

CASE STUDY

ORBIC VENDING SOLUTIONS



ORBIC
ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS



OES206

OVERVIEW

A large UK manufacturer runs a single-site operation with a workforce of more than 500 staff across multiple shifts. High production volumes drive heavy, continuous demand for fast-moving ancillary consumables, PPE such as gloves, safety glasses and ear plugs, along with cutting tools, abrasives, adhesives, and lubricant aerosols.

These items were held in an open, free-issue stores arrangement. With hundreds of staff drawing stock around the clock and no controls at the point of issue, consumption had become impossible to predict, budget for, or account for and spend was climbing.



THE CHALLENGE

The stock of fast-moving consumables was out of control. Open access with no accountability was driving over-consumption, wastage and unpredictable cost:

- Consumables were issued on an open, unmonitored basis, no record of who took what, when, or how much.
- Over-consumption and wastage were rife: items taken in excess, hoarded at workstations, or leaving site altogether.
- Critical items still ran out despite high spend, because there was no reliable trigger to reorder before stock was gone.
- Stores staff spent significant time manually issuing, chasing and counting stock instead of adding value elsewhere.
- There was no usage data by department, cost centre or individual, making it impossible to hold anyone accountable or budget accurately.

OUR SOLUTION

Orbic carried out a usage review across the site and installed an Orbic rotary vending machine together with an accompanying locker unit, placing controlled, self-service issue right on the shop floor, available 24/7 across every shift.

The rotary (carousel) machine dispenses high-volume small items, gloves, safety glasses, ear plugs, blades and abrasives, one issue at a time. The locker unit handles larger or higher-value ancillary items such as bump caps, power-tool accessories and boxed PPE. Every issue is tied to an individual by PIN or fob, so each item drawn is recorded against a named user, department and cost centre.

Minimum and maximum stock levels were set for every line, with automatic replenishment alerts back to Orbic, a vendor-managed inventory arrangement that keeps critical items in stock without the customer having to monitor or reorder.

The result is a controlled point of issue that removes casual over-consumption, a live audit trail of every item taken, and full usage reporting the customer can break down by department and cost centre, turning an unmanaged free-issue store into a measured, accountable process.

OUTCOME

- ✓ **32% Reduction in Consumable Usage**
- ✓ **Full Traceability of Every Item by User & Department**
- ✓ **Automated Replenishment, No More Stock-Outs**
- ✓ **Stores Time Freed from Manual Issuing**
- ✓ **Consumable Spend Brought Under Control**
- ✓ **Usage Accountable by Cost Centre**