Demand for warehousing space is at an all-time high, driven in large part by a boom in retail e-commerce sales.

If you’re in the process of planning a new warehouse or distribution center or expanding your current facility, there are several key preparation steps to keep in mind to ensure that your warehouse labels and signs meet your needs and your go-live date.

1. Include Your Label Manufacturer on the Project Planning Team

Don’t wait too long to plan for your barcode location labels and signs. Poor preparation might lead to errors, rush production charges or delays in your go-live date.

Include ID Label on your project team to manage all the aspects of label and sign preparation and installation. This allows you to focus on other critical project components.

2. Order the Right Barcode Labels and Signs for Your Environment and Technology

Be sure to consult with your label manufacturer to address the following considerations:

- What scanning technology will be used?
- From what distance will your labels be scanned?
- What kinds of surfaces will the labels be applied to?
- Will the labels be used in cold or freezer environments?
- Do your rack labels need to accommodate wire-deck hangover?
- Will you run an up or down picking operation?
- Will you use vertical location rack labels?
3. Identify Bulk Storage Locations and Signage Needs

Analyze your floor plan and layout to determine how many bulk storage locations there are and how you will identify those areas.

ID Label typically recommends using long-range scanners and overhead retro-reflective hanging signs with barcode images. They come in a wide variety of designs and materials, including angled and double-sided. PVC signs are sturdy and work well in typical warehouse environments where open dock doors can increase air flow.

Durable floor plate kits are another option to consider, especially when long-range scanning is not an option.

4. Make Sure Your Racking and Facility are Ready for Labeling

- Racks and beams should be clean and ready to be labeled. Dirt and dust quickly accumulate during storage and installation, significantly diminishing a label’s adhesive values.

Racks should be clean and free of dust and dirt to ensure labels adhere properly to the beam.

- Understand what type of equipment can fit in the aisles to reach upper-level racks.

- Active electrical receptacles should be available to power lifts and booms. If not, portable generators will need to be rented.

- Confirm what time of day personnel or installation vendors have access to the facility. If access is limited to evenings or weekends, this can impact installation staffing requirements and costs.

5. Order Preprinted LPN Labels in Advance

LPN labels will be a vital part of your new facility, of course, used to identify pallets, cases, cartons, totes and other moveable units.

Preprinted LPNs are not only typically less costly, they also meet the needs of today’s automated modern warehouse for greater efficiency, speed and productivity.

Set up your preprinted LPN labels in conjunction with the implementation of your WMS system to ensure you hit the ground running on day one. ID Label offers a “Make-and-Hold” quarterly inventory program that lowers costs even further, while also providing same-day shipping on your next quantity of sequential LPNs.

Consult With ID Label for Your Next Project

For more than 20 years, we’ve worked with thousands of satisfied customers in the warehousing and supply chain markets – from Fortune 50 multinationals to smaller, growing clients in niche industries.

In addition to warehouse labeling, we also provide warehouse signage and nationwide installation services to provide a complete solution to our many clients who rely on us for all their warehousing needs.

Interested in learning more? Contact us today.