

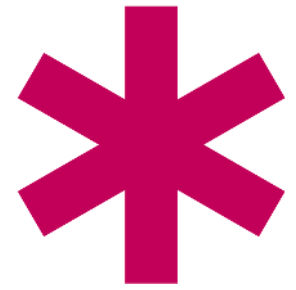


Revolutionizing productivity

how Argon & Co helped *Stampin' Up!* redefine
warehouse management efficiency

The Issue:

outdated systems & inefficiency in a high-SKU environment



The *Stampin' Up!* distribution center struggled with inefficiencies due to a modern but unreliable warehouse management system. Workers frequently experienced downtime, leading to significant productivity losses.

The challenge was clear: replace the aging system while addressing bottlenecks in workflow to improve overall efficiency, particularly in handling high-SKU, high-velocity orders. *Stampin' Up!* sought a partner who could provide more than just a technology upgrade—they needed someone who could drive a transformative overhaul.



The Solution:

overhaul by Argon & Co



1 Rethinking workflow: zones to continuous flow

The team addressed the primary issue: the rigid zone-based system couldn't keep pickers busy. Based on leading-edge research, Argon & Co introduced a new, continuous workflow. This innovative model eliminated zones entirely, allowing workers to move freely along the pickline, ensuring orders continued to flow while idle time was reduced.

2 Harnessing the power of voice-directed picking

Argon & Co also replaced the legacy pick-to-light system with voice-directed picking technology powered by AccuSpeechMobile. This hands-free system allowed workers to receive real-time picking instructions via Bluetooth headsets. By removing the need to constantly check screens or handle devices, voice picking streamlined operations and reduced errors.

3 Innovating with “leapfrog” picking

Argon & Co introduced a custom version of the bucket brigade method, dubbed “leapfrog” by *Stampin' Up!*. This agile approach replaced the traditional “wait-your-turn” pick and pass technique, enabling workers to jump to the next available task. The constant, uninterrupted workflow of the leapfrog method reduces downtime and maximizes throughput. Leapfrog picking is simple but effective, and ensures that orders are always progressing, even during peak demand periods.

The Results:

comprehensive transformation

1 Productivity gains

Stampin' Up! achieved a 30% increase in pick rates thanks to the effectiveness of the continuous flow and voice-picking systems. By eliminating downtime and streamlining workflows, the distribution center handles significantly more orders without adding to the workforce.

30%

**Boost in pick rates
without increasing
workforce**

2 Improved workforce engagement

Beyond the numbers, workers appreciated the simplicity and intuitiveness of the voice-picking technology, which made their tasks easier and more efficient. Training times were reduced to just about an hour, and many office employees volunteered to assist in the picking process during high-volume periods, drawn by the engaging nature of the leapfrog method.

3 Cost-effective & scalable technology

The AccuSpeechMobile system's minimal setup requirements made it a standout solution. By avoiding the need for middleware or extensive backend modifications, Argon & Co delivered a high-impact solution that was both budget-friendly and easy to replicate.

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The Argon & Co team took our project to the next level. Rather than focusing on just replacing what we had, they guided us in a direction that helped to eliminate waste and improve the overall order fulfillment process. Their approach to doing things is a game changer and was critical to help build the right solution that will move us forward into the next phase of our business.

Rich Bushell
Director of Global
Distribution Services
Stampin' Up!



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The industry blueprint

The success of this project goes far beyond the walls of *Stampin' Up!*'s distribution center. It serves as a proof of concept for the distribution industry with similar needs and clearly shows how Argon & Co's creative thinking can provide new solutions to old problems.

The industry impact

According to industry research, better picking methods could help distribution centers recover up to 20% of productivity typically lost to downtime. In an environment where every percentage point of efficiency translates directly into cost savings and improved customer satisfaction, these gains are transformative.

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Stampin' Up! is just the beginning. The principles we applied — flexible workflows, voice technology, and constant improvement — are scalable across industries. This is a blueprint for any operation struggling with high-SKU environments and fluctuating demand.

Steve Mulaik
Partner, Argon & Co

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About Argon & Co

Argon & Co is a global management consultancy specializing in supply chain strategy, transformation, and managed services. We partner with our clients to drive positive change by leveraging our deep knowledge across functional areas, industry expertise, and applying sophisticated analytics. Our world-class capabilities enable clients to unlock the full potential of their supply chains. We don't just create strategies and transformation plans—we immerse ourselves in the details of supply chains to ensure real, lasting benefits.

Our approach is hands-on: we work alongside our clients, roll up our sleeves, and deliver meaningful change that produces measurable, enduring results. With teams across North America, Europe, and Asia-Pacific, we help clients around the world reach their highest potential.

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