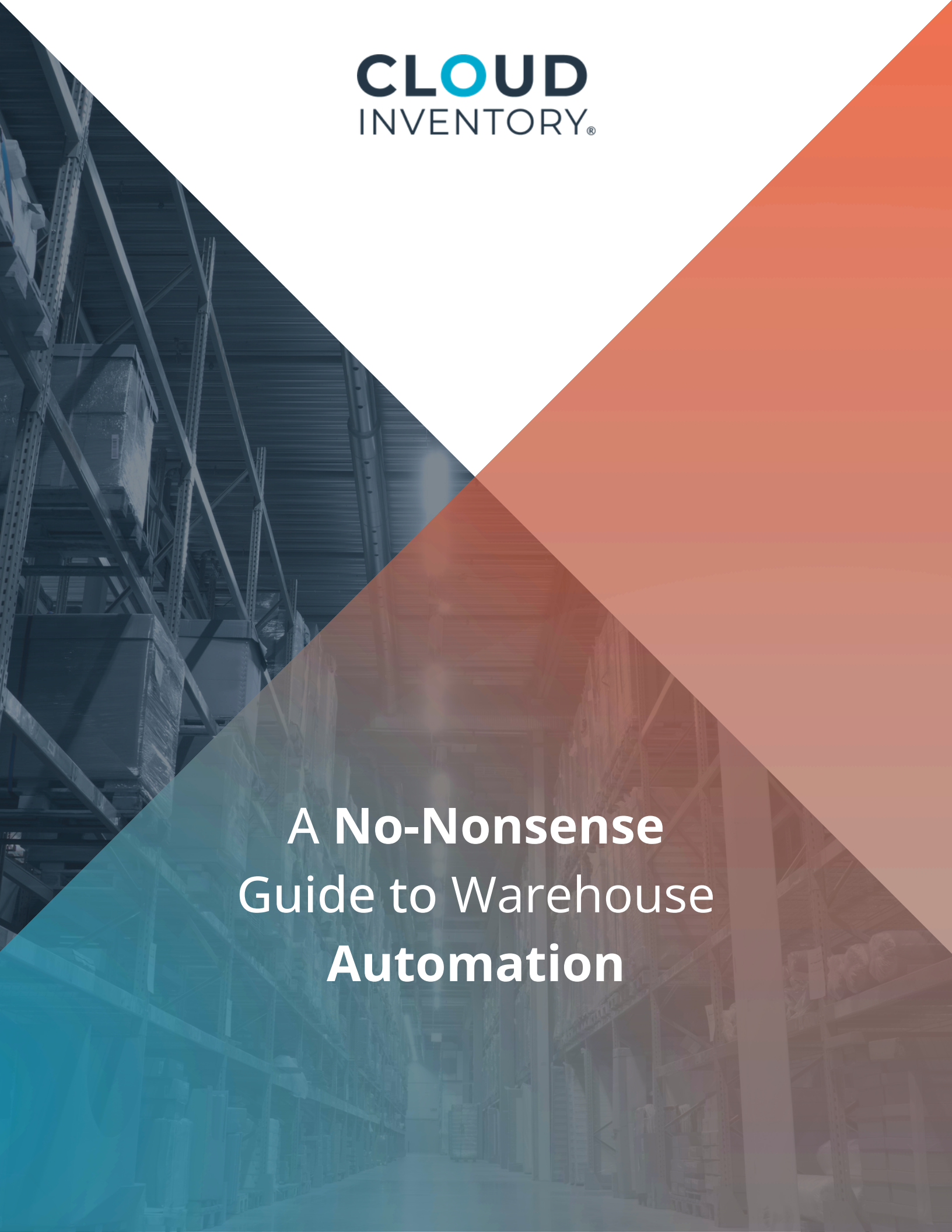
CLOUD INVENTORY®



A **No-Nonsense** Guide to Warehouse **Automation**

Cutting through the hype

If you run a warehouse, you've probably heard the same message over and over: the only way to improve warehouse operations is to implement a full warehouse management system.

But for many organizations, that's a massive leap.

Full WMS implementations can take months or years, require significant operational change, and often introduce more complexity than many operations actually need.

Meanwhile, the day-to-day problems remain the same: inventory inaccuracies, manual processes, slow receiving, and limited visibility into what's really happening on the floor. The reality is most warehouses don't need a full WMS to run a more disciplined operation.

They need better control over inventory movements, clearer processes for common tasks, and tools that help teams capture accurate data as work happens.

What if you could introduce warehouse automation and operational discipline *without* committing to a full WMS overhaul?

No massive system implementation.
No waiting months before seeing any ROI.

Just proven, practical ways to automate key processes, improve accuracy, and gain real-time inventory visibility—faster than you can say "go live."



Key benefits of *automating* inventory-management processes:

- **Increased** efficiency & productivity — Decrease reliance on manual labor and speed up the movement of goods throughout the warehouse.
- **Enhanced** visibility & reduced errors — Minimize human error and ensure greater accuracy in tasks like picking and sorting.
- **Improved** labor utilization — See better usage of employee time, avoid paying for overtime, and scale order volume without scaling headcount.
- **Optimized** inventory management & reduced stockouts — Track inventory levels in real time, providing helpful insights into stock levels and demand trends.
- **Happier** customers — Better satisfy customers and build brand loyalty. Reduce expedited shipping, speed up order processing, and increase OTIF orders.
- **Freed up** working capital — Reduce the amount of capital tied up in safety stock and carrying costs, and use it to fund growth initiatives across your business.



8 Quick Warehouse Wins *you can unlock without a full WMS*

SCAN-DRIVEN WORKFLOWS: DITCH MANUAL PROCESSES

Problem:
Warehouse workers are dependent on paper and/or tribal knowledge, leading to inventory data inaccuracies across your operations.

Automation Fix:
Put mobile scanning devices and apps in the hands of warehouse crews to capture data at the point of activity.

Result: 99.5% inventory accuracy, 23-40% productivity improvement

REPLENISHMENT AUTOMATION: AVOID STOCKOUTS

Problem:
Pick locations run out of stock, forcing urgent replenishment trips, and slowing down order fulfillment.

Automation Fix:
Create auto-replenish tasks when stock levels hit a min/max threshold or wave demand spikes.

Result: 15% lower labor costs with higher productivity

CYCLE COUNT SCHEDULING: CATCH ERRORS BEFORE THEY HAPPEN

Problem:
Manual inventory counts are inconsistent and disruptive, causing inaccuracies, visibility problems, and operational downtime.

Automation Fix:
Auto-assign counts by ABC class with exception patterns and risk.

Result: Over 99% inventory record accuracy

RETURNS PROCESSING: STREAMLINE REVERSE LOGISTICS

Problem:
Manually sorting and restocking returns ties up labor and delays resale of recoverable inventory.

Automation Fix:
Auto-route each return to a given location or status based on item condition and rules.

Result: 40% faster returns processing, 20% higher recovery value on returned goods

8 Quick Warehouse Wins *you can unlock without a full WMS*

LOT & SERIAL TRACKING: TRACE EVERY UNIT

Problem:
Manual lot and serial entries lead to missed or mistyped records, making recalls, audits, and expiration management slow and risky.

Automation Fix:
Capture lot and serial numbers at receiving, picking, and shipping with mobile barcode scans, then enforce FEFO/FIFO picking rules.

Result: Full traceability in seconds, 20% faster recall response

SHIPPING & LABELING: SHIP FASTER, ERROR-FREE

Problem:
Workers key in carrier details and print labels by hand, which causes mislabeled packages, wrong service levels, and pack station bottlenecks.

Automation Fix:
Pick carrier details automatically from order rules, then generate shipping labels, packing slips, and tracking numbers at pack-out.

Result: 30% fewer shipping errors, 40% faster pack-out

KITTING ORCHESTRATION: SPEED UP KIT ASSEMBLY

Problem:
Without a plan, kitting orders are released when product availability and shipping dates don't align.

Automation Fix:
A set of rules that look at product availability and expected delivery dates to release kitting orders in a timely fashion.

Result: 33% higher kit completion percentage

WAVE MANAGEMENT: STOP MISSING CUT-OFFS DUE TO INEFFICIENT PICKS

Problem:
Orders are released randomly, leading to inefficient picking routes, forced expedited shipping, and docks getting jammed.

Automation Fix:
Use wave management tools that can be fed conditions and variables that will generate pick lists when needed.

Result: 55% fewer missed carrier cutoffs

When to Automate Your Warehouse

Signs it might be time to automate:

You need automation that can:

Your existing workflows are manual and labor-intensive.





Streamline repetitive tasks
Increase productivity and free your team up to focus on more vital work.

Your inventory data is inaccurate or incomplete.





Eliminate unpredictable workflows
Prevent errors at the source instead of correcting them after the fact.

Your customer orders are delayed due to a complex fulfillment process.





Build speed & reliability into every step
Delays don't stack up, and on-time shipping becomes the standard.

You know your operations could benefit, but the time and stress of a WMS implementations is holding you back.



Get up & running quickly
Speed up time to value with out-of-the-box solutions you can adopt easily.

Conclusion: Automation without the overhaul

Warehouse automation doesn't have to start with a massive (and time-consuming) system replacement.

For many operations, the biggest improvements come from introducing structure, visibility, and automation into the everyday workflows that move inventory through the warehouse. When teams capture accurate data at the point of work and key processes run with clear rules and automation, operations become faster, more predictable, and easier to scale.

The goal isn't to build the most complex warehouse in the industry. *It's to run a disciplined one.*

And with the right approach, you can introduce meaningful automation, improve inventory accuracy, and gain real operational control—without committing to the time, cost, and disruption of a full WMS implementation.

[Contact Our Team to Learn More]

Are you ready to *automate*?

Take our short assessment to find out.

Take Assessment

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