



Performance Report

Iscar Metals

Challenge:

Iscar Metals outgrew their 15,000 sqft warehouse and needed to facilitate continued growth and improve efficiencies.

Solution:

Customized "Pick & Pass" system using six bottom drive horizontal carousels.

Result:

The new system saved 70% (10,000 sqft) floor space, holds three times the inventory, increased same-day shipments to 99%, running 24/7 with zero downtime.

Bottom drive system provides continuous uptime 24/7



Automated horizontal carousels allow more inventory in less space, more one-day shipments, and zero downtime.

Iscar Metals, a manufacturer of metal cutting tools, outgrew their 15,000 square foot warehouse space. To facilitate continued growth and improve efficiencies they installed six horizontal carousels that now occupy 4500 square feet and hold three times the inventory. "We run these carousels 24/7 and have not experienced one day of downtime in six years." explains Lloyd Dack, Logistics Manager. The six bottom drive carousels stand ten feet high, have 38 bins each and are split into two pods of three.

With over 9,000 SKU's and orders coming in from 11 regional sales offices it's common to see 900 to 1100 orders a day. Employing a "pick and pass" method, the operator from pod one picks and then passes an incomplete order to the operator in pod two who completes the order and sends it on to shipping. One operator in a single pod will pick up to 400 lines an hour or approximately 40,000 parts a day with an average of 3 lines per order.

Orders are downloaded to the PC and sorted by ship method. A pick ticket is printed and then scanned to set up batches of up to 16. The TXP software optimizes the batches to minimize carousel rotation and lights the Lighttree to indicate the position and quantity of the SKU to be picked. Orders are picked into assigned totes as directed by the Sortbar.

Iscar customers expect fast delivery. Due to the high efficiency and dependability of the carousel technology it is typical to ship 99% of incoming orders the same day. "The carousel system allows us to complete shipment of that days orders and use the night shift for replenishment." states Dack.

1 *Top:* Orders are downloaded to the PC and sorted by ship method. A pick ticket is printed and scanned to set up batches of 16.

2 *Center:* Software optimizes the batches to minimize carousel rotation and lights the Lighttree to indicate position and quantity of item to be picked.

3 *Bottom:* Orders are picked into assigned totes as directed by a lighted Sortbar.



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The same process used for fulfillment is again used for replenishment, only in reverse. The operator picks parts from the incoming totes on the conveyer and puts the items into the carousel as directed by the Lighttree.

Bottom drive carousels from White are engineered for larger live loads (up to 2500 lbs.) per bin and heavier duty cycles. In addition to the systems durability, easily accessible floor level motors, enhanced wheel and track point of contact, and reduced bin stress due to the bottom drive configuration are further benefits.

White Systems carousel technology performs flawlessly even under the rigors of 24/7 operation. Without the durability and efficiency of White's bottom drive carousels Iscar Metals could not maintain such a high customer satisfaction level.

www.whitesystems.com

SencorpWhite, Inc.
400 Kidds Hill Road
Hyannis, MA 02601

Main office: (508) 771-9400
Fax: (508) 790-0002
Email: sales@whitesystems.com

