

## ATLAS CONTAINER IMPROVES ACCURACY & SAVES TIME WITH BAR-CODED INVENTORY MANAGEMENT



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Chief Financial Officer  
Atlas Container

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### CUSTOMER SPOTLIGHT

#### At-a-Glance

- Industry: Manufacturer of corrugated packaging and display products
- Location: Severn, MD, USA
- [www.atlascontainer.com](http://www.atlascontainer.com)

#### Key Challenges

- Accurate finished goods tracking & warehouse inventory counts
- Time consuming monthly physical inventory counts
- Ability to find finished goods quickly in their warehouse
- Access to information for customer support on customer order & inventory status

#### Solution

- Solarsoft's SmarTrak Bar-Coded Inventory Tracking & Management Software Solution

#### Key Benefits

- Accurate, real-time, inventory information
- Quick location of products in the warehouse
- Easy spotting of important inventory trends
- Elimination of 150 man-hours monthly

## Atlas Container Corporation

As a manufacturer of high-quality corrugated packaging and display products, the Maryland-based Atlas Container Corporation produces all sizes of plain brown boxes to litho-mounted point-of-purchase displays, and everything in between.

Prior to Solarsoft, Atlas was tracking their 5-million-square-foot of inventory using physical counts and manual spreadsheets. No longer satisfied with this time-consuming method and their inventory accuracy, Atlas turned to Solarsoft's SmarTrak bar-coded inventory tracking and management software solution. Atlas now bar codes and scans finished goods to provide its employees with real-time, accurate inventory information.

### Save Time with SmarTrak

"The SmarTrak installation has been a real success for us," says Chad Krewson, Chief Financial Officer at Atlas Container. "We've been able to eliminate about 150 man-hours every month since the implementation. These are hours that our team would spend looking for inventory, updating the spreadsheets that we used to track inventory status and locations, and conducting physical inventory counts.

In the warehouse, Atlas employs wireless forklift-mounted terminals and hand-held scanners to keep tight control of their inventory. The technology enables the people to view the production progress in real time. That means that the foreman no longer needs to leave the forklift and go to the office to check on progress.

"In the past we didn't always know exactly where something was or how much inventory we had on hand," says Mike Driver, Shipping Manager. "Sometimes we would spend hours in the warehouse looking for just one item. Now we just pull up the details in the system and know exactly where to find an item and our remaining quantity."

Driver adds that SmarTrak has helped the shipping team improve the accuracy of counts. "When we load a truck, there were times when the driver would arrive at the destination and the count on the bill of lading would be incorrect. That doesn't happen anymore."

### Spot Inventory Trends

Atlas Container integrates SmarTrak with Solarsoft's HRMS business software for corrugated packaging manufacturers, enabling Atlas' customer service representatives to instantly check the status of inventory for customers and prospects.

"With SmarTrak, we have instant access to the information we need. We know what we have on-hand and what we need to manufacture," says Mary Austin, Customer Service Manager at Atlas Container. "We're no longer waiting around for physical counts, or spending time walking around the warehouse looking for things."

Austin goes on to explain that she has a warehouse customer she ships to daily. With SmarTrak, Austin no longer has to spend 30 minutes a day updating manual spreadsheets to record what the customer ordered, what was shipped, what remains in the inventory, and what has to be restocked.

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Customer Service Manager  
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"I set the minimum quantity threshold in the software," explains Austin. "When I enter a release in the system, SmarTrak sends an alert if the inventory has reached that minimum quantity, so I know it's time to restock."

Austin also runs a Finished Goods report twice a week, just to make sure she didn't miss any alerts or isn't about to run out of items. "It's a good way to check for human error. It only takes 5 to 10 minutes and I'm done."

### Achieve Goals

According to Austin, "SmarTrak's real-time visibility has really helped us bring our inventory value and quantity down in the warehouse, which is one of our ultimate goals."

"Now everybody has access to real-time, accurate information, and we know exactly where everything is just by looking in the system. Making good decisions is all about having access to good data," concludes Krewson.