

UCS 1704- Management and Ethical Practices

Name: S. Vishakan

Register Number: 18 5001 196

Assignment: Case Study on **Hawkins Supply Company**

Situation: The Hawkins Supply company is currently faced with an inventory rotation problem. This difficulty stems from the fact that some supplies must be used prior to a stated expiration date. Upon receipt, a new shipment of these perishable items must be stacked beneath the boxes that are currently in inventory. A substantial amount of time is consumed in restacking the items according to their expiration dates.

Question: The company would like to reduce the double and sometimes triple handling of items. How can this goal be achieved? Are there alternative solutions which might also be effective?

Proposed Ideas:

Since this is a **supply chain management** problem, we must look into how the supplies are being handled.

Inventory Management is critical to avoiding wastage of resources and capital here.

From the above abstract, my understanding is that new supplies (which may be perishable) are stacked beneath existing boxes so as to first use the older ones to avoid wastage. While the idea of **using older resources first** sounds good, it is a fix to a problem that can be avoided in the first place.

The unnecessary stacking of goods can be avoided with **proper planning** of resource consumption. Supply chain managers must evaluate their company's supply usage and keep track of current stocks regularly. If this is done appropriately, the company can avoid buying newer shipments while existing supplies haven't been utilized. Frequent **inventory audits** are always a good solution. We can understand the utilization of each resource more clearly and **micromanage** our resupply accordingly.

Do not over-order items in bulk with the idea of being on the safer-side. Buying resources requires capital, and overstocking might lead to losses in the form of mismanagement, under-utilization, wastage, expiration etc. This especially applies to resources that may expire/perish quickly. Keep required amounts, and order only when the existing stock is low.

Double and triple handling of items indicates that we are restocking our supplies way too sooner than necessary. One way to avoid this is to take count of current inventory before making an order for new resources, thereby avoiding needless expenditure.