

INFO SHEET

COMPLETE, LEAN MATERIAL MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS

Spacesaver[®] and LogiTag have partnered to develop StockBox[™], a materials management system, which incorporates RFID technology and lean Kanban methods to create a simple, effective means for efficient stock management.

STOCKBOX RFID SOLUTIONS

The StockBox[™], in combination with proper Kanban practices, facilitates FIFO (first in, first out) inventory turns, reducing expired stock for those items with a shelf life; helps ensure fewer stock-outs; and helps optimize inventory levels, which most often results in lower inventory investment overall versus traditional materials management methods.

Further boost the value of StockBox by combining it with Spacesaver's FrameWR X[®] storage system for the single most flexible, efficient and complete storage and materials management solution on the market today.

KANBAN METHODOLOGY

The Kanban method is an efficient, effective, visual system for managing materials. Using a "two-bin" Kanban system, users consume product as required. Upon emptying the first, or primary bin, the user triggers a call for additional stock by pulling the StockCard. While materials management is working to replenish, the quantity remaining in the secondary bin satisfies usage until replenishment arrives.



FrameWR X[™] storage system provides highly customizable storage in any area. Its unique design accommodates mounting of shelves, wire baskets and the innovative EZ Rail[®] element without any tools or fasteners. Furthermore, the EZ Rail's unique, multi-function design enables the use of slat wall and pegboard hooks as well as hanging bins, without the need for a shelf. FrameWRX is extremely flexible, freely adapting to meet changing needs and application requirements.

STOCKBOX MATERIALS MANAGEMENT CYCLE



HOW THE STOCKBOX SYSTEM WORKS

All items in each supply room are placed in a “two-bin” Kanban configuration. That is, each item is stored in two compartments, a primary “bin” and a secondary “bin,” with each containing specific quantities – usually a 50/50 split of the total Kanban quantity for that item. At the front of each item’s location, there is an RFID StockCard, backed by a Restock in Process Card.

Items are used as needed. When the quantity of an item in a primary bin is consumed – the item has reached its restocking point – the StockCard is pulled and dropped into the StockBox, revealing the remaining Restock in Process Card. This card drop triggers demand, with the materials management team receiving electronic notification that the item requires restocking and includes the restocking quantity and location. While restocking is in process, and given proper Kanban quantities, there will be enough stock in the secondary bin, providing for the area’s usage until the item is replenished. Materials are then picked in central supply, distributed and restocked to the necessary locations.

During item restocking, the quantity remaining in the secondary bin is moved to the primary bin, and all new stock is placed in the secondary compartment. Upon delivery to each supply room, the materials management user opens the StockBox to retrieve the StockCards. As each item in the room is replenished, the materials management user presses the Restock button on the StockBox and passes the StockCard over the control panel, which reads the StockCard, updating the database, indicating that restocking has occurred for each item. Once complete, the respective StockCards are returned to their cardholders and the process begins again.

Use of the StockBox eliminates daily manual counting and there is no need for manual monitoring or retrieval of Kanban cards scattered throughout a facility. Other advantages of the StockBox over Par Level materials management methods include optimizing inventory levels, reducing waste due to expiration, eliminating stock-outs, eliminating hoarding and hunting by clinicians, decreasing overhead and improving space utilization.

STOCKBOX ADVANTAGES OVER PAR LEVEL

- Eliminates manual counting
- Right-sizes inventory level
- Reduces inventory waste
- Decreases overhead costs
- Eliminates stock-outs
- Improves space utilization

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