

DEVELOPING AN EFFICIENT WAREHOUSING OPERATION SYSTEM: AN EXPERT SYSTEM APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

Distribution systems for miscellaneous case goods stored and retrieved in public or private warehousing offer an excellent opportunity to study and document rules for efficient warehousing operation. A study of a large distribution center having over 100,000 storage locations for general and special merchandise was conducted. The warehouse contained storage for general merchandise as well as segregated areas for items requiring special handling such as liquids, food and fabric items. The study describes the documentation and development of decision rules depending on the product handled and pallet strategy used.