

# Case study

Thanks to Geek+ Blackwoods increases picking efficiency and significantly reduces personnel costs

**Blackwoods** 

#### **The Customer**

Over the past 140 years, Blackwoods has grown from a small marine supplier in Sydney Harbour to Australia 's largest supplier of industrial and safety accessories, with over 200,000 products from the world 's most recognized brands. The portfolio includes personal protective equipment, welding and gas technology, power tools, hand tools, workwear, and more.

#### **The Solution**

On a storage area of 4,500 square meters with 45,000 SKUs, 32 P800 robots pick from over 1,000 shelves with 5 picking stations. A customized solution was found for the barcode problem:

- An extra SKU-ID list is provided for putaway.
- When picking, confirmation is done at the touch of a button.

## The Challenge

Blackwoods 'goal was to make its warehouse operations more efficient and productive and to reduce costs through automation technology. Barcode scanners could not be used because barcodes could not be placed on the products.

### **The Customer Benefit**

- Increase of the picking efficiency to 300 to 500 pieces/h.
- High savings in labour cost by reducing the picking staff from 16 to 4 employees.
- Fast project installation within 3 months
- Scalability of the system to adapt to changing business conditions

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