

Editorial

Welcome to this edition of the Agilistics Newsletter. You may notice a few changes to our business namely the development of two new brands; Independent Racking Inspections and Audits (IRIA) and Project Logistics Australasia (PLA). IRIA completes racking inspections and audits for a range of companies and PLA delivers all types of projects across Australia and New Zealand.

The addition of these brands has provided a range of flexibility for both us and our clients. Flexibility is the key to a successful operation in the modern business environment. We live in a time of unprecedented economic growth with almost full employment and unparalleled prosperity. In order to maintain our competitive advantage we need to look at different ways to run our businesses. This includes the hours we operate, the staff we employ and possibly even the time lines that our businesses operate within.

Flexibility in the workplace allows for the employment of staff that would otherwise not fit in. Flexibility means that businesses become family friendly in the true sense of the word. And finally flexibility can potentially provide a happier workplace for all.

Mark Holding, Principal - Agilistics

[TO SEE THE NEW AGILISTICS CORPORATE BROCHURE CLICK HERE](#)



**Racking
Audit Self
Assessment**

[CLICK
HERE](#)

Recapturing your Supply Chain data

Outsourcing parts of the Supply Chain has disrupted the flow of critical data. Targeted IT investments can restore what's missing.

It has never been simple to manage the information that flows through a product Supply Chain. Companies must work closely with suppliers, Logistics providers, distributors, and retailers to collect and manage information about customer demand, sales orders, distribution schedules, production planning, manufacturing, sourcing, and product design.

Aditya Pande, Ramesh Raman,
and Vats Srivatsan

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Mobile RFID Readers

Until recently, there have only been two options for tracking assets with RFID read points - permanently fixed readers for choke point reading, and handheld readers for on the spot reading. The mobile RFID read point will help you track your assets wherever they are in the Supply Chain instead of only when they reach defined points along their path.

March 2007
www.motorola.com

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ARTICLE CLICK HERE](#)

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Corporate Governance Codes

Corporate governance codes have effects at both the micro and macro levels; they serve as benchmarks for monitoring and implementing policy and practice within companies and restore investor confidence in markets. Fundamentals for winning investor confidence include ensuring adequate corporate disclosure, guaranteeing investor rights, and ensuring sound board practices.

Using diverse case studies and tools for everything from establishing crafting committees to evaluating the efficacy of codes, this toolkit provides practical guidance on creating and revising codes to fit diverse and dynamic corporate environments.

<http://www.gcgf.org>
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[TO READ FULL
ARTICLE CLICK HERE](#)

Improving field service productivity

Real-time information can help companies manage 'invisible' employees.

If a paramount challenge for managers is motivating employees to meet and exceed an organisation's goals, that objective can be particularly hard when it comes to managing the field service staff. In recent years, much thinking has focused on ways to improve the productivity of these invisible employees, who work out of view, often at their own pace, in industries such as cable, courier services, high-tech consumer equipment security, and telecommunications.

Timothy D. Morse,
Mitesh Prema,
and
Jonathan Shulman
The McKinsey Quarterly
July 2007

[TO READ FULL
ARTICLE CLICK HERE](#)



Warehouse and beyond

The warehouse is at the centre of your business, a key area through which nearly everything in your business must pass — from packages in a parcel post environment to raw materials and finished goods in a manufacturing plant to a wealth of products in a distribution centre. When mobility is extended throughout your warehouse, a new level of efficiency, accuracy and visibility is achieved.

Paper processes are replaced by real-time computerized forms on mobile computers; bar code scanning enables checks and double checks that the right item is being picked, packed and shipped; RFID provides automatic tracking of materials without human intervention.

www.symbol.com
info@symbol.com

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Measuring Up All Together Now

By Kate Vitasek, Supply Chain Visions

No two successful performance management programs are the same, but all successful performance management programs share common principles. To shed light on what separates a good company from a great company with regard to performance management DC Velocity have published an article on one of the 12 Commandments of Successful Performance Management.

The Seventh Commandment
Integrate: Make sure everybody's working towards the same goals.

This article was first published in
DC VELOCITY and can be viewed
at www.dcvelocity.com

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Applying lean to application development and maintenance

Lean techniques, originally developed to reduce waste in manufacturing, are boosting performance in more and more service environments.

Noah B Kindler, Vasantha
Krishnakanthan and Ranjit Tinaikar
Spring 2007
McKinsey & Company

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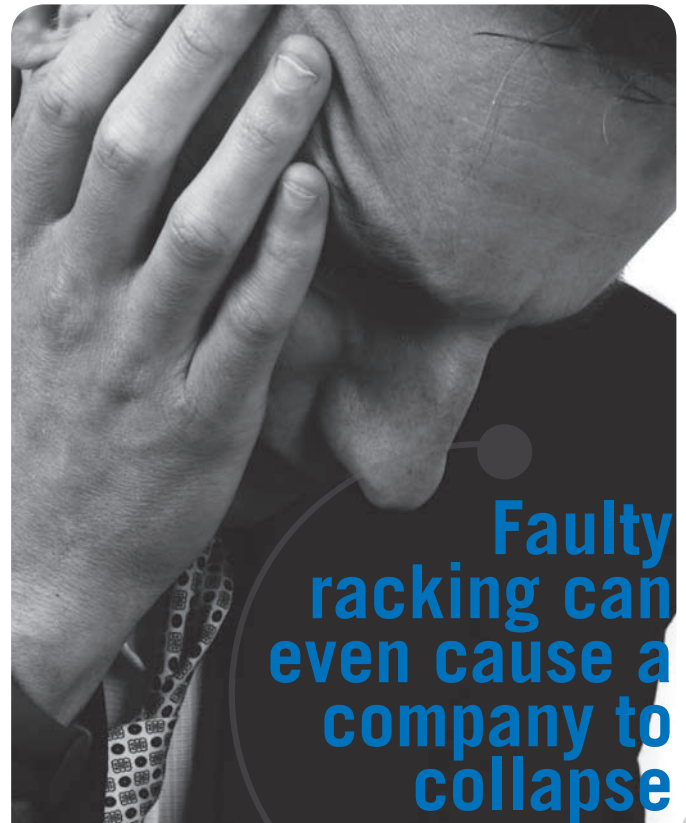
UGRs®: The Way We Really Do Things Around Here

Recently, the 248-page report of the Accident Investigation Board into the Columbia space shuttle disaster, in which seven people lost their lives, was made public. The report was divided into two broad sections. One section reported on the technical issues that led to a tile coming off the shuttle, and subsequently to the ultimate destruction of the craft.

The other section of the report was dedicated to the cultural aspects of NASA that needed to be attended to. Specifically, the report identified the following four problems with NASA's culture: Reliance on past success as a substitute for sound engineering practices.

By Steve Simpson CSP
Keystone Management Services
info@keystone-management.com

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**Faulty
racking can
even cause a
company to
collapse**

Racking Audit Technology (RAT) Developed to Aid Industry in Making Steel Pallet Racking Safe.

Independent Racking Inspections and Audits reduce the risk associated with the safe management of your steel pallet racking. Utilising state of the art processes and technology IRIA provides regular, unbiased, fully documented racking inspections and audits.

IRIA has developed the first locally produced mobile computing solution aimed at keeping steel storage racking safe. The system has been developed in conjunction with key providers and clients ensure that all identified faults are recorded and captured for storage in a centralised database. Integral to the system is the ability to print a damage report on site upon completion of an inspection.

Mark Holding, a Manager with Agilistics said,

"This is the first locally produced hand held software application that ensures all identified racking faults are recorded in a standard format and stored on a centralised data base. In addition, clients are able to get a printed report on site upon completion of the inspection as well as access their audit results via the internet. This is completely at odds with the current inspection regimes completed within the sector."

IRIA fully support both the Australian Standard for Steel Storage Racking as well as the European FEM standard.

Holding went on to say,

"Many companies with Steel Storage Racking in their business do not realise their responsibilities within the Australian Standard. These responsibilities include annual inspections of all installed racking. In addition, many State Government OH&S Authorities require that businesses be able to demonstrate a clear and auditable trail of inspections and repairs."

Agilistics have worked with a range of clients within Australia to support them in compliance with both the Australian Standard and the European FEM Standard. For further information on racking audits and the RAT system please call 1300 136 649 or contact:

**Vikki White on
0438 989 060 or
Mark Holding on
0411 641 413**



Agilistics Case Study

Software Analysis and Recommendations

AGILISTICS were asked to support an initiative that defined the differences between the centralised Information Technology (IT) Structures versus Decentralised IT Structures within the Logistics Segment.

The task was completed on behalf of a major supplier of messaging services within the Logistics sector. The client specifically wanted to understand what impacts the various models had on the delivery of service to the end user.

A range of Logistics Sector models were consulted via respected identities within discrete businesses with the client being left with a view of the complete spectrum of centralised and decentralised IT structures.

The analysis involved the following stages:

- ▶ Identification of the client requirement.
- ▶ Identification of the various models within the Logistics sector.
- ▶ Identification of companies within the sector exhibiting the varying models.
- ▶ Development of case studies based upon the sector models and specific to the companies displaying the various IT model.

The client was provided with a report that outlined the requirements, findings and various models existing within the sector.

Third Party Supply Chain Support

AGILISTICS was approached by a national clothing retailer to assist in the assessment of the current performance of their Supply Chain. With a presence in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland the company was experiencing rapid growth and quickly realised that Supply Chain issues were a major constraint in their expansion plans.

The company sourced all merchandise from South East Asia and imported via LCL and FCL container directly into a third party warehouse for distribution throughout Australia. Working to strict time lines and short life cycles the company's success was based on bringing a new range of clothing to the market every two to three weeks.

As part of first stage the company chose to review its contractual arrangements with its outsourced logistics providers and at this point AGILISTICS were asked to assist. AGILISTICS reviewed the entire Supply Chain via both a process modelling methodology and a Supply Chain cost model. This process highlighted a number of key deficiencies within the current Supply Chain.

With this information AGILISTICS were able to assess the third party component of the Supply Chain from a process, service and a cost perspective. Having completed the assessment it was decided, in consultation with the client to re-tender the third party warehousing component of the Supply Chain.

[CLICK HERE FOR MORE CASE STUDIES](#)



Project Logistics is the project management arm of the Agilistics Group. Qualified in Prince2 Project Management Project Logistics has delivered a range of tasks for clients. These range from the relocation and consolidation of a distribution network through to the design and project management of a number of new facilities including facilities incorporating manufacturing. Project Logistics is dedicated to the effective delivery of projects within the scope of the clients requirements.

Project Logistics is qualified to and delivers within the bounds of the Prince2 Project Philosophy. Prince2 is a UK based process which is driven by the business case. Prince2 has been adopted by many organisations as well as many Governments including both state and federal in Australia. Project Logistics can deliver anything from a new Logistics facility through to a detailed tender.

Case Studies

Case 1

A major biscuit manufacturer needed to expand its operation. Project Logistics Supported this organisation by designing and implementing the distribution, materials handling and temperature controlled facilities. This project involved a multitude of skills including conveyor design, automated pallet wrapping and freezer design.

Case 2

A market leading manufacturer/importer identified the need to move its distribution operation. Project Logistics worked with the firm to identify land, develop a design, project manage the construction and installation of all services and move into the new facility. The new facility incorporated a number of unique concepts including dedicated pedestrian pick lanes and the accommodation of scan pack requirements.

It is our aim to continue to provide a relevant and informative newsletter. Your feedback is encouraged to aid us in the on-going development of the newsletter. Please contact us with any comments or feedback.

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