



WAREHOUSE LABELS & SIGNS

How to Save Time and Money with Your Labeling Project



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INTRODUCTION

How to Save Time and Money with Your Warehouse Labeling Project

How efficient is your warehouse? When is the last time you took a good look at the rack and aisle labels in your warehouse?

If it seems like orders are taking longer to fill, chances are it is not because employees are intentionally slow. Labels in your warehouse have a major impact on getting orders filled accurately and on time.

Perhaps you are expanding your warehouse or installing new ERP/WMS systems. Maybe you have moved into the omnichannel era. Whatever the reason, upgrading your labels improves picking processes and increases warehouse efficiency.

DecisionPoint Technologies' specialists have creative methods to apply new labels and signs over old applications. Our team conducts a site survey to provide options for your warehouse planning and installation needs. We can quickly and accurately install every label and sign, using our equipment, at a time that is most convenient to you and your operations.

Reasons to Upgrade Your Warehouse

With the rise of omnichannel shopping and enhanced technology, it is essential to create a warehouse that can keep up with increasing demands. Labels can become outdated and worn

out, causing scanners to misread and visual indicators to fade. Updating your labels and signs increases accuracy and efficiency.

Perhaps it's time to expand your existing warehouse or even build a new one. Hiring a specialist can get your labels and signs installed right the first time. If your facility is moving to a new ERP or WMS system, the new software requires up-to-date technology for proper inventory management. As warehouse labels age, such as rack and bin labels and vertical aisle signs, they lose their scannability and visibility. This causes slowdowns on stocking and confusion about where materials belong.

Hiring a Specialist vs Doing it Yourself

Your warehouse can have over half a million rack labels and signs. Installing thousands of sequential labels and signs requires precision printing, knowledge, and specialized equipment. Codes on labels and signs gain complexity as technology advances.

When printing and installing warehouse labels and signs yourself, there are several pitfalls that can create costly mistakes, including:

- Properly naming locations
- Mislabeling bins and racks
- Ensuring scannability using retro-reflective labels
- Quality checking the scannability of labels
- Color-coded identification
- Sequential label order mistakes
- Safety when hanging signs from the ceiling
- Label and sign durability
- Length of time to complete the project
- Taking labor away from filling orders



Having it done right by hiring DecisionPoint's specialists saves you time and prevents costly mistakes. What you thought could be a simple job can end up costing you more with reprints and take much longer than expected to correct errors made.

Understanding What You Need

DecisionPoint's specialists are trained in warehouse design and labeling technology. We take into consideration your floor space and design to maximize the usage of your square footage, and how much space you have for every label and sign you need.

Since we have specialized equipment, we have the ability to create various styles and sizes of signs and labels. From magnets to placards to adhesive labels, we determine what will work best in your warehouse to maximize your efficiency and design.

Types of Labels and Signs to Install

When it comes to deciding which labels and signs to install and where they should be placed, there is no shortage of options. We can create magnetic labels and signs in case your warehouse is always going through changes.

Permanent labels and signs are printed with barcode scanning and visual indicators to increase efficiency.

WMS and ERP help to keep up with changing times and increasing demands, your labels and signs should too. The data files for labels tend to be complex with several spreadsheets' worth of data. Our quality control systems monitor everything for accuracy, from the spreadsheets to the printed labels and signs.



Some of the most popular labels and signs our specialists create and install:

- Retro-Reflective Labels
- Rack & Bin Labels
- Warehouse Magnets
- Warehouse Signs
- Warehouse Aisle Signs
- Totem Signs
- Clean Beam™ Labels

Why wouldn't you want to save time and money on planning and installing all the labels in your warehouse?



PART 1

The Top 3 Reasons to Upgrade Labels & Signs in Warehouses

Warehouse productivity and effectiveness is greatly affected by labels and signs. Over the past few decades, technology has continually advanced. Online shopping demand has also steadily increased, especially in today's ecommerce environment.

With how quickly technology advances, it is possible to not even realize it's time for an upgrade. *When is the last time your ERP/WMS was updated?* If the labels and signs are outdated or worn, they can't be properly read or scanned. This means it takes longer to properly stock shelves or fill orders. Getting everything done right the first time, and quickly, could increase your productivity.

New Warehouse & Expansion

Is it time to expand your existing warehouse or even build a new one? Omnichannel shopping and enhanced technology have increased the demands on warehouses. The new warehouse or expanded section has to match the other facility. And opening a new facility requires everything to be installed, from racks and terminals to wireless networks and printers and beyond.

Hiring a specialist can ensure everything is installed right the first time.

Incorporating ERP and WMS

If your facility is moving to a new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system or Warehouse Management System (WMS), the new software systems require new labels and signs to match the technological functionality. When you upgrade your ERP and WMS, you get improved inventory tracking, faster order processing and picking, and real-time visibility.

New ERP systems include:

- SAP
- Oracle
- Microsoft Dynamics
- IFS Applications
- NetSuite
- Sage
- Infor
- Macola
- Deltek
- Syspro
- Intacct

New WMS products include:

- Fishbowl Inventory
- NetSuite WMS
- Oracle Warehouse Management
- Infor Supply Chain Management
- JDA | Blue Yonder Warehouse Management
- Tecsys Warehouse Management
- Softeon Warehouse Management
- Click Reply Warehouse Management
- Manhattan Warehouse Management

Upgraded Technology

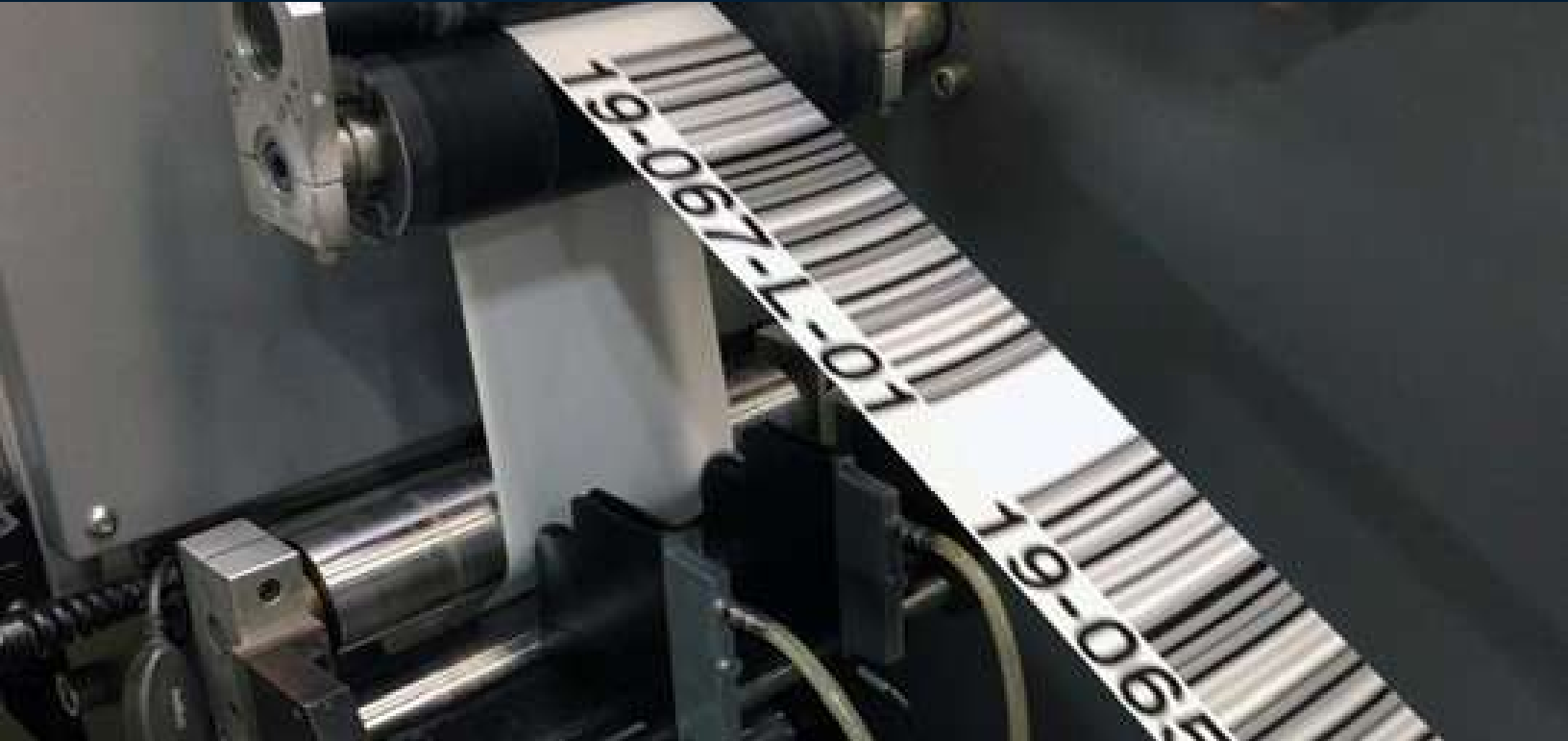
Warehouse operations can already be a detailed process with checking inventory, restocking items, and packaging for shipment. If the labels and signs are outdated and worn out, it will decrease productivity and visibility of where items are or are to be placed. The same could be said for those racks where labels have been half removed to place new labels on top. The new labels most likely don't stick very well.

Perhaps you are wanting to implement new mobile terminals, scanners, or barcoding. If the labels and signs are not up to date, the new hardware may not be able to read them. Upgrading technology in your warehouse improves inventory measures and increases order processing and picking times. Incorporating the labels and signs into the upgrade increases real time visibility and scanning capability.

Time to Start Planning

Increase your warehouse efficiency by replacing worn and outdated labels and signs. If they are outdated, it may be time to see if your technology is out of date as well. And if you have already reached that point and are upgrading or installing ERP/WMS systems, it is easier to ensure everything is done right the first time by working with DecisionPoint Technologies.

Spend less time and money by making sure it is done right the first time.



PART 2

The Pitfalls of Installing Labels and Signs Yourself vs Hiring Specialists

Most warehouses have over half a million rack and bin labels. Add to that figure the aisle signs, floor signs, hanging signs, and other labels and signs not yet mentioned. That is a significant amount of data to ensure is accurate at every point.

Printing sequential labels and signs requires precision printing and knowledge. With that much data, it is essential to check the quality of the labels and signs as they are printed.

Do you have the technology to ensure the quality of labels and signs?

Mistakes can become costly when installing labels and signs.

DecisionPoint's specialists ensure that every label and sign is scannable and readable, properly placed, and installed safely using the proper equipment. You can easily avoid costly mistakes by working with our team that is fully trained on printing, placement, and installation.

What are your opportunity costs with installing labels yourself? Are your employees properly trained on how to install labels and signs? How much training would it require for them to manage all the data involved — and learn proper installation and placement? What would be the cost to divert your employees from filling orders?

Hiring specialists who can come to your warehouse at a time that is most convenient to your hours of operation increases the accuracy of installation, decreases the time it takes, and minimizes preventable mistakes. There is less opportunity cost to your employees and productivity by working with a well-trained team.

Codes on Labels and Signs Gain Complexity as Technology Advances

Specialists understand the complexity of barcodes and the technology needed to ensure top quality for maximum efficiency in your warehouse. You should have a team well trained in the complex technology of label and sign printing and installation.

Retro-reflective labels are scannable up to 70 feet away. This increases productivity by using a polyester-based material blended with microscopic glass beads for reflectiveness. Retro-reflective labels are human-readable, using text and characters combined with popular scanning symbology, graphics, and logos.

Color coding labels and signs creates a highly visible reference for where certain items are located in the warehouse. When managing color-coded labels and signs, it is essential to ensure that the printing equipment can quality-check barcodes to confirm there are no scanning errors.

Proper barcode verification is essential to your daily operations. Hiring specialists who can check the quality of every barcode on every label and sign before installation enhances your warehouse's functionality.

Mistakes Can Be Costly

Making one mistake on labels and signs can become a costly error. From shipments being returned, fines from the customer, potential loss of customers, chargebacks, and the manpower required to fill the original and corrected orders — an enormous amount of money can be lost.

Other mistakes that can easily be made without proper training and equipment include:

- Improperly naming locations
- Mislabeled bins and racks
- Not ensuring scannability of labels and signs
- Forgetting to quality-check the scannability of every label and sign
- Lack of safety when hanging signs from the ceiling
- Cheaply made labels and signs affecting durability
- Hiring temp workers (possibly the biggest mistake made)

Minimize operational impact & opportunity costs of your warehouse.



PART 3

Understanding What You Need to Properly and Safely Install Labels and Signs

To maximize your warehouse labeling quality, it's best to utilize a team trained to understand the needs of your warehouse to help your operations flow smoothly and efficiently. Through each phase of installation, DecisionPoint's specialists have everything needed to get your warehouse labels and signs updated quickly.

Our consulting team reviews floor plans with you to calculate the quantity, sizes, and styles of labels and signs needed throughout the warehouse. Production of signs and labels is held to the highest quality standards. The installation specialists adhere to safety standards for expedient service.

Planning Phase

A floor design engineer meets with you at your warehouse to survey the area, plan the layout, and estimate the quantity and styles of labels and signs for your entire warehouse. The planning phase should be completed about 2-3 months prior to the target completion date.

During the survey, the engineer takes into consideration:

- Rack conditions
- Aisle heights
- Number of levels per rack
- Label and sign quantity
- Label and sign sizes and colors
- Label and sign information
- Appropriate scannability for your operations

This provides you with the most accurate cost estimate and gives our specialists the information they need for specific recommendations and installation method.

Design / Production Phase

Once everything has been planned to your satisfaction, the next phase is designing and producing the labels and signs for your warehouse. Once you provide the team with the formatted data files, they get to work designing and producing every label and sign your warehouse needs.

Specialized software ensures that labels are kept in sequential order to ease installation procedures. Specialized printers check the quality of every label and sign as they print.

Label and sign barcodes are specialized for your warehouse needs. We can provide a variety of colors, maximize visibility and scannability, have directional indicators, and print complex barcodes. 1D barcodes use variable-width lines and spaces for encoding information in a visible pattern. A 2D barcode uses patterns, shapes, and dots to encrypt information horizontally and vertically, allowing around 2,000 encrypted characters along with images and website addresses.

Installation Phase

When it comes time for installation, you will be impressed with the quality of service you receive. The team of specialists come in and verify that everything is clean and clear of obstructions, ensuring everything will be done accurately and in a timely manner.

The specialists come in with their own equipment for hanging signs and installing labels on racks and aisle markers. All installations are optimized to a time that is most convenient to you and your operational hours.

Wrapping It Up

Take the stress of installing labels and signs off of your shoulders and hire specialists that understand how to plan what you need. Hire specialists with equipment that is ready to go, checking the quality of signs and labels and saving you money. Our team of Specialists has all the proper training on installation and safety, working at a time that least impacts your operations.



CONCLUSION

Maximize Your Time and Save in the Long Run

Whether you need to upgrade the labels and signs in your warehouse, you are expanding your warehouse, or building a new one, it pays to ensure that everything is done properly the first time.

Using your own employees to relabel your warehouse requires teaching them how to monitor the data spreadsheets, how to properly adhere the labels, and how to safely hang signs. All that training takes employee time away from completing orders.

DecisionPoint Technologies can save you all that time and money by managing every phase: Planning, Design/Production, and Installation.

We can print every label and sign you need, with enhanced quality control. We already have specialized equipment and materials for production and installation, and we work at a time that is most convenient for you to minimize any impact on your normal operations.

Let DecisionPoint Do the Work for You

Considering that proper label and sign placement training and reprinting defective labels can cost you more time and money than intended, why wouldn't you want someone who specializes in the process to do it for you?

Doing all that work yourself impacts your normal operational efficiency and comes at a high opportunity cost.

With so many potentially costly pitfalls to look out for, working with DecisionPoint provides you with peace of mind on time, accuracy, and cost.

Schedule Your Consultation Today

DecisionPoint's specialists are ready to come to your warehouse to meet with you. They will go over the design and layout of your warehouse to determine the best options for labels and signs. The specialists work out when the best time would be to install everything so as not to interrupt your normal hours of operation.

[Contact us](#) today to see what we can do for you.

