



# Digitalization in Logistics: Nationwide Wi-Fi for Packaging Specialist DS Smith

DS Smith stands as one of the world's leading providers of sustainable and fiber-based packaging, engaged in recycling and paper manufacturing. As a specialist in environmentally friendly packaging, the company plays a pivotal role in the value chain across various sectors, including e-commerce, fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG), and manufacturing. DS Smith, listed on the FTSE 100, is headquartered in London, and operates in over 30 countries. Presently, the company has a workforce of approximately 30,000 employees. To enhance production and storage efficiency at around 20 locations in Germany, the network infrastructure is gradually undergoing modernization. As a preliminary step, a comprehensive Wi-Fi network was implemented at the Hövelhof site in North Rhine-Westphalia.



Picture  
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## The Challenge

To create a modern and automated working environment within DS Smith's extensive warehouse and production halls, a new network platform needed establishment for seamless operation. Given that not all halls at the locations were connected to the network via cable, an alternative solution with an equally extensive signal range had to be identified. A crucial requirement was that the solution covered and connected the entire site. Moreover, the devices had to withstand individual disruptive factors such as shelf barriers, varying environmental temperatures, and interference from equipment and machines. Other critical requirements for the network solution included seamless fast roaming across the entire premises and the connection of existing offline areas.

## The Solution

In collaboration with the ICS Group, DS Smith's IT logistics partner, WLAN access points and point-to-point radio components from Cambium Networks were implemented at the Hövelhof site. Following the development of an integrative modernization concept by the ICS Group, the radio frequency survey, interference frequency analysis, and device implementation were carried out. WLAN access points were installed for both indoor and outdoor areas. Additionally, a remote hall was connected to the network through point-to-point radio. Device management and maintenance are conducted through the cloud management platform cnMaestro.

## The Results

With the implementation of WLAN and point-to-point radio devices, DS Smith now possesses a reliable, stable, secure, and comprehensive Wi-Fi network at the Hövelhof site. The implementation of the WLAN and point-to-point radio solution by Cambium partner ICS Group did not disrupt DS Smith's production operations. The new network at the Hövelhof site is scalable and can be flexibly expanded as needed in the future. Together with the ICS Group and DS Smith, there are plans for a gradual expansion of network modernization to additional locations in Germany.

## About Cambium

Cambium Networks enables service providers, enterprises, industrial organizations, and governments to deliver exceptional digital experiences, and device connectivity, with compelling economics. Our ONE Network platform simplifies management of Cambium Networks' wired and wireless broadband and network edge technologies. Our customers can focus more resources on managing their business rather than the network. We deliver connectivity that just works.

Picture © DS Smith



### Products:

- XV2-21X Wi-Fi 6 Indoor Access Point
- XV2-T Wi-Fi 6 Outdoor Access Point
- XV2-2T1 Wi-Fi 6 Outdoor Access Point
- cnWave 60-GHz Point-to-Point Radio V1000 Client Node
- Cloud Management cnMaestro X