

PSSI Case Study: Rollpak, Inc.

Indiana manufacturer deploys *E-Z WMS* Warehouse Management System to increase inventory turns, ship faster, cut warehouse costs, and beat the competition...



Rollpak Inc.'s Goshen, IN plant is a manufacturer of institutional can liners, supplying non-consumer based business trash can liners for all types of applications.

Founded in 1983, Rollpak has long maintained a reputation for quality and innovation that featured a new concept for the commercial can liner market: producing trash bags on a coreless roll using a highly automated manufacturing process. The company earned ISO certification in 1997. Today, the firm operations three shifts daily, operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. When you walk the factory floor, you see a model of automation and efficiency: minimal labor for maximum output.

As part of its journey on the road of continuous improvement, the company of course sought to automate many of its core front and back office functions.

At PSSI, our relationship with Rollpak extends back many years since we first helped them automate their accounting system in the 1990's. Most recently, their deployment of our *E-Z WMS Warehouse Management System* is merely their latest step in increasing competitive advantage through the intelligent application of software and technology.

Rollpak General Manager **Alan Wyne** was instrumental in the deployment of the firm's warehouse management system, which became the first (of several) commercial deployments of what is now the *E-Z WMS*.

Alan's motivation to implement derived from the typical distributor's warehouse headaches: misshipments... loss of inventory... time wasted searching for product... the need to review employee picking ability... improving on-time deliveries and order fulfillment accuracy.

According to Wyne, he's solved all these problems — and more. Today, he notes, "*E-Z WMS* has virtually eliminated our misshipments. The discipline required by the system in picking, packing and shipping makes the process faster and provides a much higher degree of accuracy than was possible prior to the deployment."

And since *E-Z WMS* holds its own inventory — a deliberate design feature — "we have significantly improved our ability to compare inventory levels to our accounting inventory, thus allowing for complete cycle counts of the entire warehouse at the touch of a button."

E-Z WMS likewise prevents the loss of inventory, by providing a view of all inventory at all locations at a very detailed level. The system also allows inventory to be allocated to a specific order and aids in confirming that inventory will be available to ship on time.

Another key benefit Rollpak has gained from *E-Z WMS* is real-time data access, which allows for much closer management of all key business metrics. Additionally, with the proper set up, the system enables improved data accuracy and a double check on all data entered. "We catch errors now long before they have the chance to

become significant," Alan adds. And then there are the labor savings: "E-Z WMS allows us to run our business with *as few as one-sixth the number of employees our competition uses.*"

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— Alan Wyne,
General Manager, Rollpak, Inc.

Beyond that remarkable statistic, some of the more notable software paybacks the firm has realized include real-time visibility at multiple

levels of detail. General Manager Wyne points out that "now we can monitor the business and change things as quickly as necessary. *E-Z WMS* has eliminated the need to have paper in our system. We eliminate the paper chase, the hand-written confusion, the missed communications. At the same time it allows us to provide key employees with information on multiple work centers, thus allowing them to manage more work centers."

"In fact," Alan adds, "the speed at which our warehouse team was able to learn to use the system was another plus. I can teach someone all they need to know to use the system to pick orders in about fifteen minutes."

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, Alan adds, "We're realizing improved inventory turns. With *E-Z WMS*, we can schedule shorter production runs, create more 'build to order' opportunities and enable faster movement from order to shipment. We just couldn't do those kinds of things without it!" ■

E-Z WMS is an easy-to-use, quick-to-learn, full-functioning warehouse management system that can be linked to our most popular accounting packages. *E-Z WMS* uses Internet-enabled handhelds to improve warehouse efficiency and accuracy, and can even be modified to fit your specific requirements. To learn how *E-Z WMS* can improve your warehouse, or to learn more about PSSI's premier manufacturing and distribution solutions, contact us today.



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