



# Tackling Urban Distribution

## BASTIAN SOLUTIONS & AUTOSTORE HELP ADORE ME STAY IN URBAN NEIGHBORHOOD

Adore Me, a women's intimate apparel and swimwear company, partnered with Bastian Solutions to bring their order fulfillment operations in-house, no longer relying on third-party fulfillment. To make the most of their space, the design started with an AutoStore goods-to-person system to consolidate and improve order fulfillment operations. Their ecommerce fulfillment facility improved order shipping times and has the scalability and flexibility to adapt to this fast-growing company's needs for years to come.





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We have full control of how we change our systems, and the new AutoStore has that flexibility built in to allow us to change our business model or how we ship to our customer very efficiently.

*-Krutin Shah, Distribution Director, Adore Me*

## Thanks to Bastian Solutions and AutoStore, Adore Me was able to boost productivity by two to three times.

After an in-depth consulting study with Bastian Solutions, Adore Me knew it was time to make the change from using a third-party logistics provider to in-house order fulfillment. Experiencing 50 percent year-over-year growth, and a delay in customer shipping times, they decided to move in to a 130,000 square-foot distribution center in Secaucus, New Jersey that ships both to the United States as well as internationally.

The facility features an entire suite from Bastian Solutions – conveyors, Exacta warehouse execution system, light-directed picking and putwall, OPEX Sure Sort, and of course, AutoStore. As a women's apparel company that focuses on designer lingerie, swimwear, sleepwear and activewear, Adore Me needed systems that could handle many SKUs in the least amount of footprint, making AutoStore an obvious solution. With 33,000 bins, 73 robots, and 11 ports, Adore Me's AutoStore can hold the majority of the company's SKUs – and paired with Exacta software, the facility can handle an average of 10,000 orders per shift or up to 20,000 on peak days, doubling the amount previously handled.

Bastian Solutions designed Adore Me's system to be easily scaled. The AutoStore along with the rest of the automation can grow right along with the company and ensure the customer experience continues to meet expectations.

Interested in learning more about AutoStore or Adore Me's successes? Head over to [BastianSolutions.com/AutoStore](https://BastianSolutions.com/AutoStore).



# Material Handling System Walk-Through:

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## 1. INTELLIGENT SUPPLY CHAIN SOFTWARE & GOODS-TO-PERSON AUTOMATION

As orders are received, the Exacta warehouse execution system intelligently builds batches of work to maximize order and product commonality using a proprietary order grouping algorithm. This makes Adore Me's AutoStore goods-to-person robotic storage system much more efficient. Exacta manages the inventory inside the AutoStore system and uses demand-based wave picking to batch up to 400 orders at a time. This allows operators to pick items for multiple orders from each presentation of an AutoStore bin, making picking operators 2.7 times more productive due to the high order commonality. Each operator is capable of fulfilling over 700 order lines per hour.



## 2. LIGHT-DIRECTED PICKING

For Adore Me, the fastest-moving SKUs are slotted in a pick module and are picked via light-directed picking. As orders arrive, the Exacta software assigns picks to the AutoStore or the light-directed pick module to fulfill a customer's order. For high velocity picking of these fast-moving SKUs, Bastian Solutions implemented pick to light to give employees an easy-to-operate process. Exacta groups bays/aisles into work areas so picking locations can be allocated to multiple operators. Light picking is also used to confirm picks from the goods-to-person system.



## 3. OPEX SURE SORT

The majority of Adore Me's SKUs are small, making them ideal for sortation via OPEX Sure Sort, a new technology that offers scalable, cost-effective small item sortation. Operators induct products from the totes delivered via conveyor, into one of two Sure Sort unit sorters. Items are scanned through a 6-sided scan tunnel, associated to an order, and transported via shuttle to a holding bin. Once all line items on an order reach the assigned Sure Sort bin, a light alerts an associate to move the completed order to the correct shipping container.



#### 4. LIGHT-DIRECTED PUTWALL

Operators sort larger items or orders at one of the double-deep putwalls. Orders are assigned on-demand to a location within the putwall as product is scanned. Once the order is completed, a light signals an associate to push the order back to a staging location on the back-side of the putwall. The front location is free to continue sorting while the pack operators remove the items and packages from the back for shipping and add any promotional material required. The same Exacta Mobile application is used to pack out orders from the putwall and Sure Sort.

#### 5. CONVEYOR SYSTEMS

Bastian Solutions conveyor supports the transport of product to sortation and then shipping. Once picked, products travel in totes through the conveyor system to one of three sortation areas: single line pack stations, light-directed, or double deep putwalls. Exacta manages the flow of product to each area to prevent conveyor or operator backlogs. Once sorted, conveyor transports product through packaging, quality checks and eventually shipping.

#### 6. OUTBOUND SOLUTIONS

All packaged orders, whether coming from the single line pack stations, putwalls or Sure Sorts, are conveyed over an inline weight scale, manifested and a shipping label is applied before the package is palletized for shipment to a nearby parcel facility.

#### CONCLUSION

With the right hardware and software, Adore Me has been able to continue to improve its promise to serve its growing customer base. With an advanced order fulfillment center, Adore Me can now ship faster, more efficiently, and provide an overall better customer experience.





# Adore Me Improves Shipping Times by Bringing Order Fulfillment In-House

Adore Me Facility in Secaucus, New Jersey

## System Snapshot

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### OBJECTIVES

- Allow Adore Me to remain in an urban neighborhood by keeping square-footage low
- Solve issue of delayed shipping times
- Lower shipping costs
- Keep the system flexible and scalable to accommodate Adore Me's continuous growth
- Create a space that can handle upwards of 20,000 SKUs
- Allow operators to pick items for multiple orders at once

### RESULTS

- Two-day shipping on all e-commerce orders
- Order pickers are 2.7 times more productive thanks to Exacta batch picking organization
- The facility handles an average of 10,000 orders per shift and upwards of 20,000 on peak days

### KEY TECHNOLOGIES

- In-depth engineering consulting study to maximize current and future operations.
- AutoStore goods-to-person order picking system
  - 73 Robots
  - 33,000 bin locations
- 11 AutoStore pick stations and 3 receiving stations with touch screen monitors
- OPEX Sure Sort small-item robotic sorting system
- Exacta warehouse execution system
- Put-to-light devices at picking stations
- Automatic labeling machines for empty shipping carton license plate labels
- In-line weigh check scale
- Print and apply labelers for shipping labels with an inline scale for manifesting
- Hytrol and ZiPline Conveyor
- Pivot wheel sortation conveyor



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