



Inventory System

Rapidly analyse, plan and maintain optimal inventory with the full support of an experienced global inventory team





Introducing the Unipart Digital Inventory System

The value of powerful inventory management

A well optimised inventory can bring significant savings for the organisation; minimising working capital, reducing obsolescence costs by only storing what is really needed, and simultaneously increasing revenue and customer satisfaction through improvements in stock availability.

But a well optimised inventory can be difficult to deliver, resulting in a poor customer experience, consuming significant amounts of management time and negatively impacting the bottom line.

On one extreme, manually run processes and lots of spreadsheets do not maximise the opportunity. At the other extreme, highly complex inventory management systems with every bell and whistle have the potential to become difficult to manage and too complex to master, resulting in a failure to deliver the anticipated return on investment.

Step forward the Unipart Digital (UD) Inventory System; able to be quickly implemented, and fully supported by our inventory consultants, to help organisations rapidly analyse, plan and maintain an optimal inventory.



The ideal system to rapidly analyse, plan and maintain an optimal inventory

The UD Inventory System has been developed by Unipart in response to a need for an easy to use and lightweight tool that would optimise inventory in the complex supply chains of both Unipart's operations and those of Unipart's clients.

The UD Inventory System provides advanced inventory optimisation processes through an easy-to-use, online platform that is hosted by the Unipart Cloud. The system is able to be rapidly deployed, with a straight forward three-step process for ERP integration. At each stage, we focus on building the ideal configuration for your organisation using a wealth of first-hand experience from Unipart's global logistics network.



Features:

- Analyses past demand and supply data
- Policy driven recommendations for the most appropriate min/max SKU stock levels
- Optimises min/max stock levels for risk tolerance and required service levels
- Enables exception based management to improve business agility
- Cater for promotional uplift and seasonal profiles
- Multi-tier demand aggregation
- Flexible and straightforward integration process
- Able to optimise multi echelon inventory
- Supports repairables planning and product supersession
- User-friendly interface with graphical illustration of SKU demand profile
- Scenario modelling of service-level changes on inventory
- Simple setup and configuration, making it suitable for smaller organisations
- Rapid implementation
- Fully supported during setup, onboarding and day to day running, with access to a team of inventory specialists
- Bridge gaps in your inventory planning team's capability



Resilient inventory planning made easy

The UD Inventory System provides a straightforward and cost-effective inventory system that reduces inventory, improves availability and boosts efficiency.

As a single-platform solution the UD Inventory System removes the need for multiple data sets and data exports to provide analysis, reporting and optimisation in one place. The UD Inventory System will automatically generate the recommended orders or min/max stock levels (or alternatively, the order files themselves), giving your supply chain team more time to focus on exceptions and planning.

A straight forward three-stage setup process makes it easy to get up and running quickly to improve availability and reduce stock-outs, while minimizing your overall inventory investment. The UD Inventory System represents a more cost effective alternative to large, expensive and complex planning modules in ERP systems.



Benefits:

Create operational efficiencies

- Reduce inventory, releasing working capital back to the business and releasing warehouse space
- Reduce the workload demands of managing an effective inventory

Improve business process outcomes

- Optimise stock availability and improve customer service delivery
- Reduce service or production stoppages as a result of stock-outs

Increase resilience and business process agility

- Exception based planning and alerting can quickly identify and flag changes in supply and/or gaps between supply and demand
- Provides the data you need to make fast, informed decisions on inventory policy

Support and advice from Unipart's team of inventory management experts

Customer success stories

The UD Inventory System has been successfully deployed across a wide range of industries including manufacturing, rail, automotive, retail and distribution, and utilities.

A **leading national Utility** company looked to insource parts of their supply chain for more control and deployed the UD Inventory System to plan the specifications of the new supply chain. Under threat of fines from the regulator if the transition impacted service quality, a risk of significant business impact existed. With the UD Inventory System, the Utility was able to successfully cut over to their new logistics facilities, removing the suboptimal third party supply chain partners, plan inventory to meet demand and manage the risk of financial penalty.

A fast-growing, **global manufacturer of construction equipment** needed to claw back space from a growing, inefficient aftermarket stores area. The store had been allowed to creep ever larger whilst management attention was focussed on improving manufacturing performance. By quickly rolling out the UD Inventory System the manufacturer has been able to decrease stock levels of spare parts by 13%, improve inventory process rigour and increase service levels! They are now on target to release space that is required to expand manufacturing capacity - which otherwise would have required an investment in new facilities.

Benefits:

- Improved the planning and implementation of strategic change initiatives
- Reduced risk of service disruptions due to stock-outs and associated regulatory fines
- Reduction of inventory and inventory footprint
- Increased service levels
- Improved process rigour, availability of data, and ability to continuously improve
- Unipart's inventory planning team bridged gaps in customer capability and trained inventory teams in the use of the system





Intelligent, data-driven inventory management

New artificial intelligence (AI) and advanced data science capabilities* deliver more mature demand forecasts, enhance Business Intelligence, reporting and data visualisation:

In addition to the standard UD Inventory System features, the optional Machine Learning (ML) module improves the accuracy of demand forecasting and enables policy optimisation. With the Machine Learning module (a form of artificial intelligence), forecasts can incorporate knowledge of intermittent patterns, seasonality and trends to more accurately reflect observed demand.

The ML module also offers a data-driven decision support tool to help estimate the quality and impact of existing or proposed inventory policies. Using high-performance simulations and optimisation algorithms, this tool can recommend a set of high-performing inventory policies to reduce stock value while providing the optimum level of availability.



- 1 AI driven optimisation of safety stock parameters to select an optimal balance of target stock and availability
- 2 ML enabled outlier detection
- 3 Simulate the impact of changes on inventory performance and service levels by modelling historical data
- 4 Automated tuning of forecast models and selection of most appropriate model
- 5 On-demand forecasts for individual or small batches of products via a Web API

*Machine Learning and AI features will be available in Q2 2021 and are additional modules that are not included in the standard system pricing

Support from a team of supply chain experts

Onboarding

Our supply chain planning team will consult with you on your business objectives, analyse and model available data to configure the system for your business. Your inventory management team will be provided with all the necessary training to facilitate onboarding and build the capability of your team.

Support

Standard support is available between UK Office Hours, 08:30 – 17:00, Monday-Friday and additional support options can be tailored to the needs of your organisation. This covers technical support to resolve incidents as well as business support for the use of the system.

Advice

Unipart's inventory management experts are available to help you get the most from your system and provide expert and knowledgeable advice should you need it. We offer an annual review of your system configuration to ensure that it is correctly configured to help you achieve your business objectives.





Summary of benefits

Key features:



Forecasting of future demand for each SKU, based on historic demand



Policy driven inventory planning to set optimal min/max stock levels according to organisational goals



Scenario modelling and safety stock planning optimise single or multi echelon inventory



Automated exception alerts facilitate pro-active management and resolution



Multi-tier demand aggregation



Challenge us to demonstrate the benefit for your business, today

Benefits:



Create operational efficiencies and enable strategic plans



Improve business process outcomes



Increase resilience and business process agility



Support and advice from inventory management experts; from setup, configuration and onboarding to continued operation



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To learn more, we're happy to answer any questions. We invite you to contact us at udis@unipart.com to arrange a demo. Alternatively, call: