

TEXAS PLYWOOD & LUMBER CO.



Founded in 1953, family-owned Texas Plywood & Lumber Company uses Majure Data's Warehouse Management System (WMS), RF Navigator, to optimize warehouse processes and increase inventory accuracy. The system integrates seamlessly into DMSi's comprehensive ERP system, Agility, to improve Texas Plywood & Lumber Co.'s critical order fulfillment activities. "The reorganization of processes in the warehouse has resulted in all resources – money, manpower and machine to be utilized to its optimum level," Texas Plywood & Lumber Co.'s Vice President of Systems and Quality, Missy Isom said.

The Challenge

A DMSi customer for almost 20 years, Texas Plywood & Lumber Co. is a millwork supplier based out of Grand Prairie, Texas. The company has used Agility since 2008 and became interested in RF Navigator to increase warehouse efficiency. "We were tired of searching for items not in stock," Isom added. "We needed a better solution for our warehouse."

The Solution

Texas Plywood & Lumber Co. purchased RF Navigator in 2011 as an enhancement to Agility and found the solution to their warehouse issues. RF Navigator provides complete management of warehouse activities. It is a building materials industry-focused solution that increases employee productivity and inventory accuracy. The strength of RF Navigator and Agility is that they work hand-in-hand to optimize operational performance and help maintain a higher level of control.

"There is no more searching for items not in stock," Isom explained. "With the system, our warehouse is more organized, efficient and cleaner, which translates into more productive employees and improved inventory accuracy." That translates to more money on the bottom line.

Combined with functionality in Agility, WMS has helped Texas Plywood make great strides in maximizing employee productivity. "WMS has allowed us to change the schedule of events," Isom said. "Employees are able to do more different tasks at the same time which means shorter operating hours."

The system provides clearer communication to employees. "Productivity improves when tasks are outlined in the RF Navigator wireless handheld," Isom said. "Employees do not have to decide what is more important or most needed, WMS decides that for them."

Being able to have more control over scheduling events has helped Texas Plywood & Lumber Co. make important adjustments to employee time shifts. "Prior to WMS, our night shift hours were from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.," Isom added. "Because of our ability to change the schedule of events in the warehouse, we have been able to move the night shift two hours earlier. Our ultimate goal is to utilize WMS to permanently eliminate the night shift and to integrate those employees into our day shift."

The company's management level employees have more vision and control of activities using the RF Navigator Dashboard. "Management can get a clear picture of activities, and employees know they are being tracked," Isom added. "The behaviors of employees change when they realize they are being watched and analyzed."

Moving forward, Texas Plywood & Lumber Co. is hoping to achieve even greater results from RF Navigator. "We expect as time goes on to increase inventory accuracy and lower our overall inventory on-hand dollars," Isom said.

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