

SHOPWORLD BUSINESS NEEDS / OBJECTIVES

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Business Need / Objective	Why It's Important	Direction / Tool to Help
Track inventory in real-time	So everyone can know what is in stock and avoid stockouts or overstocking	Use barcode scanners and an inventory software that updates immediately (e.g., Zoho Inventory, Odoo, TradeGecko)
Reduce delay in updating records	So sales, stock, and purchases are up to date and not missed	Stop manual records and use one system that updates automatically (e.g., Zoho Inventory, Airtable)
Know fast-selling and slow-selling products	So the business can restock on time and stop wasting money on unsold items	Set up a system and automatic dashboard that shows which products move fast and which don't (e.g., Power BI, Tableau, Google Data Studio)
Make departments work together	So there are no mistakes or confusion between store, procurement, and sales	Use one platform that all departments can use and see updates at the same time (e.g., Odoo, TradeGecko, Zoho Inventory)
Speed up reordering process	So restocking doesn't take too long and customers don't get disappointed	Send alerts when stock is low and make it easy to reorder fast (e.g., TradeGecko, Zoho Inventory, SAP)
Improve customer satisfaction	So customers don't leave or give bad feedback because of 'out of stock' issues	Make sure the system helps keep stock available and respond quickly (e.g., Shopify POS, Square POS, Zoho Inventory)
Avoid wrong stock numbers	So the store doesn't think they have what they don't	Let stock updates happen automatically, not after several days (e.g., Odoo Inventory, Zoho Inventory, QuickBooks Commerce)

Reduce manual errors and stress	So staff spend less time correcting mistakes or searching for stock	Automate record-keeping and reduce writing in notebooks (e.g., Honeywell Barcode Scanners, ABBYY FlexiCapture, SAP, QuickBooks Commerce)
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1. Real-time Inventory Tracking

- **Why it's important:**
 - To ensure that everyone has up-to-date information about stock levels, preventing stockouts or overstocking.
 - It eliminates confusion between departments, such as sales, procurement, and store operations.
- **What needs to happen:**
 - Implement a **barcode scanning system** integrated with an **inventory management software**.
 - The system must update inventory levels instantly across all departments to keep everyone aligned.

2. Eliminate Delays in Updating Records

- **Why it's important:**
 - When records are updated with delays, critical decisions are made with outdated information, which can lead to missed sales or incorrect stock levels.
 - It wastes time and leads to errors that affect the entire business.
- **What needs to happen:**
 - Replace manual data entry methods (like notebooks and Excel) with a centralized, automated system that updates in real time across all departments.

3. Identify Fast-Selling and Slow-Selling Products

- **Why it's important:**
 - Knowing which products are selling quickly and which are slow-moving helps to prioritize restocking, reduce excess inventory, and avoid waste.

- It also helps make informed decisions for marketing or discounts.
- **What needs to happen:**
 - Use the **inventory management system** to monitor product sales and automatically flag fast-selling and slow-selling items.
 - Create visual alerts or dashboards for staff to easily view this data in real-time.

4. Improve Departmental Collaboration

- **Why it's important:**
 - Different departments (store, procurement, sales) often keep separate records, which can cause confusion, mistakes, or delays.
 - Streamlining communication ensures smoother operations and fewer errors.
- **What needs to happen:**
 - Implement a **centralized platform** that all departments can access, allowing them to view and update information instantly.
 - This system should sync stock levels, sales, and orders in real time to avoid discrepancies.

5. Speed up the Reordering Process

- **Why it's important:**
 - Slow reordering leads to stockouts, which frustrates customers and impacts revenue.
 - Being able to quickly reorder ensures product availability and reduces customer dissatisfaction.
- **What needs to happen:**
 - Set up **automatic alerts** when stock levels fall below a certain threshold.
 - Make the reordering process simple and fast with an integrated system that triggers purchasing orders automatically.

6. Improve Customer Satisfaction

- **Why it's important:**
 - Stockouts, delayed deliveries, and unavailability of products can drive customers away, leading to negative feedback and a loss of repeat business.
 - Ensuring stock is available and orders are fulfilled quickly improves customer experience and retention.
- **What needs to happen:**
 - Implement an **automated stock replenishment system** and real-time tracking so that stock is always available when needed.
 - Keep customers informed about product availability and ensure orders are processed smoothly and on time.

7. Prevent Wrong Stock Numbers

- **Why it's important:**
 - Wrong stock numbers lead to confusion, incorrect sales decisions, and missed opportunities.
 - Accurate stock data is crucial for efficient operations and customer trust.
- **What needs to happen:**
 - Use an **automated inventory tracking system** that updates stock levels in real time as products are sold, received, or moved.
 - This ensures that the stock numbers on the system are always accurate and reliable.

8. Reduce Manual Errors and Stress

- **Why it's important:**
 - Staff spending time correcting mistakes or searching for misplaced records are not focused on their primary tasks.
 - This leads to wasted time, stress, and potential errors that impact the business.
- **What needs to happen:**
 - Move from manual documentation to an **automated and centralized system** that reduces the need for human intervention in data entry.

- By automating routine tasks, staff can focus on higher-value activities and reduce errors.