




# 5 Things to Consider When Selecting an Automated Warehouse Solution for Garments



**Planiform**  
Revolutionizing your GOH handling  
through innovation





Faced with a labor shortage, a rapidly expanding e-commerce environment, and a 40% returns rate for the fashion industry, warehouses are turning to automated solutions to ensure customers receive orders quickly and accurately. From autonomous mobile robots to automated storage and retrieval systems (AS/RS), this transition represents a significant shift for an industry that has historically relied heavily on manual labor.

Warehouse automation offers many benefits for your garment-handling processes, including increased throughput, fewer human errors, and better resource utilization. But before selecting an automated solution – and supplier – for your warehouse, look at these five key considerations.

# 1

## CURRENT PROCESSES

Not all warehouse operations can – or should – be automated. Avoid adding automated equipment that doesn't integrate with your processes. Focus on the labor-intensive and repetitive tasks in your warehouse that you can optimize.

For example, the order picking process is prone to errors (e.g., wrong items or quantities picked) that can cost you time and money. AS/RS reduces errors by indicating the precise area an item is to be picked and how many.

# 2

## EXPERIENCE AND PROVEN TRACK RECORD

If you're going to trust your garment-handling process to an automated systems provider, they need to deliver reliable and exceptional service. Ask questions such as:

- ✓ *How many years have you been in business?*
- ✓ *Do you have experience in my industry?*
- ✓ *Can I see success stories from similar businesses?*
- ✓ *What results have you delivered for customers?*
- ✓ *How long will it take to see a return on investment (ROI) from your solution?*

A provider that's confident in their process and products will gladly invite you to visit their facility to see an installation in-person.

### 3

## INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Working with an automated systems provider should drive efficiencies to your operations. You want a partner committed to innovation and technologies that revolutionize the garment-handling industry.

Your provider's software and technology, like control panels and software algorithms, should help streamline your processes and scale as your business grows. Make sure their systems integrate with yours, so you get the insights and data needed to enhance your business. Also, ask about whether the automated solutions provider's technology will accommodate your hangers.



### 4

## COMMUNICATION AND RESPONSIVENESS

Communication and responsiveness are essential to a healthy business relationship as well as streamlining warehouse operations. Choose an experienced team that takes the time to explain each step of the project in detail and can expedite work.

Bigger companies aren't always better. They're often less responsive and have slower implementation times. You want a partner that's nimble enough to adapt quickly as market conditions change.



# 5

## COSTS

Automated warehouses create long-term savings that offset the initial investment. Before transforming your warehouse, use a vendor that has the expertise to help you determine how much automation is appropriate for your operation. To get a cost-efficient solution, look for systems that require little maintenance, use simple and durable parts, and can deliver ROI in three years or less.

If you're growing quickly, running out of warehouse space, experiencing labor issues, or suffering from lost inventory, it may be time to automate your warehouse. The good news is that many types of warehouse automation solutions are available. Following these five tips will help ensure a seamless transition.

### GOH: Then vs. Now

The world has changed – so have customer demands. See how garments on hangers (GOH) technology is undergoing a revolution.

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