BINMASTER

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Case Study:
Agrochemicals Plant Transforms Tank Inventory

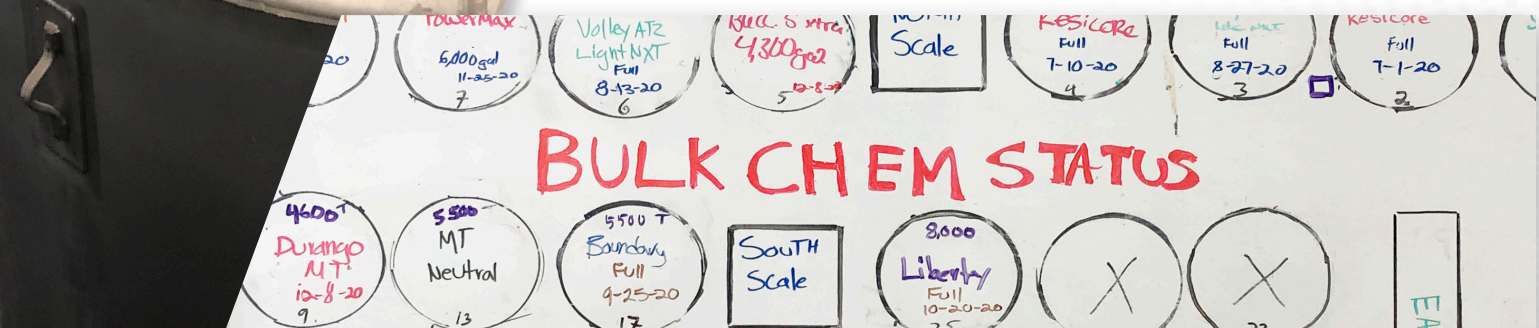
The Company

This agrochemicals company has over 150 stainless steel tanks, most are 20 to 30 feet tall. It supplies high-quality agricultural chemicals, fertilizers, seed treatments, and biological nutrition to farms.

The Challenge

Plant personnel were hustling and stressed with inventory turning over rapidly. Purchasers were challenged keeping up with orders and deliveries. Blending operations were frustrated as inventory wasn't always current and what they needed was low or out of stock.

The tanks have no ladders making it difficult and dangerous to climb and measure tanks. Chemicals may emit dangerous fumes if tanks are opened for level measurement. Some tanks levels were tracked on a white board with a Sharpie.



The Solution

Compact non-contact radar level sensors that perform automated tank level measurement, providing accurate distance readings within 0.2”. The sensors and software update levels continuously without the use of manpower. Data is sent to the on-premise Binventory® software program where it is accessed by the purchasing and production personnel from the plant’s computer network.

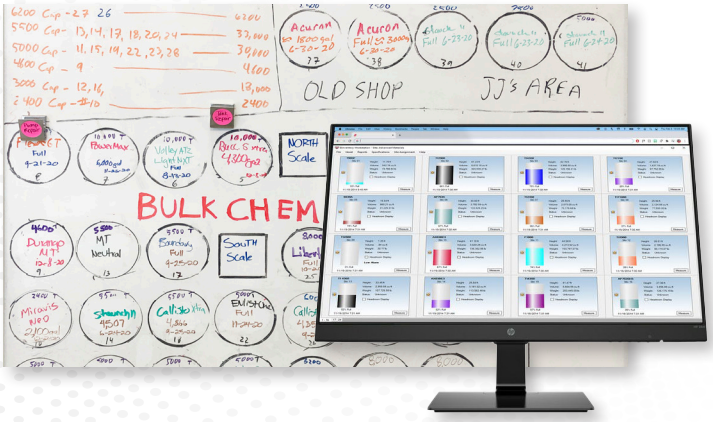
This customer started with about 40 of their most critical tanks, but the system is easily scalable and the plant plans to expand the solution to all of their tanks.

- They ***stopped manually measuring tanks***.
- Inventory was updated without anyone climbing a ladder.
- Occupational risks are reduced by eliminating climbing tanks and fume exposure.
- Tanks are sorted by chemicals in the software, so they know now much of each chemical is on hand at a glance.
- Inventory can be accessed on ***any*** of the networked computers.
- Everyone sees the same data, which is constantly updating.
- They can view or run reports ***whenever they need them,*** to know what’s getting low.
- Blending can count on having the chemicals they need on hand.
- Less stress for purchasing and suppliers with ***fewer last-minute orders.***

In Conclusion

Time taking inventory was cut by 75%. Ordering got easier, knowing how much to order and when it’s needed. Delivery schedules got more efficient with fewer emergencies, reducing costs. Shorter lead times and fewer out-of-stock situations improved customer satisfaction.

The whiteboard got trashed.



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