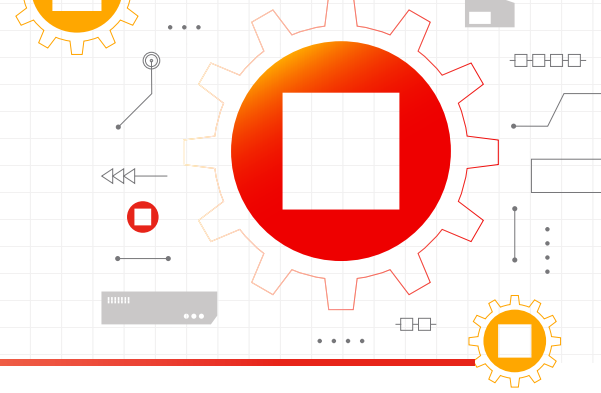


5 ways to increase the output of your facility



Use cycle counting to ensure inventory accuracy

You can't ship an item if you don't have it. Through cycle counting, you can conduct a complete inventory of the facility in as much as a year or as little as six months. At SIMOS, we conduct randomized cycle counts of bulk storage areas and strategic counts of picking areas to ensure picking accuracy. Cycle counting will help ensure that your picking process is accurate and that materials can be found in the correct locations, which saves time for pickers. Overall, cycle counting ensures that your operations will run efficiently.

Conduct a slotting analysis

If you've never conducted a slotting analysis, or if the overall composition of stock-keeping units (SKUs) in your facility has changed recently, your warehouse workers could needlessly lose productive time by traveling throughout your facility to pick up items. To ensure that items are retrieved quickly and efficiently, a slotting analysis is your opportunity to assess where your SKUs should be located based on volume, popularity and picking methodology. If you increase density and reduce travel time in your picking and storage zones, output will rise.

Know your capacity, and work to maintain it

How much work can your operations accomplish? You should know the throughput capabilities of your facility at each moment in time. You'll have to take several factors into consideration to determine what you can accomplish, including how many workers are available to perform each function, the mix of products they handle and the types of orders they receive. Your capacity also depends on the rate of absenteeism at your facility, the duration of your training and onboarding process, and your plan for ramping up. If you know how much you can process during a given shift, then you can create a realistic target and pursue it.

Track units per hour (uph) or total units

Monitor your throughput and have an established goal for each hour. If you measure, monitor and communicate these results every two hours, management will have time to help frontline workers correct course throughout the shift. This will help you meet your larger productivity goals.

Reward high performers

Don't underestimate the power of positive motivation to improve performance and increase the overall output of your warehouse. Incentive plans really do work. Make sure that your workers know what their goals are and the timeline they have for reaching these objectives. Give them updates about the progress they've made toward their targets. Your workers should always be motivated in the present to work toward a future accomplishment.

SIMOS Solutions can help you increase productivity, lower costs, and improve worker retention.

Our custom solutions are built on driving performance—so you only pay for the work completed, period—and can flex to help you meet changing demands. To learn more about how SIMOS can improve your bottom line with our performance model or to get in touch with our team, visit simossolutions.com.