Right on hand.
Without counting by hand.
RIGHT ON HAND.
WITHOUT COUNTING BY HAND.

Although Lean materials management is a proven concept, it is relatively new to healthcare. As such, forward thinking healthcare organizations are learning how implementing Lean principles can greatly reduce cost and eliminate waste.

As healthcare providers look to reorganize and improve service levels and efficiency, materials managers are revisiting current practices for inventory supply management and general storage areas.

Spacesaver, a leading storage solutions provider, has partnered with LogiTag, a world leader in RFID technology. Together, we have developed StockBox, an inventory management system that employs Lean practices to optimize and facilitate the management and replenishment of inventory.

With the StockBox solution, today’s providers have new, affordable tools and software to effectively automate Lean kanban processes; thereby, eliminating manual counting, reducing waste and optimizing inventory levels, improving availability of supplies and eliminating stock-outs.
STOCKBOX AUTOMATES KANBAN

Kanban is a Lean and simple, yet effective, method for managing supplies and inventory. A properly administered kanban system supports patients and employees by ensuring needed supplies are in the right place, at the right time, while enabling optimized inventory levels.

Unlike traditional “up to PAR” systems, kanban uses a designated reorder point to trigger replenishment of supplies. Using a “two-bin” kanban system, users consume items as required. Upon emptying the first compartment, or Primary bin, the user pulls the StockCard and drops it in the StockBox, triggering a call for additional stock. While materials staff are working on replenishing supplies, the quantity remaining in the Secondary bin satisfies usage until replenishment is complete.

### SUPPLY CENTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>EXAMPLE*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of unique item locations</td>
<td>3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time to physically count each item location (sec.)</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total time to count all items (min.)</td>
<td>1500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel time to/from supply center and stock sites (min.)</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply Handler wage per hour, including benefits</td>
<td>$20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of travel time per trip</td>
<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost to count all items, each time</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### COMPARISON

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PAR vs. KANBAN</th>
<th>SAVINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of counting trips per week</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of replenishment trips per week</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of items replenished per week</td>
<td>1500</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly cost of counting items, plus travel time</td>
<td>$3,535</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ANNUAL COST OF COUNTING ITEMS, PLUS TRAVEL TIME</strong></td>
<td><strong>$183,820</strong></td>
<td><strong>$0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

StockBox, combined with Lean kanban principles, improves replenishment efficiency resulting in reduced waste and overhead cost.

*Based upon 3000 unique item locations

No counting! Replenish only items truly required! Potential Annual Savings!

First In First Out Reduces Waste

Improves Availability of Supplies & Eliminates Stockouts

Reduces Hunting Time for Clinicians

www.southwestsolutions.com

Toll Free 1-800-803-1083
The StockBox RFID inventory management system, in combination with (two-bin) kanban methods, provide hospitals with a simple, effective means for efficient materials management.

StockBox essentially automates the Lean kanban process by using RFID technology. The StockBox reads encoded stocking cards and transfers item information via TCP/IP or GPRS communication to the StockBox server. The StockBox server and proprietary software collect the information, and notifies materials managers of inventory requirements.

The StockBox allows facilities to manage inventory, effectively restock supplies and manage and contain costs.

- Eliminates manual counting
- Eliminates stock-outs
- Reduces overhead costs
- Right-size inventory levels
- Reduces inventory waste
- First-in, First-out (FIFO)

SIMPLE. LEAN. SPACESAVER.

COMPONENTS

Desktop RFID Reader - enables connection between the RFID tag and catalog items.

StockCards - RFID based tags containing information that includes catalog number and room location.

LogiPlatform - tracks stock requests and captures usage data, enabling analysis and optimization of inventory levels.
Shelves are stocked with a variety of supplies in two-bin kanban quantities. A black RFID-enabled StockCard is placed at the front of each item’s bin – each StockCard is specific to each item.

When the last item in the Primary bin is consumed, the user removes the StockCard and drops it into the StockBox. Data is immediately sent to the StockBox server, indicating the specific item in that particular room requires replenishment.

A red “Restock in Process” card remains, indicating restocking status. Users consume the stock remaining in the Secondary bin until replenishment occurs. During the restocking process, any remaining stock in the Secondary bin is moved to the Primary bin and new stock is placed in the Secondary bin.

The StockBox is unlocked and the StockCards are retrieved. Each item’s replenishment is confirmed by waving the StockCard over the StockBox while in StockBox mode. The StockCard is then returned to its original location, completing the process.
Further boost the value of StockBox by combining it with Spacesaver’s FrameWRX® product for an open-shelving materials solution aimed at optimizing the materials replenishment process.

The FrameWRX storage system provides a customizable point of need solution tied closely to clinical workflow to ensure that the right product is in the right place at the right time.

Including the innovative EZ Rail® element, the FrameWRX storage system accommodates a variety of storage accessories like hanging plastic bins, wire baskets, shelves, work surfaces, and slat-wall accessories — providing endless configuration options.

FrameWRX is simple to install, simple to adjust and simple to disassemble and move. Storage accessories can be rearranged as needed — without tools or fasteners — meeting your specific storage requirements.

With FrameWRX and StockBox, central supply, OR, pharmacy, nursing, or any other supply storage area, can achieve better results and compliance than traditional or automated supply cabinets, while simplifying the process. Thereby, allowing nurses and clinicians to spend less time counting and more time focused on patient care.

EFFICIENTLY MANAGE MATERIALS NOW AND IN THE FUTURE.

COMPONENTS

Wire Basket - Single-piece, all welded construction that mounts level or at a 17° slope. High visibility, easy access, dust-free design. Divider accessories available.

Hanging Bins - FrameWRX is compatible with a wide variety of industry standard bins, providing one of the highest bin densities of any storage product on the market. Perfect for setting up kanban systems.

Card Holders, Color Coding & Labeling - Visually facilitates the use and restocking processes.
The FrameWRX storage system optimizes the space on hand. Free up more space. Meet unique storage needs within your space limitations. And maximize long-term storage ROI.

Combine options, such as WRX Wheels® transport system for easy mobility or FrameWRX HD (high density) storage system for ultimate capacity. The FrameWRX storage system is exactly what you need to efficiently manage materials now and in the future.

EZ Rail™ Element - Accommodates mounting of hanging bins and slat wall accessories without tools or fasteners.