

Art Storage Warehouse Reduces Footprint and Gains Efficiency with a Customized Solution



A local facility was able to reduce its warehouse footprint while gaining more space and flexibility with order picking and storage.

The Challenge

For a few years, a local institution was searching for a new space to store its current collection and make room for new items. They had to adjust their thinking on how they were going to store items at much greater heights than their current method, and what equipment was needed to do so. Items ranged from household furnishings, books, artwork, and other odd shaped objects. Heavier items were stored on the floor to minimize strenuous lifting throughout its 40,000-square-foot space. Books were stored on 8-and-12-foot shelves, and art was on 10-foot pallets in its 35,000-square-foot space. In both areas, only ladders were used, making it necessary to strategize about where heavier or bulkier objects were placed. This is problematic when you're trying to keep a specific order to storage.

The company visited several of their colleagues' facilities to see how they were storing and accessing similar items. During their research, they saw different types of material handling equipment and several storage variations, but still were searching for a few more options. During one visit, a colleague recommended Abel Womack, having been impressed with the quality of their work on previous projects.

The Solution

After completing site visits, the organization began researching Abel Womack and found a solution to the problem at hand. The SpinGo aerial lift was ideal for tight, congested areas. With the ability to manually push it down an aisle or use the electric lift function, they could safely pick small items from their rack and shelving.



During the initial meeting, Abel Womack discussed new and reconditioned forklifts along with the concept of a cart that attaches to an order picker. This would help with picking up bulky items stored on a new 20-

foot high pallet rack configuration. After a few exchanges of drawings and revisions, Abel Womack and the platform manufacturer provided a customized unit with removable rails and shelving, and powder coated it red to match the customer's colors and help protect items during transport.

By allowing shelving to be configured several ways and increasing the length of the order picker's forks for added stability, the customer can accommodate and pick various items safely and more efficiently than before.

The Results

Before using their new equipment to store and pick items, the customer had to contract outside labor and equipment to move or retrieve many of their items.

Now, a few of its staff are trained on using the forklifts and SpinGo and can move or pick items whenever needed. No longer having to arrange and plan for the contractor to come in with his equipment has saved them time and money, and that positively impacts the bottom line.

"Working with Abel Womack has seemed effortless. Our



relationship has resulted in increased efficiency, no downtime, and it helps us do our job," the Director of Storage said. "Being referred to them saved us a great deal of time shopping and calling other material handling providers. Besides providing versatile options, they've been very responsive and timely in accommodating our needs. I've already recommended them to another colleague."

Abel Womack also provides the customer with regularly scheduled equipment maintenance, ensuring their equipment is always safe, available and ready to go.

Customer Challenges

- Safely storing and retrieving odd-shaped items
- Relying on contract labor
- Limited storage space

Abel Womack Solution

- Reconditioned forklifts & service
- Customized mobile platform
- SpinGo aerial lifts

Benefits

- Increased picking efficiencies and flexible storage
- Saved on labor costs