

A COMPANION PIECE TO
"10 REAL-WORLD TIPS FOR SMARTER
INVENTORY MANAGEMENT"¹

ControlPoint
Inventory Management

MSC DELIVERS

Smarter Inventory Management Drives Customer Results

For more than 70 years, MSC has been helping businesses of all sizes make sure their teams get the metalworking and maintenance, repair and operations (MRO) supplies they need when they need them.

MSC
Industrial Supply Co.

Uncover and tackle indirect costs, and turn your MRO supply chain into a lean competitive advantage with MSC's proven ControlPoint Inventory Management solutions.

Continuously.

We can help you act on the 10 real-world strategies to ensure the right inventory levels and respond effectively to market demand:

1 Track and Report Key Metrics

MSC's inventory management specialists can work with you to define key metrics and identify the right solutions to help you track and report the information you need to manage your business. Our solutions generate easy-to-use reports that include Active Inventory; Item Details; User List; Jobs List; Items in Rework; Items Never Withdrawn; Items on Order; Recent Usage; Reorder; and Transaction History.

2 Slash Setup Times

CNC Manufacturing cut tool inventory by 80 percent and dramatically reduced setup times through MSC's vending solution. Our metalworking specialists can review and recommend ways to streamline your processes, too.

3 Pull High-Volume Materials and Parts

MSC's inventory management specialists work with you to determine the right inventory levels for your business and can recommend solutions that will ensure you have the items you need when and where you need them.

With **Able Engineering** MSC established minimum/maximum tooling levels and used a vending unit with inventory management software to automatically replenish items as needed. MSC's comprehensive reporting provided visibility to tooling usage, leading to a 41.5% inventory reduction and allowing employees to accomplish more valuable work instead of monitoring tool supply lists. Able also reduced tool hoarding and increased productivity, and reduced on-hand inventory to free up working capital.

4 Establish an Effective Sales & Operations Planning Process

Managers need accurate data to run efficient, cost-effective operations. They need visibility into shop-floor processes, tool usage and real-time inventory. MSC's ControlPoint Inventory Management solutions provide the visibility and information managers can use to respond quickly and confidently to market changes.

5 Scrap Manual Tracking Systems for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)

MSC's vending, VMI and CMI solutions, and IM software enable you to effectively track and manage inventory. Our systems complement and extend the IM component of ERP systems for greater efficiencies.

6 Switch to Vendor-Managed Inventory

Our VMI solution delivers more accurate inventory levels and reduces overhead cost by only having product on hand when you need it, while online ordering eliminates transaction costs, manual data entry and paperwork. Your VMI specialist helps you identify, label and establish minimum and maximum inventory levels and reorder quantities, and is on site regularly to check inventory levels and conduct scans.

The **Unilever ice cream division** knows. Through VMI, MSC adds inventory weekly rather than monthly, reducing inventory carrying costs and using everything before new items are received.

7 Optimize MRO Inventory Management Strategies

You can tap MSC's expertise in MRO inventory management strategies to develop the right solution for your organization based on the needs of the business. We helped the same **Unilever ice cream division** consolidate purchases to reduce product search time and procurement costs, thus eliminating the need for multiple POs, billing and vendors. The company cut MRO costs while improving performance and profitability, and slashed the costs of four PPE items by 70%.

8 Rationalize Suppliers Based on Delivery Performance

Attica Hydraulic Exchange increased productivity 85% for tool room purchases when MSC began handling 100% of its tooling needs. With just-in-time delivery they can count on MSC to provide full tracking and reporting of tool usage and automatic reordering to ensure no downtime. As one of the largest distributors of metalworking and MRO supplies, MSC's in-stock availability is approximately 99%, with next-day delivery on qualifying orders.

9 Partner with Logistics Providers

MSC's ControlPoint Inventory Management solutions combined with our state-of-the-art logistic systems help you streamline and standardize business processes. You can reduce your cost of operations (order, freight and inventory), and minimize your supplier base and indirect costs to manage and drive greater MRO supply chain efficiency. MSC has four extensive fulfillment centers strategically located around the country, supported by highly trained associates, and offering a 99% fulfillment rate on every order.

10 Manage Customer Order Sizes

When your business depends on having the right tools to get the job done, you need a partner to help you manage each order. With MSC's automated reordering, we help you set minimum and maximum levels based on usage patterns. This further streamlines inventory levels and prevents procurement and purchasing personnel from having to spend time placing or chasing down orders.

That's what happened at **STD Med**, which realized \$100,000 in tool cost savings and improved overall operational efficiencies.

LEARN MORE To watch or read these or other MSC case studies, please visit mscdirect.com/controlpoint.

Cut unused inventory costs by

99%

Imagine realizing \$43,736 in process improvements and \$35,628 in freight savings. National Machine Group did.



Inventory management solutions from MSC help you turn your MRO supply chain into a competitive advantage. Our customer managed inventory allows you to barcode label, scan, track and reorder tooling and MRO online. With our vendor managed inventory, we'll assign an MSC specialist to monitor, order and manage inventory for you. Tailored to your needs, our vending solutions enable you to control and manage inventory more efficiently, cutting costs while increasing productivity and improving quality output - all while providing greater security, 24/7 shop-floor availability, automated reordering and customized reports. For additional information, please contact your local MSC sales representative, call 800.860.3200 or visit mscdirect.com/controlpoint.

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