

From its modest beginnings in 1929, Maine Oxy has expanded to a company with multiple sales and manufacturing locations. The employee owned company currently operates from 11 locations in Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Further expanding in 1993, the SpecAir Gases and Technologies division was established.

The SpecAir division was growing but the 50,000 SF building had reached its maximum capacity. To expand the manufacturing laboratory, shelving was removed in their warehouse and a Remstar shuttle was installed. Maine Oxy regained 30% or 2000 SF of warehouse space by installing the unit.

The Remstar unit is 16 feet tall with 36 trays storing 1700 part numbers. Bin boxes were used to consolidate parts. The shuttle was programmed to allow quicker access to the most popular parts by having fixed tray locations near the pick window. The shuttle also has a Shuffle function which allows the machine to compress the trays down to consolidate open space in the unit and thus store more product.



Trays are stored and retrieved using the numeric control panel.

The picking process became much more streamlined and safer for the employees. Instead of climbing up and down ladders while filling orders, the employees were now able to lay out several order forms on a table adjacent to the Remstar unit. Each order had a numeric bin location identification for a part in the Remstar unit. The employees were able to remain in an ergonomically safe position while increasing their picking accuracy.



Shuttle has 36 trays storing 1700 part numbers.



Employee safety improved. The shuttle reduced the need for employees to use ladders to reach and carry small parts.

Project Key Features

Challenge

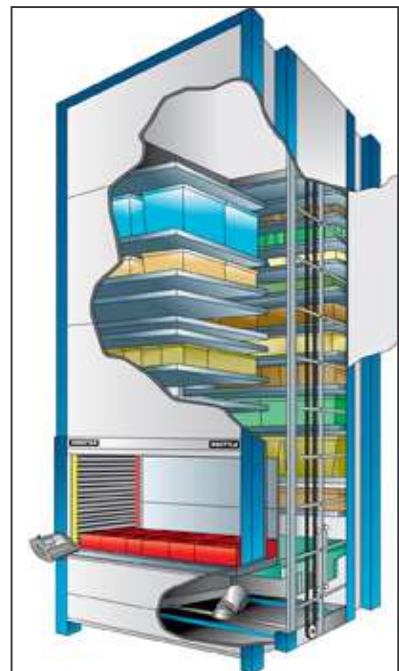
- Existing warehouse filled to capacity. Company needed space to expand manufacturing operations.

Abel Womack Solution

- Installed 16 foot tall Remstar shuttle to replace approximately 30% of warehouse rack and shelving.

Benefits

- Regained 2000 SF of warehouse space for Special Gases division expansion.
- Employee safety improved.
- Picking process became more efficient and accurate.



Interior view of Shuttle.