

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT



One Stroke Inks

Movable Shelving Offers a Rainbow of Options

CHALLENGE

One Stroke Inks, based in Louisville, KY, has been in the screen-printing business for more than 40 years. They boast more than 12,000 customers – and the list is growing. A big part of their business is formulating and mixing custom inks. The colors are often proposed by the customers themselves, who then also have the privilege of naming the new hue. Every time a custom color is mixed, the company keeps a small sample of it for future reference, should that same customer return in need of another batch.

Spread out over five buildings, the growing inventory of color sample jars (4 oz.) were kept on makeshift shelving. With such wide disbursement and no indexing system, it could take one of One Stroke's 25 employees an hour to find the right color. When orders come in fast and the UPS truck needs to leave by EOD, time is valuable.

SOLUTION

Centralizing more than 16,000 samples of inks was a priority. A generalist, One Stroke's Belinda Lobb researched movable shelving solutions on the company's behalf and found Patterson Pope. She contacted Account Representative Glen Kalley and told him what they needed the system to do for them.

"Once I told him what we needed, it was less than a week before he sent me back drawings," said Lobb. "I had suggested a shelf with a 'step' feature, which would allow us to easily see jars behind the first row on the shelves. Glen worked with a fabricator to come up with the perfect solution."

The final design was a Spacesaver mechanical assist movable shelving unit with seven carriages, each measuring 18' L x 18" D. Each mechanical assist mobile shelving section has eight custom fabricated shelves – the specially designed "three-tier" feature allows the staff to easily see jars one behind the other. Each shelf insert (per side) hold 75 cups. A lip on the front of the shelves, meanwhile, ensures that none of the containers slide off the front. The shelves are double-faced and are constructed from galvanized steel.

The resulting "Color Vault" fit the bill perfectly.

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Belinda Lobb
One Stroke Inks

ACHIEVEMENT

"Before we had this unit, it would take our guys upwards of an hour to find a single sample," said Lobb. "Now, combined with our new indexing system, the average time it takes to find the right jar is about 45 seconds."

One Stroke Inks' jar storage capacity was doubled, and the new movable shelving system might even be implemented again down the line in another area – creating a second "color rainbow."

"It's amazing. It's made a huge difference in terms of the amount of time it takes us to find a sample," said Lobb. "It went very smoothly. Glen

was like family. As for the installers... I couldn't ask for a nicer group of people. They even had Christmas dinner with us since they were here at the time, and they were so great. Everyone that's been here from Patterson Pope has been unbelievably friendly, helpful and courteous. The system is 100% user friendly. We really appreciated that they were able to meet our custom needs and did so willingly."

Design, diligence and determination applied... with on-point results.

Color us impressed.

