ROL Ergo develops office furniture that helps improve employee health. Its sit-stand desks are based on the principle that people are built for movement. Working standing up relieves strain on the body and burns three times as many calories as sitting. Working smart is the goal of ROL Ergo’s Intelligent Office and Intelligent Desk software, which help employees navigate “hotel” style office management. Employees can reserve workspaces with Intelligent Office and use Intelligent Desk to set up the sit-stand desks they are using that day with their personal information.

ROL Ergo’s manufacturing and operations are equally progressive. It is constantly developing green solutions that give customers added value and benefit the community, too. It monitors environmental impact throughout the manufacturing process at its facilities in Sweden, the United States, China, and Lithuania. As requested by its customers – some of the leading furniture suppliers in the market – it optimizes material usage to ensure the least possible environmental impact.

Customer challenges
ROL Ergo’s products are cutting edge, but the building systems at its 20,000-square-meter production facility in Jönköping needed upgrading because they created operational challenges. It was difficult to produce the number of products ordered by customers without disruption. The systems also hindered the company’s ability to run and operate the facility in the most efficient way possible and to protect its intellectual property. Problems included frequent false fire alarms that required evacuating all 150 people, which led to losses in productivity. No spare parts were available for the intrusion system, and part of the access control system had been shut down because the card access equipment was broken. The comfort system was also difficult to manage. “To adjust the ventilation system to holiday settings, I had to change the parameters by changing cards in four places,” said Dan Lindholm, ROL Ergo’s Facility Manager. In addition, the existing systems did not provide the type of information that makes it easier to meet sustainability goals. “I needed a system that generates reports about water, gas, electricity and inergen consumption for all areas in the production facility,” said Hasse Pettersson, ROL Ergo’s Technical Manager.

Did you know?
Desigo CC allows you to manage all of your building systems from one central dashboard.

The benefits: You will have ease of use, increased visibility, and the ability to link systems to improve operations, enhance safety and security, and reduce costs.
Additional modernization goals
ROL Ergo had more goals in mind when it asked Siemens to modernize its fire, intrusion, access control, and comfort systems. First, a new fire system would reduce its insurance costs. Second, upgraded intrusion and access control systems would better protect expensive production equipment and support the security staff more efficiently. Finally, a more responsive comfort system would provide added transparency. “Based on this transparency I would like to reduce the power consumption peaks – and with that our bill,” Pettersson said.

Integrated building management
ROL Ergo then looked to Siemens for a multidisciplinary building management system that would expand its overall system capabilities. Pettersson wanted “a management system where I can easily see what is not running normally.” Complete oversight of power and water consumption was also needed so that managers can decide how to reduce it. ROL Ergo also wanted a system that could help prove its environmentally friendly production methods to its customers who ask suppliers to be as sustainable as they are.

Ease of use was a priority, according to Lindholm, who “wanted a system which I can manage from home to reduce my travel time to the facility during the weekend.” So it was important that the technology can be viewed on standard mobile equipment. He also wanted to increase efficiency by standardizing integration and interaction in case of an event. “I would like to integrate different alarm systems into one system so it can be operated in a standardized way,” Lindholm added. And the ability to manage all the systems from one central dashboard was important to everyone.

The answer was Desigo CC, the building management platform from Siemens. “I wanted to have one system that can operate all the disciplines in building technologies together, and only Siemens can provide such a solution at this point in time,” Pettersson said.

Desigo CC provides greater visibility into the performance of all building systems, more management platform functionality and standardized user interfaces. It helps reduce facility and security operating costs while increasing comfort. To do so, it can link access control information with building automation actions such as adjusting temperature, increasing airflow and turning lights on or off based on room occupancy. Desigo CC improves safety by connecting fire control and emergency exit support. It also enhances security by providing greater situational awareness and information at the right time at the right place for intervention.

“With the new security application, I get a message from the alarm company. In parallel, I get a text message from Desigo CC, which lets me directly decide what has to be done. With the new fire safety system, the investigation time is much faster because I know exactly where to go and inspect. So I am more efficient at every step,” Lindholm said.

Highlighted features:
- Upgraded fire, intrusion, access control, and comfort systems for better transparency and mobile operation
- Desigo CC: The integrated building management platform for multiple building systems
- Complete consumption oversight to support sustainability efforts
- Reduces energy costs while increasing comfort
- Financing contract for five years