5 Steps to Prep:

Essentials for Transforming Your Warehouse Operations

Warehouse management is complex, and many companies—even large and successful ones—struggle with their warehouse operations. Many understand that there might be a better way to manage receiving, tracking, and shipping, but they cling to manual processes and paper.

Today too much of the world is digital to make paper-based processes truly effective. Business is also highly competitive, putting pressure on companies to transform warehouse operations with automation to scale and grow.

Change can feel overwhelming. Planning can go a long way toward making transformation easier. While you are considering implementing a WMS or switching solutions, you can get a head start on the process. Here are five steps you and your team can take now to prepare for implementing a warehouse management system.

Getting Started: Five Steps to Prep

1. ADD WIFI TO YOUR WAREHOUSE

Does your warehouse have a wireless network? Adding wireless infrastructure to your warehouse is a necessary step in going from paper-based to mobile-device scanners. A wireless site survey is the first step. It will guide you in determining access points for sufficient facility coverage, choosing access point hardware and antenna accessories, and identifying any potential problems early.

What to Know:

- **How many access points will you facility need for sufficient coverage?**
- **Where will they be mounted?**
- **Har hardware and which antenna accessories best fit your needs?**
- **How much coverage redundancy do you need?**
- **What barriers might limit device effectiveness?**

2. STRATEGIZE WAREHOUSE ORGANIZATION

How do raw materials and finished goods flow through your facility from receiving to shipping? You'll need to know each touchpoint in your workflow to understand where business system transactions need to occur and how to structure the floor space for more efficiency.

What to Know:

- **Are you running out of space?**
- **How is space being used? Could it be improved?**
- **How and when are employees frustrated?**
- **Where are they making errors in picking?**
- **Are you packing in the aisles?**
- **Where should label printers be located?**
- **Will you need mobile printing?**

3. PLAN FOR BINS

Are you already using bins? Bins are the smallest available unit of space in a warehouse. If you are not already using bins, you will need to create a logical numbering scheme and put barcode labels on every bin. You will also need to create wayfinding such as lines painted on the floor to denote each bin location.

What to Know:

- **Are you currently using bins?**
- **If so, does each bin already have a barcode?**
- **What numbering scheme will you use for pallet racking and floor bins?**
- **Where will you locate picking bins?**
- **How will picking bins be replenished?**
- **How will workers interact with the inventory, at close or long range?**

4. CHOOSE THE RIGHT MOBILE DEVICE

How are your workers actually getting the job done? WMS require mobile scanners to collect data and track inventory in real time throughout your warehouse. To select the right device, you'll need to understand the environment, how your workers are interacting with the inventory, and how they'll be using the scanners. These needs determine device selection.

What to Know:

- **What is your warehouse environment? Is it a freezer?**
- **Do your workers use forklifts?**
- **Do workers need a ling-range or standard scanning?**
- **Are they picking from bins?**
- **Do they wear gloves?**
- **Will they need a hands-free device?**
- **What kind of barcodes are you using? 1D, 2D or both?**

5. SCHEDULE A STRATEGY SESSION

Feeling overwhelmed? We have seen it all and can discuss your pain points, where you are stuck, or your specific needs.

Warehouse Management is Complex
We Can Help You Get Started

LET'S TALK

At WiSys, we understand transforming your warehouse operations can be risky and overwhelming. But it does not have to be—and even more, it is an imperative to grow your business.

That is why we have built a warehouse management solution to make transformation faster, easier, and less disruptive, so you can stop wasting time and money and instead take your business to the next level.

We have assembled the finest team to collaborate with you to design, build, train and support your sophisticated needs. Together, the team has decades of experience helping thousands of businesses leverage their investment in their ERP software.

To learn more please contact:
Joseph L. Brown, VP of Sales
Business Computer Technologies, Inc.
(P) 314-735-0177
joeb@bctinc.com

BCT, Inc.

WISYS
The Flexible and Scalable WMS