



More Kegs and SKUs per Square Foot

ActivRAC® helps make room for more beer.



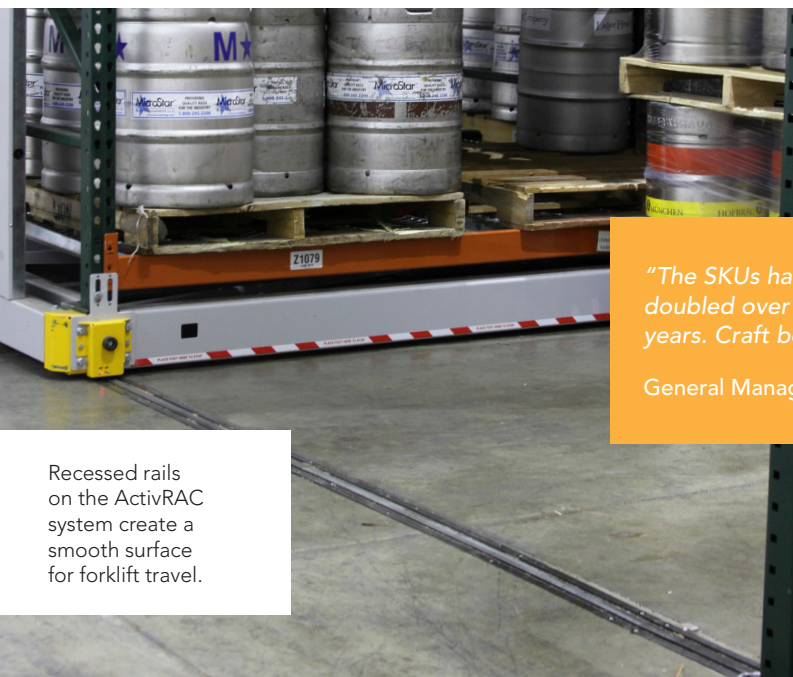
CHALLENGE

A large beverage distributor with locations throughout the Midwest, was in need of a smarter and more space efficient design for the keg storage cooler located in their Cleveland, Ohio distribution center.

The existing cold storage room was approximately 1,500 square feet and lined with static shelving. Kegs were piled onto those shelves and also stacked on pallets, one on top of the other, throughout the space. As SKUs continued to increase due to the abundance of craft and seasonal brews penetrating today's market, staff needed every square inch of the space allotted in that cooler for storage.

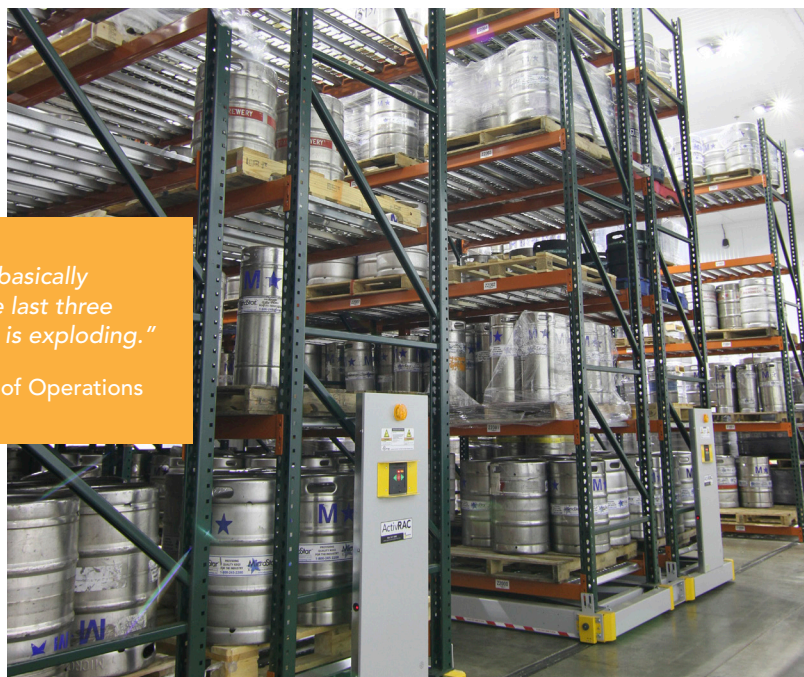
"The SKUs have basically doubled over the last three years," said the General Manager of Operations. "Craft beer is exploding."





Recessed rails on the ActivRAC system create a smooth surface for forklift travel.

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SOLUTION

Employees had started to unload kegs from the cooler each morning in order to get inside and retrieve product that needed to be distributed. This is about the time they began to work with Dave Poissant, a representative from McCormick Equipment Company, the authorized Spacesaver Industrial distributor for the state of Ohio. McCormick worked with a material handling consultant, an architect, and the beer distributing company, to come up with the best design.

Dave recommended the installation of an ActivRAC® 16P powered mobile racking system in their new cooler. ActivRAC is comprised of industrial-grade wheeled carriages, which ride on rails anchored to the floor, and can be configured with existing or new pallet racking.

The ActivRAC system used new pallet racking and can support up to 16,000 lbs per carriage, which easily accommodates the weight of the ½ barrels (170 lbs per barrel) and ⅓ barrels (85 lbs per barrel) stored on the system. Their ActivRAC system is also rated for temperatures of -4 degrees Fahrenheit and above, which is ideal for the 37 degree climate of the keg cooler.

RESULTS

The new Cold Storage room is approximately 4,500 square feet, and because of the elimination of idle aisles, there is now room for 7,000 kegs to be stored in this cooler, an increase of almost 100% from the capacity of conventional shelving.

Employees can easily maneuver in and out the room with a forklift or picker, and there is no longer any need to empty the cooler before the day begins so that staff can get what they need. This new system has allowed the distribution center to carry the variety of craft and seasonal beers necessary for staying competitive in today's market, and, as an added bonus, the old cooler is now being used for storing fine wines at an optimum temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

"I would tell anyone to get this system," said the General Manager.

ActivRAC mobile racking allowed the distributing company to increase the number of SKUs that are stored and also to provide immediate access and the ability to pick accurately and ship beer out on time.

To learn more about the ActivRAC Mobilized Storage Systems and how a Spacesaver Storage Specialist can help you overcome your storage challenges, please visit www.spacesaver.com or call 1-800-767-1888.



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