

# *Do you really need a Warehouse Management System?*

**Presented by:**

**Rudi Lueg**

**Director of Technology**

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# Do you still need a WMS?

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## it depends



# In 30 minutes you will know:

- Characteristics of ERP, WMS and WCS
- The rise of WMS and WCS
- Strategy for the right architecture
- Functionality Overview
- Best Practice
- Design Tips
- Case Studies
- Q/A

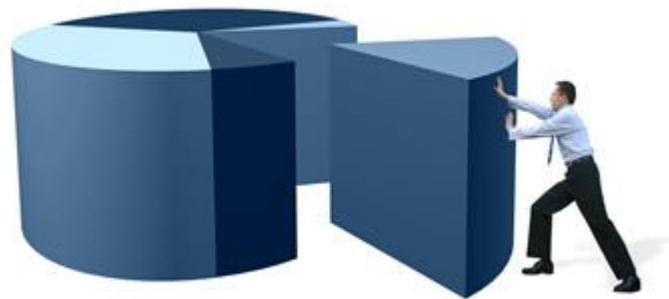


# Definition

**E**nterprise  
**R**esource  
**P**lanning

**W**arehouse  
**M**anagement  
**S**ystem

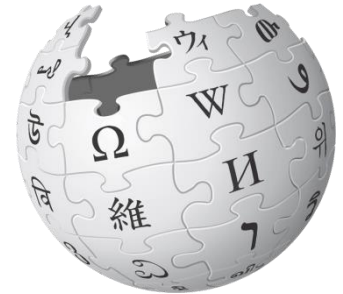
**W**arehouse  
**C**ontrol  
**S**ystem



# Enterprise Resource Planning

Business Management Software that companies use to manage business processes, including:

- Product planning and development
- Manufacturing
- Marketing and Sales
- **Inventory Management**
- **Shipping**



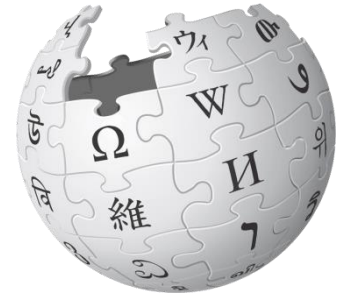
Bidgoli, Hossein, (2004). The Internet Encyclopedia, Volume 1, John Wiley & Sons, Inc. p. 707



# Warehouse Management System

WMS is a key part of the supply chain and primarily aims to control the movement and storage of materials within a warehouse and process the associated transactions including:

- Shipping
- Receiving
- Putaway
- Picking



Piasecki, Dave. "Glossary of Inventory Management and Warehouse Operation Terms". InventoryOps.com.



# Warehouse Control System

A software application that assigns and directs a variety of tasks within a warehouse environment to ensure smooth and efficient operation.

Warehouse control software generally collects information and transmits it to a **warehouse management system**.

It is capable of interfacing with data collection devices such as scanners and **automation equipment** such as conveyor belts.

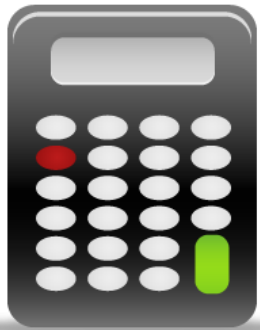
[businessdictionary.com](http://businessdictionary.com)



# Prospective

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**ERP**



**WMS**

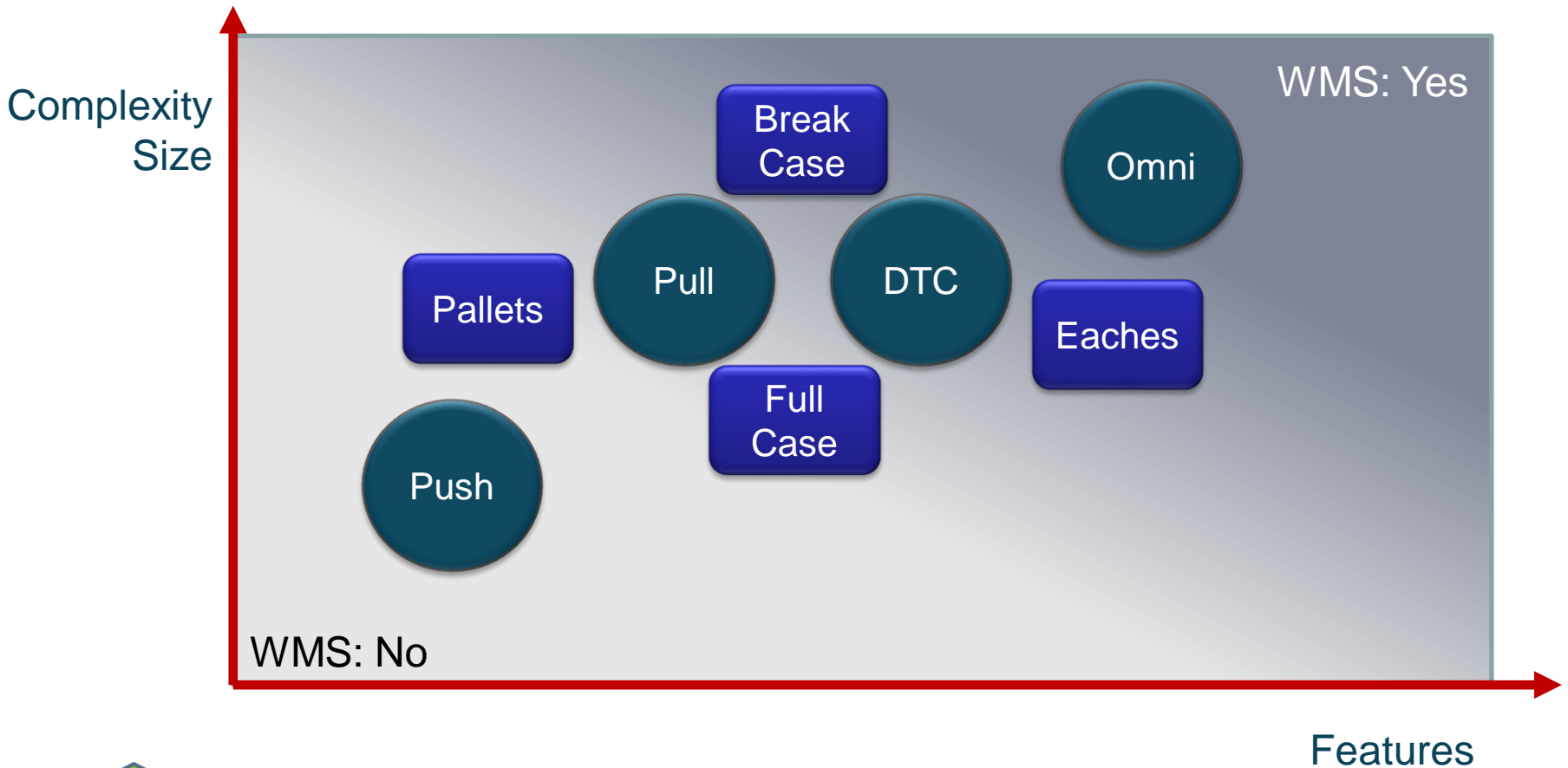


**WCS**

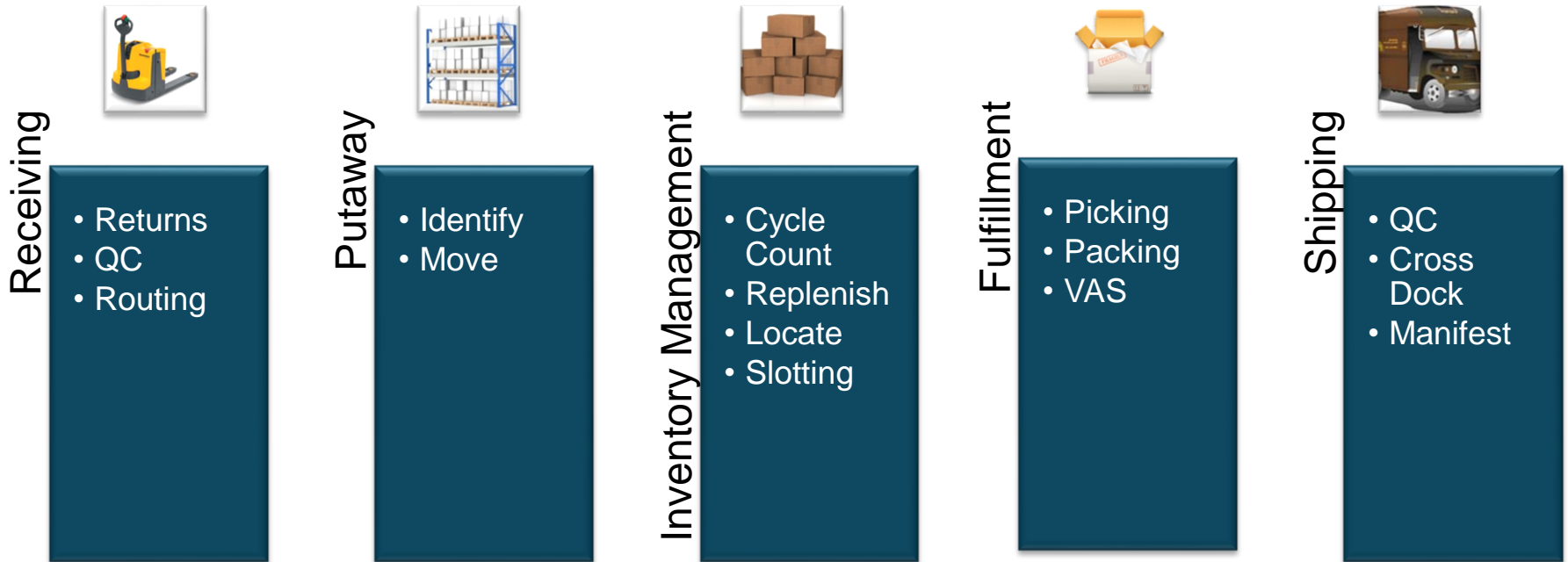




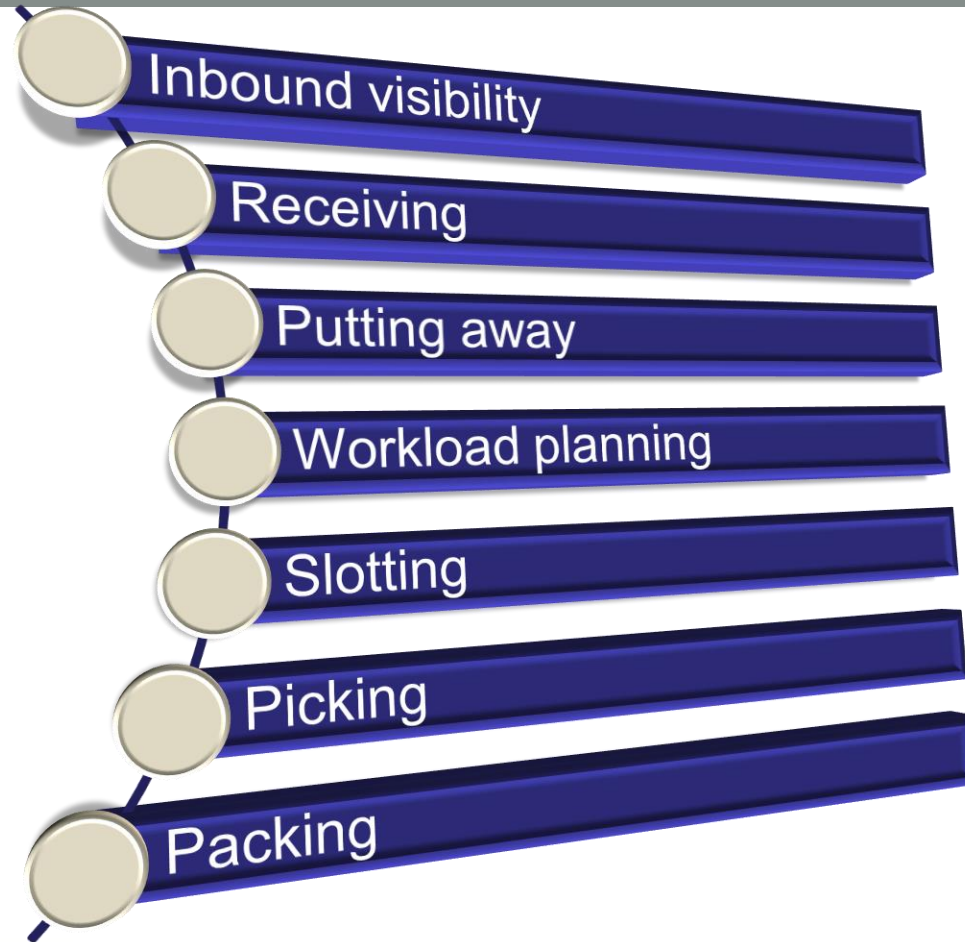
# What's your business?



# What do you need?



# What do you need?



# What else to consider?



**Functions**



**Performance**



**Compliance**



**TCO**



**Future Needs**



**Sustainability**

# Asses what you have

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- System age
- How many workarounds
- Open issues or bugs
- Slowdowns
- Up-time
- Maturity
- Vendor reliability



# 7 Steps

Analyze Your Needs

Specify Requirements

Identify Suppliers

Do Research

Kick the Tires

Recommend

Talk to Your Peers

# Best Practice

- Asses your needs first
- Prioritize what you have
- Research what's out there
- Assign functions to systems
- Get going!



# Design Tips



- Document interfaces in-house
- Decouple systems
- No overlapping functions
- Use a system where it works



# What functions you need?

ERP



WMS



WCS



Recv

Put  
away

Invt

Order

Ship

Auto



# Do you consider automation?

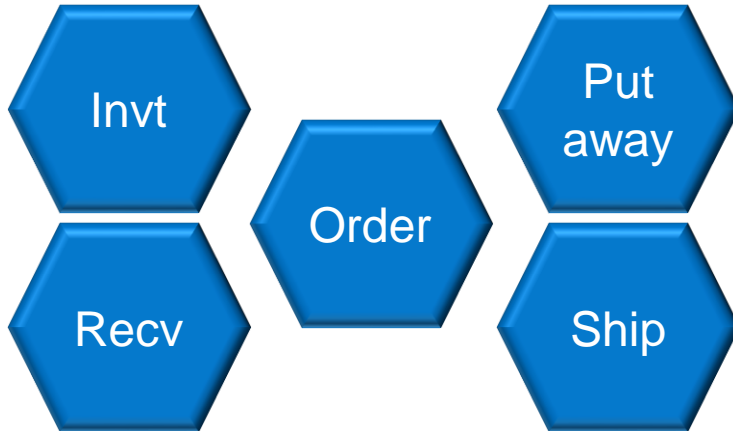
ERP



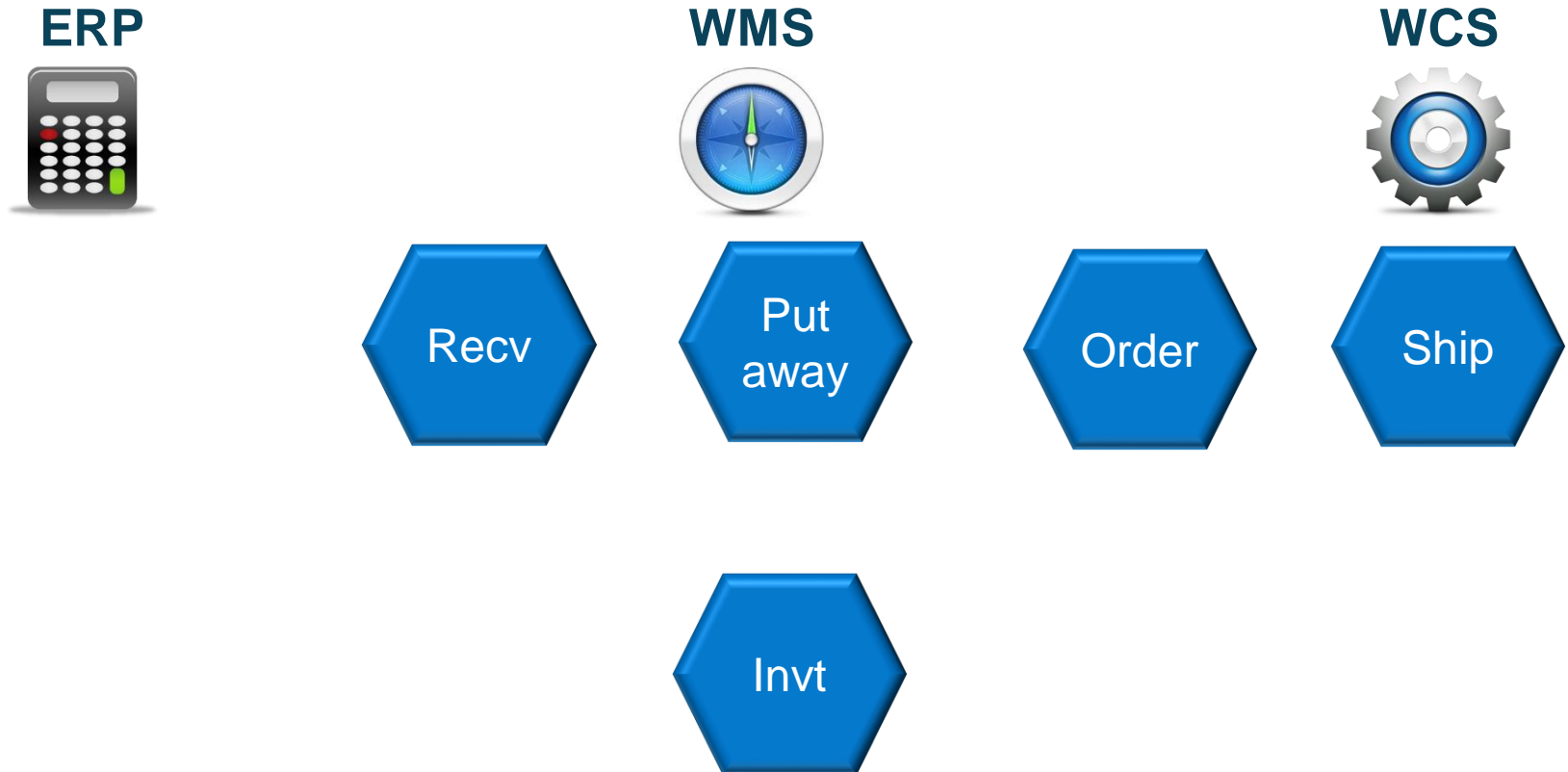
WMS



~~WCS~~



# Do you consider automation?



- Top 50 Internet Retailer/ Catalog Companies
  - Owned by Warren Buffett
  - Nation's largest direct merchant of value-priced party supplies, arts and crafts, toys and novelties
- 750,000 SF
- 30,000 SKU's
- 78,000,000 units per year
- Best day: 404,000 units
- Accuracy 99.9%

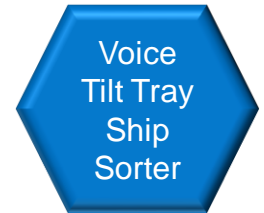
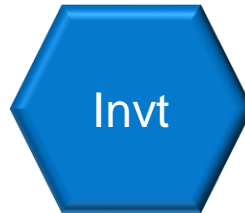
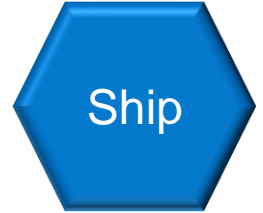
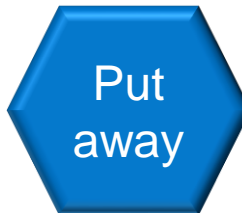
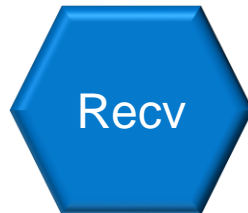
ERP



WMS



WCS





## WIRTZ BEVERAGE ILLINOIS

- Family owned
- Multistate Distributor for Wine, Sprints and Beer
- 555,000 SF
- 8,000 SKU's
- 85,000 cases per night





# WIRTZ BEVERAGE ILLINOIS

ERP



WMS



WCS



Recv

Put  
away

Order

Ship

Inv

Voice  
Tilt Tray  
Ship  
Sorter



# 2 Very Different Apparel Retailers

ERP



Recv

Put  
away

Inventory

~~WMS~~



WCS



Order

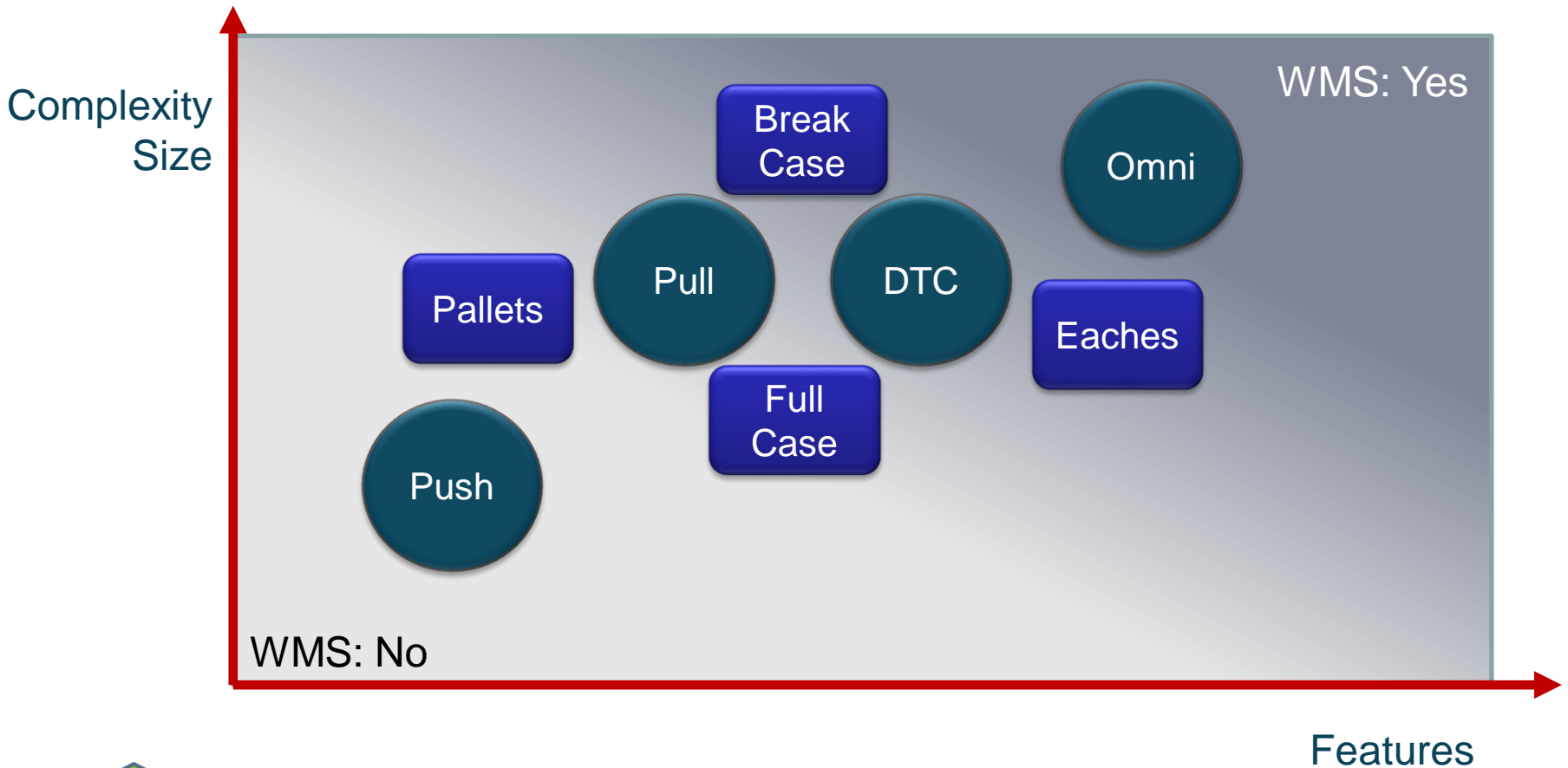
Ship

Locator

Unit &  
Ship  
Sorter



# Summary



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***For More Information:***

Speaker email: [rlueg@whsystems.com](mailto:rlueg@whsystems.com)

Website: [www.whsystems.com](http://www.whsystems.com)

Or visit MODEX 2014 Booth 4726

