

Material Matters



10 Proven Ways To Lower Inventory Costs

Getting your clients what they want, when they want - it's not a new challenge. The key is to continuously measure your inventory performance and look for new ways to improve. [MFG Tray](#) shares 10 common practices that have yielded results for other clients:



1. **Base Cycle Stock on Economics:** For purchased products, getting a handle on your acquisition transaction costs will either reduce average inventory or allow for reducing purchasing and receiving labor. For manufactured products, if production equipment changeover costs are in a similar state, getting them in place will either reduce average inventory through shorter runs or allow for reducing changeover and receiving labor through longer runs.
2. **Lower Inventory Holding Costs:** Improve space utilization in leased, contract, or public warehouses (or to minimize or delay expansion of owned facilities) through narrow aisle handling equipment, mezzanines, layout, or more appropriate storage modes.

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A Heavy Duty Wash Solution

Not long ago, a manufacturer presented MFG Tray with an interesting challenge: find a way to wash and degrease the brass and steel parts coming off their screw and automated assembly machines. And be sure not to damage the threads that many of the parts had.



"Our client produces quick-disconnect couplings, hydraulic and solenoid valves, high-pressure valves, vessels, reactors and fittings," explained John Thompson, general manager at MFG Tray. "It was critical that our solution protect the parts throughout the manufacturing and assembly process."

The Solution

MFG's team designed a [wash box](#), Model 802048, with 135 holes drilled in the bottom and slots on the side. It was the perfect solution for this heavy duty problem.

"The 802048 Wash Box offers several benefits to the client," noted Thompson. "All the parts can be washed in one container, dumps are virtually eliminated and scrap is reduced to almost nothing. Plus, the parts can be sent straight to the manufacturer's vendors for heat treatment in our containers. It's a great solution."

Socially Acceptable

Looking for the latest industry news? Interested in new product developments? Then maybe it's time for a social engagement with MFG Tray.

"We have a number of clients who use social channels such as [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) throughout their workday," said John Blich, marketing manager at MFG Tray.



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The Material Matters in Material Handling



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"With our presence in both these popular spaces, we are able to share information and developments with them in real time."

Blichka noted that MFG's Facebook "Likes" and Twitter "followers" continue to increase steadily. He sees these social media tools as an integral part of the company's ongoing communications with customers and prospects.



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