



Are Your Systems Slowing Your Workers Down?

In this paper we aim to show you how a MoyaVox Voice Solution can increase the efficiency of your warehouse operatives.

Table of Contents

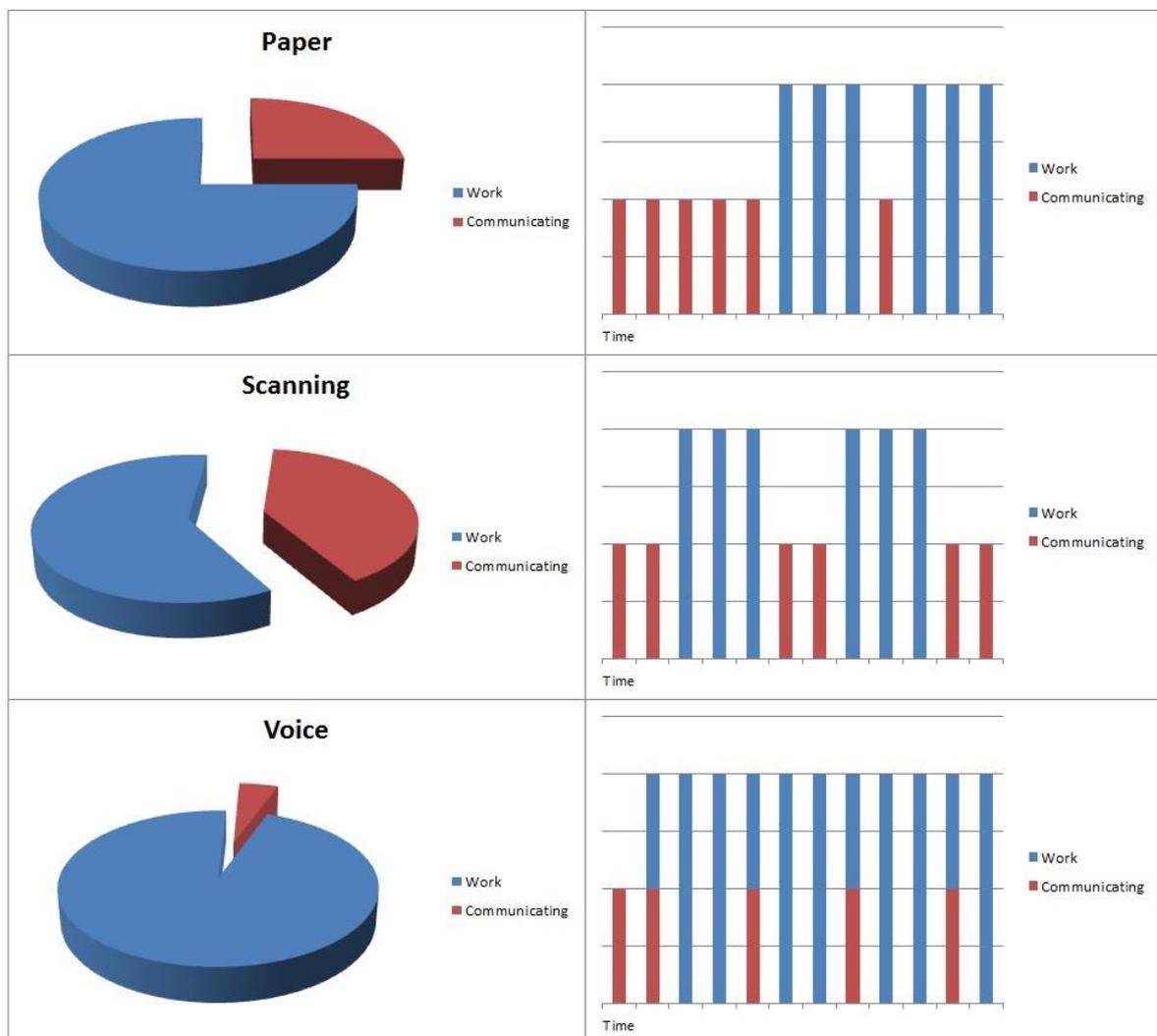
ARE YOU PAYING YOUR WORKERS TO STAND AROUND?	3
A GRAPHICAL REPRESENTATION	3
BREAKING DOWN THE GRAPHS	4
PAPER:	4
RF SCANNING	5
VOICE	6
CONCLUSION	7

Are You Paying Your Workers To Stand Around?

There are three main solutions in use in the warehouse industry, as well as a number of more specialised technologies that have been developed for specific requirements. We are looking at the three most common solutions and showing how they compare when it comes to the time your worker can actually spend working, to the time they are prevented from carrying out their main task.

A Graphical Representation

Firstly, let's look at the graphical representation of the typical efficiency of your workers when using these solutions.



Breaking down The Graphs

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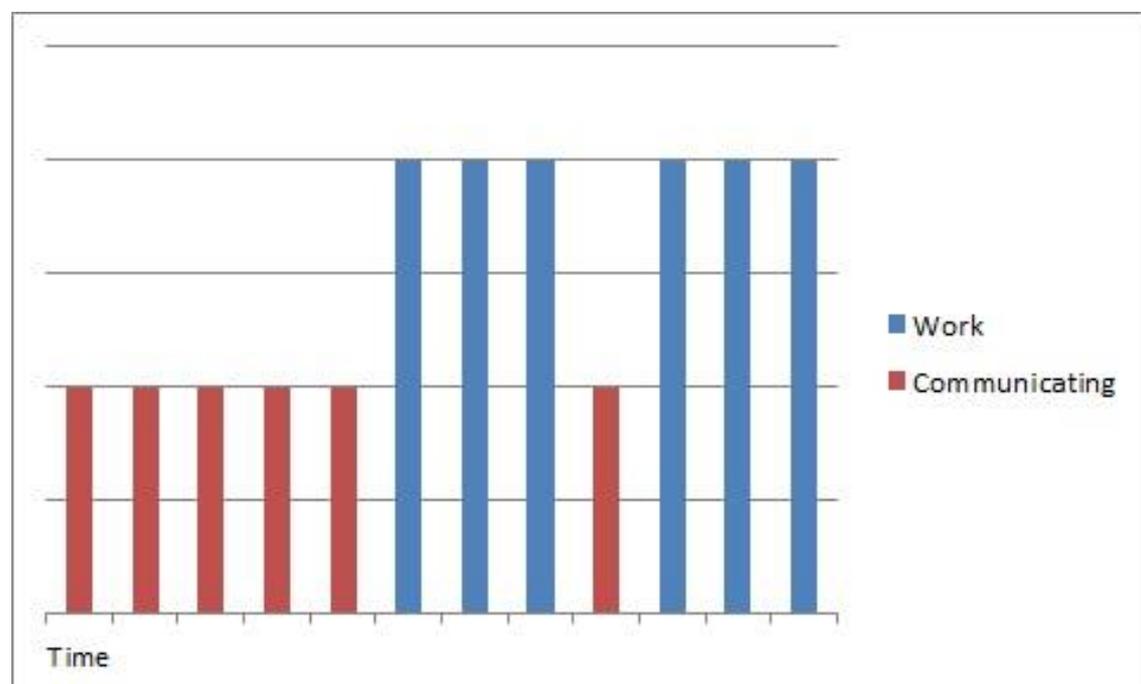
As your workers begin each pick they must collect the paper pick list from the picking desk. This means physically returning to that location each time. This is why there is a large section at the front of the graph where they are simply collecting data and then reading where they have to go.

When they arrive at the location they then check against their pick list, and then read what they need to pick and what quantity.

They will then put their clipboard down and pick the items and place them in the container or onto the pallet. They will then retrieve the pick list, tick off the line item they have picked and read the next location. This is the equivalent of capturing the data, and communicating with the host system.

This standard process is shown below with the time spent collecting, reading and marking off the pick lists denoted as "Communicating", and the time physically carrying out the task labelled "Work".

In addition to this there is an additional overhead as either the picker or a colleague has to input the data that has been collected on the pick, which is not shown on this graph.



RF Scanning

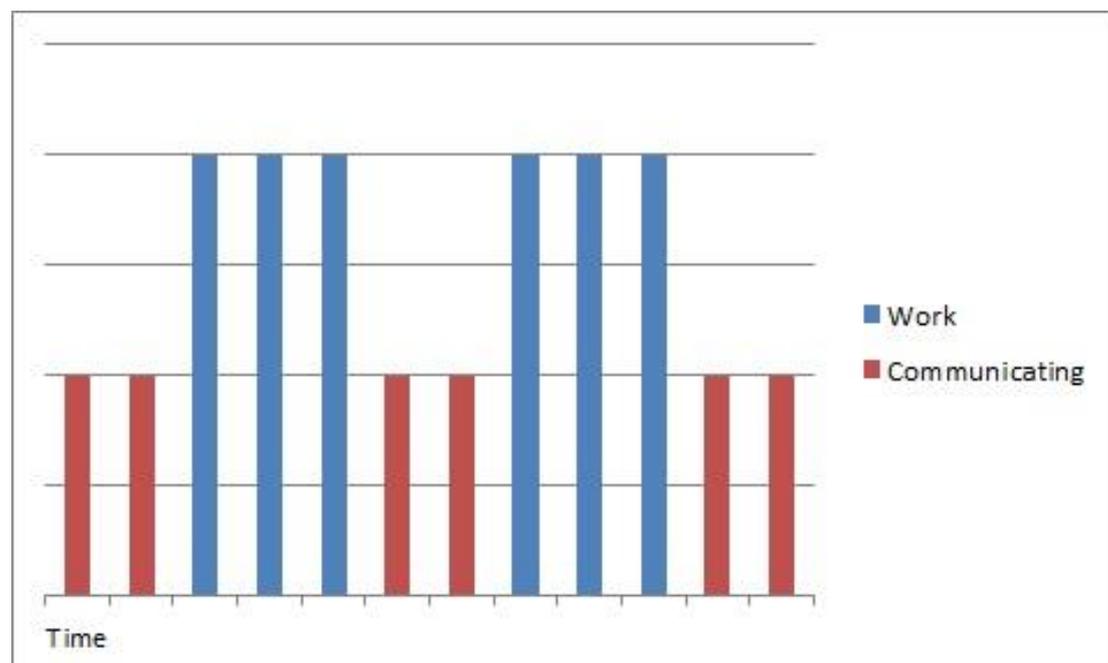
When using an RF scanning solution or mobile barcode readers as they are also known, the large communication overhead of having to physically collect the pick list is removed. The operator will instead simply sign on, select the correct operation and be instructed to go to the first location.

Upon arriving at the first location they will scan the location barcode. This will be communicated back to the host system and confirmed. The operator will then read the response and see which product and quantity are required. They will then put down the scanner and pick the items to the container.

When this is completed they will manually type the quantity they have picked and send the information to the host. The host will confirm this and send the details of the next pick, and the cycle will start again.

On completion of the entire pick the operator will key in his request for a new pick job, and proceed to the first location.

You can see that while the operator is inputting the data they have captured they are not actually picking. This is because they need to focus on the data displayed by the scanner and manually input data via its keyboard. This pause in the workflow is typically longer than with the paper picking, but tends to be more accurate.



Voice

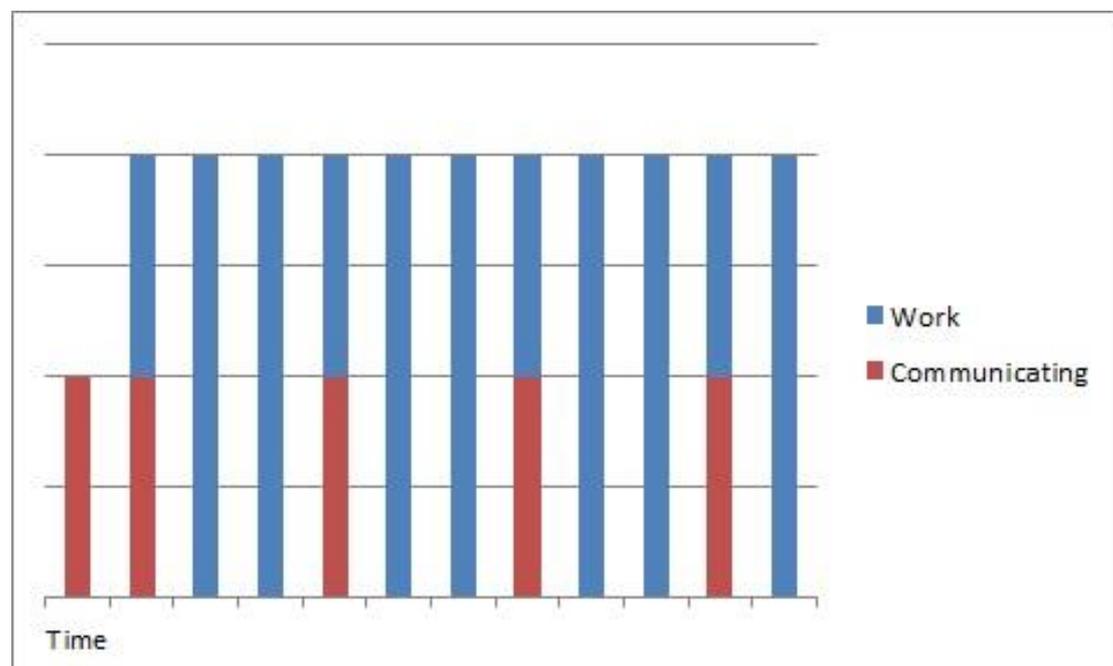
With a MoyaVox Voice Solution the operator signs on the terminal and begins to walk towards the picking area. The terminal will tell them the aisle he needs to go to and as they approach this aisle they will be told the location.

Coming up to the location they will confirm the check digit that the location is labelled with, and be told the quantity to pick.

Confirming this quantity as they place it into the container, they will then be told the next location on the pick list. This will continue until the job is completed, where they will either request the next job, or it will have been automatically assigned.

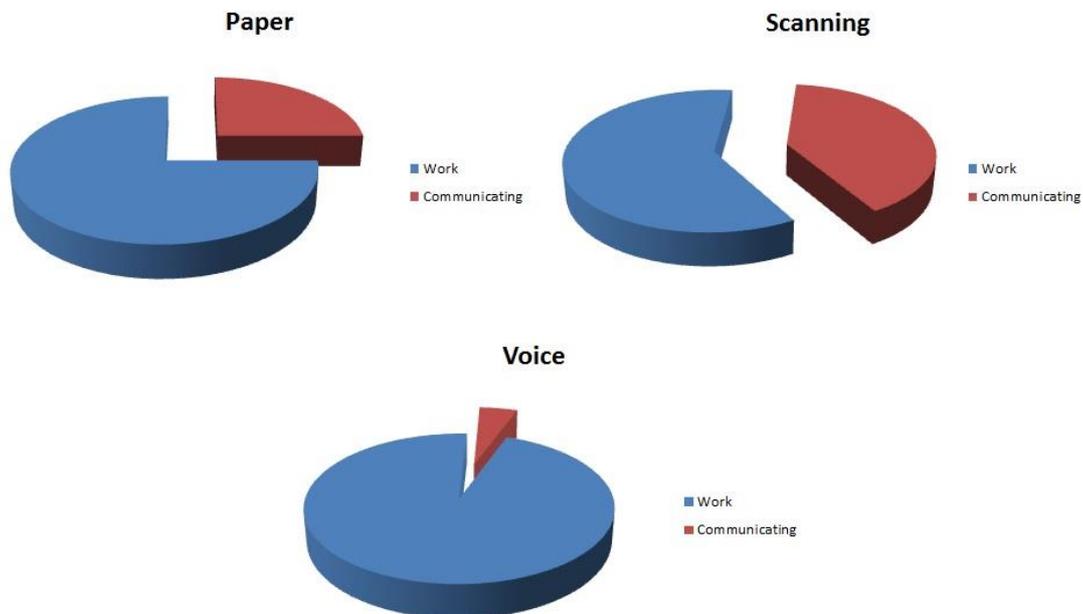
Throughout this process you can see that while the operator is capturing the data from the host, and sending data back for confirmation to the host, they are constantly working. Their hands and eyes are free at all times, and as the data is captured the host is updated, removing the necessity of data to be input by either themselves or a colleague after the fact.

On this graph you can see that this is the only method that allows for communication both to and from the host while the operator continues to work.



Conclusion

MoyaVox Voice Solutions provide your workers with the best method of completing their tasks efficiently and accurately. Look at the graphs below to see how much time is wasted manually inputting the data.



With a typical uplift of around 25% in efficiency whilst improving accuracy at the pick face to 99.97%, you will be content in the knowledge that in your warehouse you are no longer forcing your workers to continually interrupt their tasks to capture data, and your systems are not making you pay them for standing around.