CLOUD INVENTORY™

AG BARR SUCCESS STORY

Soft drink manufacturer optimizes inventory with flexible mobile-first platform

Established 140 years ago, AG Barr is an independent soft drink manufacturer based in Cumbernauld, Scotland, producing 1,500,000 litres of product per day. Their diverse beverage portfolio spans 48 markets and includes established brands such as Irn-Bru, Rubicon and Strathmore Water. AG Barr has experienced a period of sustained growth and plans to capitalize and maintain this by continuing to invest in all aspects of their manufacturing infrastructure. They have plans to upgrade existing warehouse sites and construct a new automated warehouse in 2022.

THE CHALLENGE

AG Barr needed a new inventory management solution for their raw materials warehouse, which houses everything from raw ingredients to the syrups used in the production of the final product. A crucial component of the manufacturing process, the raw materials warehouse contains thousands of pounds worth of stock, that is use by date sensitive.

The existing manual paper-based processes used to record inventory created a 48-hour lag as counts were keyed into the back office. Even then, the only view of inventory AG Barr had was a snapshot in time leading to a genuine risk that products weren't being used in sequence and waste may be occurring.

Evaluating a range of solutions AG Barr had five key requirements that the new solution would have to provide:

- Removing all paper-based processes

- True real-time inventory track and trace

- A unified barcoding system

- Seamless integration with an easy to adopt interface

- Implementation not causing any downtime

HIGHLIGHTS

- Uses Cloud Inventory® to mobilize inventory and create an efficient supply chain

- Seamless integration with easy to adopt interface

- Eliminate manual processes

- Greater overall inventory visibility

AG Barr
BUILDING GREAT BRANDS

"Since implementing Cloud Inventory solutions we've created standard operating procedures to further increase productivity. Our team of warehouse and technical operatives were able to pick up the new procedures with ease, and we continue to see additional areas where Cloud Inventory software could enhance AG Barr's operations."

— PAUL MORRISON, IT SUPPLY CHAIN BUSINESS PROCESS ANALYST, AG BARR

THE SOLUTION

AG Barr selected Cloud Inventory®, comprised of the Digital Supply Chain Platform with standardized apps for JDE and the Enterprise Printing Platform (EPP™), ensuring the business could solve its existing challenges and future-proof for scalable growth. Cloud Inventory products are designed to seamlessly integrate with Oracle JD Edwards, making implementation times favorable and allowing AG Barr to swiftly see a return on their investment.

"During the selection process it was crucial that the solution selected would be able to work harmoniously with our other warehouse systems," said John Thompson, Business Process Lead – Supply Chain, AG Barr. "Cloud Inventory's experience and unparalleled knowledge of the food and beverage sector were major factors in our decision process."

Cloud Inventory was delivered to a fixed deadline, rolling out multiple applications and the EPP printing software in a single phase. This meant that AG Barr crucially were able to continue with their day-to-day operations with no impact.

THE RESULTS

AG Barr's digital transformation of their inventory processes has already generated a positive return on investment. By removing the 48-hour inventory snapshot and having a full real-time view of their inventory, AG Barr has been able to make additional configurations to their backend JD Edwards system and processes. They now have standard places for inventory, reduced picking times and a warning process if any inventory item is running low.

AG Barr plans to extend their use of Cloud Inventory solutions in additional sites, continuing to optimize the movement of inventory, before focusing on the construction of a fully automated warehouse in 2022.

CHALLENGES

- Removing all paper-based processes
- Achieve true real-time inventory track and trace
- A unified barcoding system
- Implementation not causing any downtime

RESULTS

- Creation of standard operating procedures to increase productivity
- Removal of the 48-hour inventory snapshot to having a full real-time view of their inventory
- Reduced picking times and error warning system if inventory is running low

CLOUD INVENTORY® POWERS BREAKTHROUGH INVENTORY CONTROL

Founded in Kansas City, MO., more than 40 years ago, our global team has the supply chain expertise to deliver solutions that solve today's business challenges by providing true inventory visibility and control. To learn more, please visit cloudinventory.com or call +1.816.416.5173