IBM Distribution View:
Warehouse Intelligence for the 21st Century
A smarter way to run your operations
Are you running out of space in your existing facilities? Are your customers demanding faster response and more service? IBM DistributionView has the capabilities you need to streamline your operations from receiving through shipping.

DistributionView has changed the warehouse from a storage place to a critical link in what makes an efficient supply chain work.

DistributionView can convert your warehouses from expensive storage facilities into efficient links in the supply chain.

Reengineering the WMS
A warehouse management system (WMS) that tracked inventory within four walls used to be sufficient. But no longer. Today’s systems must provide real-time tracking, coordination, direction and accurate information about operations both inside and outside the four walls. Today’s facilities are more complex than ever due to the integration of automated equipment, higher order volumes and shorter lead-times. IBM DistributionView integrates your facility by acting as the focal point for external processes, automated equipment, management and employees. DistributionView provides the accurate, real-time information when, where and the the format needed. From real-time RF direction and tracking to complex item unit of measure (UOM) movement-based velocity slotting, DistributionView has the integrated functionality necessary to make your facility more efficient. DistributionView contributes directly to your bottom line by facilitating higher productivity both from the facility and your employees. That translates into reduced operating expenses and the ability to avoid new capital expenditures.

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**Designed for change...built to last**
Based on a distributed, client/server architecture, IBM DistributionView is an object-oriented application in both design and implementation. What this means to you is that DistributionView is scalable and flexible. DistributionView’s distributed architecture allows it to take advantage of additional equipment -- so it can grow right along with you. Object-oriented design means that initial installation modifications to your unique specifications are fast and they don’t interfere with future version upgrades. Your investment in special functions is safe -- and there are no recurring costs to port your changes to the next version! It also means that (if we don’t already) we can support your favorite VT-220 capable RF equipment, bar code printers, conveyors, pick-to-light, A-frame, carousel and ASRS systems.

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**DistributionView’s scalable architecture**

**Small Site Configuration**
- Personal Computer
- Packlist / Bill of Lading Printer
- Label Printer (optional equipment)
- RF Access Points
- RF Terminals

**Large Site Configuration**
- Host Systems
- Defined Transactions (via Web server)
- Wide Area Network
- PC Workstations (unlimited number)
- PC Servers (as required)
- RF Access Points (as required for coverage)
- RF Terminals (unlimited number)
- AIX Database (unlimited number)
- Printers (unlimited number)
**Increase Productivity**

DistributionView’s real-time inventory tracking system can help you reduce putaway time by assigning the best space locations to receive new inventory. It also automatically matches work allocations to picking area requirements. In addition, the system can reduce pick time by creating the most efficient path to merchandise on the warehouse floor.

**A wide range of applications and benefits**

Unlike many other WMS systems, DistributionView was not developed for a specific industry. Rather, its applications are controlling warehouse merchandise as diverse as hardware, repair parts, small appliances, electronics, consumer goods, drugs, medical supplies and food goods.

**Key Benefits**

- Real-time inventory tracking
- Increased productivity
- Reduced putaway time
- Efficient picking area allocation
- Lower operating costs
- Improved merchandise access
Efficient space and location management
DistributionView’s locating and picking algorithms automatically ‘clean up’ inventory that is no longer optimally located. In addition to assuring that the last bit of unused storage volume is filled and picking clean the inevitable partial locations. DistributionView also manages velocity movements. When an Item’s velocity changes, during normal order picking and receipts, DistributionView will automatically ‘dry up’ any inventory in locations that don’t match the new velocity and begin locating to new locations that do match -- no non-value-add moves or rewarehousing required!

DistributionView incorporates all standard warehouse functions plus...• User and System directed putaway• User and System directed picking• Integrated ‘opportunity’ cycle counts• True Item and Item/Location velocity management• User configurable order release criteria• Real-time workload management• Integrated Small Parcel and LTL shipping user interface• Configurable employee Hazmat notification• Employee activity/utilization tracking• Internet interface• Configurable security levels and groups• User-specific language display
Functionality rich and easy to configure

DistributionView was designed to be easy to use and easy for users to configure. DistributionView puts you in control of all aspects of your facilities’ operations. To name just a few, at will you can:

- Configure four different levels of Item locating control. Items can use the warehouse default locating rules or you may specify Item Category or Item UOM locating rules. You can even specify ‘best fit’ location types for an Item UOM and completely over-ride locating rules.
- Specify and configure any of four types of replenishment. Distribution View can be configured to generate ‘Hot’ replenishments during order allocation. It also supports ‘primary’ replenishments, ‘fixed location’ replenishments and ‘off-site’ replenishments.
- Specify the exact criteria to use in selecting orders for release. Select orders from the order pool based on any order attribute.
- Configure batches by area by release. Distribution View allows you to change ‘batch’ creation settings for any pick area on any/every release.
- Specify the schedules for automating order releases. Distribution View allows you to define schedules for any combination of days of the week, start and stop times of day and number of releases between the start and stop time.
- Initiate one-button Item/Unit of Measure velocity management. Distribution View supports true velocity management. With the click of a single button see the Items that have changed velocity and instruct Distribution View to correct their locating rules without non-value-add move effort!
- Specify and delineate areas for statistics collection. Distribution View collects a wide range of activity-based statistics based on configured areas. You are free to configure an area to include any number of locations, receiving or shipping docks.

Move into the new millennium with DistributionView’s paperless inventory control system
Information, not Data

With Distribution View, those giant printed reports lining your office are a thing of the past! Distribution View gives you real time, accurate information that you can use - not reports that clutter your office. The following is just some of the information that you can view at any time. You can:

- View current and future inbound and outbound workload by area. You see how many people are actively working in each area (you can even see who they are) along with pending and completed tasks and projected completion time.
- View current, last and historical individual employee activity. On one screen you see all the users, their current and previous tasks, and how long they have been working each. From the user utilization screen you can call up a user's past performance records for any portion of the last year -- a day, week, month…whatever you want.
- View current and past facility activity. Distribution View tracks your operations just like it tracks your employees. You can view facility production information for any period over the last year.
- View item and location history for the last 18 months -- for any item see all the locations where it was stored over the last 18 months. For any location, see all the items it stored for the last 18 months.
- View item adjustment and cycle count history for the last 18 months. See who adjusted or counted the item and when as well as the adjustment or cycle count quantity.

IBM Support

The combination of DistributionView's features and IBM's worldwide service offerings provides you with one-stop-shopping for your company. IBM Global Services (IGS) can provide global implementation and integrate DistributionView to your ERP, MES, or 'home grown' Host systems. IGS also provides round-the-clock 24/7 DistributionView support via 1-800 number.

For more information

To learn more about how IBM's DistributionView can help you operate your facilities, contact your local IBM representative or call 1-800-823-7200 anywhere in the US and Canada.

Or you can e-mail us at: DView@us.ibm.com