

# Case Study

## - 8 into 1 -

### Reducing Warehousing Space by 87%

Since time immemorial, the traditional explosives industry has transported burning fuse by coiling the finished product around a spool and then moving full spools to mining sites.

African Explosives & Chemical Industries (AECI) had historically purchased empty spools in assembled format, storing the new spools in 6 on-site warehouses pending production demand. This had been in place since around 1895.

With growing demand, further storage space for new spools was required - seeing a planned increase in the number of warehouses from 6 to 8.

Analyses showed, very simply, that AECI was, by receiving spools in assembled format, primarily transporting and storing air. Assembled fuse spools in cartons used approximately 20% of the carton space – the remaining 80% being air.

A change was made in that assembled spools were delivered to the production warehouse in packed format, separating flanges, cores and plugs into different cartons and then assembling them on site.

This change enabled AECI to eliminate the need for additional warehouses, save 5 of the existing facilities for other use, and further save on vendor assembly time and transportation costs. Transport cost was reduced by around 75%.



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