



## Distributor Fulfills Promise to Customers By Keeping Parts Available for 20+ Years

### Features and Benefits

#### Horizontal Carousel Zone

- 90% Increase in Productivity
  - 71% Floor Space Savings
- #### Vertical Lift Module Zone
- 50% Increase in Productivity
  - 83% Floor Space Savings

**Industry Group:** Order Fulfillment Solutions (OFS)

“With the automation and process changes we’ve implemented, we’ve been able to manage 70% growth in the past 12 years with minimal increases to our labor force,” said Doug Ward, Logistics Manager.



Introducing groundbreaking tractor and utility vehicles for construction, commercial and residential use for 36 years gives this company a reputation for equipment that lasts. Their parts promise of keeping parts available for 20+ years is what keeps customers coming back. To fulfill this promise, it was essential to reassess the 60,000 square foot parts distribution center.

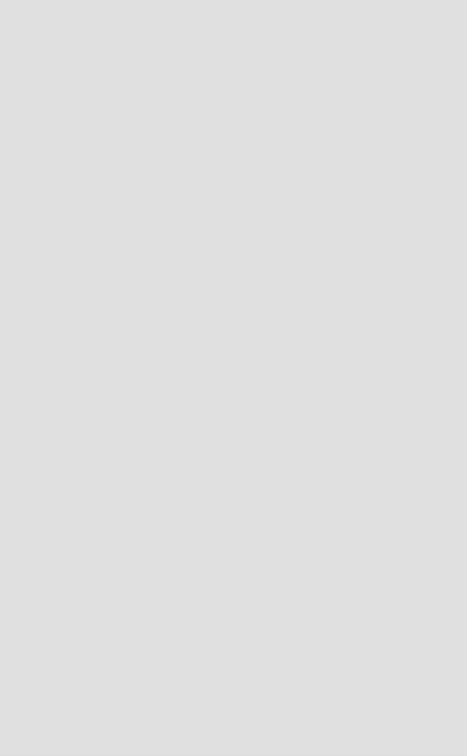
### Time for an Improvement

Prior to the redesign of the warehouse, the distributor was using traditional mezzanine shelving area and hi-bay shelving areas. This system wasn’t safe or productive. Climbing up and down to complete orders was time consuming. Therefore, it was decided to install 6 horizontal carousels to replace the mezzanine shelving and 4 vertical lift modules (VLMs) to replace the hi-bay shelving.

The mezzanine at the old facility was three floors and occupied 9,000 square feet. The horizontal carousels in the new facility required 71% less floor space. VLMs were installed in an area that occupied 2,400 square feet of 24’ hi-bay shelving, now saving 83% floor space. The systems are also designed with an ergonomic work station, keeping employees safe without having to bend, reach or climb for parts.

### New & Improved

With only one worker needed in each zone the horizontal carousel zone has increased productivity by 90%, while the VLM zone has increased productivity by 50%. “With



the automation and process changes we've implemented, we've been able to manage 70% growth in the past 12 years with minimal increases to our labor force," said Doug Ward, Logistics Manager.

The parts center is ready for whatever new model this company comes up with next. "With inventory growing every year, the automated picking system we have in place has the capacity to sustain our growth for the next 5-8 years," says Ward.

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