Increased Productivity in Material Replenishment
The water spider at Karl Storz

KARL STORZ Endovision, Inc. is a global manufacturer and distributor of endoscopes, medical instruments, and related devices.

To improve speed and accuracy, they implemented a “water spider” system to solve material replenishment problems.

The water spider’s role is to keep workstations stocked and replenished throughout the production line. The spider is able to track inventory and provide the materials needed to each assembler, allowing them to keep production moving without skipping a beat.

The PowerSwap Nucleus® Lithium Power System keeps the water spider’s Kanban cart powered throughout an entire shift and more, so they have real-time access to ERP and can transact inventory on the fly.

No need for assemblers to leave their workstation to collect materials
Assembly workstations remain stocked at all times
Assemblers experience fewer interruptions
Water spider has real-time access to inventory via ERP system

RESULTS

58% reduction in costly motion
4 staff members relocated to value-added activities
80% fewer process interruptions

Overall Benefit: 40% time savings on manufacturing floor