

Why Carton Flow?

Carton Flow is a material handling solution that addresses the two major cost drivers in today's distribution and manufacturing facilities - labor and space costs.

Order Picking and Space Utilization

Order picking accounts for 40-60% of an operations total labor cost. Most facilities use pallet racking or shelving as their storage medium. These storage mediums are static - product remains in its stored position. Once the product in front is picked, additional picks require reaching, bending, and pulling. This adds time to the pick process and puts additional strain and stress on employees.

Additionally for less than full pallet and shelving static storage positions product must be restocked from the front (picking aisle) creating a LIFO pick rotation. The combination of difficult restocking and picking hard to access products results in poor space utilization.

Lower Costs

Carton Flow remedies the inefficiencies of static storage by creating a dynamic storage medium. Therefore, when front product is picked, remaining product flows to the front. This ensures product is always at the most accessible pick point - the front. This increases pick rates up to 30% versus static storage pick rates. Additionally it eliminates reaching, bending and pulling, producing an ergonomic safe picking process.

For most operations carton flow should be used for medium and slower moving SKU's. Typically this represents 40-70% of an operations inventory. Carton Flow systems condense and organize SKU's to increase pick efficiency and minimize travel. For static storage systems up to 85% of a pickers time is spent traveling. A good carton flow system should reduce travel time by 40-80% when compared to a pick process utilizing static storage.

Pick Modules

Pick modules are specialized carton flow systems designed for high volume order picking. Pick modules are especially effective for large each pick operations. Pick to light systems are often incorporated into a pick module carton flow system to generate pick rates in excess of 300 picks per man hour, more than triple static storage pick rates.

Why Span-Track?

In 1994, UNEX® introduced Span-Track, its patented full width roller flow track system. Within three years Span-Track was the leading carton flow product in the market. This achievement was driven by performance - Span-Track delivers superior flow, flexibility and durability.



Superior Flow

For dynamic storage systems flow is the key factor. For carton flow the criteria is restart, ensuring all product in the lane moves forward when front product is picked. The more product contact to Carton Flow surface the better the restart. Span-Track full width roller provides 400% more product contact than plastic wheel and 150% more product contact than wheel bed carton flow systems.

Durability

Span-Tracks conveyor like design delivers 50# per linear foot capacity backed by our 7 year platinum warranty. Traditional plastic wheel carton flow systems provide 25# per linear foot capacity and limited warranties.

Flexibility

Span-Track's drop-in in design fits any rack structure. Track nests between standard pallet rack beams, no specialized shelves required - easy to reconfigure and re-slot.

Span-Track Installs in 1/3 time of traditional plastic wheel systems.

SKUBE

UNEX has developed an in-house software program to analyze an operations SKU's.

SKUBE determines which SKU's should be assigned to a shelf, carton flow or pallet position based on product movement. It also matches the carton flow track width to carton width and slots all the carton flow SKU's.



SPAN-TRACK®

by UNEX

The Carton Flow Authority

