

Founded in 1938, Grant Industries is involved in the research, development, manufacturing, and marketing of specialty performance chemicals. A leading global provider to the personal care industry, Grant Industries dedicates its business on superior quality and customer service.

Casey Heemskerk, Operations Manager at Grant Industries, shares insight of how mobile power significantly improved their finished goods labeling process.



Mobile Power for Finished Goods Color Labeling

Question and Answer Session with Casey Heemskerk, Operations Manager at Grant Industries

Q: Can you describe your labeling process prior to implementing mobile power?

A: Our process continues to evolve. The last year has seen a lot of process change for us as we continue to adapt to the growth we are sustaining as a company. Grant Industries prides itself in providing customized raw cosmetic materials within a relatively short turnaround time to meet our customers' fast paced needs. To meet their expectations, we've had to turn to a more "technology-driven mobile approach" for our operations.

Before this change, our labels were created in the office – several hundred feet away from the finished goods waiting to ship. An employee would have to walk to the finished product, document information needed, give that information to office personnel to create labels, and then walk back to label the product for shipment.

The problems we faced with the old process touched on the following issues:

- Overall inefficiency due to wasted worker motion
- Mislabeling of product
- Missing designated ship dates

Q: How has mobile power helped tackle some of these problems?

A: "To start, our technology partner, Integrated Productivity Systems (www.ipsiscan.com) streamlined our process with a dynamic, flexible labeling system that integrates BarTender Label Software with our Chemical Management System to enable on demand color label printing on the shop floor and warehouse using Epson ColorWorks C831 industrial-strength inkjet label printers. We quickly realized that a mobile solution was the next step - the ability to create a label right next to the product would be a huge improvement to our process."

Adding mobile powered carts to our finished goods labeling process has been incredible. We've become much more efficient in terms of movement and establishing a flow to our work day. We no longer suffer from what I like to call "momentum hiccups" in completing the fulfillment cycle of an order. Products are placed into our shipping queue, scanned out of inventory, labeled correctly and prepared for shipment in one fluid process."

Q: What has been the overall impact on your business?

A: The mobile carts have enabled us to bring more technology (i.e. laptops, printers, scanners, etc.) onto the floor, which has been a game changer for us. We've significantly boosted our turnaround times, on-time shipments and customer communication. In a sense, we've enhanced our motto "where performance matters". Implementing this "technology- driven mobile approach" enables us to perform that much better."

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- Casey Heemskerk
Operations Manager
Grant Industries



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