

Microsoft Dynamics® AX and Manhattan SCALE Warehouse Management Feature Comparison

The goal in every warehouse is to increase the speed and reduce the cost of getting the right product to the right customer at the right time. Managing your warehouse and distribution operation efficiently is critical to the success of your business. The question is whether to choose your ERP system's warehouse management module or a best of breed warehouse management system (WMS). ERP providers are continuously expanding their capabilities and functionality within the "four walls", while WMS providers are increasingly providing robust functionality and enhancing visibility across the entire supply chain.

It is critical to understand the operational requirements and business objectives the application will be supporting. Functionality across the ERP warehouse module and a WMS provider may differ vastly, so again, it is imperative to define your long-term objectives.

Microsoft Dynamics AX vs. Manhattan SCALE Feature Comparison

This table offers a comparative list of key functionality requirements within a warehouse system.

No.	Function	Dynamics AX Functionality	SCALE Functionality (Best of Breed WMS)
1.	Cross Docking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited cross docking functionality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bypass standard putaway logic during receiving Direct item to cross-dock consolidation location, outbound container, or retail store shipment
2.	Directed-Putaway	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete set of configurable locating and putaway rules provided Auto-consolidation during putaway Directed to Active (Top-Off) 	SAME

No. Function	Dynamics AX Functionality	SCALE Functionality (Best of Breed WMS)
3. Cycle Counting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rules-based system initiated cycle count tasks based on (inventory type, range of locations, velocity) Activity driven counts based on warehouse activities, ex. short picks at a location 	<p>SAME</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can also provide detailed statistics - access to cycle count progress, open counts, percent complete, error rates
4. Replenishment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wave triggered replenishment Manual independent replenishment requests Demand based criteria and/or min/max levels are evaluated Tasks can be interleaved with other tasks that are critical to maximize user productivity and efficiency 	<p>SAME</p>
5. Order Processing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wave Planning - Process of analyzing and grouping outbound orders together into batches for release to the warehouse floor Robust wave creation criteria Users can view orders that have been downloaded from the host, entered via the internet or created internally Waves can be executed manually, automatically or as part of a pre-defined release schedule 	<p>SAME</p>
6. Cartonization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Systematic determination of required cartons for an order Improves fulfillment efficiency, reduces number of cartons to be shipped Eliminates decision making at packing 	<p>SAME</p>
7. Picking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voice Picking (Vocollect Talkman device) Rules for executing picking tasks from discrete order picking to batch picking to cluster picking Picking from Forward Locations and/or overflow 	<p>SAME</p>

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8. Equipment Definition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to register forklift details • Assign equipment to operators • Selection of type of transport job • Height restrictions definition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment defined with limitation concepts and user authorization for this equipment • SCALE directs the right equipment through the right aisles at the right levels. e.g., Forklift
9. Labor Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tracked through work transactions • Can create labor standards for Units, Weights, Time, and UOM for all work transactions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track all activities performed on the system, catalogs them, and displays them in a summarized form • Provides users of the system with detailed visibility into managing their workforce • Data captured to analyze and optimize your warehouse
10. Carrier Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Configuration for Parcel, LTL, and TL carrier rating services • Interfaced with UPS and Fedex services • Rate shopping • Use of Third Party Tools for Labeling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vendor compliant labels • Major parcel carriers, including rating, manifesting and electronic manifest transmission • Using routing guide information, ability to route shipments based on pre-configured guidelines, e.g. best way, least cost
11. Outbound Quality Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Configurable RF Quarantine Setup • Prevention of Quarantine Items to be picked in RF 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • User notification of pending QC activities through RF • VAS "Pending" indication
12. Business Intelligence (Visibility)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SSRS, SSAS, SSIS • SSRS includes 2 reporting tools; ad-hoc reporting tool for end user and an advanced tool used to build complex reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supply Chain Intelligence (SCI) enables users to acquire complete and consistent integrated business intelligence • Allows system to build data warehouse and cube elements

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