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Naval Construction Battalion Center

# Warehouse Management System

## Naval Construction Battalion Center

The Naval Construction Battalion Center in Gulfport, Mississippi is one of two primary naval facilities charged with the procurement, warehousing, maintenance, and distribution/deployment of items related to the needs of the Naval Construction Battalion ('SeaBee' or 'CB') units. Everything which might be required for a deployed CB unit to construct a landing strip, runway, helicopter landing pad, or Headquarters-type Camp – complete with all of the basic amenities – is available from the 15+ warehouse buildings (2 million square feet) at the NCBC facility. Items from heavy equipment (earthmovers, cranes, bulldozers, and dump trucks) to support and supply items (plumbing and electrical supplies, bolts, nuts, nails, and tools) to replacement parts for vehicles and equipment (water pumps, filters, headlight bulbs, hoses, belts, etc.) are managed and distributed from the facility's 15+ (2 million square feet) warehouse buildings.

## The Task

SYS-TEC Corporation was tasked with providing a real-time Warehouse Management System (WMS) to help facilitate the movement of items throughout Gulfport's operations. Prior to the SYS-TEC solution, the receipt, stow, picking and shipping procedures at Gulfport were nearly exclusively 'paper-driven' processes. A myriad of multiple-copy forms were used to manually manage all operational procedures, with data later hand-keyed into a batch-based host inventory system.

## The SYS-TEC Solution

Working closely with NCBC warehouse operations and IT staffs, SYS-TEC customized their core WMS application to accommodate Gulfport's unique needs with a real-time, 2.4 GHz radio frequency solution – complete with secure encryption features so transmitted RF data cannot be intercepted. The WMS solution – via a customized interface routine – receives a daily data import of all 'due in' items for receiving, as well as items scheduled for picking and subsequent shipment to various CB units. Inbound items are labeled with barcodes and stows are performed 'real-time' – with the system guiding the users to locations already containing the item to be stowed. Picking of outbound orders is being performed electronically, and portable RF printers are generating barcode labels (at the time of picking) to be used 'downstream' in the packing/shipping processes – as well as by end-users in the field. All WMS activities are queued up and the daily information passed back to the Host system in a nightly batch run.



## Looking to the future

Utilizing on-screen and hard-copy reports, queries, and other feature of the WMS solution, users can view real-time information relating to all aspects of the warehouse operations. The system's discreet activity logs will also help Gulfport in trend analysis studies, guiding them on ways to improve efficiencies in all areas for the future.

