

Systems Material Handling (SMH) New Distribution Center, Olathe, KS

Lift truck parts and accessories have a new first class home in Olathe, KS. In response to three years of consistent growth, Systems Material Handling (SMH) constructed a new 310,000 SF state of the art manufacturing and distribution center. This new center as well as changes to 5 other facilities allowed SMH to deliver thousands of TotalSource lift truck replacement parts and accessories within 1 day to a large percentage of their customer base.

Equipment selection for the new distribution center took place during the first phase of the project when Abel Womack partnered with SMH's operations and warehouse team to develop a material handling solution for the new facility.

The project included:

- Selective pallet racking, shelving, push-back racking.
- Remstar horizontal carousels, 2 different conveyor systems with zone diverts.
- A mezzanine and Hytrol conveyors with zone diverts.

A second phase included additional functionality, a second level pick module and a 100,000 SF building expansion.

SMH's previous system of putaway and replenishment was done via paper. Now, bar coded product is scanned into the system and all system functions are performed in real time. The new system more efficiently and accurately handles SMH's diverse customer requirements. The system is capable of handling several different types of parts as well as several value-added functions. Upon receipt all parts are put through various quality assurance/testing procedures before they are released to the floor.

Project Key Features:

Challenge

- Update and consolidate operations to deliver parts and products faster and more accurately.

Abel Womack Solution

- Pallet and push-back racking, shelving, horizontal carousels, a mezzanine and conveyor systems with zone diverts.

Benefit

- Removal of paper based system and installation of bar code scanning system to increase picking and packing efficiency.
- 100,000 SF expansion. Included a second level pick module.



