FabricareManager

Drycleaning Management at Your Fingertips

Fabricare Assembly Manager

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Fabricare Assembly Manager

Fabricare Assembly Manager is a new add-on feature of Fabricare Manager that is quick, user-friendly and cost efficient. It has all the advantages of an automated assembly conveyor but at a much lower cost. You can easily change your existing assembly area to use Fabricare Assembly Manager. Because of the system's built-in efficiencies, in all likelihood you can save space in the assembly area if you take advantage of its automatic splitting capabilities. Let's review the components and benefits of Fabricare Assembly Manager.
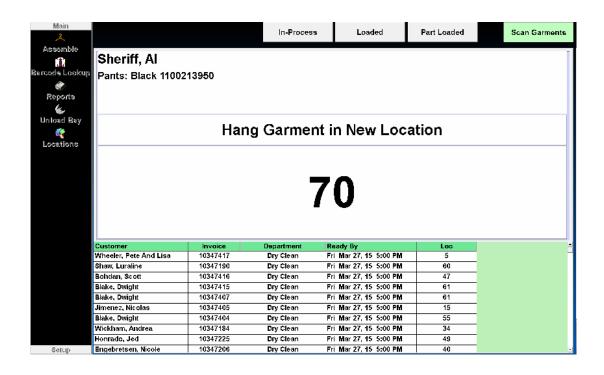
Anyone wanting to use this system will need to first consider garment barcoding, which can be done using permanent or temporary barcodes, or a combination of the two. Fabricare Assembly Manager requires a computer, a barcode scanner, invoice printer(s) and a monitor in the assembly bay. You can optionally use a set of speakers or wireless headphones with the system to hear the spoken commands that are also displayed on the screen. Most users of Fabricare Assembly Manager have a 17" or larger monitor. This allows for better visibility by the assembler anywhere in the assembly bay. In the assembly bay you will also need numbered slots, rails or J-hooks to hang orders being assembled. That aspect of the assembly bay is left totally up to you to design as you wish.

Fabricare Assembly Manager is user-friendly and works by simply scanning unique barcodes that were heat-sealed into garments at mark-in. Once a garment is scanned in the assembly bay, the screen will show you in a large font the slot number to hang the garment. If being used, the speakers or headphones will also tell you where to hang the garment at the same time.

Main			In-Process	Loaded	Part Loaded	Scan Garments

Perez, Brett

Golf / T-Shirt: Navy Grey Stripe 1100271679

Hang in location

10

Customer	Invoice	Department	Ready By	Loc
McGuire, Karen	10347267	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	63
Coley, Arthur	10347397	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	38
Ayala, Anita	10347396	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	19
Propper, Tracey	10347361	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	55
Saling, Amanda	10347359	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	39
Price, Robert	10347277	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	
Hickman, Otis	10347234	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	18
Propper, Tracey	10347358	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	37
Sheriff, Al	10347357	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	9
Downard, Trey	10347356	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	25

(Left sidebar: Assemble, Barcode Lookup, Reports, Unload Bay, Locations, Setup)

The system knows if there are other garments left in the order and will assign those garments to the same slot once they are scanned. The slot number displayed on the screen is colored. So if a garment is being hung, the screen will display in White.

Main			In-Process	Loaded	Part Loaded	Scan Garments

Sheriff, Al

Pants: Black 1100213950

Hang Garment in New Location

70

Customer	Invoice	Department	Ready By	Loc
Wheeler, Pete And Lisa	10347417	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	5
Shaw, Luraline	10347190	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	60
Bohdan, Scott	10347416	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	47
Blake, Dwight	10347415	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	61
Blake, Dwight	10347407	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	61
Jimenez, Nicolas	10347405	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	15
Blake, Dwight	10347404	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	55
Wickham, Andrea	10347184	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	34
Honrado, Jed	10347225	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	49
Engebretsen, Nicole	10347206	Dry Clean	Fri Mar 27, 15 5:00 PM	40

(Left sidebar: Assemble, Barcode Lookup, Reports, Unload Bay, Locations, Setup)

If the order is complete, the screen displays in Green. A Red message is displayed if there is an error condition. Also displayed on the screen are the customer's name, garment's full description, mark-in instructions and a list of the prior invoices completed. Clicking your mouse on a completed invoice in the list will show the invoice's detail and allow you to reprint that invoice.

Additionally there are buttons that open up screens that list garments in-process, garments loaded in slots and garments of orders part loaded in slots listing the garments needed to complete the order. You can click your mouse on a garment in any one of these lists to view its parent order's full detail.

Fabricare Assembly Manager is flexible and can be used in a central plant or at multiple plant locations. If you choose to do so, you can set up multiple assembly bays in one plant with, for instance, dry cleaning in one bay and laundry in another. For even more flexibility, you can also divide one bay into several "bay sections" by assigning a slot number range to each bay section. For example, you could assign one bay section to dry cleaning, another to laundry, another to commercial, and so on, all based on your price list department set-up.

Orders assembled using Fabricare Assembly Manager will have their invoices printed in the assembly bay when the order is complete. Assembly orders are not printed at mark-in. You can use multiple printers (8 maximum) in the bay if you wish to print different colored paper for separate stores or departments. Orders for items that are not assembled (comforters, blankets, drapes, etc) are printed at the time of mark-in as you do now.

Fabricare Manager allows you to put as many garments as you like on an invoice at mark-in and then let Fabricare Assembly Manager automatically split those garments into smaller orders as the garments are scanned in the assembly bay. All you need to do is set the maximum number of pieces for the bay (or if using bay sections, a maximum per bay section).
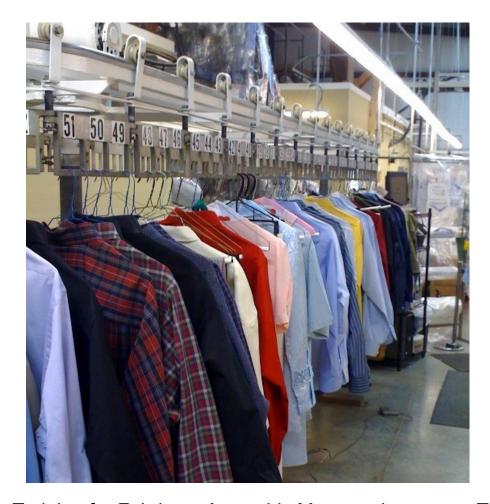
When splitting based on bay sections, you assign a maximum to each section. For example, you might assign all dry cleaning and laundry orders to one section and bulk commercial orders to another. In this case you may want to split the dry cleaning and laundry orders in that bay section at 5 pieces. For the bulk commercial orders such as lab coats, uniforms, etc., you might set the bay section to split at 9999 pieces (or effectively never split bulk orders). This flexibility allows you to create orders of various sizes based on your pricing departments without restricting you to one order size fits all.

Splitting orders is more efficient with Fabricare Assembly Manager. For instance, if you create an order with 25 garments at mark-in and set the split to 5 at assembly, the first five garments of the order scanned will automatically split off, creating and printing a new invoice. This splitting strategy moves garments through assembly quicker by using fewer slots. As soon as Fabricare Assembly Manager prints the invoice and tells you to remove the order from the slot, that slot becomes immediately available again to assemble other orders. Because the system always assigns the lowest available slot number to the next order to be assembled, the need for a large assembly bay is reduced. With splitting, most users need no more than 50 to 60 slots for their assembly bays if lots are reasonably sequenced. Typically no more than 100 slots are ever needed.

At the end of a production day there may be straggler garments. Fabricare Manager has a detailed straggler report that you can print to find garments that must be done by the order's promise date and time. However, if a stained garment has to soak overnight and will be delayed, you might decide to split off the straggler from those garments hanging in the slot. To do this, Fabricare Assembly Manager has an unload screen that allows you to select individual invoices or all remaining invoices for straggler splitting. This allows you to get at least part of a customer's order completed and bagged immediately. When the straggler finally makes it to the bay, it will be invoiced separately. Fabricare Manager's Cash Out screen will tell you that the straggler garment is not ready and still "In Process."

	In-Process	Loaded	Part Loaded	Scan Garments

Customer	Order	Article	Description	Loc
James, Charisse	10347140	1100265788	Pants: Black 1100265788	38
James, Charisse	10347140	1100273756	Pants: Blue 1100273756	38
James, Charisse	10347140	1100145234	Shorts: Green White 1100145234	
James, Charisse	10347140	1100248737	Skirt: Dark Tan 1100248737	38
James, Charisse	10347140	1100280873	Blouse: Green 1100280873	
James, Charisse	10347140	1100218106	Pants: Blue 1100218106	38
Weston, Rhondy	10347145	1100023808	Shorts: Black 1100023808	
Weston, Rhondy	10347145	1100281477	Pants: Navy 1100281477	
Weston, Rhondy	10347145	1100263846	Pants: Tan 1100263646	20
Weston, Rhondy	10347145	1100064381	Pants: Tan 1100064381	
Weston, Rhondy	10347145	1100320545	Pants: Black 1100320545	
Weston, Rhondy	10347146	1100320541	Shirt: Blue Stripe 1100320541	60
Weston, Rhondy	10347146	1100179498	Golf / T-Shirt: Blue Orange White Check 1100179496	
Weston, Rhondy	10347146	1100023907	Shirt: Blue 1100023907	
Weston, Rhondy	10347146	1100064406	Shirt: Lt Blue 1100064406	
Weston, Rhondy	10347146	1100043368	Shirt: Orange 1100043368	
Weston, Rhondy	10347146	1100023871	Shirt: Blue White Orange Stripe 1100023871	
Weston, Rhondy	10347146	1100043372	Shirt: Off White 1100043372	
Weston, Rhondy	10347146	1100023858	Shirt: Blue White Stripe 1100023858	
Weston, Rhondy	10347146	1100043374	Shirt: Green 1100043374	
Weston, Rhondy	10347146	1100023867	Shirt: Tan Red White Stripe 1100023867	80
Weston, Rhondy	10347146	1100246547	Shirt: White 1100246547	
Weston, Rhondy	10347146	1100125434	Shirt: Khaki White Stripe 1100125434	
Weston, Rhondy	10347146	1100023872	Shirt: Lt Blue 1100023872	
Weston, Rhondy	10347146	1100064407	Shirt: Purple 1100064407	
Weston, Rhondy	10347146	1100023854	Shirt: Blue Grey Stripe 1100023854	
Weston, Rhondy	10347147	1100023790	Pants: Khaki 1100023790	55
Weston, Rhondy	10347147	1100125429	Pants: Black 1100125429	
Weston, Rhondy	10347147	1100320558	Pants: Brown 1100320556	55

Main
Assemble
Barcode Lookup
Reports
Unload Bay
Locations
Setup

Training for Fabricare Assembly Manager is a snap. The clerk only needs to scan barcodes, hang them in the slot instructed and wait for a completed message to appear, then remove the order and bag it. It's so simple that anyone can do it.

If you've been considering automated assembly but came to a standstill because of the expense and investment in an assembly conveyor, we would be happy to talk to you about using Fabricare Assembly Manager instead. We can gladly answer any questions you may have, so call us today to get started.

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