



CASE STUDY: CITY OF SACRAMENTO, DOT (TRAFFIC SIGNS AND MARKINGS)

FAST 5000 Real Customers, Real Results

It isn't just a machine; it's a full-service inventory control solution that's helping customers:

- Reduce consumption by controlling and tracking who uses what
- Improve productivity by providing 24/7 access to product at the point of use
- Automate ordering – the local Fastenal store receives an automated order when stock runs low, eliminating stock-outs and PO's
- Know what they need to know about every transaction – user-defined tracking options allow customers to track each transaction by group, job, cost center, and other meaningful criteria



FAST 5000

"Previously, we simply had cases of batteries in closets, and they may disappear a case at a time. Now, there's none of that. Batteries are stocked in the machines, we don't run out, and we only pay for what we use through Fastenal."

-Tom Webber, Operations Manager, City of Sacramento Dept. of Transportation, Traffic Signs and Markings

Department Overview

Sacramento's Traffic Signs and Markings division is responsible for 100,000 traffic signs, markings for approximately 3,000 miles of roadways, and more than 5,000 parking meter posts.

Challenges

In an effort to maximize taxpayer dollars, Sacramento's city manager issued a mandate to improve inventory control in the city's departments. This required new ideas and processes for Traffic Signs and Markings, where product was simply stored in a shed and signed out by workers on an honor basis.

The FAST 5000 Solution

A FAST 5000 machine was set up to vend consumables like duct tape, ear plugs, sunscreen, batteries and safety gloves.

- To access product, a worker scans his or her proximity card and enters an ID code
- Restrictions are set based on employee allocation codes – workers can only access products needed for their jobs
- Fastenal receives automated orders, keeps the FAST 5000 filled, and owns the inventory until it's vended
- Management reviews live usage and inventory data online and receives automated reports

Key Business Results (in the words of Operations GM Tom Webber)

- **Improved inventory control** – "We know exactly who made a transaction and when they made the purchase"
- **Reduced inventory** – "So now I don't have rows and rows of rows of different sizes that may or may not be used ... Why tie capital up in that when you don't need to?"
- **Better productivity** – "This has added a lot of efficiency, especially when you think about the costs if we had a person behind a counter handing out items and trying to track inventory"

Based on the results of this pilot program, additional FAST 5000 machines have been deployed at the City of Sacramento's Department of Utilities and Department of Recreation. The DOT's Urban Forest Services division is also slated for a FAST 5000 installation.

FASTENAL®

Calculate your potential savings by searching for "FAST 5000" at fastenal.com. Contact your local store to learn more.



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