

# CASE STUDY



## Decathlon Distribution Centre, Northampton, UK New 17,000 sqm Twin Mezzanine Structure Built in Just 12 Weeks

“ We trusted MiTek as they impressed us with an earlier installation at our Lakeside store. Their comprehensive sales drawings convinced us that MiTek Mezzanine Systems was up to the job. ”  
Decathlon

In sports, you play to win, and the French sporting goods giant Decathlon has relocated to a new 24,000 square-meter distribution centre in Northampton to stay ahead of its competition. The move to a new warehouse has enabled Decathlon to expand its distribution capabilities in the UK; supporting its growing store presence and online sales.

### Optimise Space

To maximise its new distributions plant, Decathlon planned to build a free-standing two-tier mezzanine structure which would optimise the space intended for storage, picking & packing, racking and supporting conveyor systems.

MiTek Mezzanine Systems who specialises in the design, manufacture and installation of future-proofed mezzanine floors was one of four

companies asked to tender for this 17,000sqm mezzanine project. After a competitive bidding process, Decathlon picked MiTek Mezzanine Systems as their business partner for the structure.

### Repeat Business

The successful 2017 implementation of the retail mezzanine floor with featured staircase and glass banister at Decathlon's Lakeside store has certainly helped opening doors for future business. MiTek Mezzanine Systems impressed Decathlon by building with minimum disruption to ongoing business. This was possible due to the installers flexible building approach by sectioning off different store areas and working night shifts. In addition, MiTek's UK business model guarantees no manufacturing limitations and consequently quick project turnaround.

## Overview

### Product

- Purpose made mezzanine steel structure for storage and distribution
- Specialist vinyl decking is suitable for heavy traffic

### Project Scope

17'000 sqm

### Live load

5.00kN/m<sup>2</sup> UDL

### Project Duration

Completion in just 12 weeks

### Ancillaries

- 8 internal and 2 tower staircases
- 4 pallet gates
- 800m of handrail and mesh
- Stainless steel handrail and glass banister for office space

**MiTek**<sup>®</sup>  
Mezzanine Systems

Decathlon Group is a French sporting goods retailer founded in 1976 in Lille, France. The company designs, manufactures and sells products for sports enthusiasts. Decathlon UK was launched in 1999 with its first store in Surrey Quays. Currently the company has 44 stores around the UK and is present in 46 countries globally. [www.decathlon.co.uk](http://www.decathlon.co.uk)

## The Challenge

Expand operational facility due to company growth that would fit client budget and timeline

## The Solution

Multi-tier Mezzanine structure with a heavy-duty anti-slip finish and integration with the customer's automated conveyor systems

## The Benefits

Provision of comprehensive sales drawings to assist decision making

Build completed ahead of time and within budget



### Customised Design

The twin mezzanine was designed using a 5.0m x 5.4m grid for the 17,000 sqm steel structure that matches the specifications for additional storage and distribution space with a live load of 5.00kN/sqm UDL. The specialist vinyl decking is suitable for heavy traffic use with a safe anti-slip finish and noise absorbing qualities. The waterproof surface allows for wet cleaning to keep workspaces clean and hygienic and comes with a fire classification EN 13501/1. This economical design matches the building and ground conditions and is taking the customer's automated layout into consideration.

in just four weeks, way ahead of schedule, allowing the decking team to start laying the specialist vinyl board. Thanks to MiTek Mezzanine Systems dedicated Project Manager who visited the site weekly for a progress inspection, the overall build was completed in just 12 weeks – 4 weeks ahead of schedule! The early mezzanine floor completion meant that follow on traders could start sooner. Decathlon's distribution centre was fully operational ahead of schedule, which increased the company's overall efficiency.

### Future Expansion Plans

In addition to the new facilities, the premises allow Decathlon to further expand with up to 100,000 square feet of additional warehouse space. MiTek Mezzanine Systems is ready to get to work to ensure Decathlon gets the most out of their distribution centre.

### Fast Installation

After winning the Northampton bid in April 2018, a trusted team of 20 installers got to work on installing the steel structure. They finished



“ We are very pleased we hit every milestone with the 17,000sqm of steelwork. We completed our installation in a co-operative, co-ordinated and safe manner enabling the building to be handed over to a happy client four week before the completion date. ”

Andy Parsons, Project Manager, MiTek Mezzanine Systems