Maximize Picking Productivity with the Hands-Free WT4000 Series Wearable System

Meeting the challenges in today's warehouse

Maintaining a high level of efficiency in warehouse operations is critical to business health — from healthcare distributors tackling new regulatory requirements, grocery chains confronting increased competition and tighter margins, high volume distribution centers facing the rising cost of doing business, and more. Regardless of the types of materials and products that move through your warehouse, you face constant pressure to streamline operations, increase productivity, reduce labor costs, and improve order accuracy.

Critical to any distribution operation, picking is one of the most labor-intensive warehouse functions. And pick accuracy can make or break your customer relationships.

A paper-based picking system is hampered with inefficiencies. Printing and distributing pick tickets takes time — time that would be better served picking additional orders. Workers can spend too much time walking through aisles looking for the correct item, and juggling paper forms while handling items as they are picked. A paper-based process is slow and especially prone to errors — as paperwork is completed by hand and then manually entered into the system. As a result, companies can struggle with incomplete pick lists, mis-picks, and data entry errors.
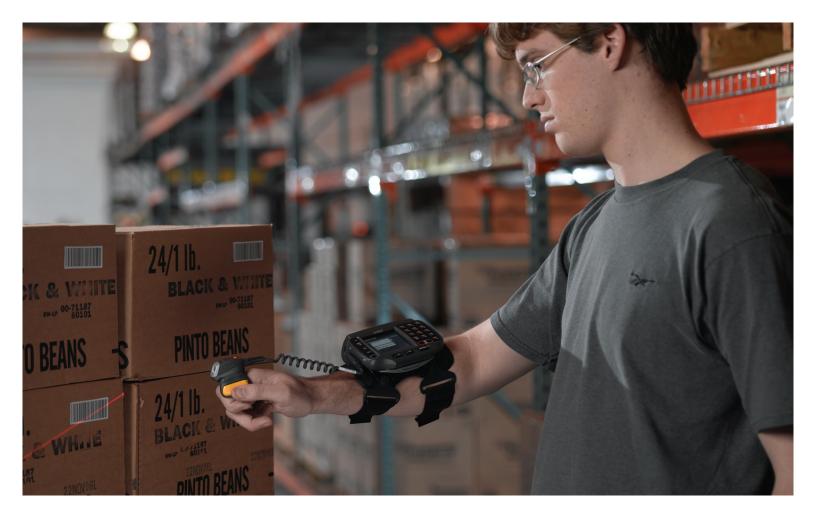
Companies who've deployed an electronic process and armed their warehouse employees with handheld scanners/computers can still achieve dramatic productivity gains. In transaction-intensive environments such as picking, handheld devices can potentially slow the pace of work down. The workflow for employees who constantly use their hands to pick items or handle packages can be disrupted by the need to continually set down and pick up devices — the time required to manage devices could be better spent picking more orders.

Powerful hands-free flexibility and convenience

The WT4000 Series Wearable System empowers warehouse workers to achieve new levels of productivity and efficiency through hands-free voice and text-based picking. The system offers maximum application flexibility, with headset support for voice picking, a keyboard for text entry, as well as mix and match connectors on either side of the terminal for right- or left-handed scanning. The ability to utilize this single system for voice-directed picking, text-based picking or a combination of voice and text enables you to meet a wide

Key Benefits:

• Increases warehouse worker productivity with unparalleled freedom of movement and fewer workflow disruptions

• Improves picking accuracy by providing real-time feedback and eliminating manual data entry errors

• Improves worker safety with ergonomic design and hands/eye-free operation

• Enables real-time exception/error handling

• Provides maximum application flexibility: voice-only, text-only and combination voice and text

variety of needs in your warehouse, including the ability to override errors and handle exceptions on the fly, while providing the functionality to automate and dramatically reduce errors in picking operations.

This complete system consists of:

- WT4000 Series Wearable Terminal providing high-performance computing power, reliable 802.11a/b/g WLAN connectivity, and a lightweight ergonomic design that can be worn comfortably on the hip or wrist. The terminal offers a full keyboard for easy text entry and a bright 2.8″ QVGA screen for at-a-glance readability in nearly any lighting condition.

- Flexible scanning options: The RS507 hands-free imager offers Bluetooth cordless freedom for unparalleled comfort, laser-like scan performance on both 1D and 2D bar codes and state-of-the-art ergonomics. The lightweight RS409 ring scanner delivers high-performance 1D scanning, while the back-of-the-hand RS309 scanner features a freezer-ready option that ensures reliable operation in spite of exposure to wide temperature swings. For each wearable scanning option, Motorola's enhanced scan engines provide superior scan performance, reading even damaged or poorly printed bar codes the first time.

The system's rugged design ensures reliable operations in challenging warehouse environments — from the dusty warehouse floor to the freezer. Ergonomic innovations offer user comfort and safety, protecting your workers from fatigue and injury throughout the shift. And the system offers removable, washable pads, gloves and finger straps to improve user hygiene, even when devices are shared between shifts.

Improve productivity and accuracy in picking operations

With the WT4000 Wearable System, the need to print and distribute pick tickets is eliminated, along with the need to enter and reconcile the data after the pick is complete. Pick orders are now delivered right to the picker's mobile device, along with the location and most optimal route to the products. And since workers now scan items as they are selected, they receive instant verification that the right item was selected, enabling the immediate correction of any picking errors. In addition, picking is no longer restricted to a linear process. Your application can batch orders together, enabling the picking of more orders in less time.

And should your pickers encounter an exception, such as a short, the keyboard and screen of the WT4000 enable a direct interface with your business systems, such as WMS (warehouse management system), enabling on-the-spot handling without disrupting workflow.

Versatility for many environments and applications

Case picking: grocery and food service industry

The WT4000 is ideal for workers in a grocery distribution center picking cases of product to replenish local grocers. The wide operating temperature range enables workers to move between the main warehouse floor and your freezers as needed. The RS507, RS309 and RS409 compatible scanners offer a wide working range for bar code scanning, from close to mid-range, enabling scanning of items or pick slot location codes regardless of whether they are in reach or on warehouse shelves. Your workers' hands are always free to handle product with as much care as needed, from canned goods to fresh produce and more fragile fresh bread. And in an environment where moisture from the cooler or product spills can easily damage bar codes, Motorola's decoding algorithms enable first time accurate scanning of even poorly printed and damaged bar codes. And even though the lighting in the different areas of your warehouse may vary, the color screen is easy to view.

Each picking: pharmaceutical industry

In healthcare distribution, the WT4000 Series Wearable System paves the way for highly accurate and rapid picking as well as cost-effective compliance with new regulatory requirements. For example, you might determine that voice-directed picking will provide the most productivity gain in your application, but that doesn't allow for processing of pedigree information for prescription drugs. With the WT4000 Series Wearable System, your workers can quickly pick medical supplies, instruments and more via voice direction, while the keyboard and scanner provide the tools needed to quickly collect the information needed on prescription medications right from the warehouse floor. The RS507 will also scan the 2D pedigree required bar codes. The flexibility to meet diverse application needs with a single device maximizes your technology investment dollars by improving employee productivity and cycle times, and enabling regulatory compliance — without affecting the cost of labor or your profitability.

Case and each picking: office supply distribution

In a major office supply distribution center, workers are picking high volumes of products throughout the workday, from cases of products, such as printer paper and folders, to individual products such as scissors and pens, to larger items, such as printers or filing cabinets. The WT4000 Wearable Series gives your workers the freedom to use both hands to handle larger items safely and to easily pick smaller individual items. Bar code labels are easily scanned from near to far. And in this high-volume scan intensive application, the RS507 Hands-Free Imager offers a trigger built to last, rated for many million actuations.

Throughout the warehouse:

In fact, any manual material handling operation in your warehouse that requires system direction or bar code scan confirmation is a candidate for the Motorola WT4000. Palletizing functions, cross-docking and put-to-store sortation as well as receiving, putaway, and replenishment functions can benefit from hands-free wearable technology. By enabling real-time interaction with your warehouse systems, the WT4000 delivers increased process automation and improved productivity across all your warehouse functions.

Benefits in the warehouse…

Motorola's wearable technology enables companies to achieve operational efficiencies that have a direct impact on the bottom line. With its complete hands-free design, the WT4000 Series Wearable System maximizes warehouse productivity — enabling companies to fulfill more orders per day and meet tougher regulatory requirements with the same staff level. Out-of-stocks are noted in real time for immediate replenishment, eliminating the cost associated with incomplete picks. And worker safety and comfort are improved with the system's ergonomic design and hands-free operation.

Companies also witness a significant improvement in accuracy, since workers receive instant feedback on mis-picks and any errors associated with paper forms and manual data entry are eliminated. And with pick accuracy nearing 100%, companies can reduce the costs associated with erroneous shipments — not to mention maintain customer goodwill and prevent loss of sale.

Critical to the enterprise warehouse environment, the WT4000 Series Wearable System is built to endure life in the warehouse. IP54 sealing protects the device in damp, dusty conditions and Motorola's stringent drop and tumble tests ensure it will keep working even after it's dropped on concrete. And the common Motorola architecture simplifies integration and deployment tasks, as well as reduces application development costs and training requirements.

…and beyond

The real-time wireless connection to your business systems enables instant visibility into inventory. This granular and immediate visibility can translate

into a host of benefits for the enterprise, including reduced stocking levels that translate into capital and operational savings as well as the ability to react more rapidly to low inventory levels to protect against out-of-stocks — and potential lost sales.

The services and expertise you need for successful mobility

Motorola offers the expertise you need to assist with every stage of your mobility solution — from planning and design to implementation to ongoing support. Designed for your mission-critical environment, Motorola's unique service offerings will not only help you keep your devices up and running, but also looking like new, ensuring maximum uptime and maximum product life, for a rapid return on investment — and a low total cost of ownership.

Wearable computing — the Motorola difference

Motorola makes it easy to get maximum value from your warehouse technology investments. The WT4000 Series Wearable System represents the latest in hands-free wearable solutions, leveraging knowledge and insight gained from Motorola's unique and extensive industry experience — with 30 years as a market leader in bar code scanning and over 12 years designing wearable mobile computing solutions.

Motorola offers one of the broadest vertical product portfolios of bar code scanners and mobile computers in the industry — from wearable computers to forklift-mounted devices, retail front room scanners, and enterprise-class mobile computers. A shared hardware and software architecture enables applications to be ported across devices, reducing software development and training requirements. All devices integrate seamlessly with Motorola's wireless infrastructure — providing the performance and reliability needed to keep your employees connected and your data secure, as well as the scalability to meet your demands today, and tomorrow.

For more information on how the WT4000 Series Wearable System can streamline your warehouse operations, please visit us on the Web at www.motorola.com/WT4000, access our global directory at www.motorola.com/enterprise/contactus or contact your local Motorola authorized partner.

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