



TransLogic[®] Pneumatic Tube System Advanced Options

Swisslog Healthcare offers a variety of advanced options that improve the user experience and efficiency and deliver value beyond basic material movement.

Chain-of-Custody Solutions



The following options solve problems associated with sending, receiving and tracking carriers through a pneumatic tube system.

Automated Carrier Tracking and Delivery Verification

Using radio frequency identification (RFID) technology within a pneumatic tube system (PTS) permits automatic carrier tracking, monitoring and inventory management. RFID technology gives users real-time verification that patient-critical pneumatic tube transactions have arrived at the right station at the right time.

Benefits

- Monitors carrier transport – Verifies end-to-end carrier transport.
- Assigns carrier destination – Reduces risk of health exposure by segregating carriers for designated payloads.
- Automates carrier inventory counts and redistribution.
- Separates carriers for specific transactions to reduce cross-contamination.
- Requires no extra processing steps – supports productivity and user compliance.
- Provides capability to assign carrier “home” location
- Allows “close-loop” auto recovery if system operation is disrupted

How It Works

1. RFID tags are embedded in each carrier; available for 4-inch and 6-inch TransLogic Systems and as an upgrade to other manufacturers’ systems.
2. Carrier RFID tags are programmed with a unique ID number.
3. Tube stations are equipped with receivers that read the tags on dispatch, arrival and interchange points.
4. Destinations can be disallowed for specific carrier IDs to support segregation based on hospital protocols.
5. System automatically captures carrier ID as part of each transaction record.





Card Access Security

The WhoTube™ Card Access System provides best-practice security for pneumatic tube system station transactions using employee badges or identification cards for credentialing. To receive a secure transaction, the user must present a valid access card to release the carrier into the station bin. The WhoTube system also works to unlock station access doors.

Benefits

- Records sender or receiver information with each transaction
- Allows sending capability for approved users only
- Receives updates from facility security system to keep authorizations current
- Supports proximity card technologies for automated credentialing
- Installs on current and legacy TransLogic Systems
- Controls Station Access Doors to allow automated user verification

How It Works

1. Card reader is installed on station for user authentication.
2. Authorized user swipes badge to access station, then selects “Badge Secure Transaction” on station menu.
3. Transaction is processed and user ID is captured and stored as part of the transaction record.
4. Station automatically re-locks if another transaction is not initiated within 20 seconds.



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Alert Messaging

The Alert Messaging solution provides automatic communication for key pneumatic tube system transport events and system alarms. Alert messaging functionality increases user productivity, improves system maintenance and reduces the potential for system downtime by automatically notifying specific users of carrier arrivals at their station, and sending alarm descriptions, including equipment ID to selected facilities maintenance personnel.

Benefits

- Provides email notifications for important and immediate notifications for system and equipment events, including:
 - Vault alerts
 - Carrier arrival
 - Communications
 - Maintenance issues
 - Equipment failures
 - System interruptions
- Allows notifications via email

How It Works

1. System is configured for preferred method of notification.
2. Specific alert types are assigned to defined user groups for certain events.
3. Notifications are sent automatically according to user settings.





Station Access Security

Swisslog Healthcare Station Access Doors provide controlled physical access to recessed tube stations, offering added safety and security for system transactions. These doors are secured by an electromagnetic lock, allowing only authorized personnel access to the contents of the station interior.

Benefits

- Controls access to station contents in public or semi-public areas
- Provides visibility to items in the receiving bin through large, clear window
- Self-closing and locking
- Installs on 4-inch and 6-inch TransLogic pneumatic tube system stations, as well as other vendor's stations
- Integrates with all generations of TransLogic Pneumatic Tube System control panels
- Addresses HIPAA concerns by increasing security and patient privacy
- Supports the WhoTube™ Card Access System for user authentication

How It Works

1. User swipes badge (using card access system) or enters PIN to open door
2. Door unlocks to grant access to station bin
3. Door automatically locks upon closure

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Secure Carrier Storage

The pneumatic tube system vault provides secure carrier storage above the destination station. The vault allows users to continue to send and receive carriers from a station while a secure transaction is awaiting pick-up by an authorized recipient.

Benefits

- Stores carriers at a secure location in the system near the receiving station for fast, secure retrieval
- Allows station to remain in use for other inbound and outbound transactions until designated recipient has retrieved secure carrier
- Controls delivery to intended recipient, avoiding the practice of removing a secure transaction to simply allow station use

How it works

1. A secure tube location is installed in the system near the target station or stations, to accommodate pending secure transactions
2. When used with alert messaging, the system will notify the authorized recipient that a secure transaction has arrived in the vault
3. When the authorized recipient accesses the station panel, the carrier is delivered into the station bin
4. System automatically returns an unaccessed carrier back to the sender after a user-specified time for restocking or to avoid spoilage



Additional Options

Remote System Monitoring

Remote system monitoring (RSM) for TransLogic Pneumatic Tube System (PTS) operates 24/7 from Denver-based Swisslog Healthcare Customer Care Center. Included with an active SMA and PMA, RSM features real-time tube system status for the Swisslog Healthcare 24/7 support team, ensuring maximum system uptime. By responding to PTS alarms, the troubleshooting process can begin when the facility is unable to address the alarm themselves.

Benefits

RSM helps hospital facility directors ensure continuity of patient care by enabling the customer care center (CCC) to remotely respond to tube system alarms when hospital staff can't, such as after hours, on weekends or when the hospital is short staffed. Customers benefit from peace of mind simply by signing up, with nothing else for the hospital to manage or maintain to receive the RSM service.

Features

- Peace of mind – Know someone is supporting your staff in watching the tube system
- Convenient – Just sign up, with nothing to manage or maintain to receive the RSM service
- Cost effective – No charge for qualifying customers
- Secures RSM data transfer to and from customer facility through password protection (HTTPF secure connection)

How It Works

1. RSM integrates with Nexus PTS Software
2. Directly monitors system activity and health of the tube system
3. Monitors send and receive functionalities, as well as operational events
4. Reports back real-time information to the Customer Care Center in Broomfield for 24/7/365 live monitoring

Variable Speed Technology

The variable speed solution allows users to select slow speed transport to improve content handling and high-speed empty carrier distribution for improved and system efficiency. Variable speed software works in tandem with the variable frequency drive hardware to ensure sensitive payloads are protected with slower speed carrier transport.

Benefits

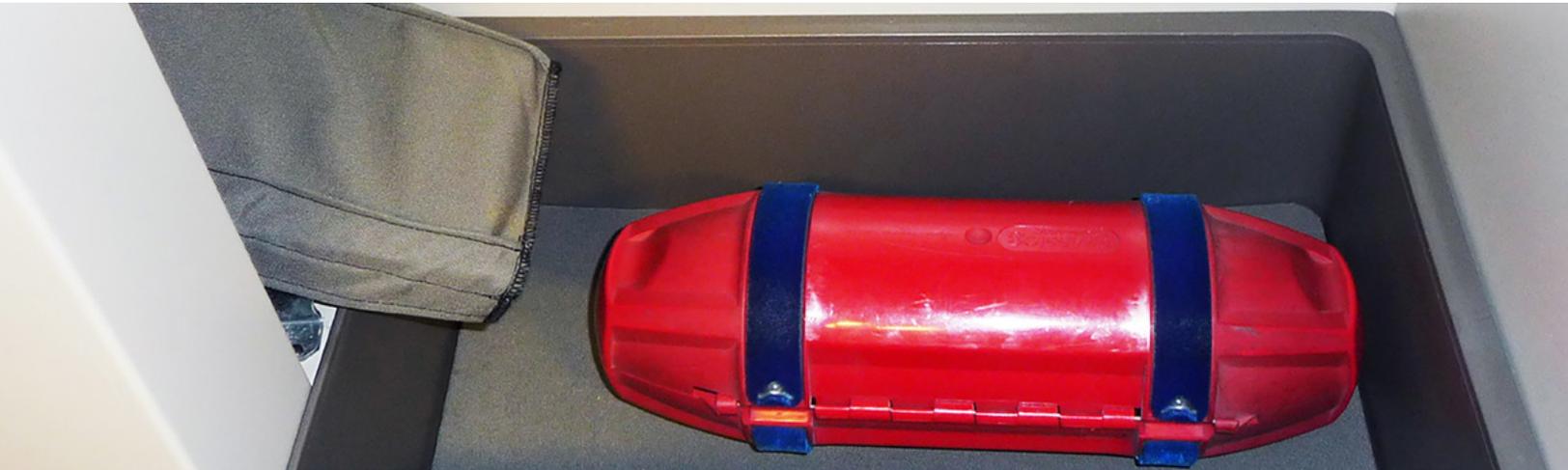
- Allows users to send sensitive items at slow speed (15% slower than normal speed) for gentle handling
- Slow-speed transactions can be selected by users at time of dispatch or pre-programmed as a favorite for a specific destination
- Empty carrier distribution can be configured for high speed transport, reducing impact on system for non-payload transactions

System Requirements for Software

1. TL 2009 or later versions of software, with recommended computer hardware
2. High-speed Ethernet (or network) drop with Internet access for both primary and secondary system control centers



Additional Options



Station Noise Reduction System

The Whisper Receiving System reduces noise that occurs when a carrier arrives at a pneumatic tube system, providing a quiet environment, decreased stress, enhanced staff concentration and a better patient experience. The system is available as an upgrade to legacy systems or as standard factory-installed equipment on new TransLogic 6-inch and 4-inch stations.

Stations equipped with the Whisper Receiving System are noticeably quieter than other pneumatic tube system stations. In a controlled test environment, carrier delivery in a Whisper-equipped station was 12-14 dB quieter than a station equipped with a molded ramp and bin.

Benefits

- Installs quickly and easily by hospital maintenance personnel or a Swisslog Healthcare service technician
- Reduces noise associated with carrier landing in the receiving bin significantly, allowing PTS stations to be located in noise-sensitive areas such as nursing, NICU, ICU, etc.
- Softens carrier arrival, resulting in improved protection and product integrity for sensitive items
- Features removable landing cushion for easy cleaning, resulting in shortened station downtime if a spill occurs

How it works

1. An energy-absorbing carrier receiving ramp made of a padded, liquid-resistant nylon reduces the carrier speed as it arrives at the station
2. An impact-absorbing receiving cushion made of similar material absorbs the shock of the carrier arrival in the station bin
3. Receiving bin liner helps to contain accidental spills

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