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Warehouse logistics includes the management of storage locations for the company's inventory. It takes into account all the diverse and complex factors – organization, movement and management. To understand how efficiently a warehouse management system can speed up a transport and logistics business, below are the main functions that a warehouse management system performs.

One of the primary functions of warehouse management systems is the effective tracking of the stocks that are coming in the warehouse and later dispatched to their various locations of order. The utilization of minimum and maximum levels of stock present and required severally in the market helps the business in managing their stocks and ordering them in the right quantity at the right time.

The second main function of a warehouse management system is to look after picking and shipping activities of a warehouse. It means, that the assurance of the correct product being received and shipping is taken care of by the WMS alone. With the help of the management system, it is possible to better track and manage all in the record book.

It is very fundamental to keep the warehouse's layout design much in order. A warehouse management system helps to draw the warehouse's layout design in its correct way. It enables placing products within the designed layout in a much more efficient manner with a logical setting working in its algorithm. This not only allows smooth operations but also

looks after a seamless way of managing products being correctly placed in the warehouse.

Since a warehouse is being controlled, managed and supervised by a changeable number of persons, staff management becomes very crucial. Having the benefit of real-time data about each employee's efficiency and performance is imperative for looking after the operations being right processed in the warehouse [1].

The advantage of warehouse logistics is simple, i.e. increased revenue. When warehouse operations come right, inventory is properly accounted for, the right item is sent at the right time, stock is replenished when needed, fewer picking errors occur, and all the people, processes, and systems fall into place as they should, warehouse operates more efficiently.

The required processing of materials in a warehouse involves such operations as:

Receiving goods – a warehouse accepts the merchandise delivered by a carrier or an attached factory and then accepts the responsibility for this merchandise.

Identifying goods – the appropriate stock – keeping units are identified and a record made of the number of each item received.

Sorting goods - the incoming goods are sorted out for the appropriate storage area in the warehouse.

Dispatching goods to storage – the goods are kept aside where they can be found later when needed.

Holding goods – the goods are kept in storage under proper protection until needed in the warehouse [2].

In order to improve the warehouse shipping process there are some recommendations below:

1. Label and track to increase transparency. GS1 has provided the business standards for machine-readable labeling since the first barcodes were introduced in the 1970s. These same barcodes make it possible to record product movement

through the supply chain, and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tracking can also be used to record GS1 standard identifiers without the laborious manual scanning of barcodes. So, products can be easily found within the warehouse even if they've been moved out of their normal locations.

2. Understand the total cost of business. Together with a supply chain management software system, machine-readable tracking makes collecting and comparing supply chain data easy. This allows business to determine if there are areas within the warehouse that are performing below expectations and creating bottlenecks in intake or order fulfillment.

3. Organization to make better efficiency. One way to do this is by increasing the number of products that can be handled within the same facility by implementing deep lane storage. Installing the pallet racking needed for a deep lane storage system is a major disruption in the warehouse that will limit operations, yet in today's supply chain system, a serious reorganization may be the best way to substantially improve the speed and accuracy of order fulfillment.

Lean warehouse management is the process of developing warehouse operations in such a way as to bring resource consumption to a minimum without sacrificing productivity. The original "five S's" referred to five Japanese words – Seiri, Seiton, Seiso, Seiketsu, and Shitsuke – which have been translated into English as sort, streamline, shine, standardize, sustain.

Sort. The goal is to realize specifically which aspects of warehouse operations are holding the team back from reaching their full potential. Identifying these areas is the first step toward working to optimize them – or to get rid of them completely.

Streamline. There are a number of possible ways to optimization of warehouse processes, such as: maximizing the accessibility of most-used inventory and fundamental

resources, improving warehouse navigability with an intuitive layout, accompanied by proper signage.

Shine. Make sure the warehouse is kept as clean as possible. This means: building cleanup processes into your overall warehouse workflow, ensuring cleaning materials are easily and quickly accessible, placing trash receptacles of appropriate size throughout warehouses.

Standardize. Some key ways to create this include: providing structured training to all warehouse staff members; creating individualized workflow documentation for each part of the warehouse team.

Sustain. Sustaining productivity demands equal parts adherence to existing protocols and continuous improvements over time. Sustaining approach to lean management involves: conducting formal and informal assessments with individuals as well as teams; soliciting feedback from team members on a regular basis; incentivizing adherence to protocols as well as providing feedback [3].

References:

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