Time to relabel your warehouse racks?

If you’re unsure whether or not your warehouse management process would benefit from relabeling, consider the following questions:

Are your existing rack barcode labels damaged, missing or peeling, requiring inefficient and error-prone manual data entry?

Are you implementing a new warehouse management system?

Does your facility fulfill e-commerce orders?

Has your inventory increased in volume or velocity?

Are you considering reconfiguring part of your warehouse to improve slotting of inventory?

Where to begin?

Warehouse relabeling projects are a more common occurrence today as facilities look to better manage inventory and throughput amidst rising expectations for rapid order fulfillment.

Chances are at least one of the scenarios listed at left is at play within your facility. It’s worth a closer look to see if any of them are impacting your ability to efficiently store, pick and ship products. With that being said, where do you start a relabeling project?

During relabeling projects, make sure your warehouse management system integrates with other technologies to facilitate mobile data collection, labeling data file set up and wireless LAN connectivity.
Four steps to a successful relabeling project

1. **Understand the changing needs of the facility**
   Any relabeling project requires a thorough understanding of the facility, its operating environment, racking set up, inventory flow and processes. That starts with the warehouse layout and an **efficient numbering scheme**. Whether you’re constructing a new distribution center or simply seeking ways to better organize your current facility, it’s always a good time to look at ways to optimize your location identification logic.

2. **Ensure barcode labels work with your mobile technology**
   It’s also important to consider how the existing equipment in the facility will impact any proposed relabeling solutions. For example, is it a person-up or down operation? Does your mobile equipment accommodate long-range scanning? Can they image 2D barcodes?

3. **Improve barcode label performance with a Warehouse Management System**
   Mobile barcode scanning is a huge improvement in warehouse inventory management compared to paper-based processes. A warehouse management system takes it to the next level, delivering significant operational efficiency improvements, better workflows for picking and putaway and much more.

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   Recently, ID Label worked with home improvement retailer **Lowe’s on an 18-month WMS upgrade** across 15 distribution centers (DC). The new warehouse management system meant that all 15 DCs required new, durable rack location labels to accommodate the upgraded inventory management system. ID Label manufactured all of the required rack labels to preplanned specifications and to coincide with the changeover at each DC, which improved warehouse efficiency and speed across all DCs.

   Warehouse management systems and wearable devices are ushering in a new era of workplace technology, and barcoding is at the center of this evolution.
4. **Review warehouse label needs for different areas of the facility**

An important step in the relabeling process is to review the warehouse layout and its specific relabeling needs. Based on our experience with thousands of warehousing clients, the best labeling options depend on your specific needs and operating environment.

- For relabeling warehouse racks, ID Label’s **Eco Beam Renew™** is an ideal option that doesn’t require the time-consuming task of removing existing labels. It applies directly over old or damaged labels without any show-through.

- For cold storage warehouses, ID Label’s **Arctic Xtreme™** is an advanced, freezer-grade label that performs in temperatures as low as -65F. In addition, we manufacture extremely durable magnetic warehouse shelving, rack and bin location labels to match your specific cold chain management needs.

- For warehouse bulk storage, **overhead warehouse signs** are highly recommended for identifying and managing bulk storage inventory, and can be designed with retroreflective graphics for long-range scanning accuracy.

- ID Label’s warehouse **floor label kits** are another durable option for identifying bulk storage locations when warehouse layouts can’t accommodate overhead signage.

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**Planning a new relabeling project?**

Consult with ID Label to understand your options. We’re passionate about helping our clients find the best solutions to keep their businesses moving forward.

ID Label’s warehousing products — from rack and LPN labels to signs and installation services — have been tested and used by great companies in operations around the globe for more than 25 years. That’s extensive experience and knowledge we can bring to your specific requirements.