

System Overview

Eastern Auto Parts Warehouse Expands Into New Mechanized Distribution Center



Features & Benefits Provided

Product line placement
maximizes cube and
enhances productivity

Mechanization allows
conveyor to “do the
walking”

Efficient flow speeds
product into and out of
the system



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The Challenge:

From humble roots as an independent auto parts store, this Philadelphia area distributor has grown into a major East Coast auto parts supplier.

To maintain their growth, EAPW needed to move operations into a more efficient and expanded facility. A new material-handling system had to be mechanized to allow for growth and lower unit operating costs.

The Siggins Team was hired to help select and modify an existing facility, and create a material-handling system to fit like a glove within the new DC.

The Solution:

Data from a thorough inventory cube and velocity study was used to apply Best Practices principles of separation, concentration, and specialization - to a new system design.

Separating conveyables from non-conveyables, concentrating work activities within zones, allowing workers in the zones to specialize, and applying a streamlined product flow - all combined to create an efficient, dynamic DC.

Study results were also used to employ the most efficient storage media by product line, and to categorize product placement based off of inventory cube, conveyability, and individual SKU sales.

A design focus was maximizing the flow of product. An elevated sorter was applied to enhance the flow - of inbound receipts from receiving and of outbound orders from picking zones.