



CASE STUDY

Two Century-Old Companies Collaborate to Redefine Warehouse Efficiency

Challenge

Blish-Mize, a 100-year-old distribution company, was facing persistent and costly challenges in the warehouse: limited floor space, reduced warehouse efficiency, and growing safety concerns. The issue wasn't just crowded aisles; it was also empty pallets occupying valuable rack positions. As a result, pickers spent extra time moving items and many products had to be stored higher, forcing reliance on slower, less efficient order picker forklifts.

Order selectors were also manually handling 50-pound pallets multiple times a day. This repetitive process drained labor hours, contributed to fatigue, and elevated safety risks. The impact was clear: higher labor costs, lower productivity, and a warehouse layout that constrained flexibility and growth. Blish-Mize needed a solution to reclaim space, streamline orders, and protect its workforce, all while laying the groundwork for future expansion.

Solution

To address these challenges, Blish-Mize partnered with Rehrig Pacific, another century-old leader in logistics innovation, to introduce two key solutions: the zero-AC-power QTEK Pallet Tower, a vertical storage system built for tight spaces, and the touchless QTEK Pallet Dispenser, engineered to eliminate manual pallet handling. While each can operate independently, Blish-Mize chose to deploy both, working closely with Rehrig Pacific to design a system tailored to their workflow.

The QTEK Pallet Tower replaces traditional floor stacking with vertical storage, instantly reclaiming floor space. Its compact mechanical design requires no electrical upgrades, allowing for quick, disruption-free installation. Paired with the QTEK Pallet Dispenser, productivity jumped immediately, retrieval time dropped, and the physical strain of lifting 50-pound pallets disappeared. By using both solutions together, Blish-Mize unlocked the full impact of QTEK Pallet Handling Solutions technology.



Results

\$500,000 overall savings over five years from the following:



Productivity Gains:

Delivered **\$349,000** by streamlining pallet handling and improving warehouse flow.



Labor & Safety Improvements:

Generated **\$145,625 in labor savings** and eliminated manual pallet-handling injuries for a safer, more efficient workforce.



Space Optimization & Added Revenue:

Reclaimed **200+ sq. ft. of floor space**, enabling new revenue-generating pick locations and greater inventory flexibility.

"The Pallet Dispenser reduces the non-value-added work the order selectors endure when handling pallets, which also keeps our employees safe and with less fatigue by not manually moving pallets. In addition, the space savings our warehouse gained with the Pallet Towers have allowed us to increase pick locations, which allows us to operate more efficiently with additional flexibility to store inventory."

— Brady Clark,
Vice President of Operations, Blish-Mize

