

Enhancing eCommerce Operations with Automated Storage Solutions



CASE STUDY



Innovating Supply Chains

Goods-To-Person Picking System

- High storage density
- Empowers workforce
- Reduces onboarding & training time
- Streamlines picking process
- Agile, quick fulfillment
- Improves order accuracy
- User friendly & intuitive

Enhancing E-commerce Operations to Meet Peak Season Demand

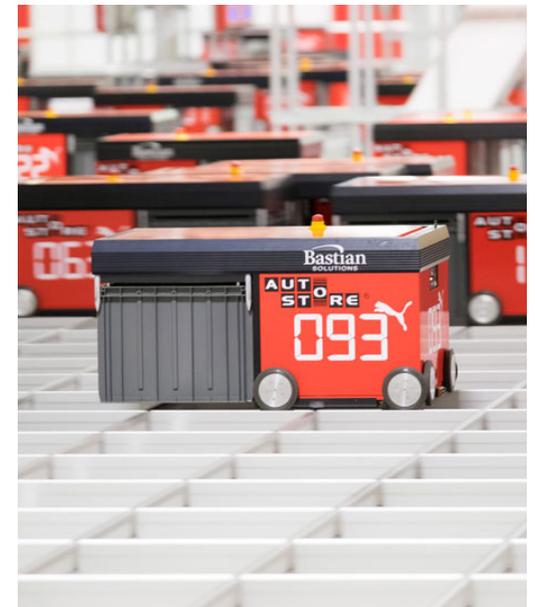
As the retail industry shifts and brick-and-mortar stores are replaced with online entities, it's essential that companies' supply chains evolve to suit the unique needs of the e-commerce industry. The demand for two-day shipping continues to increase and businesses must find a way to keep up with consumer expectations and the fast pace of today's market, particularly during peak seasons. Paired with overall company growth, this can be especially challenging with tightening labor markets and seasonal onboarding.

Mitigating Growth and Evolving Consumer Demand

NFI, California Cartage Company's (Cal Cartage) parent company, owns and operates a third-party logistics facility in Torrance, California for Puma, a leading sports brand specializing in designing, developing, and selling footwear, apparel, and accessories. Since 1948, the customer has offered performance and sport-inspired lifestyle products in categories such as football, running and training, basketball, golf, and motorsports. Today, the customer distributes its products in more than 120 countries and employs over 13,000 individuals worldwide. Cal Cartage has been a partner of the leading

sports brand since 2007. Cal Cartage has watched the company grow significantly during that timeframe growing their annual revenue by nearly 6,600 percent, with their direct to consumer operation playing a key role in that growth.

Within the past few years, the customer has faced challenges as a result of their growth, particularly keeping up with the demand for two-day shipping during peak season. This prompted the customer and Cal Cartage to seek a solution that would provide the speed, scalability, and reliability needed to support the customer's growing e-commerce operations.



Advancing Operations Through Automation

Cal Cartage and Puma partnered with Bastian Solutions to implement AutoStore, a goods-to-person picking system within its Torrance, CA facility, consolidating its three California fulfillment facilities into one location.

The AutoStore system is an innovative storage solution that allows complete configurability and flexibility. Bins are stacked vertically in a grid and retrieved by robots that travel on the top layer of the system. This makes it possible for the grid to be placed around columns, on mezzanines, and on multiple levels. The system can also be easily expanded and modified because of this design.

Today, the customer's AutoStore utilizes 170 robots with 171,000 bin locations, along with 23 AutoStore pick stations and six receiving stations with touchscreen monitors.

Enhancing Productivity, the Employee Experience, and Customer Service

The storage density of AutoStore allowed Cal Cartage's customer to consolidate three distribution centers into a single facility in Torrance, CA. Currently, 60,000 SKUs are stored in the AutoStore system, which includes all e-commerce and retail apparel SKUs. The new system achieves same-day fulfillment on all ecommerce orders, easily handles peak season volumes, and boasts a 99 percent accuracy rate, therefore enhancing the customer experience.

The facility handles about 160 e-commerce lines per hour, per operator and 700 wholesale units per hour, per operator, tripling productivity. Additionally AutoStore has reduced employee onboarding training for peak season from four days to four hours and improved the employee experience, eliminating the need to pick pieces from static shelving, as well as reducing the amount of walking required. 🦾



Automated Solution Results



3x

Greater productivity on e-commerce lines.

99%

Order accuracy rate

87.5%

Decrease in onboarding time, from 4 days to 4 hours.

Consolidation of 3 distribution centers into a **single facility**.

Automated Distribution Solutions at NFI

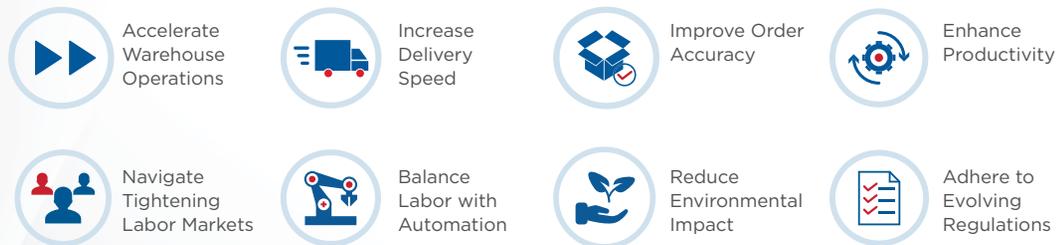
NFI's state-of-the-art facilities are highly customized with solutions tailored to your business needs.

Customized Solutions for a Modern Supply Chain

As an NFI customer, you'll work with a team that understands your operation inside and out. Through our innovation delivery method, we partner and learn with you in real-time to consistently explore, engineer, and implement high-fit continuous improvement programs that ensure your supply chain is evolving to stay ahead of consumer trends.

Grow Your Business

NFI's end-to-end expertise across the supply chain creates the flexibility needed to design and engineer customized solutions, while our applied innovation strategy ensures these solutions are tested and tailored specifically for your operation. From automation to predictive analytics, NFI's innovative solutions have helped customers:



Collaborate with our team to design practical solutions for real-life applications today →



End-to-End Supply Chain Solutions

NFI is a fully integrated North American supply chain solutions provider headquartered in Camden, N.J. Privately held by the Brown family since its inception in 1932, NFI generates more than \$2.6 billion in annual revenue and employs over 14,500 associates. NFI owns facilities globally and operates more than 50 million square feet of warehouse and distribution space. Its dedicated fleet consists of over 4,500 tractors and 12,500 trailers operated by 3,900 company drivers and leveraging partnerships with 500 owner operators. NFI has a significant drayage presence at nearly every major U.S. port, leveraging the services of an additional 1,500 owner operators. The company's business lines include dedicated transportation, distribution, brokerage, transportation management, port drayage, intermodal, global logistics, and real estate. For more information about NFI, [visit www.nfiindustries.com](http://www.nfiindustries.com) or call 1-877-NFI-3777.