

Contactless auto-labeling solution

Ricoh Laser Rewritable Labeling System

Application Case Study

Hitachi Transport System Metropolitan Co., Ltd.

MINISTOP Co., Ltd. Yachiyo Distribution Center

[Overview]

Name: Yachiyo Distribution Center

Location: Chiba, Japan

Gross floor space:

Approx. 69,300m² (746,000 SQF)

Structure: Four story building



Realized automated tote labeling system to reduce labor cost while eliminating label waste at a distribution center

Utilizing contactless laser technology, it is possible to print and erase images on labels pre-applied to reusable and recirculating plastic totes.

This system realizes a labeling process with no manual work involved.

Customer Value

Full Automation

Clean Operation

Sustainability

Before Conventional Operation

< Problems >

- Time consuming labeling process
- Unclean workspace with adhesive residue and label waste
- Environmental impact by label waste



Labor Intensive Operation

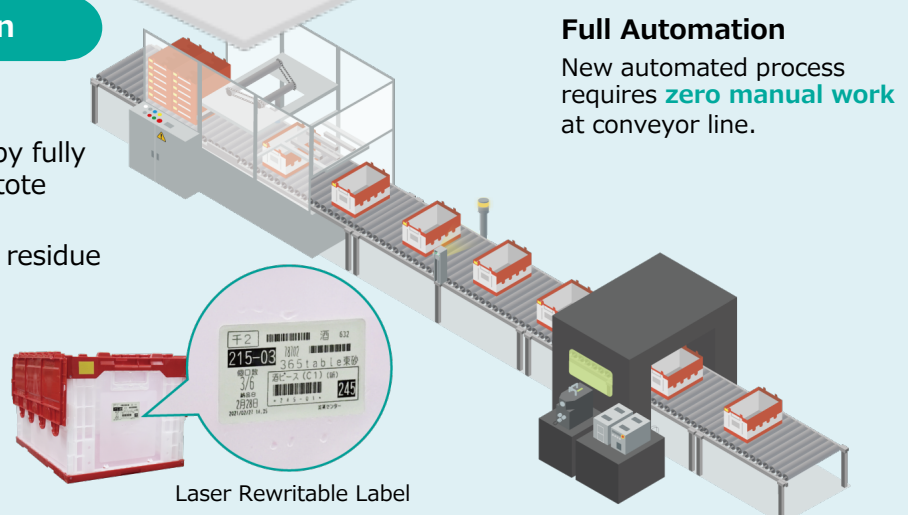
The conventional line required three workers to unfold totes, and to apply labels by hand at conveyor line.

Paper label

After Renewed Operation

< Solutions >

- Improved process efficiency by fully automated line coupled with tote unfolding equipment
- Clean operation with no label residue and waste
- Environmentally-friendly distribution center with zero label waste



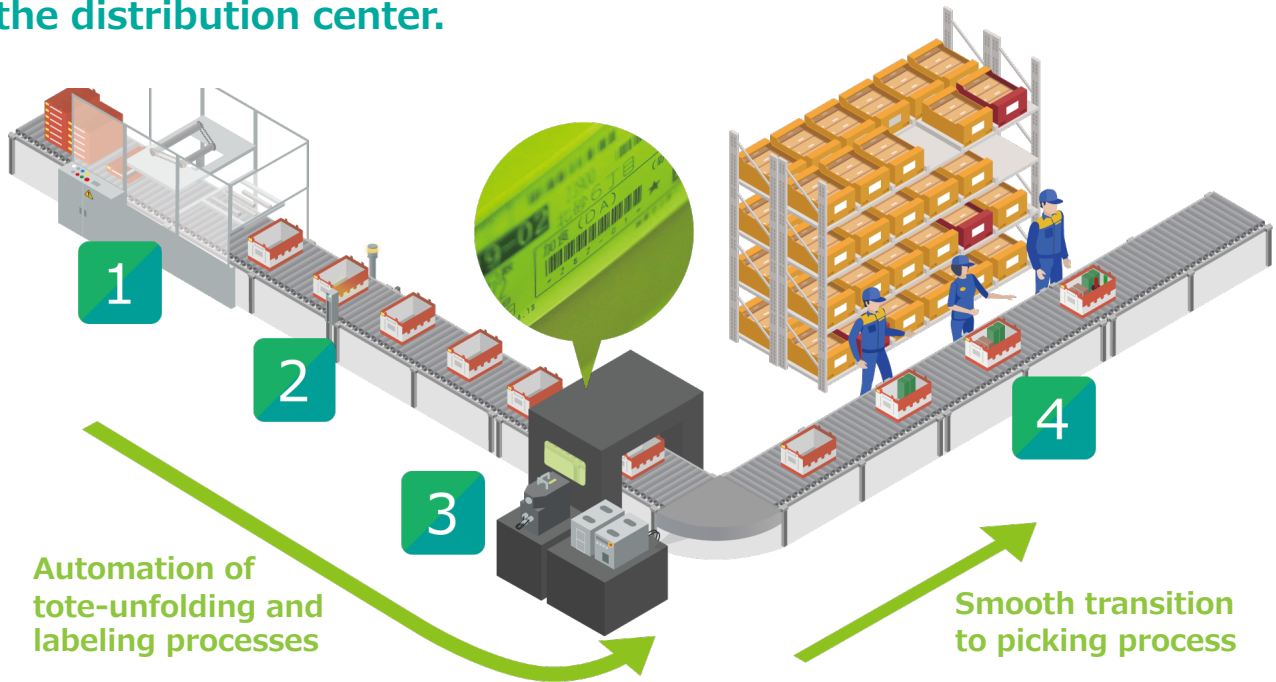
Full Automation

New automated process requires **zero manual work** at conveyor line.

Laser Rewritable Label

More info on the other side

The contactless labeling system improves the working environment at the distribution center.



1 Tote Unfolding Equipment



Totes are automatically unfolded and transported to the next process.

2 Color Sensor



Color sensor detects the yellow mark on the totes to determine if the rewritable labels are correctly facing the Laser Rewritable System.

3 Laser Rewritable Labeling System



Laser Rewritable System erases the old image and prints new information immediately after.

4 Picking Process



DPS (Digital Picking System) guides operators to place ordered goods into totes. After picking is completed, the filled totes are delivered to each store indicated on the rewritable label.

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RICOH
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