## FORTNΔ

October 22, 2024

# Optimize Inventory Placement in your Distribution Network

World Slotting Day 2024

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## Why Slotting?

Prioritize inventory placement

- Minimize travel, picking and replenishment costs
- Reduce bend and reach injuries for employees
- Improve space utilization and reduces replenishments
- Improve pick path sequence quality, reducing damage
- Improve throughput at peak to meet SLAs
- Fast, proven, implementation methodology



### **Rapid Payback of Slotting Moves**

#### Increased Picking Productivity:

- Due to reduced travel times 10%
- For break pack operations 12%
- Increased Replenishment Productivity:
  - Full case operations 10%
  - Break pack operations 15%
- Reduced Damages 40%

## The Three Goals of Slotting



## #1 Build Sequence Quality

- In manual picking operations, sequencing SKUs by decreasing weight, height, density, or packaging type can minimize damages, increase trailer cube, and meet SLAs
- Family Grouping may be essential for efficient putaway and retail friendly pallets shipped to the end customer
- Build friendly sequencing can reduce labor in pallet rebuilding costs and reduce bottlenecks in the pick path

## The Three Goals of Slotting

## #2 Space Utilization

- Target period time-based holding for forward pick slotting assignments can optimize replenishment cycles and reduce labor costs
- Current available storage capacity along with item cubic velocity are used to calculate ideal target holding periods unique to each item
- Storage Type Analysis can assess current state vs ideal slot sizes to support greenfield layout design or retrofit re-racking initiatives



8.3. HOW MUCH OF EACH SKU TO STORE IN THE FAST-PICK AREA?

**Theorem 8.1.** To minimize total restocks over all skus j = 1, ..., n in the forward pick area, the fraction of available storage space devoted to sku i should be

$$v_i^* = \left(\frac{\sqrt{f_i}}{\sum_{j=1}^n \sqrt{f_j}}\right). \tag{8.5}$$

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## The Three Goals of Slotting



### **#3 Picking Productivity**

- Average Pick Cost calculations produce ideal slot sequencing to reduce horizontal and vertical travel
- Order affinity and group proximity constraints can further improve pick density and shorten pick paths
- Labor Efficiency calculations optimize the selection of eligible items for automation to reduce manual labor while maximizing space in ASRS modules
- Moves cost benefit evaluation will identify the highest priority moves to deliver rapid ROI

## Sustainable Slotting

- With periodic resets, warehouse operating costs increase after a large reslot (blue line)
- By making minimal maintenance moves, near perfect slotting and maximum cost savings are sustained (green optimal cost)



## **Results Achieved through Slotting**



#### Third Party Logistics Company with DCs in 10 Countries

- Reduced travel by 15%
- Optimal results were achieved by slotting by family groups, then resale groups, then by decreasing case weight



#### **Automotive Retailer & Distributor**

- Increased picking lines per hour by 40%
- Uncovered replenishment issue and identified slot capacity for improved replenishment



#### **Global Consumer Packaged Goods Company**

- Completed 2 projects in 2 months
- Reduced travel by 19%
- 3% overall cost reduction



#### National Electronics Retail Distributor—Regional DC

- 68% of SKU representing 98% of hit velocity slotted in 43% of travel path without congestion
- 23% improvement in travel distance by order
- Pick labor reduced by 11%, replenishment labor reduced by 23%



#### **Grocery & General Merchandise Distributor, Regional DC, Nationwide Australia**

- Replenishment dollars reduced by 13%
- Retail product grouping improved by 51%



#### Top Fortune Listed Pharma Company with 50+ DC Network

- Reduced pick labor by 11% in each pick area based on full reslot using velocity sequencing and golden zoning
- Completed "what-if" scenario analysis to reveal partial reslot (20% of moves)
- Reduced labor by 9%



#### **Regional Grocery Company**

- Reduced total pick path by 10%, picking labor dollars reduced by 3%
- Separated caustics from edibles with separate pick paths
- Annual retail labor savings equivalent to **16** times investment



#### Global Health, Beauty & Home Care Products Company

- Improved picking productivity in case pick area by 14%
- Improved picking productivity in each pick area by 24%
- Reduced replenishments by 5%



#### Multinational Furniture, Appliance & Home Accessories Retailer

- Improved picking productivity by 10%
- Reduced replenishments by 5%



#### Global Electrical Components Company

- Improved picking productivity by 31%
- Reduced replenishments by 8%

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## Questions?

## Thank you

FORTNA OptiSlot DC<sup>™</sup> software contacts:

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# Thank you