

Ottani Meccanica digitizes its warehouse operations with the support of Bancolini Symbol



Needs

To streamline warehouse operations during the rollout of a new ERP system. Existing processes were based on paper forms, Excel files, and manual PC data entry, leading to time-consuming activities and an increased risk of errors.



Solution

The warehouse digitalization project was implemented through the deployment of Zebra Technologies MC3400 rugged mobile computers, available in both Gun and Brick configurations. The solution was completed with Zebra ZT231 printers for the efficient production of shipping labels.



Benefits

Copilot said:
Rapid adoption of the selected solution thanks to the direct involvement of personnel and the continuous support provided by Bancolini Symbol, resulting in optimized picking and material handling operations.



Ottani Meccanica is a long-established company specializing in the manufacture of high-precision mechanical components for highly specialized industries, including automotive, fluid power, industrial applications, and gas control systems. Founded more than sixty years ago with a focus on the automotive carburetor sector, the company has successfully adapted its expertise to meet evolving market demands, developing specific know-how in the gas control industry and becoming an international partner for customers across Europe, Asia, and the Americas.

Its manufacturing organization enables the company to manage the entire production process in-house, an operational model that ensures full control over product quality and supply chain continuity.

Recently, the company, which operates on a continuous 24/7 production schedule, decided to digitalize its warehouse operations and implement a new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system to further enhance efficiency, traceability, and process integration.

Digitizing the Warehouse for Greater Efficiency

One of the main objectives of the project was to move beyond a warehouse management system still heavily reliant on manual processes by introducing technologies designed to ensure more accurate and efficient shipping operations. Before the implementation, warehouse operators worked with paper-based picking lists organized by item code, retrieving materials and subsequently recording stock movements from a desktop computer. This workflow involved several intermediate steps and left room for potential errors. With the introduction of the Zebra MC3400 mobile computers, all activities are now carried out directly on the warehouse floor. Barcode scanning enables operators to capture data instantly and update the ERP system in real time, significantly improving accuracy and operational efficiency. The Zebra MC3400 devices were selected for their rugged design, ergonomic features, and ability to adapt to different operational tasks and user requirements. To complete the solution, Zebra ZT231 industrial printers were also deployed for the production of shipping labels applied to outgoing packages. This digital transformation has streamlined warehouse processes, reduced manual data entry, and improved the reliability and traceability of logistics operations..

Engaging Operators: the Key Success Factor Behind the Project

One of the most important factors contributing to the success of the project was the direct involvement of the people who use warehouse tools every day. Ottani Meccanica had previously attempted to digitalize its warehouse operations, but that first initiative did not achieve the desired results. The experience highlighted the importance of identifying a solution that was truly aligned with operational requirements and evolving business processes. For this reason, Bancolini Symbol involved Ottani Meccanica's team from the very beginning through hands-on field testing, allowing operators to evaluate both configurations of the Zebra MC3400 family. This practical approach ensured that the selected solution reflected the real needs and preferences of end users. The final implementation, completed without any production downtime, included the deployment of four Zebra MC3400 devices in the gun configuration and two units in the brick configuration. In particular, the gun-style model, thanks to its superior ergonomics, was preferred by operators performing continuous picking activities, while the brick version was chosen by personnel involved in material handling and forklift operations. By placing operators at the center of the decision-making process, the company achieved a smooth technology adoption path and maximized the benefits of its warehouse digitalization initiative.

Bancolini Symbol's Consulting Expertise: Added Value in Ottani Meccanica's Warehouse Digitalization

Bancolini Symbol's process analysis supported every stage of the project, leading to the definition and implementation of the Zebra Technologies solution best suited to Ottani Meccanica's operational needs. Before the purchase, Bancolini Symbol's specialists presented the full range of available solutions, explaining their features, benefits, and potential applications. Although more advanced and higher-cost devices were available, Bancolini Symbol guided the customer toward the solution that best matched its operational requirements, ensuring the right balance between functionality, performance, and investment. The same consultative approach was applied throughout the project. In addition to selecting the most suitable printers, Bancolini Symbol worked closely with the customer to identify the optimal combination of labels and ribbons, ensuring consistently durable and easily readable label printing. The geographical proximity between the two companies provided an additional advantage, enabling a faster, more responsive, and highly collaborative after-sales support service. This close partnership contributed to a smooth implementation process and ensured ongoing operational continuity following the deployment of the new warehouse management solution.

Beyond Technology: A Partnership Built on Shared Values

Ottani Meccanica chose Bancolini Symbol as its partner for the warehouse digitalization project not only for its technological expertise, but also because of a strong alignment in corporate values. Ottani Meccanica operates within highly regulated supply chains, where quality, sustainability, and compliance with international standards are fundamental requirements. The certifications achieved by the company, including ISO 9001, IATF 16949, and ISO 14001, reflect a strong commitment to continuous improvement, operational excellence, and corporate responsibility. Today, working with a certified supply chain has become a key criterion in supplier selection. In this context, partnering with Bancolini Symbol, a company that shares the same commitment to excellence through internationally recognized certifications in quality management (ISO 9001:2015), diversity and inclusion (ISO 26101:2024), and gender equality (UNI/PdR 125:2022), represents an additional competitive advantage and a significant factor in the success of the collaboration..



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