SAP S/4HANA – Intelligent cycle counting enabling Smart Warehouse



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Solution Overview

Inventory cycle counting process in large warehouses is a tedious and time-consuming process involving risks of inaccuracies as well as employee safety, especially in high rack storages. With the Azure IoT Edge framework, reliable video streams of handling units in storage racks can be obtained from high-resolution cameras mounted on drones or at fixed places in the warehouse. These streams can be broken down and analyzed in real-time to determine inventory count per part of the number which can be reconciled with the system inventory in the system of records like SAP S/4 HANA or SAP EWM. The SAP Cloud Platform provides the best in class user experience and decision support for the user by integrating the IoT Edge feeds and enabling the next best action to update system stock or take decisions like scrapping or recount.



Warehouse Management in Any Industry



Parts arrive at distribution center/warehouse



Parts are **received** at warehouse using



Parts are putaway to the storage bins



Physical inventory counting of parts in warehouse





Customer verifies the authenticity of part



Picking and issue of parts using



Operator confirms the part



A customer **orders** a replacement for a part for his car



Challenges in Physical Inventory Counting

Common recurring process	Has to be done regularly	Physical Inventory Procedures
Manual	Person has to walk around with a scanner and notebook to take count	Periodic Subt Description
Risky and dangerous	Personnel have to climb high racks or reach far corners	Continuous Cycle Counting
Time consuming	Manual thus very slow	
Prone to human error	Not possible to check each and every corner with one pair of eyes	
Tedious and inefficient	Slow and tiring and time consuming	



Infosys Vision of a Smart Warehouse Operations Management



Parts arrive at distribution center/warehouse



Parts are received at warehouse using **RFID scanners**



Parts are stored in the storage bins using smart putaway algorithm



Physical inventory counting of parts in warehouse using drones



Customer verifies the authenticity of part using **Blockchain app** before buying



Picking and parts issue using voice enabled smart picking app



Operator uses the **image based part identification app** to identify the part



A customer orders a replacement for a part for his car with automatic sales order creation

Infosys Smart Warehouse Solutions



Voice-based goods issue / picking

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RFID-based goods



Blockchain for







Smart Warehouse Management Operations

Business challenges

- · Difficult to update system inventory in large warehouses
- High human effort in physical counting
- · Missing items due to human access difficulties
- · Lack of automated and accurate inventory count solutions

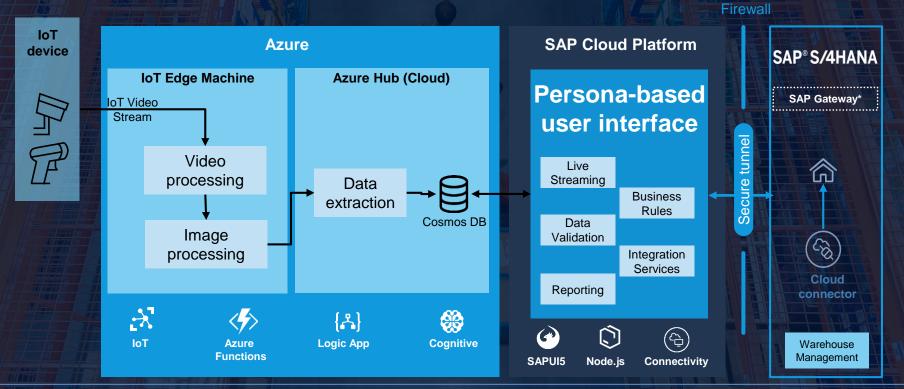
Solution overview

- Camera mounted drone-based physical inventory counting
- Drone and storage bins
- Machine learning algorithms extract the stock information from the incoming feed from drone
- · Actual inventory count automatically updated in SAP
- Rich persona-based user interface built on SAP Cloud Platform for WH managers

Accelerated	Faster count and update to enterprise system	
More accurate	Video capture provides all around view even of narrow corners	
Low risk	Personnel do not have to climb high racks or reach far corners	
Higher up time	Cloud-based solution ensures higher availability and can be done on a Friday evening	
Real-time	System updates within seconds	



Physical Inventory Counting with Drones – High-level Architecture





Solution Components Specifications



Hardware

- IoT camera mounted on a drone
- IoT Edge compute machine



Local Compute on IoT Edge

- Windows services (.bat executable – Python package)
- Python 2.7 +
- Azure Custom Vision Model



Cloud Infrastructure

- Cosmos DB
- Blob storage



Cloud Business Services

- · Azure functions
- Logic app
- Node API call(SAP Cloud Foundry)
- Dynamsoft Barcode reader(non MSFT)



SAP Components and Integrations

- SAP Cloud Foundry
- UI5
- oData
- Node.js
- SAP Cloud Platform
- SAP S/4HANA
- SAP CC



THANK YOU

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