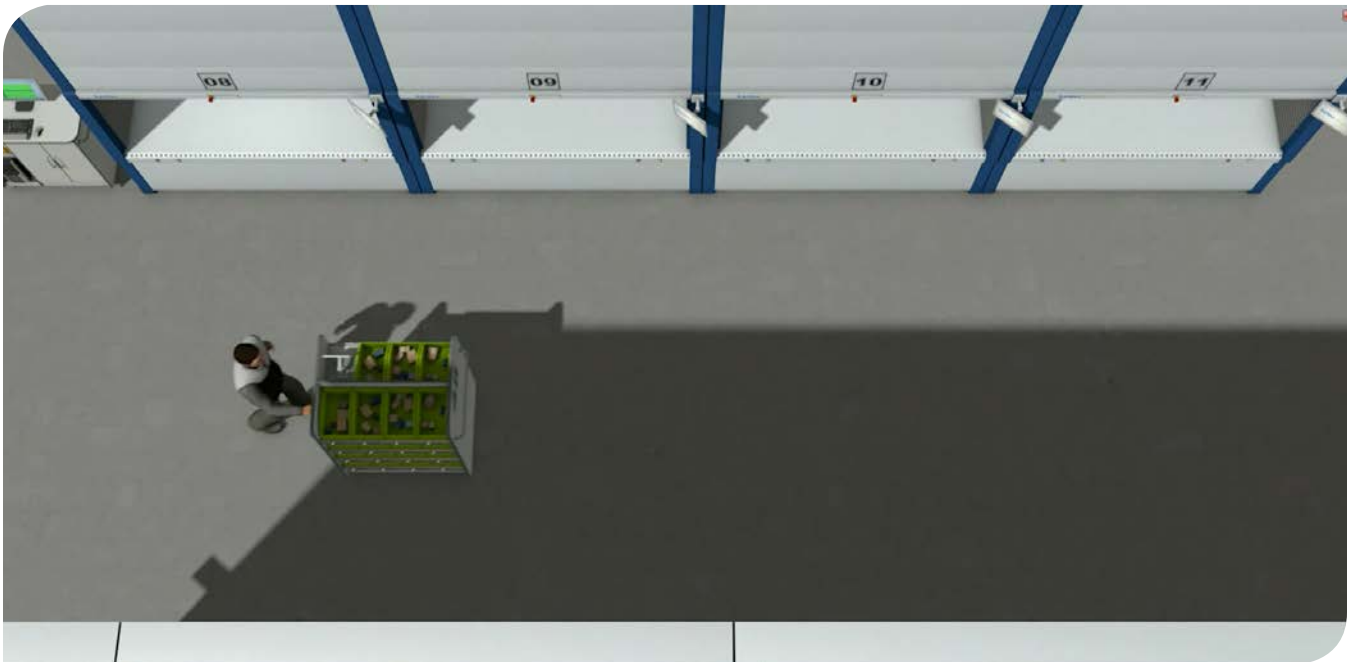


APPLICATION BRIEFING

Multi-Color Batch Picking To Mobile Carts

Utilizing carts to batch pick orders from multiple zones — often including horizontal or vertical carousels or vertical lift modules (VLMs) — is limited to a single pick-cart per zone. Short of further sub-dividing the zones or implementing more expensive, larger automated handling systems, there's been no way to increase throughput as your operations grow. Until now.

With the implementation of Multi-Color Batch Picking, as many as eight operators with carts can pick within the same zone simultaneously. This flexible labor concept enables operations to add workers at peak times, increasing throughput dramatically to meet spikes in order demand.



Integrated Multi-Color Batch Picking within a cart-based pick zone delivers:

- Increased system throughput
- Flexible labor to handle peaks in demand
- Lower cost of automation per picker



How it works:

- The WMS groups and releases batches of orders to as many as eight separate carts and their operators, assigning each cart a specific color (red, blue, green, yellow, etc.).
- When each operator and cart enters the zone, a wireless signal triggers the multi-colored light to illuminate in a specific color at each machine.

For example, the system directs the blue picker to machine 1 using a blue light, while the yellow picker is directed to machine 3 using a yellow light.



- At the machines pick-to-light technology directs each picker to the specific SKU to pick and the quantity required. Each operator confirms their pick on their assigned machine.

For example, the blue operator picks 9 units of SKU ABC and confirms the pick on machine 1, while the yellow operator picks 4 of SKU XYZ and confirms the pick on machine 3.



- The operator returns to the waiting cart, just a few steps away. Orders are associated with a specific tote on the cart, each of which is also equipped with put-to-light modules that illuminate with the put location and required item quantity.

For example, the blue operator places 5 units of SKU ABC into order 2 and 4 units of SKU ABC into order 6, while the yellow operator places 2 units of SKU XYZ into order 3 and 2 units of SKU XYZ into order 9.



- Confirmation of the puts at the cart triggers the next SKUs to be picked. The pickers follow their assigned color to pick the next waiting SKU from the machines, and place them into the order totes on their cart as directed.
- The process repeats for every picker and cart until all the picks are completed within the aisle. The picker then wheels the cart to the next destination (another picking zone, or pack-out and shipping).

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