Automating Last Inch Handoff into Self-Serve Success

Presented by:
Brian McClure – Tractor Supply
Jon Liberman – Manhattan Associates
Scott Medford - Apex
Opportunity

- 24/7 and 24/5 facilities → back to back shifts make it difficult to staff RF rooms
- Centralized location creates inefficiencies
- Need reduction in manual effort, better asset control managing check in/out of hardware
Solution Approach

• DC GM built a compelling business case for implementation. Cabinets: key to optimizing device management

• Piloted Apex cabinets in new DC in NY - just under 1MM square feet

• Positive feedback from pilot within the first 3 months; helped drive decision to expand to other facilities

• Given success of first installation, we plan to deploy across our remaining distribution facilities
Impact

• Efficiency due to decentralization of cabinets within the DCs
• Supervisors able to do shift prep instead of issuing hardware
• Plan ahead for peak – Flexibility of hardware type & quantity
Before and After
Other Results

- Increased accountability (reduction in shrink and damage)
- Future expansion – at the cabinet level or at facility level
Taking automation beyond last inch

- Tight Labor Markets
- Need for more Capacity
- Fulfillment as a Competitive Weapon
Trends in Asset Management

- Tie People to Assets
- More efficient check-in and check-out
- Accountability
Key Takeaways

• The cost of doing nothing is not nothing

• Communication across the organization is key to success

• ROI can come in many shapes and sizes
For more information:

Brian McClure: bmcclure@tractorsupply.com
website: www.tractorsupply.com

Jon Liberman: jliberman@mahn.com
website: www.mahn.com

Scott Medford: scott.medford@apexsupplychain.com
website: www.apexsupplychain.com