Bar Coding

You've probably noticed lots of bar codes around our web site, and in the Distribution Design logo.

Yes, bar coding is a very important component of improving a distribution operation. As it is the foundation of our logo, it is the foundation for integrating the five elements of an optimized logistics operation: computer systems, data collection systems, material handling systems, people, and the facility itself.

Bar coding is also the link enabling real time information. While bar coding was first used in logistics operations about 30 years ago, the advancements in automatic identification technologies since the mid-1980's have brought substantial benefits from scanning those "black bars and white spaces".

Some of the operational improvements include:

- Automatic posting of received goods without having to record and count each item.
- Real time updates of inventory receipts, internal move transactions, and shipping confirmations.
- Tracking specific actions directly to the associate who performed them for reporting quality control and productivity measurements.
- Directing work assignments in sequence and controlling that the work was done correctly.
- Productivity reporting.
- Automatic verification of items and quantities in orders ready for shipment.
- Integrating computer systems and high speed material handling equipment.
- Automatic inventory cycle count updating or re-counting at the point a cycle count is completed.
- Reducing the volumes of paper used in many operations.
- Linking shipping systems with trucking and small parcel carriers for Web-based tracking of orders and shipments.