



Order Fulfillment System

Softeon OFS

- Direct Management of Picking Sub-Systems
- Real-Time, Out-of-Box Integration with the Equipment
- Native Support for All Data Collection Technologies
- Optimized Order Planning and Release
- Single Integrated Platform, Not Silos

Benefits

- **Optimized Picking Performance**
- **Rapid Implementation of New Technologies**
- **No Interfaces to Maintain**
- **Test New Technologies Before Any Commitment**
- **Robust Exception Handling**
- **Lower-Cost Hardware**
- **Can Mix Mobile Robotics Vendors**

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Optimize Order Picking Performance with a Flexible, Easy to Deploy Solution.

The Challenge

Today, as ecommerce and other factors continue to drive order picking costs higher for many companies, technology offers a path to get those costs headed in the right direction - down.

For example, many companies are increasingly moving beyond RF scanning and supplementing or replacing those systems with newer tools including Voice, smart carts, pick-to-light systems, put walls and mobile robots in the DC.

There is just one problem – almost always, these systems require software that is separate from the WMS to enable them to work – and this leads to a number of operational challenges.

Those include:

- Orders “thrown over the wall” to the picking sub-system software, creating siloed operations where they are unable to optimize the full picking, slotting, and replenishment process.
- The need for Interfaces to be built and maintained between the WMS and the sub-system software, adding cost and decreasing flexibility.
- Very high hardware costs caused by commodity hardware being bundled with proprietary software.
- Real operational difficulties in managing exceptions, because the sub-system software lacks all the required information needed to address the issue.

A Better Way.

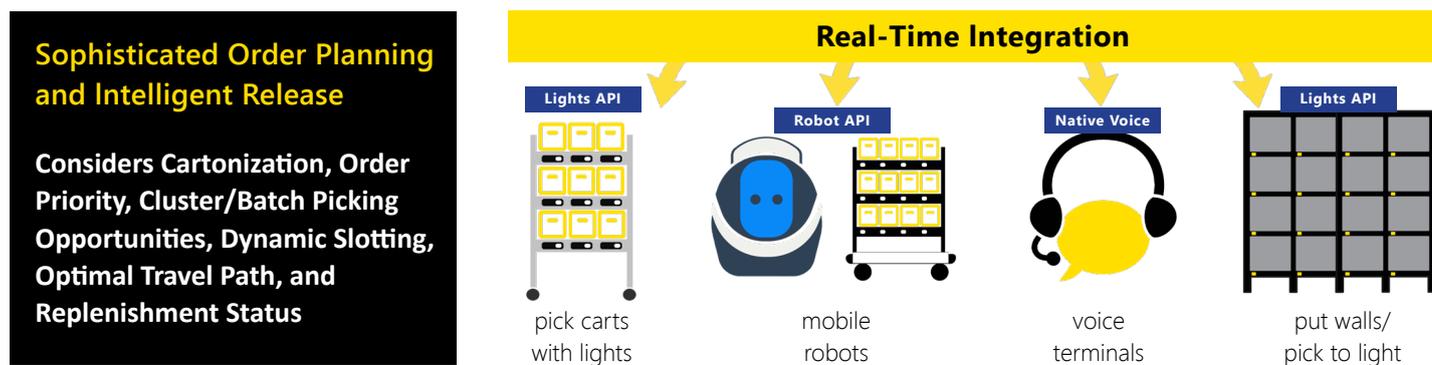
Softeon has developed the ideal solution to meet these challenges, offering a highly flexible solution that powers each of these technologies independently or in combination, delivering optimized picking performance and making deployment far easier than the status quo. *How?* The Order Fulfillment System (OFS), part of Softeon’s industry-leading WMS or as a standalone solution, directly manages any of these picking systems, without the need for additional control software - offering a wide array of advantages.

One major Omnichannel retailer uses Softeon WMS + OFS to significantly reduce picking costs by optimizing put, pick and pack processes across six put wall modules.

Softeon Order Fulfillment System Direct Manages Picking Subsystems

Softeon already uses advanced optimization to maximize picking performance using standard RF terminals. Orders are planned and released based on a variety of factors, including cartonization, order priority, inventory availability, replenishment status, opportunities for batch and cluster picking, travel distance and more.

Each of these new picking technologies referenced above has its own advantages and applications/use cases. With Softeon OFS (see graphic below), you can easily and quickly add these technologies where appropriate with out-of-the-box software support. You can also mix and match technologies, such as Voice and smart carts, or lights and mobile robots, in almost any combination.



Implementation times for these systems usually go from months to weeks - or even days. What's more, you can generally test each technology to see the results and benefits before fully committing, such as with robots, Voice, or a single put wall to start. Softeon's OFS extends our existing picking optimization capabilities with additional smarts specific to each type of sub-system. For example, some orders are better suited to go through put walls than others in the pool. Softeon OFS determines how to optimally direct orders to put wall units or any other picking method to maximize efficiencies. Or consider a mobile robot that helps to manage order exceptions, such as a short pick, meeting a picker at the location for a SKU that needed replenishment and then moving automatically to the packing area with the missing SKUs for order completion and shipping.

What's more, because this system eliminates the need for third-party software to manage these sub-systems, hardware costs are often much lower than the standard – often by more than 50%. That means Softeon customers can either achieve a higher ROI, or invest in more of this beneficial technology that was previously above their budget range with standard approaches.

There's more:

- The ability to mix and match mobile robots from different vendors initially and over time, providing flexibility in the early stages of a dynamic vendor landscape
- Integrating Softeon's direct Voice solution using smart phones with existing Voice terminals
- Automatic integration of picking systems with packing and shipping
- "Future proofing" your operation by acquiring a platform that allows you to easily add these and other new technologies over time

Combine all that with Softeon's proven ability to deliver results, the WMS industry's only 100% track record of deployment success and fixed price implementations. With Softeon's Order Fulfillment System, you can take advantage of an integrated order picking and shipping solution that will take your picking performance to new levels – with a flexible path to add new technologies in the future.