

HOW A FREE PACKAGING AUDIT HELPED A LARGE RETAILER TO SAVE £££

THE CHALLENGE

The client is a fashion retailer who distributes clothing to over 100 retail stores across Europe. They had been using just one box type for 12 years. It worked well for them because they knew exactly how many items could be packed into it and were therefore reluctant to change it.

Antalis Packaging originally pitched for the client's work through a tender. When advised they had been unsuccessful on the basis of not offering enough of a saving on packaging materials compared with the incumbent supplier, the Antalis Packaging team asked if they could carry out a packaging audit to see where additional savings might be made. They spent two days on site assessing the client's packaging process, from picking and packing to logistics.

THE ANTALIS SOLUTION

The volume of the box was maintained but the dimensions were altered to create a taller narrower box that created efficiencies throughout the picking, packing and logistics processes.

THE CLIENT

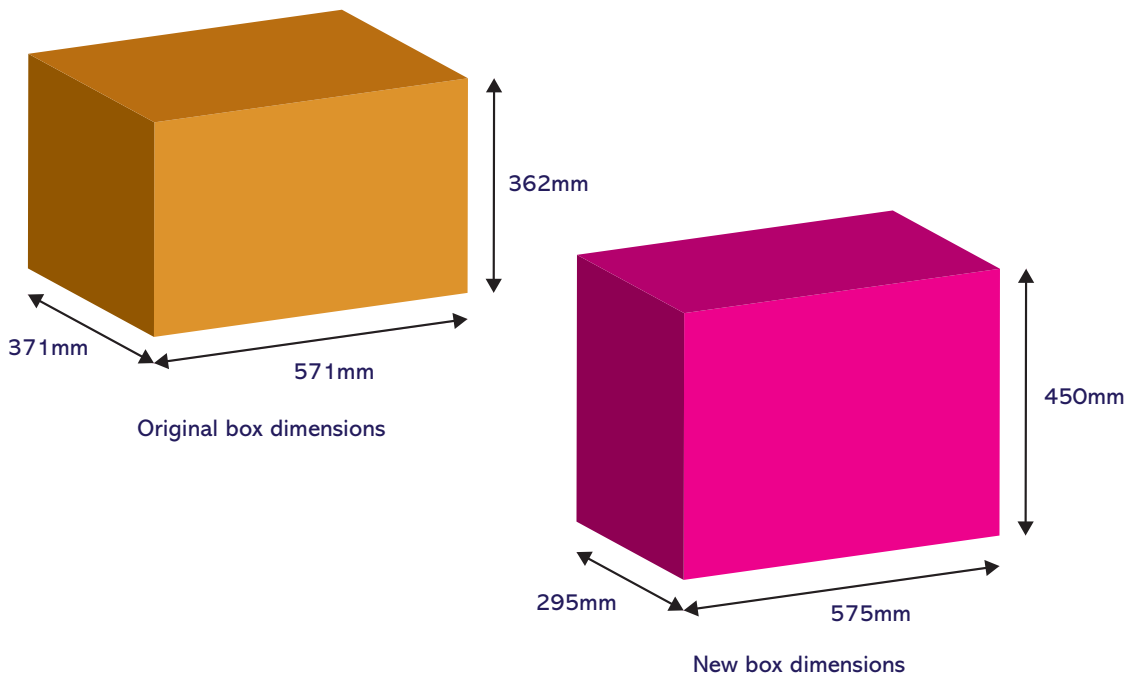
A fashion retailer

PROJECT CLASSIFICATION

- > Efficiency
- > Environmental

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Fine-tuning carton packaging design to achieve savings throughout the packaging and distribution process.



THE PROCESS

Using a clear framework, the Antalis Packaging team worked to develop a solution:

- 1. Explore** They conducted a full packaging audit over the course of two days, observing all the actions and processes involved. The key issue appeared to be the size of the box, which the client was keen to keep.
- 2. Propose** A new box design was proposed that would retain the volume of the existing box but with altered dimensions.
- 3. Test** In order to avoid disrupting the operation, the Antalis Packaging team packed 280 orders into the new boxes to prove the capacity was unchanged. They also demonstrated loading them onto a pallet and how this would maximise vehicle loads.
- 4. Implement** The client rolled out the recommended changes.

THE SUMMARY

CHALLENGE	GOAL	SOLUTION	BENEFIT
Efficiency	Reduce packaging costs	<p>Took a holistic view of the process, including picking, packing and logistics.</p> <p>Changed box dimensions to increase number of boxes that could be loaded onto a pallet while retaining the client's desired box packing volume</p>	<p>Increased number of boxes per pallet from 20 to 24 (an increase of 20%)</p> <p>Increased the number of cartons per packing bay from 18 to 27, enabling a reduction in the number of bays and the need for temporary staff</p> <p>Reduction in annual truck movements down from 958 to 718, realising a £132K saving</p> <p>Increased the number of flat-packed boxes per pallet from 105 to 280, reducing the number of pallets stocked in the warehouse from 90 to 30</p>
Environmental	Reduce environmental impact of operation	Change carton material from BC-flute to a semi-chem C-flute	<p>Reduction in material/resources/costs</p> <p>Lighter weight contributes to reduction in carbon emissions</p> <p>Reduction in number of vehicle journeys from 958 to 718 per annum</p>

ADVANTAGES OF THE SOLUTION



EFFICIENCY

Streamlined process requiring fewer pallet movements.

30% increase in packing efficiency.

Reduced pallet storage locations in the warehouse from 90 to 30.



ENVIRONMENTAL

Reduction in transport emissions.

Reduction in resources.

Reduction in materials.



COST-SAVING

Reduced logistics costs by £132k per annum.

Reduction in the number of temporary staff required.

Reduction in materials costs.



Jason Poxon, Antalis Packaging Technologist

“ This project is a great example of the power of our packaging audit and the importance of looking at every touchpoint of the packaging and logistics processes. For any business wanting to create real efficiencies and genuine savings, it's important to look beyond the cost of packaging materials to other aspects, such as speed to assemble, box dimensions and pallet optimisation, among many other factors. ”

