

Distrib – Dock Manager

Automatic scans full- proof the loading process



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Mistakes are costly, even more so if the customer finds out about it first. There is the re-supply of the missing product, but also the effect on customer satisfaction, which is hard to express in monetary terms. Pcddata's Dock Manager ensures that the last warehouse action – loading up the waiting trucks - is also completely error free.

A mistake while loading trucks is easily made, particularly in baking. In the shipping areas it tends to be tight in space and full of product that accumulates off the production line. There are a lot of operators dividing production into very similarly looking stacks. It's very easy to take the wrong stack and load it onto the wrong truck. To make matters worse, one mistake usually affects two customers; the one NOT receiving what was ordered and the second receiving the incorrect product or additional product. Such mistakes become extra costly when delivery performance is guaranteed and an extra shipment becomes necessary.

With Pcddata's Dock Manager loading errors will belong to the past. A solution that does not require any human action. Dock Manager ensures each stack that is loaded, is simultaneously identified and registered onto the awaiting truck. The operator receives immediate feedback, with clear audio and visual feedback through the display and horn mounted above each loading door

No more loading errors

The most important component of Dock Manager is a wide range barcode scanner mounted at the side of each loading door. This high end scanner has such range it will read any barcode loaded onto the awaiting trailer. While the operator or driver is loading the truck at normal pace, the scanner reads the barcode label on each stack or rack and sends a confirmation to the warehouse management system.

The feedback to the operator is immediate. Long before the stack or rack is positioned in the truck, the system has already signalled whether all the baskets and dollies, or racks and trays have been loaded onto the right truck. If the rack or stack doesn't belong on that particular trailer, a loud warning signal is issued alarming the employee of the committed error.

Dock Manager has several options to

ensure that a loading error is restored quickly. Dock Manager can be set-up to block the loading door until the wrong stack is removed from the truck. The display and the speaker will not confirm any new stacks that are loaded. Another option is to sound the alarm until such time as the error has been corrected.

Even if a barcode label is not visible, the stack or rack will not escape the watchful eye of Dock Manager. The photoelectric cell will detect the attempted loading of a stack or rack. However if this trip signal is not followed by a barcode scanner signal, Dock Manager will display the message 'no read' on the overhead. The employee will know to return the stack to ensure the label is read properly.

Proactive directing

Omdat Dock Manager direct gekoppeld iBecause Dock Manager is linked to the warehouse management system, every stack available for loading is automatically registered. This gives the shipping supervisor a powerful overview of loading progress and how much product is available for loading on the shipping dock. The moment an available stack which should have been loaded is still on the loading dock, Dock Manager broadcasts this information to the shipping dock by colouring the displays in a yellow warning colour.

Because Dock Manager registers every unique stack during the loading process, tracking and tracing is guaranteed at de-





tail level. Afterwards it is possible to check every detail; which products / orders have been loaded in which truck at what time etc. No more guessing what might have happened, all the information is available real time for diagnostic purposes.

Workflow automation

Dock Manager also facilitates the information flow to various other departments or even customers. For instance it is possible to automatically initiate several actions once a truck load is completed, e.g. printing the delivery note, sending a text message, e-mail or EDI message with the time of departure and the content of the load to the customer.

Dock Manager is a plug-in module to Distrib; Pcddata's warehouse management system. Distrib users can implement Dock Manager quick and easy.

Dock Manager is available in two variants:

1. The standard version of Dock Manager uses fixed barcode scanners, large matrix displays with integrated audio speakers.
2. Alternatively a Dock Manager version in which the loaders use handheld scanners to confirm the product being loaded onto the trucks is also available. The operator doesn't receive the confirmation or error message through the matrix display and speaker above the door but directly via the hand terminals.

Instead of using barcode scanning it is also possible to use RFID.

Field proven

Dock Manager is a great tool for any bakery, but particularly those with a lot of inter-company transports. Dock Manager provides the receiving facilities information about departure times and contents of the inter-company shipments, allowing the receiving party to pre-plan according to accurate information.

The same holds true for customer shipments, certainly in combination with proof of delivery, another Pcddata add-on module. Not only will the orders be recorded as they are loaded onto the delivery trucks, the drop is also recorded and time-stamped, closing the loop from production to final delivery. Ideal for multi-stop delivery routes.

Dock Manager has proven itself in the field at real world bakeries time and again. Since 2008 Dock Manager has been implemented and is saving bakeries from costly shipping mistakes at dozens of bakeries. Just like them, you could also benefit from a clear and streamlined loading process.

What Pcddata offers

A fully controlled loading process

What does it do?

- Automatic scan of products being loaded
- Each scan is validated against delivery confirmation in system
- Audio visual feedback on (in) correct product load
- Automatic message broadcast to identified stakeholders and customers

Benefits.

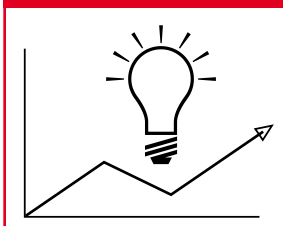
- Complete loading details as soon as the truck is ready to go
- Full-proof, prevents loading mistakes
- Streamlined, more efficient dock operation
- Track and trace product into the truck



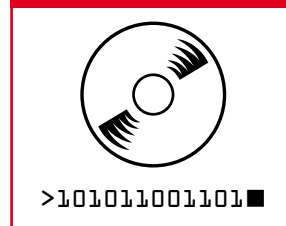
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