



CASE STUDY

McLane - Grocery

CONVEYCO | Integrated
Solutions &
Software

OVERVIEW

McLane Company partnered with Conveyco to revolutionize their supply chain operations by implementing high-speed sortation and advanced Warehouse Control System (WCS) technology, enhancing productivity, quality control, and efficiency.



BACKGROUND

McLane Company is a \$28 billion supply chain services leader, optimizing the purchase, flow, and sale of products from thousands of suppliers to over 36,000 retail grocery locations. Known for operational excellence, McLane sought process improvements that would maintain or elevate their high quality standards. Traditionally, McLane relied on manual product selection and staging, requiring significant labor and space while limiting efficiency. Employees used tuggers to transport goods along long aisles, and trailers required multiple open doors to accommodate staging. This system led to increased labor costs, inefficiencies, and downtime.

CHALLENGES

McLane needed an automated solution to improve productivity, reduce labor costs, and enhance order accuracy without sacrificing quality control.

Key Challenges

McLane faced several operational inefficiencies that limited productivity and increased costs.

Key challenges included:

- Manual selection and staging processes slowed down fulfillment.
- High labor costs and additional team leaders required for oversight.
- Excessive downtime due to inefficient workflows.
- Space constraints caused by requiring multiple trailer doors for staging.
- Increased congestion and accidents due to heavy truck traffic.

SOLUTION

Conveyco's automated system significantly improved efficiency, accuracy, and worker safety while reducing operational costs.

THE RIGHTFIT SOLUTION

Conveyco collaborated with McLane engineers to develop and implement a state-of-the-art automated picking and shipping sortation system, first introduced at McLane High Plains in Lubbock, Texas. The solution increased efficiency, safety, and order quality while reducing operational costs.

Key solution components included:

- Automated picking and sortation system to streamline product selection and shipping.
- Advanced Warehouse Control System (WCS) to orchestrate operations efficiently.
- Ergonomically optimized conveyor systems to improve worker safety and reduce physical strain.
- Direct load lanes for seamless trailer loading minimizing the need for staging space.
- Optimized facility layout to reduce truck congestion and improve workflow.

Following the success of this implementation, McLane expanded the solution to multiple facilities, including McLane Pacific in Merced, California, which now operates over four miles of conveyors and a sophisticated sortation system.

RESULTS

McLane significantly reduced costs, increased efficiency, and improved quality control, setting a new standard for their distribution operations.

With Conveyco's solution in place, McLane achieved remarkable operational improvements, particularly during peak demand periods.

Key results:

- Overtime costs reduced by more than 50%.
- 25% reduction in order errors, despite increased volume.
- Lowered labor costs through automation and improved team efficiency.
- Reduced facility congestion and truck traffic, improving workplace safety.
- Streamlined workflow allowing shipping and receiving to operate simultaneously.
- Improved tracking capabilities for better order visibility and performance management.
- Decreased product damage through optimized handling processes.
- Scalable system design to accommodate future growth and efficiency improvements.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

The McLane project is a prime example of a successful partnership between Conveyco engineers and our clients, demonstrating how innovation and collaboration drive operational excellence.

FINAL INSIGHTS

- Automation enhances productivity and reduces labor costs without compromising quality.
- Scalable solutions allow companies to grow efficiently without excessive capital investment.
- Ergonomically designed systems improve worker safety and reduce injury-related downtime.
- Advanced warehouse control systems enable real-time tracking and performance optimization.

ABOUT US

At Conveyco, we are your trusted system integration partner, dedicated to designing and implementing innovative, efficient, and reliable solutions tailored to your unique needs. With almost 50 years of experience, we specialize in creating seamless, end-to-end systems that optimize performance and deliver measurable results. Unlike OEMs tied to their own equipment, we independently select from vetted partners and technologies to deliver solutions that exceed expectations.

Our in-house software expertise ensures seamless integration and performance tailored to your operation. From system design to implementation, our industry-leading controls provide efficiency, reliability, and scalability. Led by a team of seasoned industry veterans, we prioritize building long-term relationships and delivering on our promises with the integrity of a family-owned business. Free from outside investors, we make decisions with your best interests in mind, allowing us to provide solutions without compromise.

Supporting Your Goals

We understand the increasing demands for efficiency in today's supply chain. Our processes are designed to enhance productivity, optimize resources, and streamline operations, helping your business achieve its warehousing automation goals without compromising performance.

Let's Build Your Future, Together

When you choose Conveyco, you're not just gaining an integrator—you're gaining a partner committed to helping you achieve your goals. We redefine what's possible, together.

Contact Us

To learn more about how Conveyco can help transform your operations, visit www.conveyco.com or reach out to our team at conveyco@conveyco.com.