

CASE STUDY: WATERLOO INDUSTRIES

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

"Inventory is easier to keep on hand and easier to count and reorder. Tool crib attendants spend more time showing cost savings, writing PO's, billing, etc. ... Corporate and department heads love it. They get automated reports about usage. They also love that tool crib attendants no longer have to make a judgment call about giving out additional gloves."

- Charlie Dillon, Tool Crib Manager

Company Overview

Waterloo Industries is the world's largest supplier of tool storage products, with 440 employees and two plants spanning one million sq. ft. of manufacturing and warehouse space. Waterloo's tool crib is managed by Fastenal.

Challenges

- Glove consumption was out of control, costing Waterloo \$13,000–\$15,000 per month
- Workers were spending too much time "standing and handing" at the tool crib
- Tool crib attendants were spending an estimated 75% of their time handing out gloves and were being forced to make judgment calls as to who could check them out

The FAST 5000 Solution

To help streamline disbursement and control wasteful usage, Fastenal's in-plant service team implemented two FAST 5000v machines stocked with gloves. Program features include:

- Access is controlled via employee ID badge, providing complete usage accountability
- Items restricted by classification and previous usage
- Tool crib manager can view real-time inventory, machine functions, and usage data online
- Corporate and department heads receive custom, automated usage reports
- Automated ordering and replenishment through Fastenal

Key Business Results

- Tool crib attendants went from spending 75% of their time handing out gloves to spending 10% of their time repackaging them for the machine
- Dramatically improved visibility into usage
- In the first month of use, glove consumption went from more than \$13,000 to \$9,200

FASTENAL®

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

Growth Through Customer Service



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