# The Impact of Explosive Growth in Internet Retail on Order Fulfillment





# What is the order profile of an Internet client?

- Small number of lines (1-3)
- Low number of items per line (1-2)
- Typically, 1.2 total items per order
- As internet ordering goes up...
  - Orders within the D.C. are going WAY up
  - Size of orders are going WAY down
  - Many individual items per order very labor intensive







### Internet business

1. Studies show an average of 15-20% growth per year for the next 7-8 years.



- 2. Rise of customers using APPS for shopping (online and in the store)
- 3. How do you communicate affectively with customers
- 4. Transportation: FREE shipping
- 5. Unknown & changing legislation
- 6. Volatile/unpredictable economy







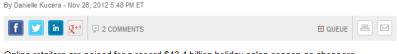
## Internet sales growth potential

#### Cyber Monday Sales 2012: Spending To Increase 20 Percent Over Last Year





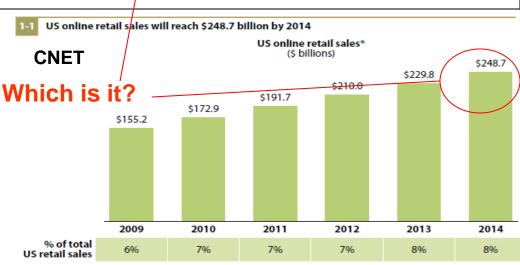
#### Record Online Holiday Sales Seen as Mobile Drives Growth



Online retailers are poised for a record \$43.4 billion holiday sales season as shoppers increasingly rely on social networks and mobile devices to find and buy merchandise.

• The Internet and mail-order retail industry in the US includes about 20,000 companies with combined annual revenue of about \$270 billion. Major companies include Lands' End, LL Bean, Amazon, Overstock, and Hanover Direct. The industry is **concentrated**: the top 50 companies account for about 70 percent of industry revenue. Over the past five years, the bulk of the industry's revenue has shifted from catalog to Internet sales. While most brick-and-mortar retailers have an online presence and many also offer catalog sales, this profile focuses on retailers who use the Internet or catalogs as their sole or primary sales channel.

First Research - Source







25% of Americans (82.2M people) own a smart phone



- 64% of smart phone owners shop on-line.
- 34% of smart phone owners made a purchase via mobile phone in 2012, (compared to 19% in 2011.)
- 2/3 of all mobile shoppers make purchases while at home.
- Approx 50% plan to make holiday purchases from their phones.
- 1/4 of all iPhone and Android phone users have used a shopping application within the past three months.
- More than 40% of smart phone users have already bought something using the phone.
- More than three-fourths of all retail companies plan to invest in mobile this year.
- The retail market for mobile devices is expected to top \$12 billion by 2014.

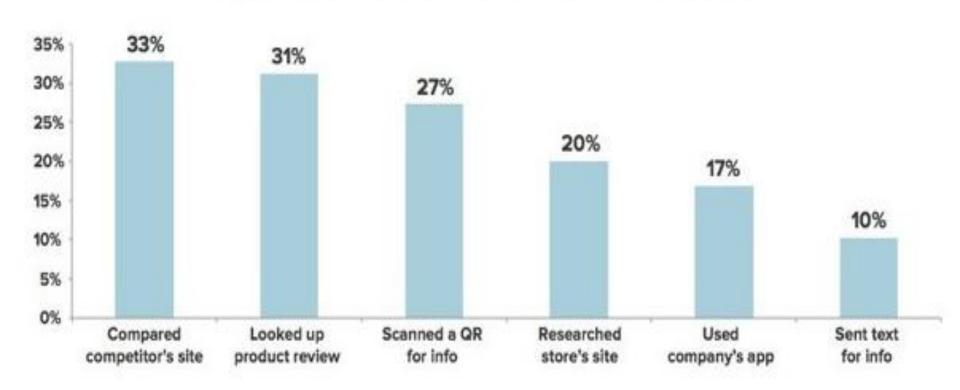
Sources: eDigitalResearch & Portaltech Reply 2012; RSR Research 2011; ThriveMarketing Blog





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### Activities of smartphone owners while in-store



Smartphone owners (N=603)

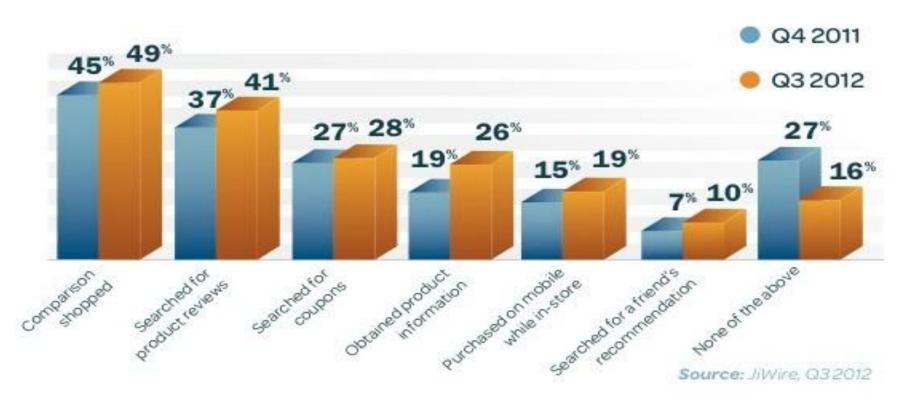
Source: Vibes Mobile Consumer Survey August 2012





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Which of the following have you done on your mobile device while shopping in a store?

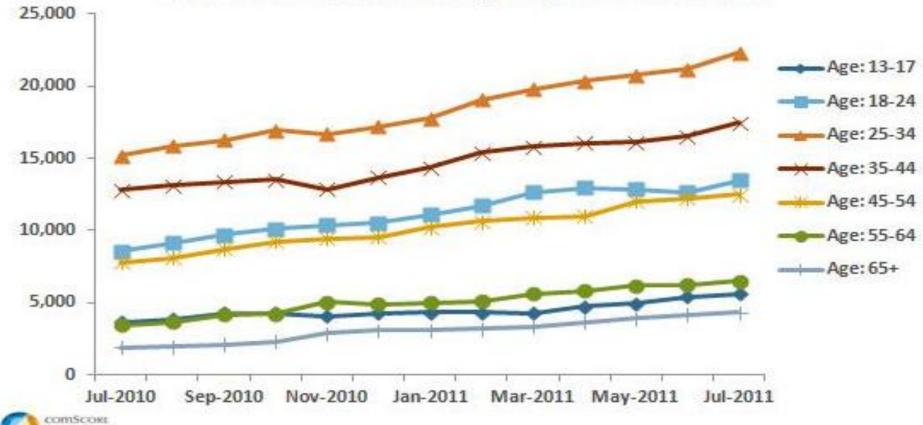






25% of Americans (82.2M people) own a smart phone

U.S. Smartphone Audience (000) by Age Segment Source: comScore MobiLens, 3 mon. avg. ending Jul-2010 to Jul-2011, U.S.







# 3 key aspects of effective communications

1. Visual connection 38%

2. Audio 55%

3. Words 7%





### The Internet defies this

- Web site ease of use
- Informative
- Competitive pricing
- Free shipping
- Next day delivery

- 1. Visual connection 38% 15%
  - Audio 55% --%
- 3. Words 7% 7%



- Damage free
- How it is packaged
- Completeness of order





# Internet growth concerns

 Factors that will negatively affect the widely publicized double-digit sales growth projections







# Transportation



- Transportation/infrastructure (U.S. passed a bill to spend \$119B – falls short of the estimated \$220B needed)
- Less profit for e-tailers vs. brick-and-mortar due to shipping \$
- Shippers are raising rates could hit e-tailers (BtoC) by as much as 7%-8% increase
- Work force legislation (driving hrs/ productivity)
- Rail / Air / OTR / Sea what are your alternatives?





# Legislation

- Cost of employee benefits (healthcare, 401K, incentives)
- FSMA (Food Safety Modernization Act)
- C-TPAT (Customs-Trade Partners Against Terrorism)
- Declining value of carbon credits
- Federal Reserve and interest rates
- U.S. State Taxation on Internet sales
- United Nations WCIT Internet Tax
- World Conference on International Telecommunications



What does this do to average persons disposable income?



# Economy Today Eating away at your profit margins

- The "new normal"
- Companies much more hesitant to invest capital
- ROI justifications for capital project are tougher
- Companies are holding onto their profits, consolidating operations and demanding short-term, high return on capital investments
- Banks and investors are constantly under scrutiny
- Investors are skeptical demanding more conservative company leadership/investment
- Disposable income issues interest rates/housing starts?





# Investing in warehouse automation

### Traditional Approach

- ROI Target (typically 2-3 years)
- Designed for Avg 10 year "PEAK" performance
- Expensive
- Reduces associated costs regarding facility footprint, energy, labor

### Today's Approach

- Warehouse automation (and the supply chain) is looked at as one of the last areas to reduce costs to counter the rising external cost demands on a business
- Solutions need to be scalable, flexible and immediately cost justifiable



### On-line retailer cautions

- What if your business does not grow at the industry rate?
- The advertised growth rates are AVERAGES!
- How long can your business afford free shipping?
- Projections are NOT taking into account many issues that will affect your costs of doing business
  - Legislation?
  - Economy?
  - Transportation spend
- Evaluate supply chain automation realistically





# Investing in automation

# Leading automation solutions will grow with your company





## What to look for in Automation?

- Accuracy
  - Does it help you better fill and track orders
  - How well does it perform it's task



- Reliability
  - Consistent
  - Has a high run time rate and low down time
- Space Efficiency
  - Makes best use of your cubic space
  - Makes best use of your vertical space
  - Does this solution free up space for other functions?



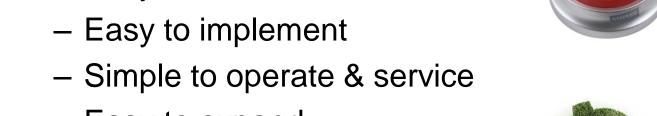




### What to look for in Automation?

- Simplicity
  - Easy to understand

- Easy to expand
- Sustainable (Green)
  - Friendly to the environment
  - Does it reduce your energy consumption?
- Flexibility (too many unknowns)
  - Keeps pace with your business growth
  - Solutions that adjusts easily / is nimble









## Scalable Automation CHART

TECHNOLOGY	FLEXIBILITY (1 - 5)	RELIABILITY	SPACE EFFICENCY	SIMPLICITY	GREEN	PRICE ENTRY POINT (\$ - \$\$\$)
AGV						
Conveyor						
M/L ASRS						
Carousel						
Shuttle						



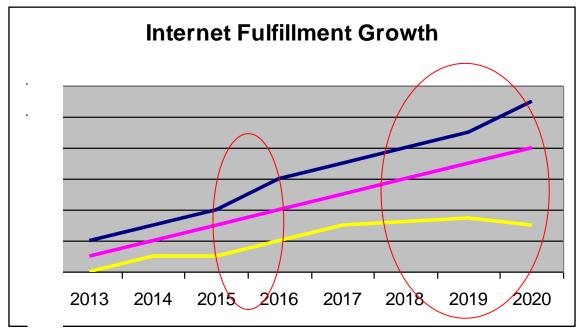




# Jeff's unscientific prediction

#### Two key events:

- Phase I: Increase sale of Internet companies (large players buying up the prime performers)
- Phase II: Poor performers will begin to fail too costly to compete (free shipping, same day delivery, state taxing)







### The new normal for automation investment?

- Times have changed
  - Think long term /solve for the short term
- Get rid of the crystal ball be realistic
  - Invest in automation that can grow at the actual rate your business grows - automation should be scalable
- Be realistic when projecting ROI
  - How will your investment better prepare you to deal with economic, legislation and transportation unknowns?
- What if your business does not grow at the industry rate?
  - The advertised growth rates are AVERAGES
- Think about the unknowns
  - State collected tax on internet orders
  - How long can you afford free shipping
  - Taxes (property, health care, )
  - Declining value of carbon credits
  - Evolutions of the FSMA (fees, inspections, etc.)
  - Declining transportation infrastructure
  - Rising transportation costs (gas)







### For More Information:

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