Opti-Kan™

Automated Just-in-Time Replenishment for Manufacturing

In manufacturing facilities, the production line is critical to efficient material production. A common industry challenge arises from floor operators needing to manually signal industrial vehicle drivers to move materials to and from the line. This process often leads to inefficiencies and productivity issues, and since line down-time is one of the most visible costs of manufacturing, it can be an area of great concern.

I.D. Systems offers Opti-Kan™ “optimized kanban”, a module of the PowerFleet™ Vehicle Management System (VMS). Opti-Kan is a wireless solution that optimizes any task management or parts replenishment goal you can imagine. Companies looking to eliminate line-of-sight replenishment and get closer to lean practices implement Opti-Kan to streamline their manufacturing operations.

WHAT IS KANBAN?

Kanban is a primary tool of just-in-time manufacturing. At its core, kanban is a signaling system to trigger action. In a manufacturing environment, the signals specifically trigger the need to move raw materials or produce new components for the production line. Kanban controls work-in-process, production and inventory flow to produce only what is required to meet customer demand. Ultimately, kanban serves to eliminate overproduction—a key form of manufacturing waste.

WHAT IS OPTI-KAN?

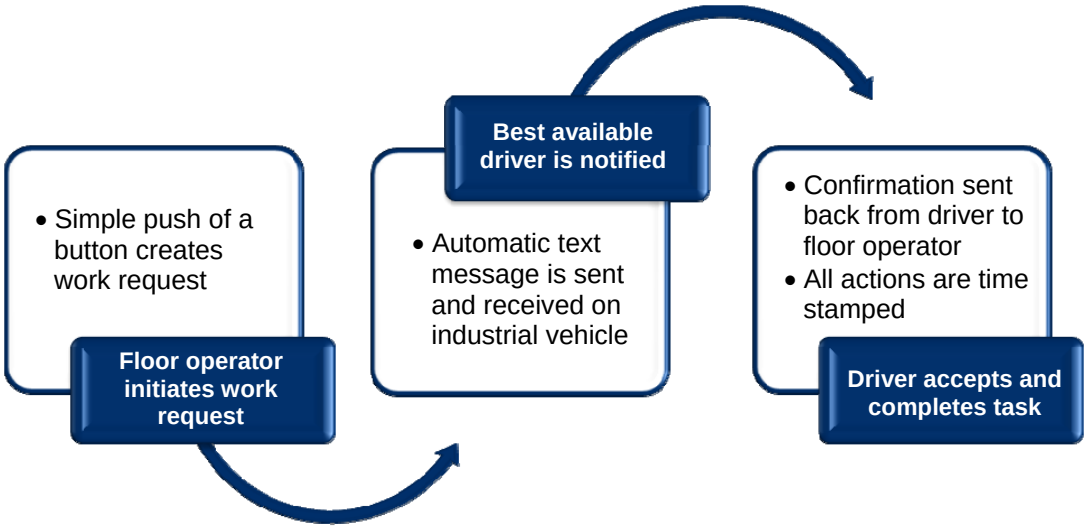
Opti-Kan is:

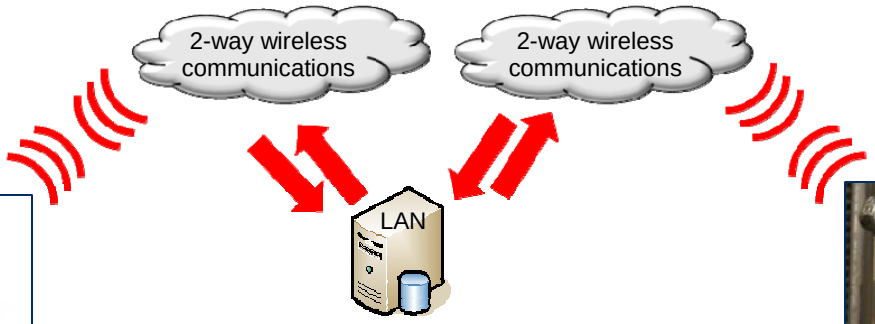
- electronic work request/parts replenishment that eliminates the need for line-of-sight, card-based, and manual request systems
- automated task scheduling, assignment and execution to minimize work-in-process and expedite material movement away from the line
- real time, accurate status of material flow for supervisors, floor operators and vehicle operators
- complete accountability for task requests and execution
- two-way messaging for automatically distributing tasks to the optimal driver and enabling drivers to accept and decline tasks
- benchmarking the performance of industrial truck operators (individual/group/shift)
- balancing workload among industrial vehicle operators
- Establishing best routes for tasks and continually measuring actual data against standards
- Creating flexible reporting and graphics for management analysis

MAJOR BENEFIT AREAS

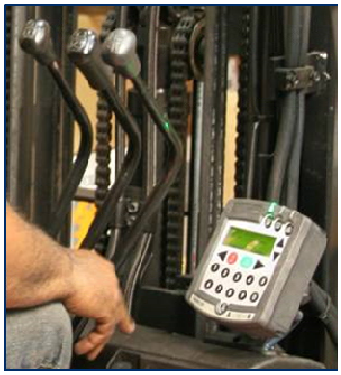
- Improved material handling fleet efficiency resulting in optimized resources, lower labor costs and less production line down-time
- Material handling fleet reduction resulting in lower capital and operating costs (maintenance, damage, fuel)
- Elimination of manual kanban cards/scanning devices
- Ongoing measurement and refinement of industrial engineering standards

TYPICAL OPTI-KAN SYSTEM CONFIGURATION





Line Asset Communicator on production line (or computer-generated PLC request)



Vehicle Asset Communicator on vehicle