

# MEDICAL DEVICE COMPANY OPTIMIZES WAREHOUSE

Total Solutions Provided to Optimize Space And Increase Efficiency



## Problem

With order volume doubling and a tight labor market, an industry leading medical device company found that their current processes and procedures weren't providing the output needed to keep up with the growing market.

Cart picking methods were being used to fulfill individual piece picking, as well as case orders. An increase in daily volume, accompanied with a heavy spike during quarter end, was causing heavy congestion in pick areas, stock-outs and plenty of unproductive walking by the pickers. In addition to increased order volume, the packing department was

## Medical Device Company

Leading the industry in cloud-connected medical devices that transform care for people with sleep apnea, COPD and other chronic diseases. Their comprehensive out-of-hospital software platforms support the professionals and caregivers who help people stay healthy in the home or care setting of their choice.

Industry : Medical Device

Location: Southern California

**RAYMOND** | **WEST**  
INTRALOGISTICS SOLUTIONS

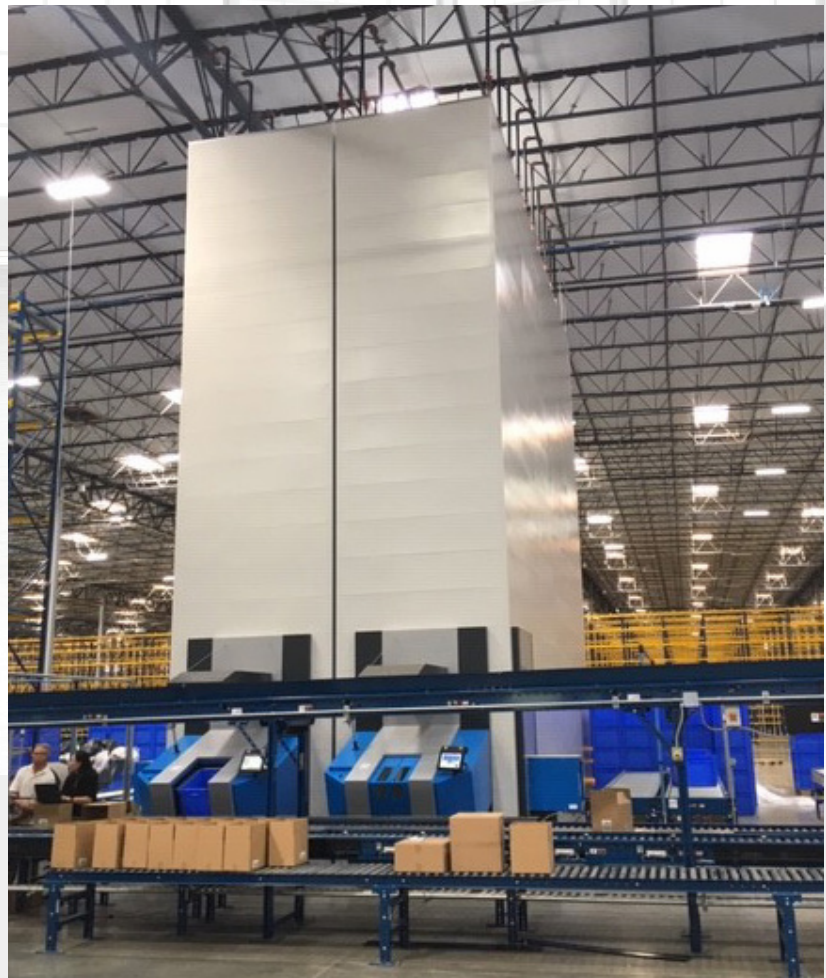
utilizing a manual process of checking orders, printing pack lists and applying ship labels, contributing to the heavy congestion.

With a new distribution center opening in Southern California, it was time to re-evaluate current methods and come up with a solution that would allow them to keep up with a growing market. With that, the company set a goal to increase automation within their facility.

## Solution

Raymond West Intralogistics Solutions designed the new 130,000 square foot distribution center with the appropriate amount of automation to process two times the order volume with the same staff. In addition, order accuracy and employee safety were improved with automated weight checks and separation of forklift traffic from pedestrians. Everything was addressed from the dock equipment, to pallet racks, to the Raymond Reach fork lifts and certainly the order fulfillment automation.

The Warehouse Controls System (WCS) provided by Raymond interfaces with the medical device companies WMS and directs all of the picking, packing, labeling and sortation. Full automation is used to robotically assemble up to six carton sizes



which are conveyed through printer applicators that apply LPN tracking labels and then flow onto the Pick Module.

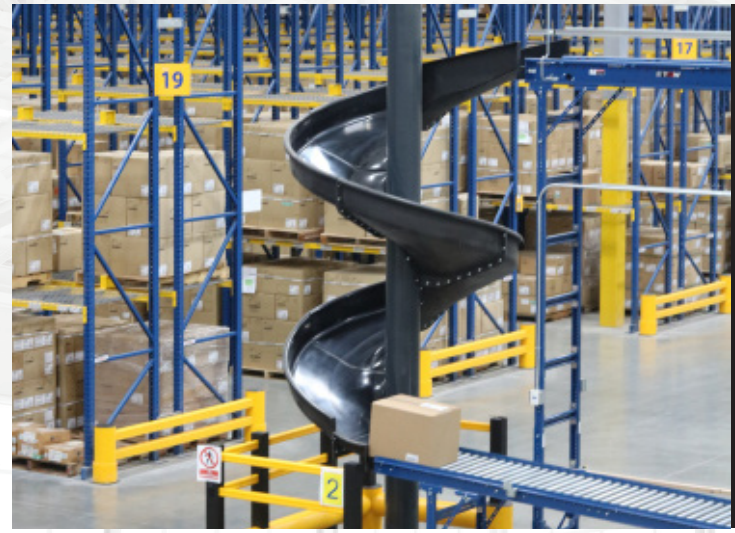
The higher cubic volume items are picked from pallet flow and carton flow lanes with a zone routing conveyor and a pick-to-light system. At the end of the Pick Module, orders requiring smaller sized items are routed into a goods-to-person station serviced with a pair of tote handling AS/RS machines (Kardex Remstar LR-35). Inventory for the AS/RS is replenished from the side of the machines with automatic conveyor in-feeds to save additional labor.





## Solution (cont.)

All order cartons exiting the pick area are conveyed through an in-line automatic scale with scanner used for a quality control check with cartons sent to a hospital lane if there are discrepancies. After an elevated accumulation conveyor, cartons are transported on a spiral decline and routed to VAS or directly to pack-out for pack list printing, carton sealing or a bypass lane for full cases. A final label is automatically applied for shipping before travelling to a shipping sorter over the dock doors. A small parcel shipping line off the sorter utilizes a flexible conveyor for direct trailer loading and the other lanes accumulate cartons for LTL



## Results

As a Toyota company, Raymond practices continuous improvement with our Raymond Lean Management process and promotes a similar process with our customers. The practice of taking steps towards automation rather than a single jump is what we call “Optimize before you Automate”. From both a return on investment and employee training standpoint, this stepping stone approach made the most sense to this company. Raymond West can guide your company through this process as well.





