



Thinking Green: Renovating a Warehouse with the Planet in Mind

When Autopart International (API) contracted with materials management solution provider Abel Womack to renovate its existing warehouse in Norton, Massachusetts the company was migrating the activities of 4 existing API warehouses into one centralized location. From that location API would distribute auto and truck parts and accessories to clients throughout the U.S.

To accommodate API's needs, Abel Womack designed and installed conveyor and storage systems which enabled more effective management and store parts inventory as well as greater efficiency in preparing customer orders and ensuring same-day shipping.

Energy efficient "green" technology systems were a priority for the project. Voice-directed picking software allowed the distribution center to go paperless. Most items are shipped in pick totes and then recycled, a process which reduced the company's need for corrugated packaging. Lastly, the company employed new energy-efficient equipment including Raymond lift trucks which are up to 33% more energy-efficient than other similar pieces of equipment, Hytrol conveyors, an Automotion shipping sorter and automatic zone transfers.

Source:

"Green Technology Improves Warehouse Efficiency." *Abel Womack Case Study – Autopark International, Norton, MA, Distribution Center Renovation.* Abel Womack, n.d. Web. 13 June 2014.

