



## Streamlining Aftermarket Fulfillment Increases Efficiencies

### Features and Benefits

Increased Productivity by 100%

Reduced Labor Costs by 50%

Cut Inventory Levels in Half

**Industry Group:** Automated Storage/Retrieval Systems (ASRS)



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This industrial manufacturer of 150 years has decided to move the work of one facility into two existing facilities, which is no easy feat. With the help of ten horizontal carousels, they were able to increase picking productivity by 100%, reduce labor costs by 50% and cut inventory levels in half. The aftermarket parts manufacturer and distributor determined that combining the aftermarket parts fulfillment with the production warehousing at two of the company's existing manufacturing facilities would reduce inventory costs considerably, and it did just that.

The two existing facilities now manage both manufacturing and order fulfillment. Therefore, they needed to integrate the 13,000 SKUs in their assembly parts warehouse with the 80,000 SKUs in the aftermarket fulfillment distribution center. The ten carousel sizes in both facilities range from 60 to 80 feet in length. Their carousels can be arranged in two, three or five picking pods. Pods can be arranged to accommodate various labor levels through flexible pod configuration, allowing this manufacturer to balance throughput with order demand.

Integrating the horizontal carousels, pick-to-light technology and the flexi-pod configuration has

significantly enhanced the speed of the entire inventory management process. They can now process inventory in half the time, with a 50 percent reduction in labor hours needed to do the same tasks.

“The whole system is quite automated,” Chew continues, “The coordination of order fulfillment is remarkable – parts are put in totes, at each workspace and routed to consolidation. When an order has been completed the system will automatically consolidate those totes and then send them down a single lane for order processing.”

With the companies new distribution model they are no longer maintaining a dedicated aftermarket warehouse with thousands of SKUs of duplicate inventory. The new combined production/aftermarket inventory and distribution system has streamlined their operating costs.

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