

Automated Data Collection

Project Benefits & ROI

There are many opportunities to optimize business efficiencies through Automated Data Collection. This solution will result in a streamlined, lean structure and processes; putting you in an advantageous position to react to business changes in your environment. Automated Data Collection also correlates with ROI. When you consider more accurate picking, fewer returns, better cycle count, and things of those nature, you will see a clear return on investment. Your organization will be better positioned to handle increased business volumes with existing, more productive labor resources. Your business will also be better positioned to handle customers efficiently and provide greater value as a supplier.

Accuracy

Properly barcoded parts, lots and locations provide for accurate data entry and scanning into your ERP application. With a scan of a barcoded field, there will be no occurrences of transposing numbers or danger of keying wrong numbers. For example, when an employee goes to pick a product, there may be two products that are very similar. The product numbers may be differentiated by one digit. In a manual environment, where an employee is writing down on a pick ticket an item number, they might transpose a number or write down what they thought they picked incorrectly. In an RF environment with Automated Data Collection, they will simply scan a number. If you receive an item that's not on the order, the system notifies that you can't ship the item, as it is not on the order. The system enforces accuracy in the pick, pack and ship process through the utilization of scanners.

Timeliness

The automation with scanning makes system information available to the people who need that knowledge. In manual processes, material availability or locations are significantly delayed with the entry of hand written tickets, which are manually keyed into the system at a later time. Often, locations will be keyed after material has already been moved elsewhere. Accurate and timely data will help your business function much more efficiently.

Workflow

The simplification of the scanning operation is critical to the business function. It is all about workflow. Our RF programs are built to emulate the workflow of the actual business process, while updating the ERP application in the background, using its existing business rules. The existing screens were never created to emulate the workflow of the operation; they were designed as a manual batch process after the actual work had taken place. That is where most of the productivity is gained in the RF and bar code implementation. When a proper workflow is designed into the RF programs, the data is collected at the point of creation and there is an accurate update of the database in real time.

Accountability

With proper portable computer sign-in procedures, users are tracked to actual transactions as they occur in the warehouse. Proper supervisor authorization is needed to handle override situations (such as handling discrepancies in receiving or inventory count variances). This makes it easier to pinpoint any areas of concern where a higher than acceptable number of transaction errors may occur.



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