, stored and handled will generate lots of dust, making the air unhealthy to breathe. XXL faced a particular challenge with their forklifts – they dislodged dust which spread around the workplace, affecting both employee and equipment productivity.

Tobias Johansson, XXL Warehouse Manager, explains: “I have been in several warehouses where the floor is completely black and you can almost feel how hot and heavy the air is to breathe in. This was not an option for XXL and Zehnder’s air purifiers were planned in at an early stage. Our desire to promote our employees’ working environment meant that the air purification had to be optimised to our conditions so that we had the cleanest indoor air possible.”

Tailor-made air purification with scheduled follow-up

Our successful air purification solution at XXL’s Zehnder’s successful air purification solution at XXL’s Norway central warehouse provided a clear path for similar improvement at the warehouse in Örebro. Installing a number of air cleaners in high traffic areas halted the dust at its source, minimising airborne dust that accumulated on surfaces. This result was particularly important for XXL where although their products are less



exposed to dust due to their storage methods, the impact on employees was a huge driver for improvement.

Optimised air purification reduces dust by 89 %

After installing Zehnder’s air cleaners, the first dust measurements confirmed a proven difference, with dust levels down by 78 %. Zehnder consulted with XXL to create an action plan – and further follow up measurements – that reduced the level of dust in the warehouse again, reaching an 89 % reduction in dust. More than just clean air – this delivered confidence to the XXL team, says Warehouse Manager Tobias Johansson:

“In our industry, longer periods between filter changes are common, but we change filters every nine months. With Zehnder, we have an air purification system that is adapted to the circumstances of our warehouse instead of being static. If our business changes, Zehnder changes our solution. We are continuously working at our optimum levels.”



Clean air is crucial to job satisfaction

Optimised air purification paired with good cleaning practises play an incredibly important role in creating a first class central warehouse filled with happy and healthy colleagues. Warehouse Manager Tobias Johansson explains:

”If the staff are happy, they are usually more productive. **Both Zehnder and XXL are very committed, and it is incredibly positive that together we can show a good result for the indoor environment.** There are a number of factors that affect well-being and job satisfaction, and in our industry, a good working environment where the air is clean is an important part.”