Customer: Amazon.com is a multinational electronic commerce company headquartered in Seattle, Washington and is the world’s largest online retailer. Originally started as an on-line bookstore, Amazon has diversified immensely. They have over 20 fulfillment centers throughout the US, concentrated heavily in PA, KY and AZ. The facilities range from 880K to 1.2 million square feet.

Mobility Challenge: As a fast-paced progressive organization with high quality standards, members of the receiving department need to resolve incoming product discrepancies very quickly. Typical discrepancies include quantities that do not match packing slip/purchase order or products that don’t have a barcode label on them. Management soon realized that they needed to eliminate the wasted time its receiving personnel spent walking back and forth to computers (to research the discrepancy) and fixed label printers if a new barcode label was required.

Mobility Solution: A corporate “process improvement” initiative got management brainstorming several ideas to eliminate non-productive processes - and the “Mobile Problem Solve Cart” concept was developed and implemented soon after.

Receiving personnel now roll their “Mobile PC/Printer Stations” directly to the product in question, eliminating the wasted footsteps. Newcastle Systems’ PP25 Stand-Alone Power Package (w/200 AH battery system) provides the mobile power component that keeps the following hardware powered for 24 - 36 hours at a time:

- Laptop
- Zebra 2844 Label Printer
- Scanner

To date, Amazon has implemented over 800 Mobile Problem Solve Carts throughout the 20+ US fulfillment centers.

According to several operators, “The portable power enables us to take our workstations to any area within our facility while increasing work flow, productivity and giving us greater flexibility in our process. “It’s extremely easy to use and powers anything we plug into it.”

Questions?
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