



NIBA—The Belting Association  
6737 W. Washington St. #1300  
Milwaukee, WI 53214  
Ph: 414-389-8606  
www.niba.org

# Technical Article

Technical Article Content Pulled from the NIBA Belt Line Newsletter

## Facility Organization Leads to Profit

*Contributed by Bill Murlick*

*D. P. Brown of Detroit*

*Member, NIBA Education & Technical Committee*

*Beltline Reprint June 2008*

When you walked into your warehouse last time, were you happy with what you saw? Did you see this? Materials strewn about; material not in its proper place; people wasting time looking for items to complete a job and having to move items before finding what is needed.

If this sounds familiar, and you simply turned around and went back to your office doing nothing, you are part of the problem. You are costing your company profit dollars.

### **Safety First**

Because of these conditions, are your employees able to work in a safe manner? A serious accident can be devastating to the bottom line, and even possibly to the existence of the company.

### **Organization Cuts Process Time**

Secondly, a clean, concise, and well-organized warehouse can cut your time to process an order, which might mean fewer people involved, equating to more profit. Normally people working in these kinds of conditions have a tendency to perform their tasks at sub-par levels. "If this owner doesn't care, why should I?"

### **What Can You Do to Change the Way Your Facility Looks?**

Have your employees do some painting when things are slower in the warehouse. Depending on the size of your operation, consider buying a floor scrubber and then use it at least once a week. If that's too expensive, then use a mop and pail. If your warehouse is cramped, perhaps you should consider investing in some form of vertical storage to make more floor space available.

### **Last but Not Least**

What kind of image and message do you want to send to your customers and suppliers when they walk into your facilities?

After 32 years in the distributor business, and 27 years as an owner, I can vouch that being neat and organized pays dividends in many ways, and most importantly to the bottom line.