

International Health Care Supplier

Challenge

Rapid growth and aggressive development of changing internet market strategies prompted a wellness technology company to redesign its Distribution Center. In the past, customers ordered solely through distributors. Now customers can choose to order on-line, and their orders are filled directly at the Distribution Center.

Construction was underway of the World Headquarters and Distribution Center. However, the company questioned the high costs of proposed material handling equipment. CNA was brought in to conduct a high level review of the facility.

Response

Eight (8) days later, CNA presented it's comprehensive review to the firm's management team. CNA assembled a project team of experienced material handling engineers, IT consultants, industrial engineers and operations consultants. They asked critical questions about the facility including:

- Can the new facility achieve high labor productivity and order accuracy?
- Is there adequate power to meet the electrical demands of the high-speed equipment?
- Are plans for future expansion integrated with the existing design?

Results

CNA provided these solutions:

- Revise the pick modules to allow high throughput, and eliminate the requirement for an empty tote handling system.
- Begin to immediately work with the general contractor to upgrade electrical output.
- Bypass the bid process by identifying known, reliable equipment vendors.
- Plan for physical expansion by designing an integrated mezzanine level, doubling the pick area without expanding the building footprint.